

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Lt. Commander Edward Lea U.S.N. – Camp No. 2

Harriet Lane

Mar 2018

Volume 24

No. 1

From the Commander's Tent

Greetings Brothers!

I indeed hope and pray that all of you are doing well and prospering! Well, it has been one year since you elected me as your Camp Commander. I must say that it has been a most interesting and gratifying year, with many memorable events and a few challenges along the way. We still have many more endeavors to pursue and with the Lord's mercy and strength we will accomplish them.



I would like to thank all those that participated at the "Battle of Galveston" Memorial Ceremony in January. The weather turned out to be excellent and the ceremony went off without a flaw. It was indeed a most memorable event as three of the five Allied Orders were represented.

Many Brothers have inquired about this year's Annual Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary President's Tea that we participate in every Spring. Auxiliary President Vali Reyes informed me that due to the area's devastation from Hurricane Harvey, this year's Tea is being postponed until the Fall, maybe September or October.

Several Special Events are on our Camp Calendar, including the Heritage Festival at Spring Creek Park, in Tomball, Texas on Saturday, May 19th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We will have an informational tent at this event this year and will again participate in the Battle of the Powder Mill re-enactment by manning a cannon and adding men to the infantry units. So, please place this event on your calendar and come on out to show that "Union Spirit".

Memorial Day Ceremonies at the Houston National Cemetery in Houston, Texas will be on Monday, May 28th. The Ceremony begins at 9:30 a.m. with our cannon volley. We will again participate in the opening procession, place a Memorial Wreath, fire a musket volley salute alongside the 13th US Infantry, and will be concluding the event with another cannon volley with the Ike Turner SCVCW Camp from Livingston, Texas. If you plan to attend, I suggest that you arrive early due to limited parking. There will be parking and shuttle service available from Greenspoint Mall.

Finally, there are numerous ROTC / Jr. ROTC Award presentations throughout the State of Texas and Louisiana during the months of April and May. If you would like to present a Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War ROTC Award to a deserving Cadet at one of these Award Ceremonies, please contact me. I have numerous dates available. This is a fine program and the ROTC / JROTC members really appreciate the recognition.

Hope to see you soon at one of these events or at our monthly Camp Meetings. May the Good Lord continue to bless you and our Order.

In F. C. & L,

William Pollard - Camp Commander

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Membership Muster

Camp Member

Mr. William A. Pollard – *Cmdr.*
Mr. Michael L. Lance – *SVC, Hist, Edit.*
Mr. Michael D. Rappe - *JVC*
Mr. Gary White * ~ *** *Secr/Treas*

Mr. Michael A. Alvarez
 Mr. Robert P. Anderson
 Mr. Mark H. Andrus
 Mr. John E. W. Baay II
 Mr. Stephen P. Barrett
 Mr. Curtiss M. Beinhorn
 Mr. Michael E. Bierman
 Mr. Willie E. B. Blackmon
 Mr. Ben C. Bonnett – *Eagle Scout Coord.*
 Mr. Michael T. Boyd
 Mr. William C. Boyd
 Mr. Samuel R. Brasher
 Mr. William C. Buell
 Mr. William D. Burdette
 Mr. James L. Burns

Mr. Edward Caballero, Jr.
 Mr. William D. Campbell *
 Mr. Lawrence K. Casey Jr. ***
 Mr. C. Dale Cates ^
 Mr. Mark T. Chemay
 Mr. Thor E. Chester
 Mr. James F. Clay III
 Mr. Tommy D. Clay
 Mr. Robert D. Clements
 Mr. Walter G. Coffey – *Webmaster*
 Mr. William F. Cole ***

Michael T. Collins +
 Mr. Steven G. Coons
 Mr. Thomas F. Coughlin *
 Mr. Stephen M. Crow
 Mr. Donald G. Deppe
 Mr. Terry E. Dudley
 Mr. Charles L. Duke – *Patriotic Instr.*
 Rev. Stephen F. Duncan - *Chaplain*
 Mr. Thomas M. Eishen – *Sig. Off, Web*
 Mr. Karl R. Falken
 Mr. Timothy S. Favrot
 Mr. Robert T. Giffin ***
 Mr. Jerry D. Gipson
 Mr. James S. Hackett *
 Mr. William F. Haenn III
 Mr. Samuel F. Hampton * - *Council*
 Mr. Kenneth H. Harrington
 Mr. Steve M. Hart
 Mr. Robert L. Heath
 Mr. Alan D. Hess
 Mr. Harrold K. Henck Jr. ~ *
 Mr. Matthew Hoffart
 Dr. Stevenson T. Holmes * - *Council*
 Mr. Zane F. Hooper ^ - *Color Bearer*
 Mr. Bruce G. Hunsperger
 Mr. Thomas A. Jackson
 Mr. Thomas I. Jackson
 Mr. Erik T. Jeffreys
 Mr. Wyatt A. Jeffreys

Civil War Ancestor

Sgt. Jacob P. Kinney
 Pvt. Finas Euen Lance
 Pvt. David C. Murphy
 Commissary Sgt. William Judson
 Pvt. Andrew Wilson White
 Pvt. Samuel G. Kautz
 1st Sgt. Hiram Lorenzo Pierce
 Pvt. Matthew Barth
 Cpl. James R. Middlebrook
 Pvt. Enoch A. Barrett
 Pvt. John Lancaster
 Pvt. Peter E. Fry

Pvt. John Walker Daniels
 Pvt. Thomas Howey
 Pvt. Lyndon Boyd
 Pvt. James Peden
 Pvt. Mathias Stonebrook
 Pvt. Nathan R. Price
 2nd Lt. Joseph Jackson Gravely
 Col.
 Pvt. Dillis Dyer Critser
 Cpl. William Moore Campbell
 Chaplain Josiah Brown
 **

Pvt. Isaiah Paxton Watts
 Pvt. John A. Watts
 Cpl. Dred W. Tucker
 Cpl. Dred W. Tucker
 Cpl. Samuel McClain
 Pvt. Nicholas Almire
 Pvt. Jacob E. Brock
Pvt. Cephas Henry Collins
 1st Lt. Loren Glazier Cowdrey
 2nd Cpl. Henry A. Sauter
 1st Sgt. John Phillip Megogney
 Pvt. Lewis P. Moore
 Cpl. Adam Mehling
 Pvt. Joseph Allen
 Pvt. Isaac Duncan
 Pvt. Andreas Pfothenauer
 Pvt. Jacob Lohrer
 Sgt. John W. Dittimore
 Pvt. Robert Newton Button
 Pvt. Peter B. Gipson
 Cpl. Thadeus Hendrickson
 Sgt. William F. Grumbine
 Pvt. Samuel Pate Hampton
 Pvt. James Morfed Aston
 Pvt. Robert Milton Hart
 Pvt. Hiram T. Heath
 Pvt. Joseph Hess
 Pvt. Philip Jacob Appfel
 Sgt. William Bell Jones
 Pvt. Warren W. White
 **
 Pvt. Peter Hunsperger
 Sgt. Isaac Newton Stubblefield
 Sgt. Isaac Newton Stubblefield
 Pvt. Edward Jerome Taylor
 Pvt. Edward Jerome Taylor

Service Unit

Co. E, 77th Regt. Ohio Infantry
 Co F, 12th Regt. Indiana Infantry & Co E, 59th Regt. Indiana Infantry
 Co. E, 11th Regt. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. D, 1st Regt. New York Mounted Rifles
 Co. L, 4th Regt. New York Heavy Artillery
 Co. I, 73rd Regt. Indiana Infantry & Co. H, 9th Regt. Indiana Infantry
 Co. G, 106th Regt. Illinois Infantry
 Co. B, 52nd Regt. Illinois Infantry
 Co D, 17th Regt. Connecticut Infantry
 Co. L, 50th Regt. New York Engineers
 Co. F, 50th Regt. Illinois Infantry
 Co. D, 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry

Co. I, 6th Regt. Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery
 Co. A, 38th Regt. Illinois Infantry
 Co. F, 144th Regt., Indiana Volunteer Infantry
 Co. B, 69th Regt. Indiana Infantry
 Co. F, 142nd Regt., Ohio Infantry
 Co. H, 122nd Regt. New York Volunteer Infantry
 Co. A, Capt. Stockton's Mounted Missouri Militia
 8th Regt. Missouri Volunteer Cavalry
 Co. C, 17th Regt. Kentucky Infantry
 Co. I, 12th Regt. Illinois Infantry
 15th Regt. Maine Infantry
 **

Co. H, 84th Regt. Indiana Infantry
 Independent Co. Trumbull Guards, Ohio Infantry
 Co. H, 107th U.S. Colored Troops
 Co. H, 107th U.S. Colored Troops
 Co. C, 203rd Regt. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. E, 42nd Regt. Indiana Volunteer Infantry
 85th Regt. New York Infantry
Co. F, 38th Regt. Iowa Volunteer Infantry
 Co. G, 86th Regt. Indiana Infantry
 Co. A, 8th Battalion, DC Infantry
 Co. C, 102nd Regt. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. K, 7th Regt. Illinois Infantry
 Co. K, 1st Regt. Michigan Light Artillery
 Co. D, 48th Regt. Illinois Volunteer Infantry
 Co. M, 4th Missouri State Militia Cavalry
 Co. F, 4th Regt. Missouri Infantry
 Co. L, 5th Regt. Pennsylvania Cavalry
 Co. I, 19th Regt. Indiana Infantry
 Co. D, 13th Regt. Illinois Infantry
 Co B, 1st Alabama & Tennessee Independent Vidette Cavalry
 4th Kentucky Mounted Infantry
 Co. D, 93rd Regt. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. G, 47th Regt. Missouri Infantry
 Co. C, 4th Regt. Tennessee Volunteer Infantry
 Co. K, 7th Regt. Illinois Infantry
 Co. E, 12th Regt. New Hampshire Infantry
 Co. C, 101st Regt. New York Infantry
 Co. A, 46th Regt. Iowa Volunteer Infantry
 Co. B, 1st Regt. Alabama Cavalry
 Co. K, 44th U.S. Colored Infantry
 **
 Co C, 9th Regt. Missouri State Militia Cavalry
 2nd Regt. Texas Cavalry
 2nd Regt. Texas Cavalry
 Co. I, 126th New York Volunteer Infantry
 Co. I, 126th New York Volunteer Infantry

....Muster continued on next page

Membership Muster *(continued)*

Camp Member

Mr. Judd A. Jones
 Mr. Ford H. Kinsley, Jr.
 Mr. Ernest C. Kobs IV
 Mr. James A. Koontz
 Mr. David K. LaBrot * **

Mr. Brian S. Lang
 Mr. Dale H. Leach
 Mr. John P. Lenes - *Guide*
 Mr. Kurt A. Letzring
 Dr. Craig A. Livingston ^
 Mr. Robert L. Lockwood
 Mr. George E. Loper
 Mr. John R. Loper
 Mr. Larry W. Lockett
Mr. Thomas J. Marriott +
 Mr. Justin W. Martin
 Mr. William W. Martin
 Mr. Randall S. McDaniel
 Mr. Faber F. McMullen III
 Mr. Lloyd B. Monroe Jr.
 Mr. William P. Montague
 Mr. Harrison G. Moore IV * ~ ** ***
 Mr. Gene P. Munson
 Mr. Melvin L. Myers
 Mr. Jon T. Oliver
 Mr. Samuel A. Packer
 Mr. Donald H. Patrick Jr. ***
Mr. David L. Peavy +
 Mr. James R. Perry
 Mr. Keith A. Porter
 Mr. Herbert W. Powers Jr.
 Mr. Sam J. Reed
 Mr. Stephen C. Rogers
 Mr. Ryan M. Rosa
 Mr. John E. Schneider Jr.
 Mr. Stephen D. Schulze * ** *** Council
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Schurwon
 Mr. Michael D. Seeber
 Mr. Mark S. Shackelford
 Mr. Scott D. Shuster
 Mr. James M. Sigler
 Mr. James P. Smith
 Mr. Robert E. Smith
 Mr. Bartley N. Stockton
 Mr. Jerry B. Taylor
 Mr. Chapman P. Traylor
 Mr. Nash S. Traylor
 Mr. Joseph M. Tucker
 Mr. Robert C. Tumey Sr. ***
 Mr. John A. Wade
 Rev. Ross E. Waggoner
 Mr. John T. Walter
 Mr. Samuel P. Wheeler ^
 Mr. Robert E. Wickman
 Mr. Lee H. Wilson
 Mr. Robert A. Yeager Sr.
 Mr. Patrick M. Young
 Mr. Edward Cotham # *Author*

Civil War Ancestor

Pvt. John A. Watts
 Cpl. John Kinsley
 Pvt. Robert V. Osteen
 Pvt. Michael M. Bean
 Hosp. Stew. Louis Laborot
 Pvt. Chas Edw'd Laborot
 Pvt. Isaac Samuel Lang
 Pvt. Sylvester Leach
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer
 Pvt. Alexander McLain
 --
 Pvt. Chauncey A. Lockwood
 Pvt. Fredrick Lohmann
 Pvt. Frederick Lohmann
 Pvt. Merrill J. Stearns
Lt. John Hopkins Rice
 Sgt. William Asbury Keck
 Sgt. William Asbury Keck
 Pvt. Fernando Cortez Nichols
 Pvt. Michael Lewis McMullen
 Pvt. Harrison Monroe
 Pvt. James W. Montague
 Pvt. William Moore
 Pvt. Joseph Stoner
 Pvt. Charles Bowden
 Pvt. James E. Petrie Jr.
 Pvt. Michael Henry Finnegan
 Sgt. Squire Merlin Harris
Coal Heaver Terence F. Smith
 Pvt. James R. Cook
 Pvt. Francis Nagle
 Pvt. Liefee Holbrook Powers
 1st Lt. Axel Hayford Reed
 Capt. George Augustus Knight
 Pvt. James E. Rosa
 Lt. Col. Casper Carl Schneider
 Pvt. Henry Ludwig Schulze
 Pvt. Martin V. B. Leonard
 Pvt. Lorenzo Seeber
 Pvt. Andrew Stevenson
 Pvt. John S. Darling
 Pvt. William Henry Sigler
 Pvt. Aaron Hendrickson
 Pvt. Flemon Trent
 William R. Reck
 Pvt. Robert A. Glover
 Cpl. John Anderson Laws
 Cpl. John Anderson Laws
 Pvt. Joseph Henry Wells
 --
 Pvt. William Elgie Woodcock
 Capt. William Sharpe
 Pvt. Andrew Walter
 --
 Pvt. Hugh Alexander Hoy
 Pvt. Charles Wilson
 Pvt. Daniel Yeager
 Pvt. William Young
 --

Service Unit

Independent Co., Trumbull Guards, Ohio Infantry
 Co. K, 58th Regt. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. B & F, 2nd Regt. North Carolina Mounted Cavalry
 Co. A, 2nd Regt. Arkansas Infantry
 Co E, 12th & Co L, 5th Missouri State Militia Cavalry
 Co E, 12th & Co L, 5th Missouri State Militia Cavalry
 Scotts Guard, 6th Indiana State Militia
 23rd Regt. Ohio Volunteer Infantry
 Co. B, 8th Regt. West Virginia Infantry
 Co. E, 7th Regt. Michigan Cavalry
 --
 Co. H, 14th Regt. Wisconsin Infantry
 Co. H, 6th Regt. West Virginia Infantry
 Co. H, 6th Regt. West Virginia Infantry
 Co. E, 37th Illinois Volunteer Infantry
Co. C, 91st Regt. Illinois Infantry
 Co. G, 145th Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. G, 145th Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. A, 7th Regt. Indiana Infantry
 Co. M, 13th Regt. Indiana Cavalry
 Co. C, 2nd Kansas Colored Infantry (83rd US Colored Infantry)
 Co. G, 71st Regt. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. K, 63rd Regt. Ohio Volunteer Infantry
 Co. K, 126th Regt. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. G, 37th U.S. Colored Infantry
 Co. A, 53rd Regt. Ohio Infantry
 Co. G, 2nd Arkansas Cavalry
 6th Missouri State Militia Cavalry
USS North Carolina & USS Wyandotte
 Co. C, 3rd Regt. Wisconsin Infantry
 Co E, 13th Regt. Missouri Vol Infantry
 Co. D, 104th Regt. Illinois Infantry
 Co. K, 2nd Regt. Minnesota Infantry
 Co. A & H, 188th Ohio Volunteer Infantry
 Co. K, 10th New York Cavalry
 103rd Regt. New York Infantry
 Co. D, 9th Regt. Illinois Volunteers
 Shields' 19th Independent Battery Ohio Light Artillery
 Co. C, 10th Regt. Illinois Infantry
 Co. A. 88th Regt. Ohio Infantry
 Co. F, 171st Regt. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. M, 3rd Regt. New York Cav. & Co. F, 5th Regt. Excelsior Brigade
 Co. F, 55th Regt. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. H, 39th Regt. Kentucky Infantry
 Co F, 74th Regt. New York Inf. & Co. H, 40th Regt. New York Inf.
 Co. H, 84th Regt. New York Infantry
 Battery B, 1st Battalion Tennessee Light Artillery
 Battery B, 1st Battalion Tennessee Light Artillery
 Co. I, 3rd Regt. Kentucky Cavalry
 --
 Co. F, 1st Tennessee Mounted Infantry
 3rd Regt. Wisconsin Cavalry
 Co. D, 58th Regt. Ohio Infantry
 --
 Co. D, Bracketts Battalion, Minnesota Cavalry
 Co. D, 22nd Regt. New York Infantry
 Co. B, 205th Regt. Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry
 30th Regt. Pennsylvania Militia
 --

Key: ~ *Charter Member*
 + *New Member*

* *Past Camp Cmdr.*
 ^^ *Junior Member*

** *Past Dept. Cmdr.*
 ^ *Associate Member*

*** *Life Member*
 # *Honorary Member*

Editor's Message

Brothers:

Wow! How quickly time passes! This issue of the *Harriet Lane* happens to be the 15 year anniversary issue - since the newsletter's re-emergence in the Spring of 2003. I have enjoyed editing each issue and always look forward to working on the next one. In my opinion, chronicling the activities of the Camp with the *Harriet Lane* is very important. It serves as a platform for our Membership, as well as the general public, to see and understand the how the Camp strives to foster and promote the ideals of our Order.



In addition, I have learned a great deal about various historical events, objects, people, and other curiosities as I do the necessary research for writing color articles. I invite each of you to consider becoming a contributing editor by researching and writing about subjects that interest you. The number of potential interesting topics seems endless!

One good way to start is by assembling the story of your Civil War ancestor. With the numerous resources that are now available – pension files, census records, marriage and death records, and the big one, 'Ancestry.com', etc., it is becoming easier and easier to sketch out a time line for your forefathers and their families. This issue features a sketch about my 1st cousin (3 times removed), Civil War veteran John Wesley Lance.

Also, plan to attend our next monthly Camp meeting if you can (see the *Camp Calendar* on page 5 for meeting dates). We would love to have you join us. The new meeting facility is more private than the Spaghetti Warehouse was and you are sure to enjoy the camaraderie of the Brothers in attendance. Most meetings are followed by an interesting presentation given by a guest speaker.

In F. C. & L,

Michael L. Lance – Editor

2018 Camp Officers and Staff



William Pollard
Commander



Michael Lance
Sr. Vice-Commander



Michael Rappe
Jr. Vice-Commander



Gary White
Secr./Treas.



Steve Schulze
Camp Council



Steve Holmes
Camp Council



Sam Hampton
Camp Council



Stephen Duncan
Chaplain



Charles Duke
Patriotic Instr.



Michael Lance
Historian



Harrison Moore
Civil War Mem.
Officer



Pete Lenex
Guide/Eagle
Scout Coordin.



Zane Hooper
Color Bearer

Vacant

TBD
Guard

2018 Camp Calendar

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Tue	Apr 10	Monthly Meeting: 7 p.m. Speaker: Brother Charles Duke	Trini Mendenhall Community Center 1414 Wirt Rd., Houston, TX
Tue	May 8	Monthly Meeting: 7 p.m. Speaker: Brother Willie Blackmon	Trini Mendenhall Community Center 1414 Wirt Rd., Houston, TX
Sat	May 19	Heritage Festival: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. - free Battle of Powder Mill re-enactment Cultural Demonstrations, Historic Cemetery tours	Spring Creek Park 15012 Brown Rd., Tomball, TX
Mon	May 28	Memorial Day Ceremonies: 9:30 a.m. (<i>arrive early</i>) Cannon Firing, Wreath Placement, Musket Salute	Houston National Cemetery 10410 Veterans Memorial Dr., Houston, TX
Tue	Jun 12	Monthly Meeting: 7 p.m. Speaker: TBA	Trini Mendenhall Community Center 1414 Wirt Rd., Houston, TX
Tue	Jul 10	Monthly Meeting: 7 p.m. Speaker: TBA	Trini Mendenhall Community Center 1414 Wirt Rd., Houston, TX
Tue	Aug	No monthly Meeting:	--
Tue	Sep 11	Monthly Meeting: 7 p.m. Speaker: TBA	Trini Mendenhall Community Center 1414 Wirt Rd., 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](mailto:mlance@cruiсеone.com)

3115 Lucida Ln., Spring, Texas 77373

mlance@cruiсеone.com

Submission deadlines are: February 15th for the March issue; May 15th for the June issue; August 15th for the September issue; and November 15th for the December issue.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--|
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| ➤ Sr. Vice-Cmdr. | Michael L. Lance | 832-797-9058 | mlance@cruiсеone.com |
| ➤ Jr. Vice-Cmdr. | Michael Rappe | 281-579-1650 | mrappe@comcast.net |
| ➤ Secretary/Treas. | Gary E. White | 713-501-7823 | gankintx@comcast.net |
| ➤ | SUVCW Edward Lea Camp #2 website | | http://www.camplea.org |
| ➤ | SUVCW Department of Texas website | | http://txsuv.org |
| ➤ | SUVCW National website | | http://www.suvcw.org |
| ➤ | National Auxiliary to the SUVCW | | http://www.asuvcw.org |

Curiosity - One-time harness maker Amos Humiston of New York survived Chancellorsville but died on the first day at Gettysburg. Retreating through streets of the town with other members of his brigade, he took a bullet from an unidentified source. Not until he had lain on cobblestones for several days did a burial detail find the dead sergeant, clutching a photograph of two small boys and a small girl.

Authorities seeking to locate Humiston's family circulated the photograph throughout the North. His widow and children were eventually found and notified of his death. By that time, hundreds of copies of the photo found in the dead man's hand were treasured as souvenirs of the war. So much interest was generated by eight-year old Franklin, his sister Alice, and brother Frederick, that a movement was launched to establish a home for the orphans of Federal soldiers. When it was established at Gettysburg in 1866, Mrs. Amos Humiston was the first matron.



...source: 'Civil War Curiosities' by Webb Garrison, 1994, Rutledge Hill Press, pgs. 204-205

***Introducing:* David Lee Peavy**

Brother David Peavy is a native Houstonian raised in Bellaire. As a youth, he was active in the Boy Scouts and the Catholic Church. During his time in the BSA, he earned several Catholic religious emblems, the Eagle Scout Award, and a City of Houston Environmental Improvement Award for his Eagle Scout project. As an adult, he became involved in the Catholic Committee on Scouting, eventually serving, as chair of the Galveston-Houston diocesan committee, the chair for the national religious emblems committee for the National Catholic Committee on Scouting, a member of the NCCS Executive Board, and the NCCS vice-chair. He was awarded the Bronze Pelican, the St. George, and other awards by the Catholic Committee for his service.

On the local level, Brother Peavy remained active in his original BSA troop, serving in various positions, including Scoutmaster. He also helped several other units get started, was district camping chair, and served on several council committees. He served as board president for his parish elementary school. He has been the precinct chair and presiding election judge for his voting precinct since 1998, as well as a member of the county party executive committee.

Brother David Peavy



Because of his involvement in his philanthropic activities, he was invested as a *Knight of Merit* in the *Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St. George* in 1994, which is a dynastic order of knighthood. He attended the University of St. Thomas and the University of Houston studying geology. While attending the university, he and his father started a company in 1982. He continued his involvement in the company, throughout its expansion, culminating in his tenure as president. He and his father sold their majority interest in the company in 2011. Subsequent business interests include management of real estate properties and in a financial services company.

Since then, Brother Peavy has been active in various volunteer activities. He is a docent naturalist at the Houston Arboretum and Nature Center, as well as a docent and guild board member at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. A result of his involvement in these volunteer activities, he became a certified Texas Master Naturalist, a Certified Interpretive Guide, and a certified Water Quality Monitor for the Houston-Galveston Area Council. Because of these recent volunteer activities, he has been awarded all three levels of the President's Volunteer Service Award.

His involvement in genealogy started because of a question posed by his mother in the late 1980s. Afterwards, his research was sporadic at first, but during the last 8 years or so, he has been more consistent in his genealogical research. He has collected the necessary documents to be accepted for membership in the following societies: *Military Society of the War of the 1812*, *Sons of the Revolution*, *Sons of the American Revolution*, *Sons of the Republic of Texas*, *General Society of the War of 1812*, *Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States*, *Sons of the American Colonists*, *Augustan Society*, *Society of Descendants of Scotland*, *Society of Descendants of the Conquest*, *Society of Descendants of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem*, *Sons of Colonial New England*, *Sons & Daughters of the Colonial & Antebellum Bench & Bar 1565-1861*, *Order of the Founders of North America*, and the *Descendants of Sheriffs & Constables of Colonial & Antebellum America*.

Membership in the *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea USN, Camp 2, SUVCW* comes through his 2nd gr-grandfather, Terence F. Smith. Terence was born in Ireland and probably arrived in New York City in 1848. On Nov. 21, 1861, he enlisted in the US Navy for a 3-year term. Pension records indicate that he held a rating of Coal Heaver. He served on at least two ships: the *USS North Carolina* and the *USS Wyandotte*. *Welcome, Brother Peavy!*

***Introducing:* Thomas James Marriott**

Brother Marriott joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his gr-gr-gr-uncle, Lieutenant John Hopkins Rice. Lt. Rice served with Company C, 91st Regiment Illinois Infantry. *Welcome, Brother Marriott!*

...Continued on next page

New Members *(continued)*

***Introducing:* Michael Thomas Collins**

Michael Collins was born in central Illinois. Growing up, he moved from Illinois to Texas to South Dakota and then back to Illinois where he went to high school and college. Following college, he joined Caterpillar Inc. in Peoria, Illinois. Michael worked for Caterpillar for 41 years, retiring in 2015. During that time he held a variety of roles, primarily in Sales and Marketing. He spent most of his career in Illinois with the exception of 3 years stationed in Geneva, Switzerland.



Michael Thomas Collins

After retiring Michael and his wife, Deborah, move to New Orleans, Louisiana. Since retiring, he has had more time to research his family history (which he had dabbled in over the years). In addition to joining the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*, Michael is currently going through the application process for the *Sons of the American Revolution* and the *General Society of Mayflower Descendants*.

Michael is a direct descendant of Cephas Henry Collins who served from 1862 to 1865 with Company F, 38th Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry (later consolidated with the 34th Regiment). Cephas Collins' service included his unit's participation in the Battle of Vicksburg. Towards the end of the war, Cephas was captured by "rebel" forces and spent the remainder of the war at a prison camp near Jackson, Mississippi.

In addition to his service, his brother, Malcom (3rd Iowa Infantry), died at Andersonville prison in August, 1864. It should be noted that Cephas was the last living member of the original Dunham Post of the G.A.R. and at his funeral in 1942, the minister closed the post with the words: "I declare this Dunham post of Macon County, Illinois, closed forever." *Welcome Brother Collins!*

Ancestor Profile – Cpl. John Wesley Lance

John Wesley Lance was a nephew of my Civil War ancestor, Finas Euen Lance. While his uncle Finas did not enter the service until the very end of 1864, young John enlisted at his first opportunity. On November 12, 1861, he was 19 years old when he became a Private with *Company B, 58th Indiana Volunteer Infantry* at Princeton in Gibson County, Indiana.

In 1862, the 58th Indiana, as part of the *Army of the Ohio*, saw action at several major battles, including: Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville, and Stone's River. The regiment was then transferred to the *Army of the Cumberland* in January 1863. Soon came Chickamauga - September 1863 - where John was severely wounded in the left arm. He spent a few months in a hospital at Madison, Indiana to recuperate.

John Wesley Lance then reenlisted as a veteran in February 1864 and rejoined his old regiment in East Tennessee. The 58th Indiana had been assigned to duty in charge of the Pontoon Trains of General Sherman's *Atlanta Campaign*. The Battle of Resaca was just around the corner – in May 1864.



Cpl. John Wesley Lance

During the battles and skirmishes that occurred during General Sherman's *March to the Sea* and the *Campaign of the Carolinas*, which ended in April 1865, John managed to come through unscathed. However, he did go home on furlough in both January and March 1865. There is no mention in his records if his furloughs were related to his nagging arm wound.

During the *Campaign of the Carolinas*, the 12th Indiana Infantry (in which his uncle Private Finas Lance was now serving), was also attached to Sherman's army. One can only speculate whether young John Wesley Lance, the battle-scarred veteran, ever came into contact with his green, and much older uncle during the campaign.

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Ancestor Profile – Cpl. John Wesley Lance *(continued)*

In May 1865, both regiments participated in the *Grand Review* in Washington, DC. In June, 1865, the 58th Indiana was moved to Louisville, Kentucky for muster-out processing. John was promoted to Corporal on July 25, 1865 and simultaneously discharged. He returned to his home in Gibson County, Indiana where, as a civilian, he continued to suffer from his arm wound – and would do so for the rest of his life.

In 1867, John Wesley Lance married Martha Witherspoon and became the father of 4 children. In May 1869, John's war wound was examined by a surgeon who certified that John "was wounded in the left arm just below the shoulder. The ball had passed under his humerus [sic], entered his body, and passed out below the scapula in his back." In the doctor's opinion, the ball injured the posterior portion of John's lung and was the cause of considerable pain over that region. There was also some atrophy of his left arm found which left it ¼ incapacitated. The surgeon deemed John's disability to probably be permanent.

John Lance filed for an invalid military pension in July 1869 and in April 1870, he was granted a \$2 per month pension – retroactive to his time of discharge (July 1865). John remarried in March 1878 to America Jane Hargrove and he became the father of several more children.

After John Wesley Lance passed away in September 1892 at age 49, his widow America Jane (Hargrove) Lance, then began a long struggle to obtain a military pension to support their dependent children. The court eventually took her 3 youngest children – due to her inability to support them - and placed them in foster care. America Jane remarried in 1897, but that marriage was short-lived – ending by divorce a couple years later.

To support herself, America Jane needed her former husband's service pension. However, she had much difficulty proving that John Wesley Lance's death was caused by his military service. She was summoned forth to give testimony describing John's last sickness. Her rather graphic testimony was recorded and included in John's military pension file. It gives a good example of what prospective pensioners had to endure to obtain pension benefits.

America Jane (Hargrove/Lance) Maxfield was 40 years old and living in Vincennes, Knox County, Indiana on February 7, 1899 when she appeared before a Special Examiner of the Pension Office in Vincennes. She affirmed that she was the wife of John Edward Maxfield, and formerly the widow of John W. Lance.

"I am the mother of three living children. I had two killed last summer. One by a switch engine and one got drowned, aged 19 and 18. Joseph Clark Lance was 19 when killed by the engine May 12, 1898, John W. was drowned at the age of 18 years on the 4th day of June 1898. Oscar P. now living, was born on the day that Giteau [sic] was hanged. Oday E. was born May 13, 1886, and is living. Howard B. was born Oct. 10, 1888, and is living."

"We lived in Gibson Co., Ind. when my husband, John W. Lance died. My husband had owned the farm up to about 8 years before he died. He lived on that farm 25 years and I lived there two years after his death. My husband's father, [who has] died, lived next to us – Ollie L. Lance."

"Mr. Lance was taken sick on Saturday evening and he died on Monday evening following. Dr. James Patten was there when [he] died. Dr. Wm. Strickland was in attendance but was not there at death. Dr. Patten had been our family physician and had attended [my husband] during a former spell of bleeding about 4 years before his death. Dr. Dan Revis had treated him thro [sic] a spell about 10 years ago, when Dr. Patten was absent in Kentucky."

[Examiner's Question: "What were these bleeding spells?"]

"He passed blood through the rectum and he also vomited blood. The blood that he vomited was dark colored and clotted. The blood that passed his rectum was also dark colored. It would pass with his stool. He never passed blood except with movement of bowels. He has coughed blood up ever since we were married."

"He would not cough all the time, but would take cold and cough. The first time that he vomited blood was when Howard was just 2 weeks old [Oct. 1888]. My husband had been at a funeral and when he came home he said he felt sick and vomited blood and then lay down; he vomited more blood and then fainted before we got the doctor (Dr.

.....Continued on next page

Ancestor Profile – Cpl. John Wesley Lance *(continued)*

Patten). I never knew him to raise blood except by vomiting. He has come in and said, 'I have spit up more blood today than at any time before'. [He] was very slender and was slender ever since I knew him."

"I've seen my husband taking salt from his hand, but I never knew what he took it for. He kept these bleeding spells from me whenever he could. Dr. Revis treated him for ulcerated bowels. Dr. Blair from Princeton was called in with Dr. Revis. I know they talked of taking the ulcers off; but they didn't."

"At the time he was last taken down, he had gone to Oakland in a buggy alone. He wasn't well when he left home that day. Three of his children were all down with the typhoid fever at that time. [He] went to town to get things. It was the 10th day of September. When he came in from the barn, he said he felt bad and I asked him if he felt as though he was going to raise more blood and he said yes. I went to the kitchen and when I heard him coughing, I came in and found him at the end of the hall on the steps [and] that he had cast up considerable blood and in a few minutes, he raised still more blood. Dr. Strickland was there in about 20 minutes and [my husband] raised more or less blood all during that night and the next day and continued to bleed at intervals until his death."

"I was so worried I don't remember what the doctor did for him. If he called for or gave [my husband] salt, I did not know it, or don't now remember it. He sweat from weakness while bleeding; he had had night sweats before; but I am not sure whether he had them at the last or not. His death was very easy. He didn't have a steady cough, only when he would take cold. He said he had spit up blood ever since he had been wounded. He said it came from his wounds. Dr. Patten said after John's death that the bullet had killed him at last."

"[My husband] never used any patent medicines. I don't know what kind of medicine the doctors gave. The last medicine that he took was a very dark looking medicine which was given in whiskey. I think there were 11 drops of the medicine to a table spoonful of whiskey. That was just during his last sickness. He told me that he passed blood in his stool just after he felt sick that evening and before the bleeding from his mouth commenced. He told me that he felt so bad on his way home that he was afraid that he would fall out of his buggy."

[Examiners Question: "How long before his death did he have a running off of the bowels?"]

"He had that chronic diarrhea all that Fall. He got up or tried to get up on Monday evening just before his death and I think exertion was what hurried his death. The doctor had told me do not let him turn over, but to keep him as quiet as possible and perhaps the bleeding would not commence again. I sat at his side from Sunday evening till Monday evening with my hands on his arms to keep him from trying to get up or turn over. On Monday evening, he insisted upon my going out to the dining room and eating something and I finally consented to go if his son Olley, since deceased – by former marriage, promised me that he would not allow him to turn over. I was only out a short time when they called me and told me he was dying. He had tried to arise from the bed and it started the blood flowing again. When I came in he was then throwing up blood. He would get awful sick and it seemed when he would throw it up it would ease him. After his death when they were dressing him, and turning him over, the blood ran from his mouth."

"His bowels moved after he took his bed on Saturday. I know of the one movement but I am not sure of more than one. The stool was blackish looking. I don't know if it had the appearance of physic. Tom Harper and Walis Farmer, I think, laid him out and dressed him. I know Thomas Harper shaved him. They were soldiers together."

"No sir: [my husband] had no other sickness. He complained of a pain in his left side like pleurisy. He would have that occasionally. He was wounded through the left arm passing through the arm, entered the side and came out under the shoulder blade. He never had pneumonia that I knew of nor any fevers."

"[My husband] complained of severe pain in his side, down at the bottom of his ribs and blistered it many times with mustard and sometimes with turpentine. He complained of that pain ever since I married him. He never seen a well day after I married him in 1878; but always complained of that pain at intervals. He complained of aching in his arms and side and walked the floor and cried."

"No, the wound never broke out at the scar; but there would be a kind of an irritation out up above, below and around

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Ancestor Profile – Cpl. John Wesley Lance *(continued)*

the scar occasionally. The irritation was in the form of pimples with white surfaces. He never used any medicine on that. It was all located below the shoulder blades.”

“I think his father died of typhoid fever and old age about two years after John died. I lived on the place until the old man died. [My husband’s] daughter, Ellen, died of the typhoid fever too, in 1895 in the Fall. There was a good deal of typhoid fever all around there; but John had no fevers. We lived right below the cemetery and Dr. Strickland said he thought the location had something to do with his death.”

Here ends this brief profile of John Wesley Lance – farmer, soldier, veteran. His early life as the son of a small-time farmer before the Civil War was modest, mundane, and ordinary. His time in the army was, no doubt, exciting, violent, dangerous, and physically exhausting. He marched countless miles and somehow managed to defy an early death while participating in numerous major battles. After the war, John tried to return to a normal life as a farmer, husband, and father. Life was difficult for him and his family. Money was short and typhoid fever was prevalent. In addition, he was handicapped and usually in pain due to his war wound – dying before his 50th birthday. John Wesley Lance was a true Patriot and a family hero.

America Jane (Hargrove/Lance) Maxfield continued living as a divorcee in Vincennes, Indiana. She boarded with her married son, Howard Lance and family. Her military pension claim file does not indicate whether she was successful with obtaining her pension allowance. She passed away at midnight at Howard’s home on January 14, 1930 at age 70.

....Respectfully submitted by Brother Michael Lance

Battle of Galveston Commemoration Ceremony

Saturday, January 6, 2018 – Galveston, Texas



The 2018 *Battle of Galveston Commemoration Ceremony* was conducted in Galveston in nearly flawless fashion. Fortunately for everyone, the weather on January 6, 2018 was also nearly perfect!

Left: Participants from numerous organizations began to assemble on the drive within the historic Trinity Episcopal Church cemetery about 9:30 a.m.

Weapons were inspected, entrance procession positioning was communicated, and period clothing and uniforms were adjusted and made ready.

At about 11 a.m. the long and colorful procession solemnly filed into the cemetery burial area.

Right: The procession was led by the Ball High School ROTC Color Guard, followed immediately by the field musicians.

Following them, in order, were: the *Lea Camp SUVCW Executive Officers*, the *Ladies of the SUVCW Auxiliary*, the *Lea Camp armed Honor Guard*, the *John B. Hood Camp #50 SCVCW Color Guard* and officers, the *Ladies of the UDC*, the *Hood Camp SCVCW armed Honor Guard*, the *Masons of Harmony Lodge*, and finally, the civilian attired members of both Camps.

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Battle of Galveston Commemoration Ceremony *(continued)*



The SUVCW Executive Officers advance in procession behind the field musicians, which were led by Brother Stephen Duncan (on the far left).



The Federal armed Honor Guard in procession – consisting of members of the Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp #2, SUVCW and Co. A, 13th U.S. Infantry.



John B. Hood Camp #50 SCVC Honor Guard advances.



Harmony Lodge Freemasons in procession.

The procession participants and spectators all advanced to their pre-arranged positions around the grave of Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea USN. A podium with a sound system was positioned under a pop-up canopy adjacent to the gravesite. From the podium, Camp Commander Pollard welcomed everyone, then called for the Invocation, the posting of the Colors, and the reciting of the *Pledge of Allegiance*. He then introduced the dignitaries and guests in attendance.

Following his introductory speech, Cmdr. Pollard recognized the Harmony Lodge Masons who then conducted a brief Masonic ritual at the grave of Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea.

Following the ceremonial speeches, rituals, and dedications, a musket salute was given by a combined firing party consisting of members of: the *Lt. Edward Lea USN Camp #2, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; Co. A, 13th U.S. Infantry*; and the *John Bell Hood SCVCW Camp #50*. The 3-volley salute was followed by *Taps*, performed by bugler Dana Read. The Colors were then retired by the Ball High School Color Guard. The Chaplain of the Masonic Order gave a closing Benediction. The military units then smartly marched from the gravesite area – followed by the other participating organizations.

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Battle of Galveston Commemoration Ceremony *(continued)*



**Cmdr. William Pollard at the podium
Giving an Introductory Speech**



**Department of Texas Cmdr.
Beau Moore Greets the Assembly**



**Keynote Speaker – author Andrew Hall
Highlights of the Battle of Galveston**

Other speeches and recital offerings were given by: Camp Chaplain Brother Stephen Duncan; Valencia Reyes, President, and Norma Pollard, Vice-President, of the *Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary #1 SUVCW*; Diane Campbell, *UDC*; and Larry Bart, Cmdr. of the *John B. Hood Camp #50, SCVCW*.

As officer of the Day, I had the honor of placing the Accoutrements of the Soldier on Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea's grave during the Commemoration Ceremony. I also served as a member of the Federal Honor Guard which gave the 3-volley musket salute at the end of the Ceremony. A great honor, indeed!

After clearing the cemetery of the items, props, and decorations used during the Ceremony – and the stowing of weapons safely into vehicles, Camp members drove to the Golden Corral Restaurant on the Galveston seawall for lunch. Immediately following lunch, Department of Texas Commander, Beau Moore, installed the newly 'reelected' Officers of the Camp for the 2018 term during the Camp's January business meeting at the restaurant.



Musket Volley Salute



Taps – by Dana Read

....Respectfully submitted by Brother Michael Lance (additional photo on page 20)

Visit to New Orleans

During a recent visit to New Orleans, it seemed a good idea to visit the original gravesite of my wife's cousin, Colonel Cyrus Hamlin – especially with all the attention lately being paid to Civil War sites there.

Cyrus had reported to the *Department of the Gulf* accompanying Daniel Ullmann, erstwhile Senator from Massachusetts, who was then serving as a General in the U.S. Army. The two men made the trip because the administration in Washington DC was feeling unhappy with certain policies of Gen. Benjamin Butler and then MG Nathaniel Banks, Department Commander - particularly regarding the employment of former slaves for agricultural duties on seized plantations, rather than recruiting them to serve actively in the Union Army as occupation troops. So, General Ullmann had been sent south to shake up or potentially take over the Department. He brought Hamlin with him as an intended no. 2.



Brother Charles Duke

For this reason, General Banks seriously disliked both men. So much so, that he divided them up. Cyrus Hamlin was posted as Division Commander to the Bonnet Carre Division, midway between Baton Rouge and New Orleans. In one instance, in a letter of reprimand, General Banks even chastised Hamlin in writing for being in New Orleans instead of at Bonnet Carre. Hamlin had gone to Headquarters in New Orleans to check up on the delayed appointment and promotion of another officer in the Command. The promotion had been lined up by his father in Washington as part of the administration's potential new management team.

Being that then Colonel Hamlin was also the son of Vice President Hannibal Hamlin, and had been sent by Lincoln to accompany Ullmann, to insure that administration policy was being properly carried out and adhered to in the Department, Gen. Banks' reprimand therefore had little effect and did little or no harm to Hamlin. Thereafter, Hamlin was promoted twice, once to Brigadier after the successful Siege of Port Hudson, in which he commanded the 80th U.S. Colored Troop Regiment, and then to Major General, toward the end of the war. Hamlin's second promotion was more or less a political gift for being a successful General. But his first promotion to Brigadier was hard-earned in the field.



Cyrus was a real field commander, whereas his brother Charles Hamlin got his star while serving in the *Military District of Washington* toward the end of the war. Brother Charles had, however, commanded in the field at Gettysburg, and elsewhere, so it would be unfair to say he was just a political General. Charles was present with the Lincoln party the night the President was shot at Ford's Theater, and actually supervised moving him across the street to the boarding-house room where he died a few hours later. At the time of these events, Cyrus Hamlin was still in New Orleans, planning to move troops to occupy parts of Texas.



After the war, Cyrus stayed on in New Orleans and eventually died there in the yellow fever epidemic of 1867. He was buried in the Girod St. Cemetery, which is now a portion of the playing field inside the Louisiana Superdome. A few years later he was exhumed and moved to the family cemetery in Maine.

Back in New Orleans, by the 1970's, the gravesites of several Zulu Kings (Mardi Gras Zulu Kings, that is) were also located in the same Girod St. cemetery. It was said that if those graves were ever disturbed, the New Orleans NFL football team would not win anything for 25 years. The soothsayers were obviously correct. At least it could not be said that poor old Cyrus Hamlin, who by then was reposing peacefully in the piney woods of Maine, had anything to do with that.

....Submitted by Brother Charles Duke

Civil War military sons of Vice President Hannibal Hamlin

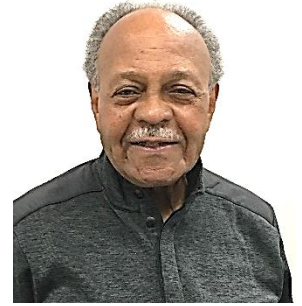
Top Left: Brig. Gen. Cyrus Hamlin

Left: Bvt. Brig. Gen. Charles Hamlin.

A Soldier's Story: Lt. Col. Melvin Lewis Myers, Vietnam

"Don't ever believe someone is better than you because of the color of his skin, the clothes they wear, the car they drive, or the house they live in. In the sight of God, we are all equal and you are just as good as they are." Words of Wisdom from Our Elders, *Pomp & Sacrifice: Reflections On A Life of Service* by Lt. Col. Melvin Myers.

Lieutenant Colonel Melvin Lewis Myers, USA, Retired, grew up on his parent's farm just outside of Hungerford, Texas during the Depression era, and WWII. He was born October 3, 1936 to Hannibal Sr. and Mary Myers. Melvin, known to his classmates as Lewis, graduated May 1955 from Wharton Training High School, as president of his class and went on to attend Prairie View A&M University.



Melvin Myers – Feb 2018

"My Mother often said," recalls Melvin, "you will go to college if it takes every penny we have." My family expected me and all my siblings to attend college. At that time, I had two colleges to choose from, Texas Southern University or Prairie View A&M University. I chose Prairie View A&M, mostly because it had an ROTC program and I wanted to join the army after graduation as an army officer.

After graduating Prairie View A&M University in 1959, I was commissioned through ROTC as a Second Lieutenant, Infantry. My first duty station was Fort Benning, Georgia to attend Basic Infantry Officers Course. After graduating, I stayed at Ft. Benning and attended the Basic Airborne Course. Upon graduating this training, I was assigned to the 1st Brigade, Fort Ord, California. After two years of active duty, I was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and transferred to the Signal Corps. January 1962, I attended the Signal Equipment Maintenance and Repairman Officers Course at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Upon completion, I boarded the USS Darby, a troop ship headed ___ where I was assigned to the 1st Signal Battalion, 505th Signal Group, US Army Europe. There I served as platoon leader in Company C.

My job as platoon leader was to take care of my soldiers and to ensure they were properly trained and prepared to accomplish the assigned mission of providing communications in various field location under simulated combat conditions in preparation for actual combat conditions in the event of a war. My next assignment was Executive Officer of the company. Shortly thereafter, I was promoted to rank of Captain and assigned as Commanding Officer of Company C. I was now responsible for over 200 soldiers with very sophisticated electronic equipment, training, and mission accomplishment. In 1965, my tour in Germany ended and I was sent back to Fort Monmouth to attend Signal Officers Advanced Course. From there [I was] reassigned to Fort Ord to Combat Development Command-Experimentation Command to participate in a Small Arms Weapons System experiment. One experiment required us to supervise construction of a rifle range to test the effectiveness of American-made weapons (such as the M-16 rifle) in comparison to weapons constructed in the Soviet Union Block.

I received orders to attend an Automatic Data Plans and Operations Officer course at the U.S. Army Signal School at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey in preparation of being sent to Vietnam. I had no desire to go to Vietnam while the war was in progress. Many Americas were losing their lives and I was not interested in becoming another casualty; however, I took an oath to serve at the call of the President and it was my time for an unaccompanied tour of duty.

July 1967, I departed for South Vietnam aboard World Airways. We arrived approximately 2 a.m. at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam. I recall looking out the small airplane window, as we approached for landing, [and] seeing numerous flashes from guns being fired. As I exited the airplane, the first thing to hit me in the face was the tremendous heat and humidity that permeated the air long after the sun had set. That afternoon, I boarded a C-130 aircraft in route to Saigon, location of my newly assigned unit, 97th Artillery Group, Air Defense. I was now Signal (Communications) Officer for the group that had Hawk Missiles deployed at several locations; the farthest units approximately 200 miles from Saigon. A Signal Officer is responsible for all radio, telephone, and data communications needed to provide air defense during confrontations against enemy aircraft.

South Vietnam was a beautiful country at war trying to survive and avoid being taken over by North Vietnam. The devastation, despair, and death of war was everywhere; no place was safe. Enemy troops often dressed like South Vietnamese, making it difficult to identify them as the enemy."

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A Soldier's Story: Lt. Col. Melvin Lewis Myers, Vietnam *(continued)*

Vietnam; TET Offensive: Per History.com – January 30, 1968, the TET Offensive begins. Dawn on the first day of the TET (Vietnamese Lunar New Year) holiday was a traditional time of ceasefire truce between North Vietnam and South Vietnam in honor of the TET holiday. However, Viet Cong forces, supported by large numbers of North Vietnamese troops, launched the largest and best coordinated offensive of the war. The enemy attacked the center of South Vietnam's seven largest cities and 30 provincial capitals from the Delta to the DMZ. At the same time, Viet Cong forces shelled numerous Allied airfields and bases. It took a week of intense fighting by an estimated 11,000 U.S. and South Vietnamese troops to dislodge them from the overrun territory.

Per the Tan Son Nhut Airbase, a target of major communist attacks during the 1968 TET Offensive, the first enemy rounds to hit Tan Son Nhut Air Base struck approximately 2:00 a.m. on 31 January with greater severity than expected. When the attack took place, much of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces (RVNF) were on leave from the base to be with their families during TET lunar New Year. U.S. losses on the base included 23 killed and 86 wounded. Army of the Republic of Vietnam losses included 32 killed and 79 wounded with 13 aircraft damaged. Over the next three weeks, the RNVAF flew over 1,300 strike sorties, bombing and strafing communist positions. Tan Son Nhut's 33 wing transport aircraft dropped almost 15,000 flares the next 12 nights, compared with normal 10,000 per month.

"December 1967, I took my rest and recuperation (R&R) in Hawaii where I spent Christmas with my wife and two children. I returned to Vietnam January 1968, when the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong launched one of the deadliest battles of the Vietnam War, now known as the TET Offensive. On the first day, we were ordered to 97th Artillery Group headquarters located on Tan Son Nhut Air Force base. Colonel Fimiani, group commander, attempted to communicate with his unit located at Bien Hoa Air Force base located approximately 20 miles away. A problem existed between the two headquarters with the primary communication link. I stated I was coming to the site to see, first hand, what problem existed.

A driver, two soldiers and I boarded a jeep and headed for Bien Hoa Air Force Hawk Missile Communications site. During this drive, we had to be under the protection of Almighty God, because enemy troops were everywhere. Helicopter gunships and Air force planes were constantly attacking enemy positions throughout the area. When we arrived, I made a few adjustments and site communications were reestablished. Because of all the fighting in progress that day, my life and the lives of my driver and two soldiers could have been lost. When I think of all the dead bodies I observed that day, I can only conclude God spared my life and the men with me.

One night during TET, while I slept, I missed losing my life by inches when a rocket round was fired into the 97th Artillery Group headquarters building and again I missed being killed. Throughout the TET Offensive, there were many, many casualties among American and enemy troops; however, I was one of the lucky soldiers who returned home without a scratch. I was promoted to the rank of Major during my tour in Vietnam.

As I reflect back 50 years on my tour of duty in Vietnam and the TET Offensive, I am glad my life was spared, but sad so many lives were lost. After Vietnam, I continued to serve my Country, retiring October 31, 1979 with rank of Lt. Colonel. During my career, I earned decorations which include the Bronze Star Medal, two Meritorious Service Medals, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross, and U.S. Army Parachute Badge. When I entered the Army in 1959, there were limited opportunities for jobs in civilian life in the south for minorities. Serving in the military, I found just the opposite to be true. It was an honor for me to serve my country with pride, dignity, and compassion during times of peace and times of war."

Commentary: We want to thank you, Lt. Colonel Melvin Lewis Myers, for your exemplary service to our country. Your dedication and your accomplishments prove the importance our families, teachers, and mentors who instill a deep sense of community pride, optimism, self-discipline, and self-worth to all of us, just as they did for you. Thank you for your service. You are a hero for all to look up to. God Bless You and thank you for all that you have done to keep the world safe from aggression.

...source: Article written by Sarah L. Hudgins and published as the feature story in the Life & Leisure section of the Wharton Journal-Spectator newspaper (www.journal-spectator.com)

Report From the Northern Front

Last summer, Brother Karl Falken relocated from the Houston area to Wyoming. He was very active in the *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp* in Houston and has been missed at recent events and meetings of the *Camp*. The good news is....he continues to be active in his new Wyoming surroundings while maintaining his membership with our *Camp*. Brother Falken has found that, even though there are currently no *SUVCW* Camps in Wyoming, there is interest in our *Order* there. Brother Falken has submitted paperwork to hopefully form an *SUVCW Camp* in Wyoming in the near future. In the meantime, he has been active with the *Civil Air Patrol* (see story on next page) and with the *University of Wyoming ROTC*. The following highlights some of the activities of the organizations he is involved with:

Tuesday, January 30, 2018, Laramie Wyoming - Wyoming history came to life Saturday as the University of Wyoming U.S. Army Reserve Officers' Training Corp mounted color guard rode their horses to practice battle tactics developed 150 years ago. With the help of the 11th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, a Casper-based cavalry recreation group, the ROTC cadets spent several hours becoming familiar with their horses.



Brother Karl Falken

Mounted color guard faculty advisor Capt. Riley Emter said being familiar with the horses is important for the color guard to maintain control of the horses while participating in community events and to prevent potential incidents where someone could be injured. "For us to perform in parades and rodeos, we have to be set with our horse and understand how that horse is going to move," Emter said. "We are trying to grow the organization to get as involved as we can in the community. Hopefully we will be able to attend other key events for the university and the community as well." Even though the tactics the cadets are learning are not as widely used today as they once were, the training can still provide the cadets with a learning opportunity of what other people tried to do, he said. "It is important to learn from history and to honor history," Emter said. "Some of the mistakes and successes the cavalry had in the past can still be used today for teaching how we fight battles today."

As the cadets go through the training, they go through not only cavalry tactics, but also how to use equipment the cavalry used in the 1850's, he said. "During the trainings, they will work on anything from standard formations and movements to ground drills with the horses," Emter said. "Eventually, the drills will transition to having equipment such as the 1851 light cavalry saber." Mounted color guard team member Chris Kingwill said the training is helping the color guard to become experts in horseback riding. With weekend trainings and practices during the week, cadets such as Kingwill who had little experience with horses are not competent riders, he said. "I grew up in the Chicago suburbs, so I never really got much experience with horses and I always wanted to ride one." Kingwill said. "I figured doing it for free and learning it through ROTC would be cool." Participating in the color guard and learning more about it can also be a way to show others that the members of the team go above and beyond what is asked of them, color guard member Cody Vincent said. "Being in ROTC is not just about doing the basics, it is not about going to just pt lab and class, it is going beyond, and that's how I want to be as an officer." Vincent said. This is one way that I can show I go above and beyond. Instead of sleeping in till 11 a.m., I get up at 5 a.m. and come out here and ride horses in the morning."

Emter said besides giving the cadets a learning experience, the training also connects the cadets with the period of early settlement in the area. "A big reason for the training for us is to provide a polished cavalry horsemanship in military tradition – it's tied to Wyoming and how the cavalry kind of settled the west," he said. "For us to be able to continue those traditions from the saddle to the uniform to the coloring of the horse and some of the weaponry we can wear, it is key to not forgetting where the Army came from."



Left: Steve Dacus of the 11th Ohio Vol. Cav. Instructs Univ. of Wyoming ROTC cadets during mounted color guard training. Brother Karl Falken is in the line wearing the lighter blue great coat.

....Submitted by Brother Karl Falken

....source: *Laramie Boomerang*, pg. A1, Jan. 30, 2018, by Cameron Walker, cameronw@laramieboomerang.com

Wreaths Across America - Wyoming

Friday, January 26, 2018 – Civil Air Patrol Looking for Local Recruits

The newly formed branch of the Civil Air Patrol's *Cody Squadron* will host an information and recruiting meeting Feb. 3, 2018 from noon to 4 p.m. in the Riverton [Wyoming] library. Capt. Karl Falken decided to form a new CAP branch in Riverton last fall after relocating to Fremont County.

Falken's first order of business was to organize a *Wreaths Across America* in December, when volunteers placed 171 wreaths on the graves of veterans at the Mountain View Cemetery in the first annual *Wreaths Across America* event in Riverton. About thirty people gathered at the event hosted by the *Yellowstone Composite Squadron* of the Civil Air Patrol.

Falken, the location leader, brought together several local organizations to sponsor the wreaths: the Wyoming Society of the *Sons of the American Revolution*, represented by member Jordan Yager, The Fremont County Republican Party represented by chairwoman, Pepper Ottman, and the Riverton Veteran's Hall, represented by Commissioner Pat Lawson. Pastor Mike Smith of Hillcrest Baptist Church, also a participating organization, opened with a few words about his family's military tradition followed by the invocation.

Mayor Lars Baker provided a proclamation naming Dec. 16 "*Wreaths Across America Day*" in Riverton, and Pam Buline, Field Representative for U.S. Senator John Barrasso, read his letter sending his best wishes and reminding those gathered of the crucial role veterans have played defending our nation and our freedoms and the importance of teaching the "next generation the significance of courage, integrity and patriotism."

Following a brief speech by Capt. Falken about the history and significance of the WAA event, Sgt. Larry Tomat, laid the wreaths for the U.S. Army and for Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action. Cpl. Charles Ginsburg laid the wreaths for those who served in the U.S. Marine Corps and Coast Guard. Fire Control Technician 2nd Class Kevin Wilson laid the wreaths for those who served in the U.S. Navy and the Merchant Marines. Capt. Karl Falken laid the wreaths for those who served in the U.S. Air Force. The Riverton Veterans' Hall loaned their ceremonial colors for the event.



L-R: Sgt. Larry Tomat, U.S. Army, Cpl. Charles Ginsburg, USMC, Fire Control Technician 2nd Class Kevin Wilson, U.S. Navy, listen as Capt. Karl Falken of the Civil Air Patrol (and Brother of the Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea USN, SUVCW) gives a speech at Riverton, Wyoming's Wreaths Across America event in December, 2017.

....submitted by Brother Karl Falken

....source: The Ranger, Fremont County, Wyoming Daily Newspaper, Jan. 26, 2018, pg. 5, photo by Margaret Britain

Civil War Medal of Honor Recipients – U.S. Navy *(part 9)*

The *Medal of Honor* is the USA's highest military honor, awarded for personal acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty. It was first awarded during the Civil War after President Lincoln signed a bill containing a provision for the medal for the Navy on December 21, 1861. It was "*to be bestowed upon such petty officers, seamen, landsmen, and Marines as shall most distinguish themselves by their gallantry and other seamanlike qualities during the present war.*"

Left: Navy Version of the original Medal of Honor (1862)

With this issue of the Harriet Lane, in honor of Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea USN - the namesake of our Camp, I am continuing to present a review of the recipients of the Medal of Honor who served in the U.S. Navy during the Civil War....editor



- **Cornelius Cronin** – Chief Quartermaster. Cornelius Cronin was born in Detroit, Michigan. He enlisted in the Navy on September 17, 1858. He received the Medal of Honor for service on the *USS Richmond*. His Medal of Honor citation reads:

“On board the U.S.S. Richmond in action at Mobile Bay on 5 August 1864. Cool and vigilant at his station throughout the prolonged action, Cronin watched for signals and skillfully steered the ship as she trained her guns on Fort Morgan and on ships of the Confederacy despite extremely heavy return fire. He participated in the actions at Forts Jackson and St. Philip, with the Chalmette batteries, at the surrender of New Orleans, and in the attacks on batteries below Vicksburg.”



Cornelius Cronin

After the war, Cronin was appointed mate of the *USS Michigan* on July 9, 1866. He was warranted Acting Gunner on November 12, 1875, and was transferred to the Retired List on August 16, 1898. Cronin continued to serve onboard the *USS Vermont* and the *USS Columbia*, and at the New York Navy Yard until February 3, 1908. Chief Gunner Cronin died on August 18, 1912 at Brooklyn, New York.

- **John Davis** – Quarter Gunner. John Davis was born in Lawrence Township, Cumberland County, New Jersey. He enlisted into the U.S. Navy from New Jersey. Davis was recognized for bravery during combat action aboard the *USS Valley City* on 10 February 1862. He was honored with the award on 3 April 1863. Davis died in the New York City Naval Hospital on November 17, 1863 - possibly due to his injuries - and was buried at an unknown location. His Medal of Honor citation states:

“Served on board the U.S.S. Valley City during action against rebel fort batteries and ships off Elizabeth City, N.C., on 10 February 1862. When a shell from the shore penetrated the side and passed through the magazine, exploding outside the screen on the berth deck, several powder division protecting bulkheads were torn to pieces and the forward part of the berth deck set on fire. Showing great presence of mind, Davis courageously covered a barrel of powder with his own body and prevented an explosion, while at the same time passing powder to provide the division on the upper deck while under fierce enemy fire.”

- **Samuel Walker Davis** – Ordinary Seaman. Samuel Davis was born in 1846 in Brewer, Maine. He was still living in that city when he joined the U.S. Navy. He served during the Civil War as an ordinary seaman on the *USS Brooklyn*. At the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 5, 1864, he acted as a look-out for naval mines (then known as "torpedoes") despite heavy fire. For this action, he was awarded the Medal of Honor 4 months later - on December 31, 1864. His Medal of Honor citation reads:

“On board the U.S.S. Brooklyn during successful attacks against Fort Morgan, rebel gunboats and the ram Tennessee in Mobile Bay, on 5 August 1864. Despite severe damage to his ship and the loss of several men on board as enemy fire raked her decks from stem to stern, Davis exercised extreme courage and vigilance while acting as a look-out for torpedoes and other obstructions throughout the furious battle which resulted in the surrender of the prize rebel ram Tennessee and in the damaging and destruction of batteries at Fort Morgan.”

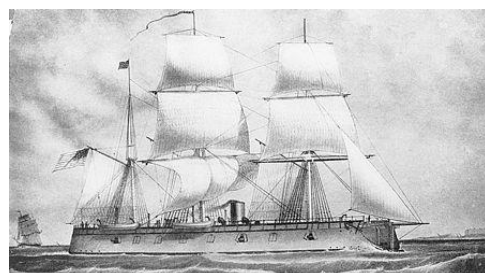
....continued on next page

- **Charles Deakin** – Boatswain's mate. Charles Deakin was born in 1837 in New York City. He was living in Philadelphia when he joined the Navy. He served during the Civil War as a boatswain's mate and gun captain on the *USS Richmond*. In April 1862, he took part in the Battle of Forts Jackson and St. Philip in Louisiana. At the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 5, 1864, he "fought his gun with skill and courage" despite heavy fire. For this action, he was awarded the Medal of Honor 4 months later. His Medal of Honor citation reads:

"As captain of a gun on board the U.S.S. Richmond during action against rebel forts and gunboats and with the ram Tennessee in Mobile Bay, 5 August 1864. Despite damage to his ship and the loss of several men on board as enemy fire raked her decks, Deakin fought his gun with skill and courage throughout a furious 2-hour battle which resulted in the surrender of the rebel ram Tennessee and in the damaging and destruction of batteries at Fort Morgan. He also participated in the actions at Forts Jackson and St. Philip."

Charles Deakin died October 4, 1865 from a hemorrhage of the lungs. He died at the residence of Margaret Densmore, who was the widow of Medal of Honor recipient Chief Boatswain's Mate William Densmore. Deakin was buried October 6, 1865 at the now defunct Lafayette Cemetery in Philadelphia.

- **John Dempster** – Coxswain – John Dempster was born in 1839 and emigrated from his native Scotland to America. In August 1864, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy for a 3-year term. Dempster was assigned to the Union ironclad *USS New Ironsides*. On January 15, 1865, the North Carolina Confederate stronghold of Fort Fisher was taken by a combined Union storming party of sailors, marines, and soldiers under the command of Admiral David Dixon Porter and General Alfred Terry. His Medal of Honor citation reads:



"The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to Coxswain John Dempster, United States Navy, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving on board the U.S.S. New Ironsides during action in several attacks on Fort Fisher, North Carolina, 24 and 25 December 1864; and 13, 14, and 15 January 1865. The ship steamed in and took the lead in the ironclad division close inshore and immediately opened its starboard battery in a barrage of well-directed fire to cause several fires and explosions and dismount several guns during the first two days of fighting. Taken under fire as she steamed into position on 13 January, the New Ironsides fought all day and took on ammunition at night despite severe weather conditions. When the enemy came out of his bombproofs to defend the fort against the storming party, the ship's battery disabled nearly every gun on the fort facing the shore before the cease-fire orders were given by the flagship."

- **Lorenzo Denning** – Landsman. Lorenzo Denning was born in Granby, Connecticut in 1843. He later enlisted into the U.S. Navy. Denning was taken as a Prisoner of War on the day he performed the act of gallantry that earned him the Medal of Honor. He died February 8, 1865 in a POW camp and his remains are interred at Fairview Cemetery in New Britain, Connecticut. His Medal of Honor citation states:

"Denning served on board the U.S. Picket Boat No. 1 in action, 27 October 1864, against the Confederate ram Albemarle which had resisted repeated attacks by our steamers and had kept a large force of vessels employed in watching her. The picket boat, equipped with a spar torpedo, succeeded in passing the enemy pickets within 20 yards without being discovered and then made for the Albemarle under a full head of steam. Immediately taken under fire by the ram, the small boat plunged on, jumped the log boom which encircled the target and exploded its torpedo under the port bow of the ram. The picket boat was destroyed by enemy fire and almost the entire crew taken prisoner or lost."



Depiction of USS Picket Boat No. 1 attacking
....to be continued next issue



Muzzles Blaze

**One of Three Salute Volleys Fired by the Federal Honor Guard at the Annual
Battle of Galveston Commemoration Ceremony**

**The Men of this Federal Honor Guard are Members of the
Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea USN Camp #2 - Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
and/or Co. A, 13th Regiment, U.S. Infantry**

Trinity Episcopal Church Cemetery - Galveston, Texas – 6 Jan 2018

(Photo by Jennifer Reynolds – Galveston Daily News)

*“If we are to have another contest in the near future of our National existence,
I predict that the dividing line will not be Mason and Dixon’s,
But between Patriotism and Intelligence on the one side,
And Superstition, Ambition and Ignorance on the other”*

Ulysses S. Grant

(b. 1822 Point Pleasant, OH - d. 1885 Wilton, NY)

6th Commanding General of the United States Army (1864-1869)

18th U.S. President (1869-1877)