

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

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



Harriet Lane

Mar/Jun 2011

Volume 18

Numbers 1/2

From the Commander's Tent



How quickly the time flies. It seems that, in this fast paced society, that there is never enough time to breathe, let alone to find the time to honor our ancestors who gave of themselves that our nation might live. These next four years will be especially significant to us all since we are commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

Our annual *Battle of Galveston* memorial service took place January 8th, on a bright, sunny, Saturday morning at Trinity Episcopal Cemetery on Galveston Island, to honor our Camp's namesake, Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, and the soldiers and sailors who died in the *Battle of Galveston*. We were honored to have *Department of Texas* Commander Harold Sickler, who was our keynote speaker. Special thanks go to Tom Whitesides and the members of the 13th US regiment, the members of the *John Bell Hood* Camp SCV Color Guard, to bugler Dana Reed, whose rendition of "Taps" was outstanding, and to the ladies of the *Sara Emma Seeyle Auxiliary #1* for their wonderful support, at both the flower laying ceremony at the cemetery, and for the wonderful room decorations at the Golden Corral meeting room for our installation of officers.

On Saturday, February 12th, the *Department of Texas* SUVCW had the honor of hosting the "very first" SUVCW Signature Event, the 150th anniversary commemoration of "Twiggs Surrender", in front of the Alamo. The Lea camp joined by our Brothers from both the *Byrne* and *Ellsworth* Camps and a host of Federal re-enactors, gave over 3,000 San Antonio spectators a most accurate impression of one of the pre-war events that could have precipitated the start of the war right here in Texas, fully two months prior to the firing on Ft. Sumter. Our Camp's participants, Brothers Gary White, Michael Lance, Dave Daniels, John Schneider, Robert Wickman, Tom Penney, and myself, along with *Auxiliary* members Emma Valdes and Linda LaBrot, had the honor of being the first ones in the SUVCW to possess and wear the 150th Anniversary SUVCW Commemoration medal along with obtaining a stamp on their Passport designed for use at SUVCW sanctioned "Signature" Events. It was a day that those who participated will not soon forget.

The annual Memorial Day observance is fast approaching. We will muster at the *Houston National Cemetery* at 8:30 a.m., and we will participate in ceremonies for both the *Parade of Flags*, and, if possible, the *Parade of Wreaths*. Immediately following the *Houston National Cemetery* event, we will head to the old Spaghetti Warehouse downtown for lunch. After lunch, there will be a SUVCW ceremony at the *Glenwood* and *Washington* cemeteries at 2:45 p.m. There we will continue the original G.A.R Memorial Day tradition of laying flowers on the graves of the G.A.R. Post #9 members who are buried therein. We will have a "Roll Call of Honor", whereby we will call out the name and unit of each Civil War ancestor of our Camp members. If his descendant is present, he will answer "present" in his place. Everyone in attendance last year agreed we should carry on this tradition. This is the most important event we do each year and I would like to encourage every Camp member to make a maximum effort to join us.

The *Dept. of TX* Encampment will be held Fri. & Sat., June 3rd & 4th, 2011 in McKinney, TX. We are honored to announce that Nat'l SUVCW C-in-C Brad Schall will be joining us. Friday evening will be an informal, backyard style "Get to know the Cmdr." event. On Sat. morning, there will be training for prospective Camp and Dept. officers, with the Encampment immediately following lunch. New Dept. Officers will be elected and installed by our Nat'l Cmdr. Please try to make plans for this event. The Dept.'s last visit by a sitting Nat'l Cmdr. was over six years ago. As our Nat'l Cmdr. has said on many occasions, "Learn who we are, Learn what we do, participate in what we do, Honor the boys in Blue."

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

David LaBrot Camp Commander

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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. 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 D. Burdette – *Color Bearer*
 Mr. William D. Campbell *
 Mr. Lawrence K. Casey Jr. &
 Mr. Philip M. Cavanaugh
Mr. Thor Eric Chester +
 Mr. Thomas F. Coughlin
Mr. Charles L. Duke +
 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. Frank S. Moore ~
 Mr. Harrison G. Moore IV ~ * *Graves Registr. Officer*
 Mr. Gene P. Munson
 Mr. Thomas H. Penney
 Mr. James R. Perry
 Mr. Joel D. Reed
 Mr. Jason L. Richards
 Mr. Randall D. Scallan – *Past Chaplain*
 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
 Mr. Mark S. Shackelford
 Mr. Scott D. Shuster
 Mr. Bartley N. Stockton
 Mr. James M. Sigler
Mr. Neil Patrick Staley +
 Mr. Bartley N. Stockton

 Mr. Stephen W. Tanner

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. Matthew Barth
Pvt. John Lancaster
 Pvt. William Martin Berry
 Pvt. Thomas Howey
 Pvt. Lyndon Boyd
 **
 Pvt. Nathan R. Price
 Cpl. William Moore Campbell
 Chaplain Josiah Brown
 Cpl. John Francis Pattee
Pvt. John A. Watts
 2nd Cpl. Henry A. Sauter
Pvt. Joseph Allen
 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 Apffel
 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. William Moore
 Pvt. William Moore
 Pvt. Joseph Stoner
 Cpl. Thomas Penney
 Pvt. James R. Cook
 Pvt. Alexander Reed
 Pvt. Samuel Bacon
 Chaplain Francis M. Byrd
 Lt. Col. Casper Carl Schneider
 Lt. Col. Casper Carl Schneider
 Lt. Col. Casper Carl Schneider
 Pvt. Henry Ludwig Schulze
 Pvt. Martin V. B. Leonard
 Pvt. Isaac Secor
 Pvt. Lorenzo Seeber
 Pvt. Andrew Stevenson
 Pvt. John S. Darling
 William R. Reck
 Pvt. William Henry Sigler
Sgt. Leonard Darling
 William R. Reck

 Cpl. Jacob John Tanner

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. 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. 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. A, 8th Battalion, DC Infantry
Co. D, 48th Regt. Illinois Vol. Infantry
 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. 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. E, 3rd Tennessee Mounted Infantry
 Co. H, 91st Regiment, Indiana Inf.
 184th Regiment Ohio Infantry
 103rd Regiment New York Infantry
 103rd Regiment New York Infantry
 103rd Regiment New York Infantry
 Co. D, 9th Regiment Illinois Volunteers
 Shields' 19th Indep Batt Ohio Light Arty.
 Co. D, 28th Regiment Massachusetts
 Co. C, 10th Regiment Illinois Infantry
 Co. A, 88th Regiment Ohio Infantry
 Co. F, 171st Regt. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. F, 74th NY Inf., Co H, 40th NY Infantry
 Co. M, 3rd Regiment, New York Cavalry
Co. H, 44th Regt. New York Infantry
 Co. F, 74th Regt. NY Inf., Co. H, 40th NY
 Inf., Co. F, 5th Regt. Excelsior Brigade
 1st Regt. Nebraska Infantry

(Muster continued on next page)

Membership Muster (Continued)

Camp Member

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

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

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

Editor's Message

Greetings Brothers and friends! As we reach the midpoint of 2011, I am pleased to report that our membership continues to grow! In fact, for the first time, the *Membership Muster* now spans more than one page and includes 72 members. In this issue, we celebrate the addition of eleven members – Brothers Keast, Keast, and Keast (a family affair), Brothers Lesmeister, Lesmeister, and Lesmeister (another family affair), Chester, Duke, Staley, Beinhorn, and Torres. Please join me in welcoming them all into our Camp.

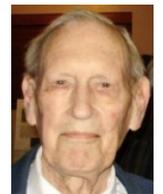
Due to the substantial 'catching up' needed on the reporting of the Camp's recent activities by this editor, this issue of the *Harriet Lane* will be Part 1 of a two-part series. The next issue, Part 2, will follow in approximately one month.

With that being said, I am extending a call for two volunteers to serve as assistant newsletter editors. Anyone wishing to contribute their journalistic skills to the cause may contact me for details and responsibilities of the new positions.

On a more somber note, two of our men, Captain Chadwick E. "Jerry" Chester, and former member Charles Chambers passed away recently. Brother Chester lived in Victoria, Texas and passed away February 8th at age 89. Brother Chambers passed away February 11, 2011 in Arlington, Texas at age 91. He was a Charter Member of *Edward Lea Camp* and served many years as the Camp's *Graves Registration Officer*. Both men will be sorely missed by all.



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



Bro. Charles Chambers



Bro. "Jerry" Chester being sworn in as a new member by Camp Cmdr. Stephen Schulze, December 2007

Note: A correction was necessary on page 4 of the December 2010 issue of the Harriet Lane. In the article about the Dr. Stephenson/GAR memorial in Washington, DC, the wrong generation was listed in reference to Dr. Stephenson's birth year. Please refer to the corrected date in the on-line version of the December 2010. The photo originally inserted was correct.

Camp Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
12 Jul 2011	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Dale Leach & Robert Lockwood Topic: TBA	Spaghetti Warehouse 901 Commerce St., Houston, TX
Aug 2011	No Monthly Meeting	N/A
12 Sep 2011	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Emma Valdes – Ladies Auxiliary Topic: <i>The Role of Hispanics in the Civil War</i>	Spaghetti Warehouse 901 Commerce St., Houston, TX
10 Oct 2011	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Ronne Janica Topic: <i>Rock Island Prison</i>	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. David K. LaBrot	281-364-4845	dave4loans@comcast.net
* Senior Vice-Commander – Mr. Samuel F. Hampton	713-477-9609	Samham2@yahoo.com
* Junior Vice-Commander – Steve Holmes	713-436-9741	sthomes@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

New Members

Introducing: **Mark John Lesmeister**

"My name is Mark Lesmeister. I am a physics teacher in Pearland, Texas. I am married and have two sons, both of whom joined SUVCW at the same time as I did. I served on active duty in the Marine Corps for three years, and served in the reserves after that, achieving the rank of Major.

I have had a longstanding interest in genealogy, and have been successful in researching my father's side of the family as far back as 1680 or so. His ancestors emigrated to the U.S. only after the Civil War. However, an uncle on my mother's side of the family, knowing of my interest in genealogy, began corresponding with me about the family history on that side of the family. He was particularly interested in our common ancestor who served in the Civil War. I believe this interest may have stemmed in part from research my uncle was doing on the history of anesthesia in the War. Eventually this uncle and another one published a book about our family history, including several chapters about Peter Klein, my Civil War veteran ancestor. They even included a fictionalized Civil War Diary, loosely based on what little we know of Peter and the unit in which he served.



Mark Lesmeister

Peter Klein, my great great-grandfather, was born May 5, 1839 in Bardenbach, Germany. He emigrated to the U.S. with his parents and siblings in 1846. The family settled in Lake County, Indiana. Peter may have moved to Valparaiso, Indiana when he was 19 to apprentice as a wagon maker. We do know that "wagonmaker" was listed as his profession when he enlisted on September 7, 1861 for service with the 6th Indiana Independent Light Artillery. This unit was known as the *Morton Battery*, after Indiana governor Oliver Morton. Peter Klein served honorably in the numerous actions of the 6th Indiana Artillery; my uncle's book has a complete list. He was honorably discharged on September 19, 1864. Peter eventually moved to South Dakota after the war. He joined the *Meade Chapter* of the GAR in 1887, in Gettysburg, South Dakota. Gettysburg has a long association with veterans of the Civil War, starting with its founding by veterans in 1883. The name was suggested by a veteran of the *Battle of Gettysburg*.

Besides genealogy, my interests are history in general, especially the history of science and technology, especially military technology, and modern physics. I enjoy reading, scuba diving, camping and backpacking."

Welcome, Brother Lesmeister!

Introducing: **James Ryan Lesmeister**

New member James R. Lesmeister, a student, joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his gr-gr-grandfather, Peter Klein, who served as a Private with the 6th Independent Battery, Light Artillery, Indiana Volunteers. Welcome, Brother Lesmeister!

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Introducing: **John Luke Lesmeister**

New member John L. Lesmeister, a student, joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his 3rd great-grandfather, Peter Klein, who served as a Private with the 6th Independent Battery, Light Artillery, Indiana Volunteers. Welcome, Brother Lesmeister!

Introducing: **Charles Louis Duke**

New member Charles Louis Duke, an attorney, joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his 3rd great-grandfather, Joseph Allen, who served as a Private with Co. D, 48th Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Welcome, Brother Duke!

Introducing: **Walter Torres**

Walter Torres joins the Camp on the service of his gr-gr-grandfather, Robert Inglis, who served as Acting 3rd Asst. Engineer, *USS Glasgow*, U.S. Navy. Welcome, Brother Torres!

Introducing: **Curtiss Mitchell Beinhorn**

Curtiss Mitchell Beinhorn was born in Houston, Texas on December 20, 1953. He is a son of Louise Haggenjos and Charles Beinhorn. Curtiss later married Marcela Maria Zambra, who was born in Santiago, Chile.

In 1848, Christian (a Confederate veteran) and Mary Beinhorn from Oslos/Breman, Germany were original settlers in the Spring Branch, Texas area. They owned farms North and South of I-10. The family church built in Spring Branch still exists at Campbell Rd. and Long Point. They lived and farmed the area of what are now Voss, Campbell, and Beinhorn Roads. They also owned a grocery store and butcher shop on Yale and 28th. The Campbell Rd. and I-10 intersection used to be called "Beinhorn Crossing" and my great-grandfather's house sat amongst the huge oak trees where *Ciro's* restaurant used to be before the I-10 freeway expansion.

"I have always been fascinated by the Civil War and it's meaning to the change and growth of our nation as a whole and how it played a vital part in addressing the many differences that existed then ... and to a degree still does today. I assisted with my mother's membership into the *DUV*. I wanted to pursue my membership in the *SUV* to honor not only our family's soldiers, but for all who fought for the greater cause."

Brother Beinhorn is employed at *M.D. Anderson Cancer Center's Integrative Medicine Center*. He is the co-writer and presenter of UT-MDACC's Comprehensive Massage Program entitled: "An Integrative Approach to Oncology Massage". He is also a co-writer of the "Role of Massage Therapy in Cancer Care", published in *The Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine*. He was awarded M.D. Anderson's Outstanding Employee Award and a nominee for M.D. Anderson's Exemplary Employee Award. He is a member of *The Society of Integrative Oncology* and *The Society for Oncology Massage*.

Brother Beinhorn is also a member of the *SAR* and a member of local band in Kemah "just for the fun of it". He was also involved in the music industry as owner/manager of *Beinhorn Productions and Recording Studios* in Houston and Nashville. He has worked in private practice and provided contracting massage therapy and spa services for various hotels in Houston and San Antonio. Brother Beinhorn also was previously employed in the construction industry with *H.A. Lott and Liggin Construction* as a layout engineer and supervisor.

Brother Beinhorn's hobbies include: music, skiing, hunting, fishing, coin collecting, and "working on my descendants of War of 1812 and Blackhawk Wars".

Brother Beinhorn joins the Camp on the service of his gr-gr-grandfather, John Lancaster, who served as a Private with Co. F, 50th Regiment, Illinois Infantry. Welcome, Brother Beinhorn!



Curtiss Beinhorn

(New Members continued on next page)

Introducing: **Larry G. Keast**

Larry Keast has always been interested in his family history. He recently hired a genealogist to do the work required to link himself up with his past. Through this research, he has now found that he is linked with the *Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War*, the *Sons of the American Revolution* and the *Sons of the Republic of Texas*.

Larry graduated from the University of Texas in 1967 with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, and is a registered professional engineer in Texas. Almost 9 years with *Cameron* gave him a wide range of experience in engineering, offshore service, sales, and manufacturing. Larry left *Cameron* in 1976 to become Vice President & General Manager of *World Wide Oil Tools*. During four years there, he built this new company into a respected manufacturer. Larry directed the development of four new product lines, receiving two patents in the process. He also traveled worldwide selling, training, and establishing sales agents. This experience confirmed his love for startup manufacturing companies.



Larry G. Keast

In 1980, Larry founded *Venturetech Corporation* in his garage. After many oilfield ups and downs through the years, *Venturetech* today is leading the competition with his patented diesel-hydraulic power swivels which are drilling oil and gas wells around the world. Larry continues to direct *Venturetech's* development, and is having a great time. In 2000, *Venturetech* began hiring people who deserved a second chance; those in recovery from alcohol and drug abuse and ex-offenders of our legal system. This practice paid off way beyond expectations, with reduced turnover and improved productivity. Larry has been recognized for this leadership with awards from Houston's *Council on Alcohol and Drugs*, *Houston Crackdown*, the *U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration*, Mayor Bill White, and in published articles and TV interviews.

Larry has also been giving back to the community for years, and considers this work an important part of his life. He was a parent group leader for several years in the substance abuse programs *Insight* and *Lifeway*, and was an advisory board member of *Cornerstone Recovery*. In 1995, he started a *ToughLove* parents program in his church.

Larry and Zandra have been married 42 years, and have three children and three grandchildren. Shortly after his wife Zandra was diagnosed with Hepatitis C in 1996, Larry started Houston's first Hepatitis C support group, and was elected to the *Texas Liver Coalition's* board as Director of Support Groups. Under Larry's direction, the Coalition developed 32 support groups in Texas cities which continue to help thousands of people each year. Larry remained on this board after acquisition by St. Luke's Texas Liver Center in 2003, and served on the Mayor Bill White's Task Force for Hepatitis C. Thankfully, Zandra's treatment was successful, and she remains virus free.

For many years, Mr. Keast has enjoyed mentoring and speaking to engineering and entrepreneurship students at the *University of Texas* and the *University of Houston*. He has served on the Business Advisory Council of *Goodwill Industries* and the Advisory Board of *Houston-Galveston Institute*. Larry has also served as President of the *Dover Club*, a support organization of business owners.

Brother Keast joins the Camp on the service of his gr-gr-grandfather, James Fernsides Hildrith, who served as a Private with Co B, 135th Regiment, *Pennsylvania Infantry*. Welcome, Brother Keast!

Introducing: **Neil P. Staley**

"I am the gr-grandson of Leonard D. Darling. He enlisted in the 44th *New York Volunteer Infantry* on September 15, 1861, and was in Company H as a Sergeant. He was killed August 30th, 1862 at the *Second Battle of Bull Run* at the Unfinished Railroad. Our records say he was 'shot through the head'. I have been to the battlefield; it is quite humbling.

Mary Ann, Sgt. Darling's wife, was 5 months pregnant when her husband enlisted. Their son, my grandfather, was born December 29, 1861 while Sgt. Darling was away and as far as we know he never got to see his only son. The naming of his son however is testament to the fervent feelings at that time in history. Mary and Leonard named their only son "Elmer Leonard" in honor of Elmer Ellsworth who was killed May 24, 1861, the first man to fall for

(New Members continued on next page)

New Members *(continued from previous page)*

the Union cause. The 44th *New York* called itself the "Ellsworth Avengers".

It also turns out that I am descended from six of the Mayflower passengers, including William Brewster and Stephen Hopkins. We have completed submission of all material to the *Mayflower Society* in Plymouth, Massachusetts and it seems that shortly I will be a member of that society.

We live in Cypress, Texas and own a company that creates conferences and roundtables for the upstream oil & gas industry throughout North America. I look forward to meeting my 'Brothers'."

Brother Staley joins the Camp on the service of his gr-grandfather, Leonard Darling, who served as a Sergeant with Co H, 44th *Regiment, New York Infantry*. Welcome, Brother Staley!

Ancestor Profile

Samuel John Bacon was born in Detroit, Michigan on October 10, 1834. He was the son of Socrates Bonapart Bacon and wife Ann Earp Bacon. The Bacon Family had a long history in America dating back to the 1640s in Massachusetts. By 1850, the census shows sixteen year old Samuel residing with his parents in Jefferson Township, Indiana, near Fort Wayne.

In late 1854, Samuel married Virginia Jane Giradot, daughter of French immigrants Alexis and Marie Giradot. The couple stayed in Jefferson Township and farmed for a living. By April 12, 1861, when Fort Sumter was fired upon, they had several children, two of which were very sick. On April 16th, 1861, their son John died two weeks before his birthday. On April 18th, their son William died as well.

Jane did not want Samuel to go to war for fear of losing him also. She protested adamantly against his enlistment, and through the first part of the war she was successful. Ultimately, on November 19th, 1864, Samuel joined the 91st *Regiment of Indiana Infantry*. He was 30 years old and his enlistment registered him with "blue eyes, brown hair, fair complexion, five feet eight inches high". Samuel left home unaware that Jane was again pregnant.

Samuel marched with his regiment to Indianapolis where he was stationed at Camp Carrington. In December, he was promoted to Corporal. That same month, he contracted the measles. His health continued to fail and it was feared that he might die.

Not long after, he was granted a furlough, and his father, Socrates, drove his wagon to Indianapolis to carry Samuel back. Among Samuel's Civil War Papers was an affidavit signed by Earl Adams, a friend of the family, who greeted Socrates upon their return. He is quoted:

"I did not see him (Samuel) again until he came home on furlough about the middle of December 1864, at which time I found him greatly reduced and emaciated, he then laying in his father's wagon."

Fortunately, Samuel recovered and he rejoined his regiment in March of 1865 with Sherman's Army in North Carolina. During this period, his unit was involved in the advance on and occupation of Raleigh and ultimately the surrender of Joseph Johnston's Army at Bennett Place on April 26.

Occupation duty at Raleigh followed until May 3 and at Salisbury until June 26. Samuel was transferred briefly to the 124th *Indiana Infantry* and then mustered out at Greensboro on August 31, 1865.

Samuel returned to his family in Indiana to find newly born Lucy, my great, great grandmother. His family continued to grow and he prospered. He lived to the age of 82, dying in 1917.

(Note: Much of the information here was gathered by Loretta Brady.)

....Biography and photo submitted by gr-gr-grandson Brother Jason Richards



Samuel John Bacon

Battle of Galveston Commemoration – A Story in Photos

The first major event of the year for the Camp was held on January 8, 2011 at the Trinity Episcopal Cemetery in Galveston, Texas. The weather was perfect as elements of the *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp #2, SUVCW, Co. A, 13th U.S. Infantry*, and the *John B. Hood Camp #50, CSVW*, along with many spectators gathered for the annual *Battle of Galveston* commemoration ceremonies. The following are a few of the many photos that were taken depicting the scene, the drama, and the action.



L: By double file, the Federal Honor Guard marches in to assemble near the Union Monument.

R: The march of the Federal troops was dictated by the cadence of a drummer boy.



L: The Federal Honor Guard rests in position during the speeches awaiting the call for a musket salute.

R: The Confederate Color Guard marches in to support the ceremonies honoring the Union casualties of the *Battle of Galveston*.



L: The Federal Honor Guard at 'Order Arms' as the ceremony proceeds.

R: Department of Texas Commander Howard Sickler participates with a fine keynote speech.



L: The Federal and Confederate units at 'Present Arms'.

R: The Federal Honor Guard shown at 'Rest' from a different angle.



(Continued on next page)



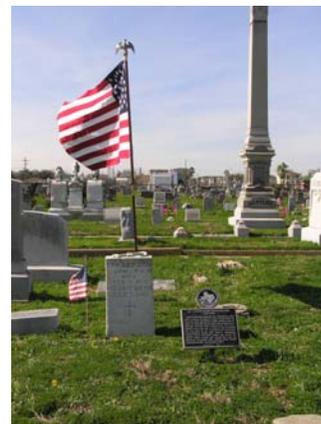
L: Doug McBee of the John B. Hood Camp #50, SCV, Galveston, gave a short speech and later placed a wreath on the Confederate monument with the assistance of Miss Paige Anderson of the Sarah Emma Seelye Ladies Auxiliary, SUVCW.



R: Vali Reyes, Auxiliary President, places a wreath on the Union Monument.



L: Bugler Mr. Dana Read offered a fine rendition of 'Taps'.



R: The grave of Camp namesake Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, USN is adorned with the U.S. Colors (large and small) and a recently installed Texas Historical Marker.

At the conclusion of the Commemoration Ceremonies, the members and guests reassembled at the Golden Coral Restaurant on Seawall Blvd. in Galveston to conduct the January business meeting.



L: Department of Texas Commander Howard Sickler attended the Commemoration Ceremony as keynote speaker and later also presided over the installation of the 2011 Camp Officers at the business meeting.

R: Aux. President Vali Reyes presented Camp Cmdr. David LaBrot with a Certificate of Recognition for his one year service as Camp Commander and a 2010 National Encampment "Bleeding Kansas" Sesquicentennial Commemorative Medal.



LR Front row: Auxiliary members Cindy Mayes, Norma Pollard, Paige Anderson, President Vali Reyes, and Emma Valdes.

LR Back row: Camp Cmdr. LaBrot and Dept. Cmdr Howard Sickler.

... All photos submitted by Linda LaBrot and Emma Valdes

Wreaths Across America
Houston National Cemetery – February 12, 2011

This was my first time participating at the *Wreaths Across America* event, and I was not sure what to expect. What I saw filled me with awe and a humble appreciation for so many choosing to pay their respects – on a precious Saturday. There were people as far as my eye could see – huddled in reverent groups of two or three, to upwards of ten or more.

I saw volunteers wearing corporate t-shirts, boy scout troops, girl scout troops, and countless individuals moved to support those who gave all. There were many dressed in uniform, both active and reservists, as well as retired veterans wearing purple hearts and all variety of service commendation ribbons and metals. There were people there who looked like their next stop was to shop at a mall, or take a long nap. Everyone was respectful and appreciative of everyone else, it seemed.

Those of us representing *SUV Edward Lea Camp #2* in uniform were recipients of numerous participants stepping up to say "Thank you," and "God Bless you." Many simply wanted a photograph with those of us wearing Union blue uniforms.

'Profoundly moving' is a phrase that defies verbal description. How inspiring to see row upon row of wreaths carefully placed on thousands upon thousands of grave headstones. It is a vivid memory that will always stay with me. I'll be there again - for certain!



...After-action report submitted by Brother David Daniels

It was an honor and a privilege to participate in the *Wreaths Across America* event. This was my first time and was impressed with the organization and planning. Even more amazing, to me, was the huge turnout - thousands of people gave up a big part of their Saturday to come and each lay a few wreaths on the markers of our American heroes. I was in awe as I looked out over the grounds and saw thousands fanning out to various portions of the cemetery to lay the wreaths. I was especially pleased to see so many children participating with their parents.



I think I personally placed about a half dozen wreaths and read the grave markers. Several were World War II vets, and a couple were veterans of both World War I *and* World War II. These men lived long and rewarding lives. But I was most deeply affected by 2 markers in particular. Both were men killed in Viet Nam in the prime of their youth. Neither was older than 22 when they died in 1969 - the year I graduated from high school.

I was happy I decided to participate, and will most certainly do it again next year. Maybe we can get more Camp members to turn out. One thing I will do - I will get there earlier than I did this time. Traffic and parking were a real challenge.

...After-action report submitted by Brother Scott Shuster

Air Force Jr. ROTC Award



On April 30, 2011, Camp Patriotic Instructor, James Hackett (PCC) visited Foster High School in Richmond, Texas to present a SUVCW certificate and medal to outstanding Air force Jr. ROTC cadet, Deanna Diaz.

Cadet Deanna Diaz and PCC Hackett



Dear Brothers,

Miss Fisher, the 4th grade History teacher at Sonora Intermediate School, was kind enough to invite me in to do a program for her classes. Fourth graders are instructed on Texas History but they had just completed their unit on the Civil War in Texas. I got to spend the day visiting with 68 students speaking about the Civil War Soldier - his equipment and uniforms, and how he survived his day-to-day life.

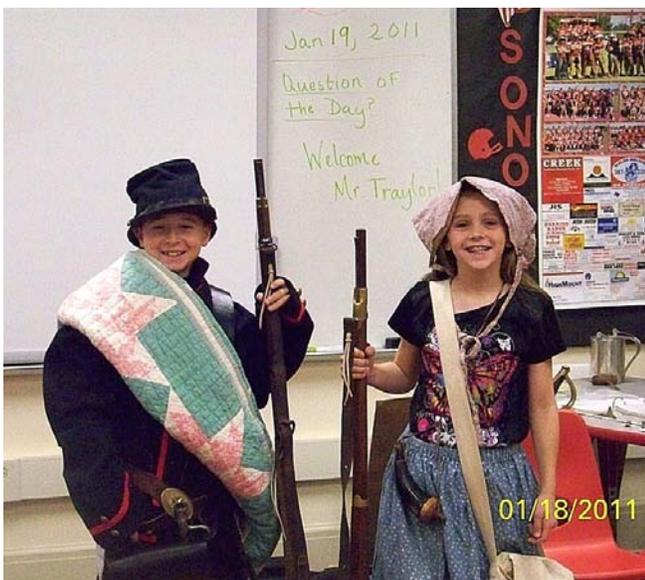
L: Chap Traylor instructing about how clothing styles have changed and how they are similar.

The students were very well behaved and inquisitive about the program. As always, the boys were interested in the guns and weapons. The girls also showed great interest when I spoke about the responsibilities of women during the Civil War.

Many were not aware that some women served disguised as men and also their needing to know how to use a weapon for food and protection when they were left at home as the head of the family.

I was very impressed with the knowledge these 4th graders had of the Civil War. They knew the names of both Presidents and many of the generals who fought for both sides. They also had an understanding of the change in command which led to Grant being in command. I was very impressed! Miss Fisher has done a wonderful job with these kids.

Respectfully,
Chap Traylor



A couple recruits came forward and dressed for battle or got ready to hunt or take care of the home front.



Some students needed a little assistance with trying on uniforms.

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

Then:

In early 1861, a group of commissioners from the secessionist *Committee of Public Safety* in Texas tried to convince General David E. Twiggs to give up the Federal arsenal. At the same time, they commissioned frontier hero Ben McCulloch a Colonel of Cavalry and had him raise a secessionist militia force.

General Twiggs was a Georgian and a southern sympathizer, but his duty was clearly to retain all Federal property, and he was a professional officer who had served since the War of 1812. He also did not want to be the man to fire the first shot in a civil war. He reported the situation to Washington and asked for guidance. But guidance was slow to come from the lame-duck Buchanan administration.

Eventually the Texas commissioners decided General Twiggs would never give them what they desired by negotiation, so they commanded Colonel McCulloch to seize the garrison in San Antonio.



Brevet Major-General David E. Twiggs

Before dawn on Feb. 16th, about 1,000 Texan militia entered San Antonio and united with other secessionist militia companies from around the city. They surrounded the three garrison installations which contained about 200 U.S. soldiers. A detail went to Twiggs' house outside town and intercepted him as he drove his buggy to work. They stuck him up with a shotgun and brought him to the Plaza. Colonel McCulloch demanded that Twiggs surrender the garrison. Initially, the general refused. But, after some reflection, he finally surrendered the installations in San Antonio and agreed in writing to evacuate all the forts in Texas. He did so with the conditions that his troops would be allowed to take their individual weapons and light artillery to the coast near Corpus Christi, and then take ships to the North. A silk flag belonging to one of the militia companies was soon hoisted over the Alamo (today, the flag is in the hands of the *Daughters of the Republic of Texas*, who are in charge of the Alamo. Its original colors have long since faded).

The secessionist commissioners of the *Committee of Public Safety* had thus gained the Texas arsenals and border forts, with many cannon, muskets, pistols, etc. and also all the logistical support of an army. Much of this material was later used by the ill-fated *Sibley Expedition*, an attempt to take Arizona and New Mexico for the Confederacy. The U.S. soldiers in San Antonio marched out to the edge of town and spent two days at San Pedro Springs. Then they marched on to the coast. They were soon joined by troops from other far-flung Texas garrisons as messengers carried the surrender order across the state. Many of the surrendered Federal troops went on to serve during the Civil War. However the evacuation of some of the garrisons took months due to the vast distances and slow communication (i.e. it is 550 miles from Ft. Bliss in El Paso to San Antonio).

Meanwhile the Confederacy was formed, and the Confederate government sent Major Earl Van Dorn with an armed ship to capture the remaining evacuating troops in Texas, in contravention of the surrender agreement. Those who had not yet embarked were taken prisoner and spent the Civil War in a prison camp near Tyler, Texas.

General Twiggs was later accused of treachery and fired. He joined the Confederate service and was assigned to New Orleans. But, he died within six months without having taken an active part in the Civil War. Ben McCulloch rose to Major-General and division commander, and was killed in action at the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, in March 1862.

Now:

The historic Alamo filled up with blue uniforms once again on February 12, 2011 as troops arrived from many sections, including elements of Houston's *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp #2*. After 'mustering-in' at the recruitment tent followed by a weapons inspection, the men were assembled and organized into three companies, each with a full compliment of officers.



Federal troops arrive to garrison the Alamo.

Outside the walls, Confederate forces were also gathering en masse along with other spectators, many in period dress. Tension increased in anticipation of the arrival of General Twiggs at the Fort.

The moment the general arrived, he was confronted with a demand to surrender the garrison. Tensions were extremely high during the verbal exchange as the outnumbered but well armed Federal troops stood in formation confronted by a large number of rag-tag gray-clad troops.

Twiggs Surrender – Then and Now (continued from previous page)



L: General David Twiggs arrives by buggy to report for duty at the Alamo.

Below L: He is immediately confronted by Colonel McCullough (in white hat) as assembled and armed Federal troops stand in the background.

Below R: The exchange becomes heated and tense as the Colonel stridently delivers the ultimatum for surrender.



L: The confrontation nearly becomes deadly as the opposing troops square off during the 'cross-over' of a Federal officer. The traitor's sword was angrily snatched away by another loyal officer before it could be surrendered.

Bottom L & R: Ultimately, the surrender and terms are accepted and the Federal troops are allowed to vacate the Alamo premises with their arms and Colors flying.



(Continued on back page)

Since becoming an officer of the Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, USN, Camp #2, Department of Texas, SUVCW, I have continuously strived to improve, not only continued growth in membership, but to improve and enhance the public perception of our honored Order as well as foster enthusiasm and encouragement among our Brothers. I have not always succeeded in my endeavors in this regards, but I have tried. Many of the Camps accomplishments, we have completed together, as fellow Brother Officers, and as Brother and Sisters in the Allied Orders.

In the past eighteen months, we have overseen a 23% growth in Camp membership (it now stands at 72 members) which is the highest level of membership that the Camp has ever achieved since I first became a member in 2006. Together we have revived and restored some of the traditions: Memorial Day services at the GAR Graves in Glenwood Cemetery; Camp banners, altar, altar cloth, Bible, and Opening Camp ceremonies - things that are integral parts of our Order. And we now have various Camp members serving as appointed Camp Officers where there were few appointed officers before.

We now have an investigating committee to review new member applications as they come in, and our meetings are now conducted utilizing the agenda per our C & R's.

We now have a Welfare (Recruiting) Committee whose job is to reach out and maintain contact with all members - not just the ones who attend the monthly meetings.

We now have a list of names and addresses of JROTC commanders in the Greater Houston Area so that we can contact them early in the year to plan and coordinate the JROTC medal awards and ceremonies.

We now have a period tent with which to present a more "period correct" impression, as well as a place from which we can conduct recruiting efforts at various reenactment events.

We conducted the first joint SUVCW, DUVCW, ASUVCW Memorial Ceremony at the grave of Sarah Emma Edmundson Seeyle, the only female member of the GAR, and whose grave, along with the graves of her fellow GAR members, is now the responsibility of this Camp.

It has been an exciting ride as an Officer of this Camp. It has been, without a doubt, one of the greatest honors and privileges of my life to have commanded the *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, USN, Camp #2* for the past eighteen months. I had the great honor to have been sworn in as a new member in Feb 2006 by *Department of the Southwest* Commander, Brother Harrison Moore, IV. When I was elected Camp Commander, I had the honor to have been sworn in as Commander of the *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, USN, Camp #2* by Past National C-in-C Keith Harrison, the C-in-C who, during his term as National C-in-C, chartered the *Department of the Southwest*, now known as the *Dept. of Texas*. In attendance at this swearing on that day were *Dept. of Texas* Commander, George Hansen, and two Past Department Commanders, Brothers Stephen Schulze and Brother Blair Rudy, as well as the President of the *Auxiliary*.

However, this past Saturday, on June 4th, I was elected as the Commander of the *Department of Texas*, and had the honor to have been sworn in by our current National Commander-in-Chief, Brother Brad Schall. I have been truly blessed, not only with the support of the Brothers of this Camp, but with the support of the Brothers of the *Department of Texas* as well.

Relinquishing command of such a wonderful Camp and such Brothers is bittersweet, and I do so reluctantly. I'm left with the feeling of accomplishment, but, at the same time, wishing that I could have done more of the things that I set out to do for the benefit of the Camp. It is also one of the hardest things to give up. But, give it up, I must. General Order #16 by National Commander Brad Schall has stated that no Brother can hold the position of Department Commander and Camp Commander at the same time. Therefore, effective with my election yesterday as Department Commander, I resign the office of Camp Commander of the *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, USN, Camp #2*, effective as of my election as Department of Texas Commander, June 4th, 2011. Brother Samuel Hampton will immediately take command as Acting Camp Commander of the *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, USN, Camp #2* until the Camp Council makes its report to the Camp, which I expect them to do at the meeting of June 14th. I will continue to assist Brother Hampton to ensure a smooth transition, and I pledge my continued support to the Camp, and to the *Auxiliary*.



Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

David K. LaBrot, PCC
Commander Department of Texas
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Treue Der Union

Friday, June 24th 2010: "On our way to pick up my youngest son, Conrad, from camp yesterday, John (my oldest son) and I had the chance to stop at the Treue der Union monument in Comfort, Texas. The original monument was erected in 1866 to commemorate the sacrifice of about 40 German settlers in Texas who attempted to join Union forces but were killed in Nueces Texas by Confederate forces. The current monument was erected in 1996 to replace the original monument.

[Here are] some of the photos we took. Note that the flag, which is permanently flown at half-mast, has 36 stars, the number of states in the Union in 1866."



Top far L: 36-star flag at half-mast.

Bottom far L: Treue Der Union historical marker.

Center: The Union Monument, a 20 foot high 35,700 pound obelisk.



Top R: 130th Anniversary rededication marker.

Bottom R: One of the 2 interpretive plaques.



The Historical marker above reads:

TREUE DER UNION

THIS GERMAN LANGUAGE MONUMENT, ERECTED 1866, HONORS THE MEMORY OF 68 MEN (MOSTLY GERMANS) FROM THIS REGION WHO WERE LOYAL TO THE UNION DURING THE CIVIL WAR.

TRYING DESPERATELY TO REACH U.S. FEDERAL TROOPS BY WAY OF MEXICO, ABOUT 40 OF THE MEN WERE KILLED BY VENGEFUL CONFEDERATES BENT ON ANNILIATING THEM IN THE BATTLE OF THE NUECES (ON AUG. 10, 1862) AND A LATER FIGHT (OCT. 18).

THE BODIES OF THE SLAIN AND THOSE WHO DROWNED SWIMMING THE RIO GRANDE WERE LEFT UNBURIED. A GROUP OF GERMANS GATHERED THE BONES OF THEIR FRIENDS AND BURIED THEM AT THIS SITE IN 1865.

The interpretive plaque pictured above reads:

Funeral of German Patriots at Comfort, Texas August 20, 1865

The procession of three hundred people, headed by fathers of four of the victims, old men of sixty and seventy years, preceded the funeral car drawn by four white horses. Under the Union banner lay the remains. A detachment of Federal troops accompanied the cortege. At the grave, E. Degener, father of two victims, pronounced an oration which brought tears of grief to the eyes of the mourners. He concluded thus:

"The sacrifice that we, the fathers of the slaughtered, made to our country, and to liberty, is great and dolorous. We shall, however, console ourselves; we should be proud of having offered our sons to the Union, if the glorious victory of its arms bear all the fruits that the nation and the whole of humanity justly expect to reap."



The Federal troops fired a salute over the grave. The little remote site where they rest must be to the nation as sacred as those places where thousands are deposited. Small in number, far away from the patriotic heart and the strong arm of the loyal North, surrounded by fierce enemies of the Union, those brave and devoted Germans offered their lives.

*HARPERS WEEKLY New York, January 20, 1866
Comfort Heritage Foundation, 2004*

Submitted by Brother John E. Schneider, Sr. – Camp Counsel

Military Justice During the Civil War: The Courts Martial of Union Colonels and Surgeons
by Brother John E. Schneider, Sr.

During the Civil War, most colonels were volunteers who acquired their positions through either political appointment, by using part of their personal fortune to purchase a commission, or by raising a unit of volunteers who then elected their officers. Like many volunteer officers, the new regimental commanders had little military training or experience. Thrust into command, they were expected to train and lead a force of almost a thousand men into battle. Like the regimental commanders described above, Civil War surgeons were also mostly volunteers with little or no military experience. They found themselves treating wounds and diseases they had never before encountered, coupled with having to cope with the discipline and regulation of military life. The two often came into conflict. Like all soldiers at the time, the conduct of officers was governed by the *Articles of War*, the predecessor to today's *Uniform Code of Military Justice*.

Designed to promote discipline, the *Articles* set forth both offenses punishable under the *Articles* and the conduct of courts martial. Offenses punishable under the *Articles* include offenses such as theft and murder, as well as military specific offenses such as mutiny and desertion. Even attendance at church services was mandated by the *Articles of War*. The *Articles* also contained what can best be described as catch-all offenses such as 'Conduct Unbecoming an Officer' and 'Conduct Prejudicial to the Good Order of the Service'. These latter offenses were used to punish behaviors not specifically covered by other punitive articles.

While administration of justice for enlisted personnel was generally handled by their company commander, discipline of officers usually involved a court martial. Court martial panels consisted of from five to thirteen officers of equal or higher rank than the accused. The senior officer acted as the President of the Court. His role was similar to that of a judge, making rulings on procedure and evidence. A Judge Advocate would be appointed to try the case and to advise the president of the court on procedural matters. While a defense counsel was appointed for the accused officer, there was no requirement that counsel be an attorney. For this reason, many defendants hired their own lawyers or acted as their own defense counsel. Punishments for officers typically included dismissal (the equivalent of a dishonorable discharge), imprisonment, fines, and even death. Appeals were limited to review by the Judge Advocate General and, on occasion, review by the President.

Many of the offenses committed by senior officers and surgeons during the Civil War involved excessive drinking. One such case was that of LTC Francis O'Keefe, deputy commander of the 15th N.Y. *Engineers*. The charges against LTC O'Keefe included three occasions when LTC O'Keefe was too drunk to perform his duties. At least once, he was alleged to be so drunk that he fell off his horse during a formation. Despite a spirited defense, the court martial panel found LTC O'Keefe guilty of all charges and ordered dismissed from the service. An appeal to President Lincoln was unsuccessful.

Another example of where alcohol abuse led to punishment by court martial was Dr. Henry Murray, Assistant Regimental Surgeon for the 84th U.S. *Colored Troops*. Up to his court martial in 1866, Dr. Murray had a stellar career, rising through the ranks from Private to Assistant Surgeon. Then in 1866, while his regiment was in garrison near New Orleans, Dr. Murray appears to have succumbed to the pleasures of the city during Mardi Gras. Arrested twice for drunkenness and for frequenting "houses of ill fame", Dr. Murray was charged with drunkenness and Conduct Unbecoming an Officer. During his trial, Dr. Murray continued to drink heavily. He drank so much that the President of the Court was forced to suspend the trial for two days because Dr. Murray was too drunk to participate. Forcibly confined by the Provost Marshal to prevent him from drinking, Dr. Murray sobered up and his trial finally resumed. He was found guilty on all counts and dismissed from the service.

Not all allegations of misconduct stemmed from misuse of alcohol. Some arose from an unwillingness or inability to work with the military system. One case reads like an episode from M*A*S*H. Dr. Charles Gray, a contract surgeon with the 11th N.Y. *Fire Zouaves* was charged with being absent without leave and with Conduct Prejudicial to the Good Order of the Service. After being denied a pass to leave his unit, Dr. Gray went to Baltimore to secure lumber to build a floor in the unit's hospital. On his way he asked two fellow officers not to report him to the regimental commander. Dr. Gray was court-martialed and found guilty on both counts. Because his conduct was driven out of a genuine concern for his men and not personal gain, the court limited his punishment to suspension from duty and a fine.

Another example of an officer accused of wrong doing resulting from his concern for his men is the case of Col. John Ballier, commander of the 98th *Pennsylvania*. Col. Ballier was accused of Misbehavior Before the Enemy for allegedly failing to order his men to attack. In fact, the regiment had engaged the enemy only to have many of their weapons fail to operate. In addition the unit had run out of water. During the trial, it came out that Col. Ballier did not refuse to obey the order to attack, but merely asked his commander for water and working weapons for his men. The brigade commander ignored the request and had Col. Ballier "bucked and gagged" followed by referral to a court martial. Col. Ballier was acquitted on all charges.

The recapture of Galveston by Confederate forces is little known in the annals of war. But Masons, wherever dispersed, take a special pride and share a certain feeling when the war stood still in Galveston while Worshipful Master Philip C. Tucker, Jr. opened *Harmony Lodge No. 6* and conducted the Masonic burial of a Northern Brother, "appreciating the spirit and force of Masonic ties." It is a Masonic legacy for all Masons to cherish until time shall be no more.

By way of background, the Union Navy established a blockade of Port Galveston on October 6, 1862. Later, on Christmas Day, Federal troops landed and placed the entire island under Northern control. In the meantime, Texas gained a battle-tested hero as Confederate General John Bankhead Magruder, nicknamed "Prince John" for his dramatic flair and gold-braided pomp, was transferred to command the War Department of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona on October 10, 1862.

General Magruder, a West Pointer, had been thrice promoted in the Mexican War for "gallant and meritorious conduct" and was credited with directing and winning the first land battle in the Civil War for Southern Independence. Describing the battle, the Richmond Dispatch reported that Magruder had met a flag of truce in the conflict and granted the removal of a slain Federal officer. In parting, he had shaken hands with a Union Lieutenant and said, "We part as friends, but on the field of battle we meet as enemies." Although politicians might differ, General Magruder had expressed the feeling of most Masons and most combat soldiers of either North or South. And, it is interesting to note that Magruder had become an *Entered Apprenticed Mason* in San Diego Lodge No. 35 while stationed in California after the Mexican War, but his advancement was stopped due to a duel with the Lodge Treasurer.



General Magruder

When General Magruder arrived in Texas, he recognized that the economy of the state was held hostage by Union blockades along the Texas coast and immediately planned a land/sea attack to retake Galveston Island. In preparation, two small steamboats – the *Bayou City* and the *Neptune* – were fitted with guns and armored with bales of cotton which Magruder said gave "an appearance of protection" to the volunteers who manned them. Then, under cover of New Year's Eve night of 1862, the cotton-clad boats with makeshift tenders cruised to rendezvous with eight Northern ships in Galveston Harbor. At the same time, a land force of Texas volunteers secretly crossed Galveston Bay on the railway bridge that still connected the island to the mainland and stationed themselves in a semicircle around Kuhn's Wharf where Union troops were garrisoned. No doubt, the Union soldiers were startled from sleep about three o'clock in the morning on New Year's Day, 1863, when General Magruder fired the first cannon shot as a signal for the *Battle of Galveston* to begin. After firing the cannon, a little of "Prince John" slipped out as a jovial Magruder remarked to his close-by troops, "Now I've done my duty as a private and I will go now and attend my duties as a General."

The outcome of the battle centered around the Union ship *Harriet Lane*, a copper-sheathed gunboat commanded by Commander Jonathan Mayhew Wainwright, Jr., the forty-one year old son of Protestant Episcopal Bishop Jonathan Mayhew Wainwright, Sr. of New York, and the grandfather of Masonic General Jonathan Mayhew Wainwright III of World War II fame. The second in command was Lieutenant Commander Edward Lea, a graduate of the *United States Naval Academy*, Annapolis, Md., in 1855, and a family relation of Margaret Moffette Lea Houston, wife of the Masonic General Sam Houston.

Upon entering the harbor, the *Bayou City* and *Neptune* opened fire and attempted to ram the *Harriet Lane*. The *Harriet Lane* returned fire in like kind and sank the *Neptune* in the shallow bay. Finally, the *Bayou City* managed to ram the *Harriet Lane* in such a way that the vessels locked together. At this time, the *Harriet Lane* was boarded and captured during hand-to-hand combat. Following the seizure of the *Harriet Lane*, a flag of truce was sent to the Union Commodore Renshaw whose flagship *Westfield* had run aground. In truce, General Magruder demanded surrender of the entire fleet and gave three hours for consideration. After demands were met, the Northern ships were brought to anchor, flying the white flags of truce. In this interim, Commodore Renshaw was killed in an explosion that he set to scuttle his flagship *Westfield*, and the Union gunboats, *Clifton* and *Owasco*, steamed from the harbor with their white flags still flying. Seeing they were abandoned by their fleeing fleet, the Union soldiers fighting at Kuhn's Wharf accepted unconditional surrender. The *Battle of Galveston* was over and the Island remained in Southern control until the end of the Confederate Nation.

At the time the Confederates boarded the *Harriet Lane*, both Wainwright and Lea refused to surrender and both fought valiantly to save their ship. Commander Wainwright sustained injuries to his head and left thigh before he was killed by a shot to the head from the Mason, Commodore Leon Smith, Commander of the *Bayou City* and a brother of Past Grand Master of Indiana, Caleb B. Smith, who served as Secretary of the Interior in Lincoln's first cabinet. Mortally wounded, Lieutenant Commander Edward Lea lay dying on the ship deck. When the Confederate

(Continued on next page)

Major Albert Miller Lea boarded the ship, he recognized his son Edward, whom he had not seen since the war began, and rushed to comfort him. As he knelt by his son, Edward, barely conscious, whispered to a shipmate, "My father is here." Then, he died.

Masonic prisoners from the *Harriet Lane* vouched to Confederate Masons that Wainwright was a Mason in good standing. Although they asked nothing for themselves, they requested a Masonic burial for their late Commander and Masonic Brother. When this information reached Philip C. Tucker, Jr., a Major on Magruder's staff and Worshipful Master of *Harmony Lodge No. 6* in Galveston, plans were made to open the Lodge for Masonic burial.

As soon as Brother Tucker reported to Confederate headquarters located in the Roman Catholic Bishop's palace, General Magruder accosted him with: "Major Tucker, I hear you intend to bury the remains of Commander Wainwright tomorrow with Masonic honors. Is this true?" Major Tucker saluted and answered, "Yes, Sir. And I hope General Magruder will give it military honors." The reply was, "Who in H—I ever heard of burying a dead enemy with Masonic and military honors?" The response was, "General Magruder, when Lieutenant Colonel Rogers of the Second Texas fell, the Federal authorities gave the body Masonic and military burial (unconfirmed), and it is said that you are never to be outdone in courtesy to a friend or enemy." The rebuttal was, "Not by a d--- sight. Colonel DeBray (a Mason and former Secretary of Austin Lodge No. 12), turn out your regiment for escort duty tomorrow at the Masonic burial of Lieutenant Commander Wainwright of the *Harriet Lane*."

On January 2, 1863, Harmony Lodge opened and resolved, "that the members of this Lodge, appreciating the spirit and force of Masonic ties, will not allow their feelings and prejudice and love of righteous cause to obliterate from their hearts and minds the merciful teachings of the Order; that it does not conflict with their duties as patriotic citizens to respond to calls of mercy by a prostrate political foe, or to administer the last rite of the Order to the remains of a Mason of moral worth, although yesterday they met as an armed enemy in mortal combat in which the deceased parted with his life..."

The Lodge minutes continue, "Whereupon the Lodge was called upon to bury the dead. A public procession formed in which appeared both friends and foes wearing the insignia of the Order, and accompanied with a proper military escort under the command of Col. and Brother H. B. DeBray, among which was the Major General Commanding J. Bankhead Magruder. The body of Bro. Wainwright was borne to its grave in the Episcopal Cemetery where it was deposited with rites of Masons and military. Lodge called from burying the dead and closed in due form."

Although the preceding quotes do not include reference to Lieutenant Commander Lea, his body was borne to the cemetery and buried in a single grave with Commander Wainwright. In his official report of the *Battle of Galveston* to President Jefferson Davis, the Entered Apprentice Mason General Magruder wrote, "Captain Wainwright and Lieutenant Lea of the Federal Navy were buried with Masonic and military honors in the same grave; Major Lea, of the Confederate Army, father of Lieutenant Lea, performing the funeral service." In addition, the book, *History of DeBray's Regiment*, includes the statement, "the bodies of Lieutenant Commander Wainwright, killed in action, and of Lieutenant Lea were buried in the Galveston Cemetery with military and Masonic honors, the Confederate father reading over his Federal son's grave the solemn funeral service of the Episcopal Church. The witnesses of that heart-rending scene can never forget it."

After graduation from West Point, Albert Miller Lea was assigned to frontier duty at Fort Des Moines on topographical duty. Later, his published notes gave the state of Iowa its name. Although the Grand Lodge of Iowa has no record of Masonic membership for Albert Miller Lea, it supplied an article of the Iowa Historical Society written by Lea just before his death. The article confirms his service in the *Battle of Galveston* and states, "I met in battle my oldest son, and said the Grand Service of the Church over his Captain, Wainwright, son of the late Bishop of New York, and himself, buried in one grave."

Since Lea makes no mention of the Masonic burial of his son, perhaps it is more correct to put on record that Harmony Lodge extended the courtesy of escorting both Wainwright and Lea to the cemetery, conducted the Masonic burial of Wainwright, and attended the Episcopal Church service that committed both Federal officers to rest in a single grave. Following the war, the body of Wainwright was moved to New York and interred near his father, Bishop Wainwright, in the cemetery of Trinity Church. No mention is discovered whether the honor of Masonic burial was conducted during this second burial.



Albert Miller Lea

July 9, 1994, marks the hundredth year since Philip C. Tucker, Jr. walked among Masonic Brothers. Yet, his Masonic labors live on and his achievements continue to strengthen Freemasonry in general, and in Texas, in particular.

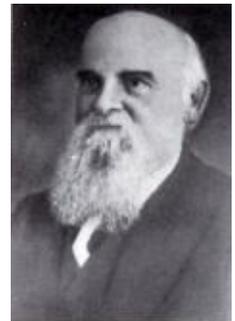
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Brother Tucker was born on February 14, 1826, in Vergennes, Vermont. There he spent his early life and was educated as an attorney by reading law in his father's office and beginning practice under his father's guidance.

Upon attaining the age of twenty-one, Philip was raised a Mason in Dorchester Lodge in 1847. During the next five years, he worked three years as assistant Grand Secretary, served twice as Worshipful Master of Dorchester Lodge, and was District Deputy Grand Master for three terms. In addition, he joined York Rite Freemasonry and served as Thrice Illustrious Master of his Council.

In 1852, just as he turned twenty-six years old, Brother Tucker moved to Galveston, Texas, where he established a successful law practice, became active in the Trinity Episcopal Church, was a community leader and affiliated with *Harmony Lodge* and the *York Rite Bodies* in Galveston. Later, he affiliated with *Tucker Lodge No. 297* that was named in his honor. He was Worshipful Master of Harmony for six years, Commander of *San Felipe Commandery* for fourteen years, and served as High Priest of *San Felipe Chapter*. In Grand Bodies, he became Grand Commander of the *Grand Commandery of Texas* in 1864, Grand High Priest of the *Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas* in 1865, and Grand Master of *Grand Lodge of Texas* in 1869.

His continued enthusiasm for Masonry prompted Brother Tucker to accept an invitation from Grand Commander Albert Pike of the Supreme Council, 33 degree, of the *Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry* to become involved in introducing the Scottish Rite System of Freemasonry into Texas. On February 4-5, 1867, Brother Tucker traveled to New Orleans where the Scottish Rite degrees were communicated to him by dispensation from Grand Commander Pike. At the same time, he was commissioned as Deputy Grand Inspector General in Texas. Later, on May 17, 1867, Deputy Grand Inspector General Tucker granted Letters Temporary for the organization of *San Felipe de Austin Lodge of Perfection* in Galveston, Texas.



PHILIP C. TUCKER, JR.
Grand Master 1870

Grand Inspector General Tucker was an active and productive member of the Supreme Council in Washington, D.C., and on July 28, 1893, he was elected as Grand Commander. At the age of sixty-seven, he moved to Washington to perform the duties of Grand Commander. But, unfortunately, his tenure was suddenly terminated by death on July 9, 1894. His body was returned home to Galveston and buried with Masonic honors not far from the grave in which he placed Lieutenant Commanders Wainwright and Lea and where Lieutenant Lea still rests.

Brother Tucker was essential to the fulfillment of the Masonic legacy when the war stood still in Galveston. Apparently, under his leadership in the years of the Civil War for Southern Independence, *Harmony Lodge* is the only Lodge, North or South, to conduct the Masonic burial service for a Mason killed in mortal combat as an enemy.

What pride and respect we hold for the masons of yesteryear who held Masonry firm and stable, "appreciating the spirit and force of Masonic ties," while states separated, church divided and families split over political differences.

As word of the planned Masonic burial spread over town, most citizens and some Masons denounced it as "Treason to the Confederacy." And certainly, discussion of Tucker's birth up North added fuel to the beginning fire which was quickly quenched when Magruder added support to Tucker and the Lodge by taking military honors to the burial service. No one could accuse General Magruder with "Treason to the Confederacy" and, suddenly, the Masonic burial with military honors seemed the thing to do.

General Magruder had a sad life following the war. Instead of surrendering, he went to Mexico and served as a general in the army of Maximilian. After the defeat of Maximilian, he returned to Houston. There, almost in poverty, he died in 1871 and was buried on the Island he saved. They had his body moved to Galveston where it waited for several years in a funeral vault for enough money to be contributed for final interment.

Source: Reprint from *The Texas Mason*, Spring 1994

....Contributed by Brother Dean Letzring





The Federal Troops marched from the Alamo just prior to the arrival of General Twiggs (Wayne Vick) by buggy. As soon as the rear of the column cleared the garrison, the forces in blue halted and were ordered to "Right Face". At that point they were squared off face-to-face with the large number of Confederates assembled and waiting in front of them (left side of the image). Other Confederate units were assembled beside and behind the badly outnumbered Federal troops. The demand for surrender from General McCullough (Dan Snell) was soon forthcoming. Sam Houston (Bill Barnett – dressed in bright blue coat and white pants at the left) was also on hand.

"We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chordes of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

Abraham Lincoln

March 4, 1861 - First Inaugural Address