

# Orlando A Somers Camp #1 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Meeting Minutes—December 15, 2007—Richard's Restaurant

Commander Matt Elkin presided and opened the meeting at 1:10 p.m. Chaplain Pro Tem Alan Teller led the group in the opening prayer, and members joined to recite the American's Creed and the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary Gayle Eikenberry read the minutes of the November meeting, which were then approved with one correction: Tom Crawford pointed out that he had one hundred *American Heritage* magazines in book form for sale. Treasurer Randy McNally gave our account balance as \$2,476.54, of which \$398.37 remains in the Cannon Fund.

Members present were: Matt Elkin, Allen Moore, Larry Myer, Tom Crawford, Randy McNally, Ned Baker, Alan Teller, Russ Kirchner, and Gayle Eikenberry; old members who applied for reinstatement: Merrell Kenworthy, Colin Craig, Gary Sipes, and John Ellers; and one new member, Todd Dwigans. Lee Ann Teller and Rosie Kenworthy attended as our guests.

Allen Moore, who organized the camp in 1982, brought a special cake to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Charter members present were: Gary Sipes, John Ellers, Colin Craig, and Gayle Eikenberry. Pictures were taken with Allen Moore and the charter members and also Allen Moore and our present commander, Matt Elkin. A gift was presented to Commander Elkin by Allen Moore in appreciation for his service during our anniversary year.

## Old Business:

Tom Crawford had offered to pay for the pension records of George W. Beck, the last Civil War survivor of Carroll County, at our November meeting, but announced that he would rather donate the \$75.00 towards purchasing a plaque. He felt he had enough information on Beck already. This was acceptable to the membership, and we appreciate Tom's generosity.

Alan Teller reported that when he cleaned the cannon this week there was a carpenter working on the building to house it. The walls should be up by the end of the week and the glass next week. One rear section had to be bumped out a little in order for the cannon to fit properly.

## New Business

Alan Teller brought up a concern for Jon Ayers who could not attend. Jon has a son who is deployed in Afghanistan. An organization called North Central Indiana Blue Star Mothers provides flea collars for soldiers to wear around their ankles to protect them from desert sand fleas. Alan Teller moved that we contribute \$50.00 to this organization. The motion was seconded by Ned Baker and passed unanimously.

Commander Elkin distributed General Orders and information about the January department encampment.

Alan Teller, Department Secretary, reported on the problem with Employer Identification Numbers. All EIN numbers are OK except for the Benjamin Harrison Camp, and they are resolving their problem with the IRS.

A revision of the slate of officers for next year was presented by Commander Elkin. All officers will continue in their present duties except Don Overmyer, who declined to continue as Junior Vice Commander, and Jon Ayers, who declined to continue as Chaplain. Jacob Elkin agreed to serve as Chaplain, and Allen Moore agreed to serve as Junior Vice Commander. Alan Teller moved to elect the slate of officers, Larry Myer seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Alan Teller offered a date for our calendars, February 10, 2008, the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial celebration.

New member Todd Dwigans was installed with Allen Moore as the installing officer. Brother Dwigans is a history teacher interested in the Civil War. His Civil War veteran ancestor is David Barnett.

Alan Teller was the presiding officer for the installation of the camp officers for 2008. All officers were present for installation except Jacob Elkin, Chaplain. Ned Baker will remain as the Eagle Scout Coordinator.

## Program

The December meeting is our annual show-and-tell program. Brothers Allen Moore, Alan Teller, Tom Crawford, Larry Myer, Ned Baker, and Randy McNally all brought items to share and tell about.

Commander Elkin closed the meeting at 2:10 p.m., and the closing prayer was given by Chaplain Pro Tem Alan Teller. The next meeting will be January 19.

Gayle Eikenberry, Secretary



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