



The Harriet Lane



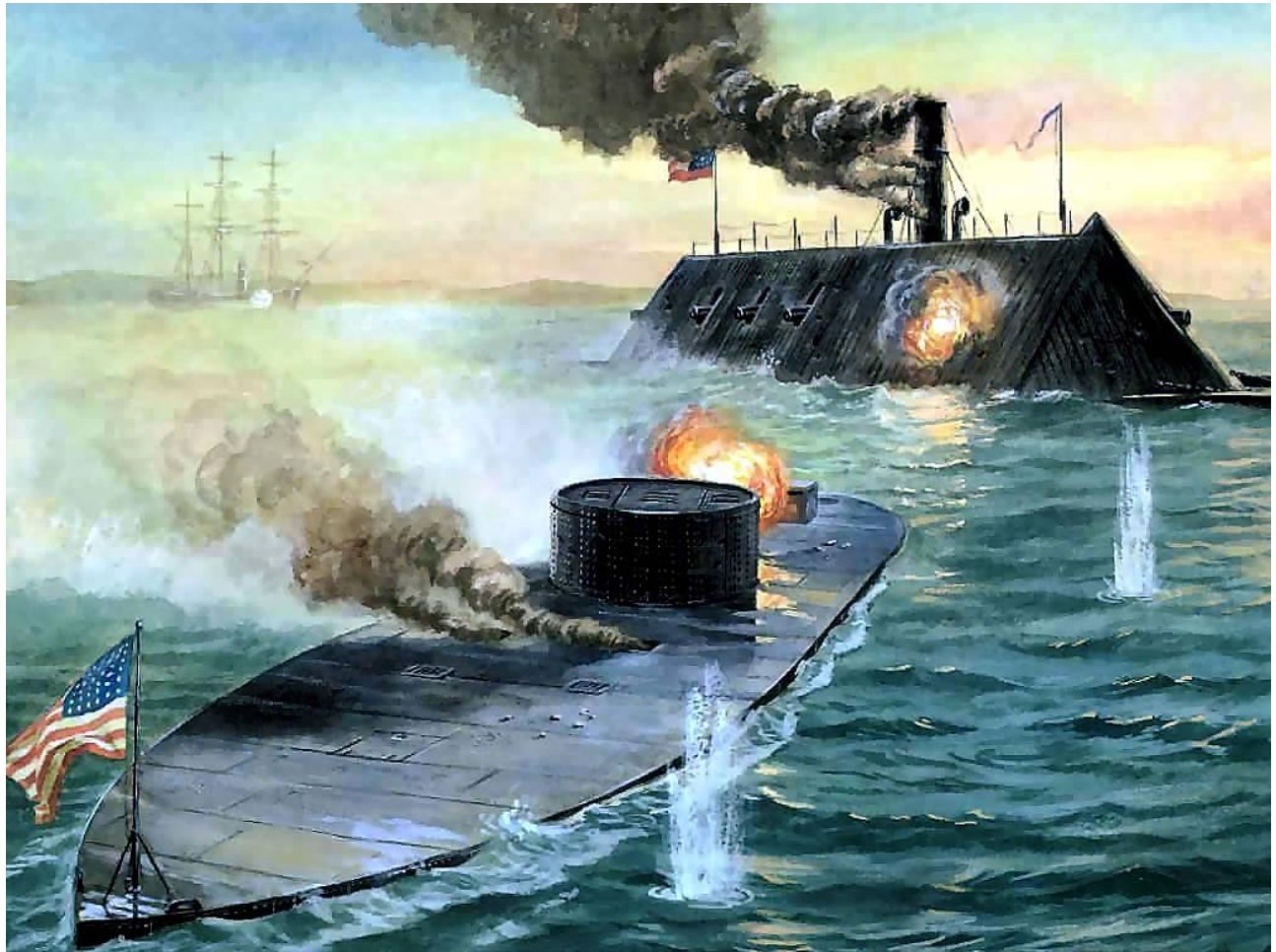
The Official Newsletter of
Lt. Commander Edward Lea, USN, Camp No. 2 – Houston, Texas

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

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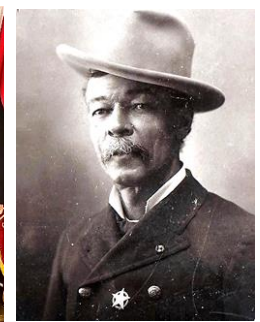
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“The First Battle of Ironclad Warships” - USS Monitor vs. CSS Virginia (formerly the USS Merrimack), U.S. Civil War, March 9, 1862 – by r/BattlePaintings.

The *Harriet Lane* is the official newsletter of Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, USN Camp No. 2, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Houston, Texas. It is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December.

Send questions or comments to the Editor at: mlance387@gmail.com

To view previous issues, visit: <https://www.camplea.org/>

30th Encampment of the Department of Texas and Louisiana

Saturday, May 4, 2024 – Plano, Texas

The 30th Annual Encampment of the *Department of Texas and Louisiana* was hosted by *Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp 18* in Plano, Texas on May 4, 2024. The festivities began the evening before in Plano with a meet-and-greet reception at the home of Brother Donald L. Gates. The following morning, on Saturday, the majority of attendees gathered for a late morning brunch at *Urban Rio Cantina & Grill*, then walked a block or so to the Encampment venue – *American Legion Harding-Blaine Post #321*. The large meeting hall was decorated with flags, charters and other regalia.

The business session of the Encampment was called to order promptly at 1 p.m. by Department Cmdr. Michael L. Lance. Special guest, Jr. Vice-Commander-in-Chief Kevin Tucker, was also in attendance, who addressed the Encampment - bringing greetings from Commander-in-Chief Peter Hritsko, and later installing the Department Officers for the 2024-2025 term.



Since Cmdr. Lance was concluding his second consecutive term, the Department and each of the Camps presented him with gifts in gratitude for his many years of loyal service. The gifts included a nice G.A.R. badge from the Department, and a vintage G.A.R. presentation sword from *Camp 2*.

Left: *Lea Camp SVC Daniel B. Pourceau* presenting a G.A.R. sword gift to soon-to-be Past Department Cmdr., Michael L. Lance



Length-of-service recognition was given to several Brothers of the Department having long-standing membership in the Order. They each received a Certificate and, if present, were presented with a lapel pin by Jr. Commander-in-Chief Kevin Tucker. Several members of *Camp 2* were recognized, including 20+ year members Stephen D. Schulze, PDC and Michael L. Lance, DC.

Left: Receiving 20+ year service recognition: Michael L. Lance and Stephen D. Schulze on the left. National Representative Kevin Tucker and recipient Blair G. Rudy of *Camp 18* on the right.

Each Camp Cmdr. was then invited to present a Camp Brother-of-the-Year award to an outstanding member of their respective Camps. Camp Cmdr. Vander Meulen presented the *Camp 2* Outstanding Brother-of-the-Year Award to Brother Robert G. Riley for his superb work improving, updating, and maintaining the Camp website. Moments later, Dept. Cmdr. Lance presented Brother Vander Meulen with the *2023-2024 Department Achievement Award*. Congratulations to all the award recipients from *Camp 2* and throughout the Department.

Another highlight of the Encampment was the election of our very own Camp Cmdr., John C. Vander Meulen, as Department Jr. Vice-Commander. *Congratulations, Brother John!*

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30th Encampment of the Department of Texas and Louisiana *(continued)*



Left: Robert G. Riley receiving the Outstanding Brother-of-the-Year Award from Camp Cmdr. John C. Vander Meulen.

Congratulations are also in order for our other newly elected Department officers, including Brother Timothy M. Phillips of *Camp 1* as Cmdr. and Brook J. Thomas of *Camp 18* as Sr. Vice-Cmdr. Brother Donald L. Gates of *Camp 18* was re-elected for yet another term as Department Secretary-Treasurer.

Right: JVCinC Tucker at Podium installing new Dept. Cmdr. Timothy M. Phillips.



Other appointed Department officers from *Camp 2* include Stephen D. Schulze, Chaplain; Daniel B. Pourreau, Registrar; Terry T. Sutton, Graves Registration Officer; Michael L.

Lance, Historian, and John C. Vander Meulen, Signals Officer. All were duly installed by National representative Tucker.

Another highlight of the Encampment was a formal initiation ceremony for three Brothers. Several members were in full Union uniforms and the room was full of Brothers as witnesses. All-in-all, the Encampment was impressively organized by *Camp 18* and earnestly conducted with proper decorum and ritual. *Tip of the Kepi to all!*



*Seated L-R: Michael E. Belcher, Richard W. Erder, Blair G. Rudy, John C. Vander Meulen, Timothy M. Phillips, William M. Elliott, Kevin Tucker, Tommy J. Henigan III, Michael L. Lance, and Charles W. Sprague.
Standing L-R: Harold L. Sickler, Drake Peddie, David M. Rediger, Jason M. Kyle, Terry T. Sutton, Todd Wilber, Michael A. Heller, Kevin J. Ennis, Stephen D. Schulze, Daniel B. Pourreau, Clifford F. 'Butch' Durham, Donald L. Gates, Camden L. McCulloch, Larry Joe Reynolds, and Robert G. Riley.*

... submitted by Robert G. Riley

143rd National Encampment

Thursday August 1 - Sunday, August 5, 2024 - Lexington, Kentucky

The 143rd National Encampment of the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* was held at the Campbell House in Lexington, Kentucky on August 1 through August 5, 2024. Delegations from twenty-nine Departments from across the country gathered to conduct the business of the Order – *and to have a great time!*

The *Department of Texas and Louisiana* was well represented at the Encampment, as eleven Brothers traveled either by air or auto to Kentucky. Of those, five were members of *Camp 2*. Sister Jill Schneider of the *Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary No. 1* also attended.



Delegation from Texas and Louisiana poses before the Departmental flags

Back Row L-R: Timothy M. Phillips - Dept. Cmdr., *Camp 1*; **Michael L. Lance**, PDC, *Camp 2*; **Robert G. Riley**, *Camp 2* Webmaster; **John E. Schneider, Sr.**, PDC, *Camp 18*; and **William L. Swafford**, *Camp 18*.

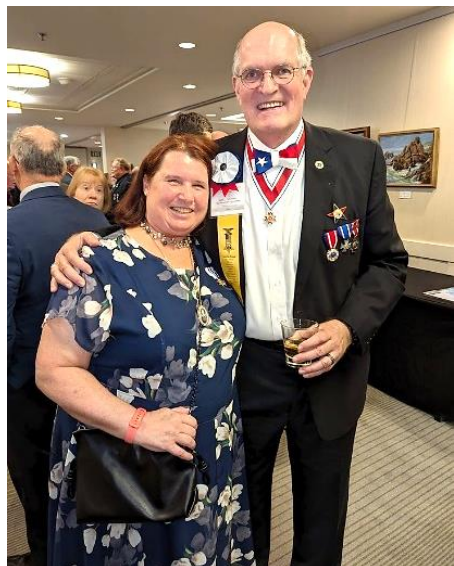
Mid row L-R: Daniel B. Pourreau, SVC *Camp 2*; **Larry Joe Reynolds**, Dept. Webmaster *Camp 5*; **Stephen D. Schulze**, PDC, Secr./Treas. *Camp 2*; and **John C. Vander Meulen**, Dept. JVC, Cmdr. *Camp 2*.

Kneeling: William M. Elliott, Secr./Treas. *Camp 5*; and **Donald L. Gates**, PDC, Dept and *Camp 18* Secr./Treas.

The Encampment was successfully hosted by the *Department of Kentucky*, which provided nice accommodations and a smooth-running program for the 208 attending delegates. For the *Department of Texas and Louisiana*, the event was highlighted by the appointment of two of our Delegation to National offices, the granting of the *Marshall Hope Award* for 'Best Camp Newsletter' to the *Harriet Lane*, the newsletter of *Camp 2* (for the 3rd consecutive year); an entertaining Campfire event with live performers; and the election of Kevin L. Martin of the *Dept. of the Chesapeake* as Commander-in-Chief for the 2024-2025 term.

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143rd National Encampment (continued)



Dynamic Duo!

PDC John E. Schneider, Sr., and his wife, Jill. She represented our Department in the *Auxiliary Encampment* meetings as a *Sister of the Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary*



Webmasters Gather for a photo!

L-R: Larry Joe Reynolds - Department Webmaster
Robert Payne - National Webmaster
Robert G. Riley – *Lea Camp 2* Webmaster



National Officer Appointees

Michael L. Lance as
Ass't Nat'l Sec. (Proceedings) Aide
John C. Vander Meulen as
Ass't Nat'l Sec. (Proceedings)



Another Dynamic Duo!

2024-2025 Commander-in-Chief
Kevin L. Martin, and
2024-2025 Aux. National President
Rosemary Martin, his wife



Marshall Hope Award

Presented to
Michael L. Lance, Editor
by
CinC Peter Hritsko

... submitted by Michael L. Lance, PDC/PCC

Ancestor Profile – 100-Days Regiments

Three of my five Union veteran ancestors served in regiments referred to as 100-Days regiments. They included Frederick Sewart from Illinois, his brother Edward Sewart, and Isaac Logan from Ohio. So who were these so-called, 100-days men?

In 1864, in an attempt to alleviate the non-combat duties of frontline troops, Governor John Brough of Ohio submitted a proposition to Secretary of War Edwin Stanton and President Abraham Lincoln. His proposal suggested recruiting short-term veterans from the ranks of the existing State Militias and have them assigned to those non-combat duties. The goal was to free up the fighting soldiers so that they could move to bolster the front lines – thus speeding the end of the war. The President promptly replied, *“is accepted...the Secretary of War is directed to carry it into execution.”* On May 3, 1864, Ohio governor John Brough issued the following proclamation [*in part*], to the Militiamen of Ohio:

To THE NATIONAL GUARD OF OHIO:

The Commander-in-Chief [Governor Brough] cordially and earnestly thanks you for your noble response on yesterday to the call made for the relief of our army, and the salvation of the country. This manifestation of loyalty and patriotism is alike honorable to yourselves and your noble State. In the history of this great struggle, it will constitute a page that you and your descendants may hereafter contemplate with perfect satisfaction.

The duty to which you will be assigned, though comparatively a minor one, will be none-the-less beneficial to the cause of the country. While you hold fortifications, and lines of army communications, you will release veteran soldiers, and allow them to strengthen the great army that is marshaling for the mightiest contest of the war. In this you will contribute your full measure to the final result we all so confidently anticipate, and so much desire the end of the rebellion, and the restoration of peace and unity in the land.

There is no present imminent danger that calls you from your peaceful avocations. But it is necessary that we enter upon the spring campaign with a force that will enable us to strike rapid and effective blows when the conflict opens. Though we have met with a few reverses this spring, the general military situation is everywhere hopeful, and those in command of your armies were never more confident, but we cannot permit this war, in its present proportions, to linger through another year. It is laying a burden upon us which, by vigorous and united exertion, we must arrest.

I am not ignorant of the sacrifices this call imposes upon you, nor of the unequal manner in which it imposes the burdens of the war. You must reflect, however, that hitherto we have experienced comparatively little of the inconveniences and depression consequent upon a state of war. If a part of these come home to us now, we can well afford to meet, for so short a time, the tax imposed upon us, especially when the sacrifice gives promise of materially hastening the close of the contest. The burden must necessarily be unequal, for the Union men of this country must work out its salvation. The disloyal element is not to be relied upon either to encourage our armies, or to aid in the crushing of the rebellion. You are, in this particular, not unlike your ancestors who achieved the independence of your country against a foreign enemy on the one hand, and the tories of the revolution on the other.

Go forth, then, soldiers of the National Guard, to the fulfillment of the duty assigned to you. I have entire confidence that you will meet all its requirements with fidelity and honor. The prayers of the people of the State will follow you; and may your return be as glorious as you're going forth is noble and patriotic.....JOHN BROUGH....Governor of Ohio

Ohio State Militiamen, as well as those from Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin were rapidly federalized for army service. Later, the system spread to other Northern states, bringing the total to nearly 81,000 men converted from State service to a 100-day term of federal service. Ohio accounted for nearly 38,000 of those troops. *Those veterans, including my three ancestors, were who became known as Hundred Days men!*

... submitted by John C. Vander Meulen, Camp Cmdr.



Union Patriot and Poet – Cyrus B. Lower

The Boys Of '61

by Cpl. Cyrus B. Lower, of Co. E, 23rd O.V.I

All honor to the gallant brave! Their part was nobly done,
They freely offered, freely gave Their lives, their country's life to save –
The boys of 'sixty-one.

When at Sumpter's stubborn walls Boomed many a rebel gun,
The Union trembled at its fall; They answered to their country's call –
The boys of 'sixty-one.

From every valley, plain and hill, They marched for Washington,
From farm, and school, and shop, and mill, The come, the loyal ranks to fill –
The boys of 'sixty-one.

They grasp their guns with eager hands; The blue they proudly don –
A mighty host, an army grand, Quick to obey war's dread command, -
The boys of 'sixty-one.

Around their camp-fires burning bright, Was heard their boisterous fun,
Their songs and jokes, and laughter light, And stories told of many a fight –
The boys of 'sixty-one.

To picket posts they softly crept, With true and trusty guns,
And while their weary comrades slept Sharp watch along the lines now kept, -
The boys of 'sixty-one.

They followed fast when in retreat, The foe now wildly run,
Unconquered still they bear defeat, Ready again their foe to meet –
The boys of 'sixty-one.

They stood where leaden hail storms fell, Nor danger tried to shun.
They trembled not at rebel yell. Nor booming gun, nor screaming shell –
The boys of 'sixty-one.

Like iron walls they faced the foe, And till the fight was done,
Though many a comrade was laid low, They sternly answered blow for blow,
The boys of 'sixty-one.

They fell, the boys so true and brave, In battles lost and won,
They gave their all, they only crave, A little space, an unknown grave,
The dead of 'sixty-one.

Some were torn by shot and shell; Their fighting days are gone.
Their empty sleeves their stories tell, And wooden legs don't walk so well
As those of 'sixty-one.

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Union Patriot and Poet – Cyrus B. Lower *(continued)*

But treason's power was crushed at last, At last the war was done.
In grand review the armies past, Then gladly homeward hastened fast,
The boys of 'sixty-one.

The years so quickly pass away - A score or more have gone.
The boys of then are growing gray, Yet still of them we proudly say,
The boys of 'sixty-one.

Let song proclaim their valor well - While time his course shall run,
Let history the story tell, How bravely fought, how bravely fell,
The boys of 'sixty-one.

Their memory shall not pass away While still remaineth one
To strew their graves with flowers in May, Thus honoring on Memorial Day,
The boys of 'sixty-one.

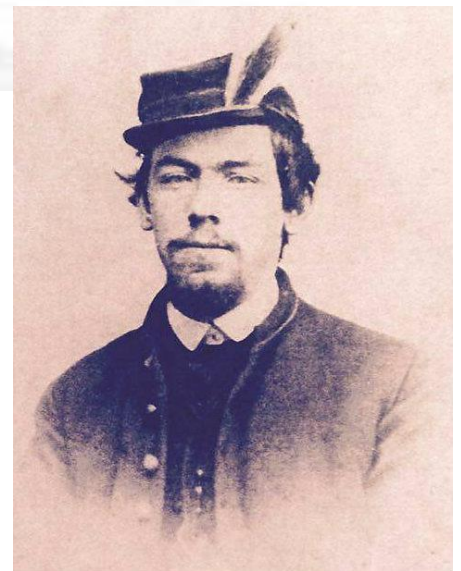
Thus honored be the gallant brave. Their part was nobly done.
They freely offered freely gave their lives their country's life to save,
The boys of 'sixty-one.

The author of this timeless poem, Cyrus Benson Lower, was born February 28, 1843, in Mahoning Township, Lawrence Co., Pennsylvania. Not long after Fort Sumter fell in April 1861, he was compelled to answer the call for volunteers to defend the Union. Leaving Pennsylvania, Cyrus traveled to Poland, Ohio, where on June 21, 1861, he enlisted as a Private with *Co. E of the 23rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry (OVI)*.

On September 10, 1861, Pvt. Lower was introduced to battle action during the *Battle of Carnifex Ferry* in Virginia. He apparently came through unscathed. Eight days later, while fighting near Antietam in Maryland, he was not so lucky. He suffered a severe wound when a musket ball struck him in the left hand and traveled up and through his wrist joint.

After spending three months convalescing at a Union Army hospital in New York, Cyrus was anxious to get back to his regiment. He determinedly made his way to *23rd OVI* headquarters at Camp White in West Virginia. To his dismay, however, he was quickly discharged from the army on a surgeon's certificate and sent home to Pennsylvania. His superiors determined that he was not fully recuperated and therefore unfit for active duty.

Two years later, on October 27, 1863, at age 20, Cyrus re-enlisted at New Castle, Pennsylvania. Three days later, he reported to Camp Curtin in Harrisburg to muster-in as a Private. His new unit was *Co. K, 13th Pennsylvania Reserve Regiment* – which was also known as the "*Bucktails*" (for the deer buck tails they wore on their hats) or the *42nd Pennsylvania Infantry*. Military records describe Cyrus as a farmer from Lawrence Co., Pennsylvania who stood 5' 9½" tall, with brown hair, gray eyes and a light complexion.



Right: **Private Cyrus B. Lower with Bucktail**

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Union Patriot and Poet – Cyrus B. Lower *(continued)*

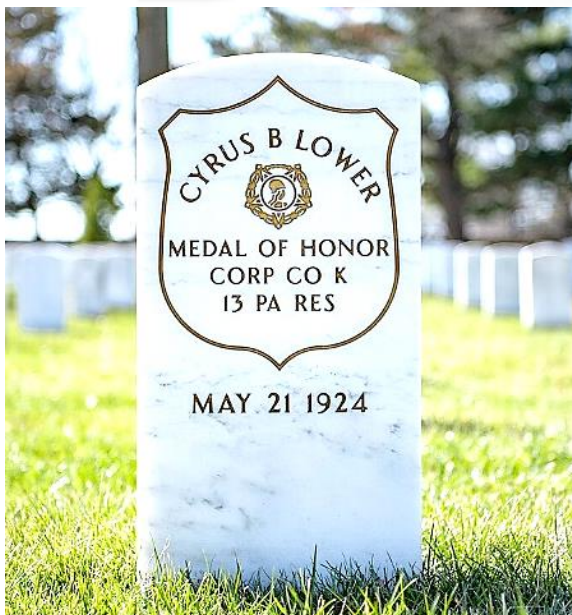
On May 7, 1864, while serving as a member of a reconnoitering party during the *Battle of the Wilderness*, Cyrus was wounded in the thigh. He was ordered to the rear, but he ignored the order and stayed on the skirmish line until the fight was over. He then went to the hospital for treatment. But like before, Cyrus did not wait for his wound to heal completely. He rejoined his regiment and participated in actions at Spotsylvania, North Anna, and Bethesda Church in Virginia.

Despite his nagging thigh wound, Cyrus continued to advance with his fellow Bucktails as they drove Confederate troops deeper into Virginia. However, his injury eventually hampered his movements, causing him to be captured at Bethesda on May 30, 1864. While being transported by rail to the Confederate prisoner-of-war camp at Andersonville, Georgia, Cyrus jumped from the train, and escaped. Somehow, with his partially disabled leg, he managed to work his way northward to rejoin his regiment in Virginia. Cyrus was later transferred to the *190th Pennsylvania Infantry* as part of a reorganization of the Pennsylvania military units. He continued to serve until being mustered-out as a Corporal at Arlington Heights, Virginia on June 28, 1865.

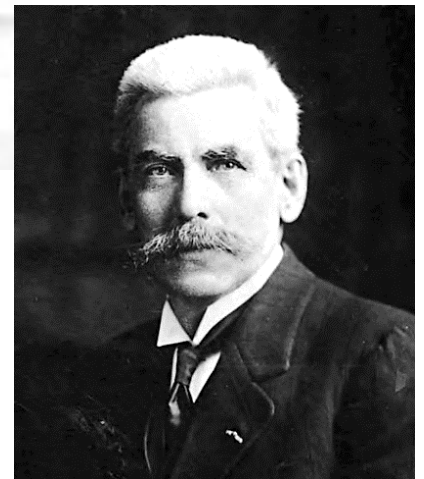
Following his honorable discharge, Cyrus returned home to Pennsylvania and, about 1869, married Sarah 'Sadie' E. Edwards. They became the parents of two sons, Elton and John Edward, in 1870 and 1873 respectively. To support his family, Cyrus ran a nursery business and was superintendent of the Greenwood Cemetery in Newcastle, Pennsylvania. He was also a member of the local Masonic Lodge. His wife, Sadie, died in 1879.

Cyrus then relocated to Washington DC and was employed as a night watchman for the Safe Deposit Co. On November 8, 1881, he was 38 years old when he remarried to 23-year-old Florence Hinton - and soon became the father of two more children, Elsie and Irvin, in 1882 and 1892 respectively. Cyrus later went to work for the *U.S. Department of Agriculture*, retiring after 25 years of service as a Director of Supply.

In 1887, Cyrus B. Lower was awarded the *Congressional Medal of Honor* for his gallant services during the *Battle of the Wilderness*. The citation recognized his soldierly qualities in returning to his command after being wounded and also for voluntarily joining his command through great difficulties after being captured and escaping from the enemy.



Right: Cyrus B. Lower
**Promotional photo from his
book entitled:
*We Rode With Little Phil - and
Other Poems***



Cyrus died May 21, 1924 in Washington, DC at age 81. Following the funeral services, he was laid to rest in Section 17, Lot 19971 at *Arlington National Cemetery* in Arlington, Virginia.

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Union Patriot and Poet – Cyrus B. Lower (continued)



Only three men from Lawrence Co., Pennsylvania ever received the *Congressional Medal of Honor*. Two of those three included Cyrus B. Lower and Joseph B. Chambers, both earning their citations for valor during the Civil War.

Left: Cyrus B. Lower - at the time of his retirement from the U.S. Department of Agriculture - wearing his Medal of Honor and holding a hat with a Bucktail.

Their bravery is recognized and honored today by a memorial located at the Lawrence Co. Court House in New Castle. It was unveiled on Veteran's Day, November 13, 2000, and serves as a lasting reminder of the heroism and sacrifices made by those brave patriots.



... submitted by Michael L. Lance, PCC/PDC ... Poem submitted by Dale H. Leach

Steamboat House

Huntsville, Texas – Regarded a hero for his leadership role in the *Battle of San Jacinto*, Sam Houston was called a coward 30 years later. How could that be, you ask? In 1861, as governor of Texas, Houston refused to swear an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy after Texas seceded from the United States, and was forced out of office. In 1862, he relocated in Huntsville, Texas, where he and his family had lived on and off between 1848 and 1858. His departure earned him the animosity and low-esteem reputation of many rebellious Texans.

After arriving in Huntsville, Houston wanted to buy back his old home, the *Woodland Home*, but he did not have enough money to do so. Instead, he rented another nearby house in 1862 nicknamed the *Steamboat House*. The home had gained its unique moniker because of its design - the two-story structure was deliberately fashioned in the shape of a steamboat by the builder. It is one room wide all the way through with three rooms on each floor



Right: Steamboat House



The unusual design of the house proved unpopular. The builder was unable to sell or rent it – until Sam Houston (*photo at left*) came along. Because of the *Steamboat House's* 'ugliness', the rental amount was in Houston's price range. Houston and family took residence.

Unfortunately, Houston's health declined during the early months of 1863. In July 1863, chills and fever developed into pneumonia, causing the old general to be bedridden. Then, at dusk on July 26, 1863, while his wife, Margaret, was reading to him from her Bible, Sam Houston died at age 70. His funeral was held the next day in the upstairs parlor of *Steamboat House*. His wood coffin was reportedly made by Union POWs at the Huntsville Penitentiary, for whom Houston had shown concern. Masonic rites were conducted at the burial site at Oakwood Cemetery in Huntsville.

For several years, on the anniversary of Houston's death, a peculiar offering was waiting at his grave when the sun came up. It was always the same: a plate with six oysters, three sugar cookies and a cup of coffee with three lumps of sugar – foods that Houston liked, according to his correspondence. The identity of the nocturnal gift-giver was kept anonymous – *a whimsical mystery!* editor

Patriotic Instructor Minute – A Nation Truly Divided

When People think of the Civil War, they tend to picture white men from the North, wearing blue uniforms fighting against white men from the South wearing gray or butternut or any other type of clothing they could find. They either don't know or tend to forget about the different ethnicities who fought in the war. At Fredericksburg, Northern Irish fought against Southern Irish. After the Emancipation Proclamation, black soldiers were officially allowed to participate in the war. They joined by the thousands and fought bravely in many battles where they shed their blood for the Union cause. Most joined because they felt it was their fight. It was also an opportunity to prove they were just as good as white soldiers. It also afforded them the opportunity to win a Union victory and thereby gain equality and rights as citizens.

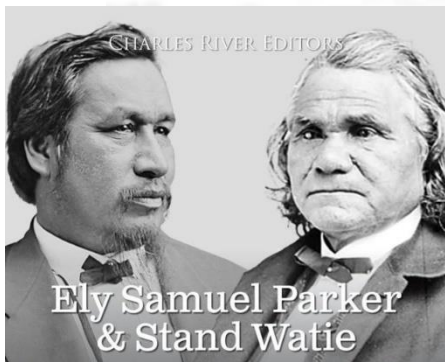
In the South, black men formed a highly visible portion of the population at every major Confederate army encampment, but not as soldiers. They washed clothes, cooked meals, drove wagons, built walls and bridges and nursed the wounded. And while this was probably done involuntarily, they nonetheless aided the Confederate war effort. Only a few black men were ever accepted into Confederate service as soldiers, and none did any significant fighting.

What is less known is that between 20,000 to 28,000 Native American Indians also served in the Union and Confederate armies during the war. Some of the tribes that sided with the Union included the Delaware, Kickapoo, Seneca, Shawnee, Osage and Ottawa. Many from these tribes formed the "Indian Home Guard". A significant portion of the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters, Company K, was made up of Native Americans from these tribes. They fought for the Union because they were motivated by a desire to protect their tribal lands and lifeways.

Tribes that fought for the Confederacy included the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Creek, Choctaw and Seminole, although there was division within each tribe with some choosing to fight for the Union as well. This was especially true of the Cherokee, where some leaders saw it as a chance to settle old scores with some of the other chiefs in the tribe. These tribes were motivated to fight for the confederacy for several reasons. They had been part of the Indian Resettlement Program from 1837-1839, which came to be known as the "Trail of Tears", so they had little love for the U.S. Government. They were also promised their own state by the Confederates if they won the war. Finally, many members of the Cherokee and Choctaw were black slave owners, so they felt it in their best interest for fight for the Confederacy.

While it appears none of the Plains Indians fought for either side during the war, they no doubt were aware of the great battle between the whites in the East. News of the conflict would have arrived to them by way of trappers and traders going through the area. They probably would have been happy about the conflict as it meant as long as we were fighting each other we wouldn't be bothering them.

Two of the most prominent Indians in the war were Ely Parker and Stand Watie. Ely Parker was a Seneca Indian and served as Gen. Grant's Adjutant and Secretary. He was commissioned a Lt. Colonel during the war and wrote the final draft of the Confederate surrender terms at Appomattox. At the surrender, Gen. Lee stared at Parker momentarily, extended his hand and said, "I am glad to see one real American here". Parker shook his hand and replied, "We are all Americans".



Stand Watie was a Cherokee Chief who attained the rank of Brig. General in the Confederate army. He commanded Indian forces in the Trans-Mississippi theater which included the 1st and 2nd Cherokee Mounted Rifles. He saw action at Wilson's Creek, Pea Ridge, and at the Battle of Prairie Grove. He was the last Confederate States army General to surrender.

So, what can we take away for all this? I believe it shows just how truly divided a nation we were. Let us never forget all those who fought to preserve our Union, whether they be white, black or Native American Indian.



... submitted by Ronald 'Steve' Brock, Camp Patriotic Instructor

From the Chaplain's Desk

A Sad Duty – Burying the Dead.

Over 300,000 Union and 200,000 Confederate soldiers and sailors died during the Civil War. Most of those deaths were due to disease, but over 200,000 men died in battle. A total of half a million casualties were claimed by the war out of a population of 31,443,321. Sadly, roughly 3% of the adult male population was lost to the war - a grievously high percentage, indeed.

When the men died in battle, the burials were conducted most often by the victorious forces. The Union often buried their enemy dead in a simple trench. Far too often, the dead were merely covered in a shallow grave which would later be exposed. Little care was taken early in the war for recording the exact burial places of the dead. Later on, records were kept better, and temporary wooden markers would sometimes be erected.

After the war, Clara Barton, who had contributed so greatly to the medical care for wounded soldiers, established the Missing Soldiers Office, to assist families searching for their loved ones. She also led an expedition to the Andersonville prison in Georgia, where Union prisoner Dorence Atwater had kept secret records of where more than 13,000 men were buried.

Barton soon called on the U.S. government, in the name of "common humanity," to account for all the soldiers who had died. As a result, Edmund Burke Whitman and others were assigned to conduct an "exhaustive survey" of Union graves, wherever they may be.

In response to his requests for information about the dead, Whitman was, says Faust, "inundated" with information from veterans, families, and passersby. "There had been thousands of record-keepers who," Faust remarks in the documentary, "without knowing why they were keeping the records or who would ever be the recipient of this information, had collected information on these bodies during the war."... (David Skinner, HUMANITIES, Sep-Oct 2012, Vol. 33, No. 5)

Below: Confederate soldiers lie in a shallow grave on the Gettysburg battlefield. Under magnification, the writing on the headboards indicates these men were from a South Carolina regiment.



Thousands of war casualties were moved - either sent home embalmed, or reinterred in National cemeteries. While some burial services were conducted by the chaplain of the unit performing the burial, many of the dead had no prayers at all offered over their graves.

We remember them in ours. May their memory be eternal.



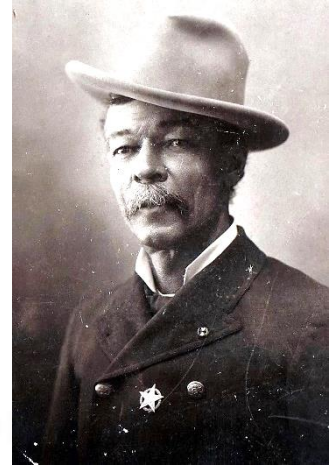
submitted by Rt. Rev. Stephen F. Duncan, Camp Chaplain

Last Survivor Passes the Torch

As the 1920s came to an end, the membership of the once thriving *Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)* Post in Galveston, Texas - the *Maj. Gen Winfield S. Hancock Post No. 2*, had dwindled down to a single person – Edwin N. Ketchum. This sole survivor had always been very active in his community and as a member of the *GAR*. He served as Chief of Police of Galveston and, in time, held most *GAR* leadership positions, including Post Commander and Commander of the *Department of Texas*.

Edwin Nesbitt Ketchum

Realizing that his end was also near, Ketchum took action to assure the care and maintenance of the two plots owned by the *Hancock Post* in Galveston's Lakeview Cemetery would continue after he passed away. The *Galveston News* got wind of his plan to 'pass the torch' to protect the legacy of his departed comrades and published the following account on October 27, 1929:



Aged Veteran of Civil War Passes Onto Younger Vets Care of Comrades' Graves

Veterans of the world war, members of *Argonne Post No. 20, American Legion*, have assumed an obligation – that of executing a trust to care for the graves in Lakeview Cemetery of members of *Hancock Post No. 2, Grand Army of the Republic*, who have long since “gone West.”

Determined that the graves of these heroic dead shall always be cared for, Ed. M. Ketchum, post commander and the last surviving member of *Hancock Post No. 2*, has deposited a trust fund with the First National Bank, the interest of which shall be used for the purpose of keeping in repair the curbing of the two *Grand Army* plots in Lakeview Cemetery.

In a communication addressed to *Argonne Post*, Mr. Ketchum asks younger hands and broader shoulders to undertake this sacred duty, and officials of the *American Legion* have expressed their appreciation of the honor that has been conferred upon them.

The letter from Commander Ketchum reads as follows:

“I have deposited with the First National Bank the sum of \$150 in trust, the interest of which is to be used in keeping in repair the curbing and grounds of two plots of ground in Lakeview Cemetery, property of *Hancock Post No. 2, Grand Army of the Republic*, in which said post's dead are buried. As I shall be leaving these parts in the near future, I am desirous of bequeathing the duty of the care of these grounds to *Argonne Post* that my comrades shall not be disturbed, nor the care of the grounds neglected. If your post will accept this charge, your letter of acceptance endorsed by myself will be filed with the bank. This will authorize the commander of your post, to call for funds from said bank that may be needed for repairs. This charge is to be handed by your organization to the one succeeding yours, as yours is succeeding mine.”

At the regular meeting of the board of directors of *Argonne Post No. 20*, the trust was accepted unanimously and the following letter written to Mr. Ketchum by P. N. Haskell, adjutant:

“At the regular meeting of the board of directors of this post, on Tuesday evening, Oct. 22, it was unanimously decided to accept the obligation of caring for the two plots of ground located in Lakeview Cemetery, in which your comrades rest. In accepting this obligation, the post feels highly honored as it is indeed a trust when one entrusts the care of the last resting place of his friends and comrades to others. You can rest assured that this post will endeavor to care for these plots as you would have us do it, and we shall always consider it our sacred duty to do so. We trust that you will find it possible to be with us from time to time as, after all, we are all comrades in arms.”

Edwin Nesbitt Ketchum died February 19, 1931 in Galveston. He was cremated and his ashes were scattered in Galveston Bay.

... submitted by Michael L. Lance, PCC/PDC



Civil War Medal of Honor Recipients – U.S. Navy (Part 34)

The *Medal of Honor* is the highest military honor awarded by the United States 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 on December 21, 1861, containing a provision for the medal for the Navy. 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."

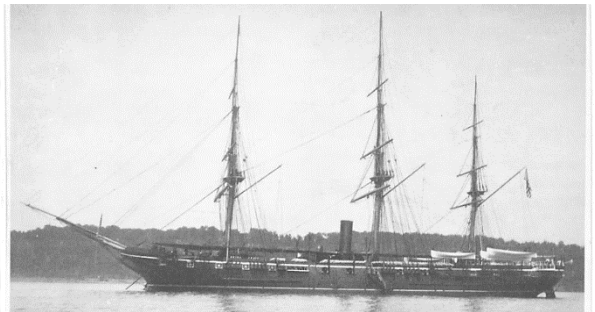
Right: **Navy Version of the original Medal of Honor (1862)**

Editor's note: 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.



- **James Mifflin - Engineer's Cook** - James Mifflin was an African American sailor born about 1839 in Richmond, Virginia. In April 1864, during the Civil War, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy from his home state of Virginia. By August 5, 1864, he was serving as an Engineer's Cook on the steam screw sloop-of-war, *USS Brooklyn*. During the *Battle of Mobile Bay*, Alabama, Mifflin stood fast and performed his ammunition supply duties despite enemy shellfire.

Right: ***USS Brooklyn***



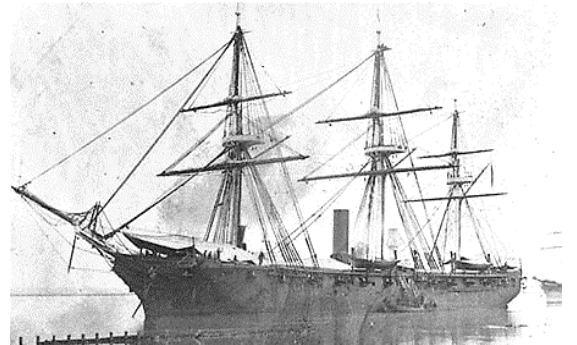
For his conduct during this battle, he was awarded the Medal of Honor. His citation states:

The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to Engineer's Cook James Mifflin, United States Navy, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving on board the U.S.S. Brooklyn during successful attacks against Fort Morgan, rebel gunboats and the ram Tennessee in Mobile Bay, Alabama, on 5 August 1864. Stationed in the immediate vicinity of the shell whips which were twice cleared of men by bursting shells, Engineer's Cook Mifflin remained steadfast at his post and performed his duties in the powder division throughout the furious action which resulted in the surrender of the prize rebel ram Tennessee and in the damaging and destruction of batteries at Fort Morgan.

- **Andrew Miller - Sergeant** – Andrew Miller was born about 1836 in Germany. On August 21, 1854, he was about 18 years old when he entered the *U.S. Marine Corps* from Washington, D.C. He was initially discharged from the *Marine Corps* in August 1858, but went on to serve 3 more enlistments. During the Civil War, Miller served as a Sergeant assigned to the marine detachment aboard the sloop-of-war, *USS Richmond*, when it was sent to fight in the *Battle of Mobile Bay*. He honorably discharged the final time in October 1866. His *Medal of Honor* citation reads:

Right: **Sloop-of-War *USS Richmond*, 1863**

The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to Sergeant Andrew Miller, United States Marine Corps, for extraordinary heroism in action 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, Sergeant Miller fought his gun with skill and courage throughout the furious two-hour battle which resulted in the surrender of the rebel ram Tennessee and in the damaging and destruction of batteries at Fort Morgan.



... continued on next page

Civil War Medal of Honor Recipients – U.S. Navy (Part 34 continued)

- **James Miller - Quartermaster** - James Miller was of Norwegian descent, born in Denmark on September 21, 1836. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy from Massachusetts during the Civil War and served aboard the Unadilla-class steam gunboat *USS Marblehead*.

Right: James Miller

On Christmas day 1863, during the *Battle of Legareville* on John's Island, South Carolina by the Stone River, he continued to take soundings while under fire. For his conduct on this occasion, Quartermaster James Miller received the *Medal of Honor* and was promoted to Acting Master's Mate. Miller died March 4, 1914, at age 77 and was buried in Philadelphia. The destroyer *USS Miller* (DD-535), which served in World War II and the Korean Conflict, was named in his honor. His citation reads:



The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to Quartermaster James Miller, United States Navy, for extraordinary heroism in action, serving as Quartermaster on board the U.S. Steam Gunboat Marblehead off Legareville, Stone River, South Carolina, 25 December 1863, during an engagement with the enemy on John's Island. Acting courageously under the fierce hostile fire, Quartermaster Miller behaved gallantly throughout the engagement which resulted in the enemy's withdrawal and abandonment of its arms.

- **Daniel Milliken – Quarter Gunner** – Daniel Scammon Milliken was born in 1841 in Saco, Maine. During the Civil War, he volunteered for service in the U.S. Navy and was assigned to the Union wooden-hulled ironclad *USS New Ironsides*. His enlistment is credited to the state of New York. 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. Milliken manned an 11-inch Dahlgren cannon that laid crippling fire to Fort Fisher. For his actions he is awarded the *Medal of Honor*. He lived out the remainder of his life in and around Raymond, Maine, marrying twice and having no children. In his early fifties, he was hospitalized with consumption and died at age 58 in 1899. He was buried next to his 2nd wife, Francis, in Riverside Cemetery with a plain, white, VA marker that indicates only his name and the date of his passing. In 2015, a granite foot stone was installed (*photo at right*) giving more details.



The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to Quarter Gunner Daniel Milliken, 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.

Additional Navy Medal of Honor recipients will be portrayed in the next issue with Part 35

2024 Camp Officers, Staff, and Social Media Links

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Sr. Vice-Cmdr.	Daniel B. Poureau	camp2svc@txsuv.org	Camp Council	Stevenson T. Holmes
Jr. Vice-Cmdr.	Vincent T. Trovato	joincamp2@txsuv.org	Camp Council	Thomas F. Coughlin
Secy./Treas.	Stephen D. Schulze	camp2secretary@txsuv.org		

Chaplain	Stephen F. Duncan	Eagle Scout Coord.	Ben C. Bonnett
Patriotic Instructor	Ronald 'Steve' Brock	Graves Regis. Officer	Terry T. Sutton
Historian	Michael L. Lance	Civil War Mem. Officer	Terry T. Sutton
Color Bearer	William D. Myers	G.A.R. Records Officer	Herbert W. Powers
Guide	Thomas F. Coughlin	Facebook Mgr.	John C. Vander Meulen
Guard	Robert G. Riley	Zoom Facilitator	John C. Vander Meulen
Signals Officer	John C. Vander Meulen	Webmaster	Robert G. Riley
JROTC Coord.	Daniel B. Poureau	Newsletter Editor	Michael L. Lance

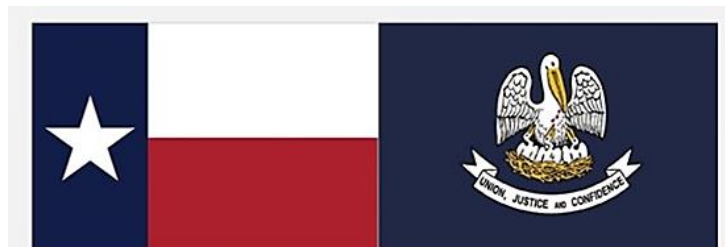
Website – Houston Camp	https://www.camplea.org/
Website – Dept. of TX and LA	http://www.txsuv.org/
Facebook – Houston Camp	https://www.facebook.com/LtCmdrEdwardLeaCamp2HoustonSUVCW/
Facebook – Dept. of Texas	https://www.facebook.com/SUVCW.TX.LA/

Final Muster! Act Now!

The formation of a fifth Camp in the *Department of Texas* is nearing reality. Members of the *Lt. Edward Lea Camp 2* of Houston who reside in Central Texas are invited to act quickly to become Charter Members of *E. O. C. Ord Camp 3* based in San Antonio.

Officers for the new Camp have already been elected, a good meeting location has been established, and a core base of new members have applied as Charter Members. Commander-elect Blair Rudy has extended the timeframe for others to join or transfer to *Camp 3* as Charter Members for a short period of time.

If becoming a member of a Camp in Central Texas is more convenient for you to be able to participate in *SUVCW* activities due to location, you are encouraged to act now. Contact Camp Commander John Vander Meulen for details on transferring (or obtaining a dual membership) to the new Camp in San Antonio. Please note that the deadline for applying for membership as a Charter Member of *Ord Camp 3* is **October 4, 2024**.





Many thanks to all the contributors. Your efforts have, once again,
made the achievement of this award possible!
The Harriet Lane is Your Camp Newsletter! ...editor