



# The Parmley Post

## Newsletter of Gen James J Byrne Camp 1



Dept of Texas and Louisiana SUVCW

March 2024

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### COMMANDING OFFICER

[Dated 3/26/24] My Brothers,

My how the time does fly. This newsletter comes at the end of its intended month, rather than the beginning. Oh, well!

Be thinking about Your opportunity May 4<sup>th</sup> to attend the Department Encampment in Plano. It will serve as our next in-person Camp meeting, and it will be a great chance to support our own Bro. Timothy Phillips, as he is slated to take the Department Commander role for 2024-2025. Please see mention of that meeting elsewhere in this newsletter.

Brother Phillips has agreed to take our Camp Chaplain position. Brother Todd Wilber has taken on the challenge of planning our Memorial Day activities at Oakwood Cemetery. Thanks to both of these gentlemen for stepping up!

Please contact me if I may be of service.  
I remain, your obedient servant in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,  
Butch Durham, Commander

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### Record of the February 29<sup>th</sup> Camp Meeting

Attendees: Butch Durham, Commander; Michael Belcher, Senior Vice Commander; Craig Reves, PCC, Camp Council; Todd Wilbur, Graves Registration Officer; Tim Phillips, PCC, Camp Chaplain; Brian Kowell – Guest speaker; John Vander Meulen, Department Signals Officer; Michael Lance, PCC, Department Commander.

Commander Durham called the Zoom-only meeting to order and Chaplain Phillips led the invocation. After a brief outline of the evening's agenda, the meeting was turned over to our guest speaker, Brian Kowell of the Cleveland (Ohio) Civil War Roundtable, who gave an interesting program on "John Barleycorn and the Civil War," a treatment of the topic of alcohol (the drinking kind) and its forms and effects during the great conflict.

Following the program, Department Commander Lance swore in Brothers Reves, Wilber and Phillips to their respective officer positions for the 2024 year. (Brothers Durham and Belcher had been previously sworn-in.)

After brief reports from several Camp officers, Chaplain Phillips gave the benediction and the meeting was closed in regular form by Commander Durham.

*[recorded by B.Durham, Commander; any errors are purely unintentional]*



## **From the Senior Vice Commander**

*[Dated 3/6/24]* Brothers,

Since the first week of February, we have three potential new members: Jeffrey Bunn of Lubbock; Grant Gee of Georgetown and Timothy Provorse of Copperas Cove. They are currently in the application approval process. I have been working with Brother Ben Powers of Harker Heights attempting to prove his Union Veteran connection, in order to allow him to move from Associate Member to Regular Member. I have recruited him and Brother Steve Hart of Waco, to switch from Camp #2 to Camp #1, as to their close location for Bell County meetings. Additionally, I have a few more friends in the works for membership and participation of the new camp location in Bell County. I believe that they are watching and waiting to see a stronger camp presence, as in person meetings commence later this year.

I attended a Texas Department online zoom meeting on February 15th with the Texas Department Senior Vice Commander and Department Registrar. A few changes in the approval of new membership applications and processing were discussed.

I have been looking into potential venues to conduct our Bell County location for the Memorial Day celebration. I have contacted a few local military service organizations, as well as the local Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp to investigate what they do here locally. One cemetery in Belton, the North Belton Cemetery, stands out as being the site of several Union Veteran burials, and a good candidate for our observance.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,  
Michael Belcher, SVC

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## From the Camp Secretary



*[Dated 3/19/24]* Brethren,

We encourage all brothers, wanting to be a delegate, to make plans to be elected by their camp, be properly credentialed, and show up in-person on May 4th in Plano TX.

NOTE: The deadline for the Department Secretary to accept cards is April 29, 2024.

To help promote attendance at the Department Encampment, Brother Tim Phillips and Brother John Vander Meulen (Camp 2 Houston) created this short promo video. They hope you enjoy it.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FGAhQVum\\_E0&ab\\_channel=SUVCWHouston](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FGAhQVum_E0&ab_channel=SUVCWHouston)

Lest we Forget  
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,  
Ky W. White, Camp Secretary

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## From the Camp Treasurer



Treasurer's Report as of 23 Feb 2024:

The Camp membership stands at 24 members for 2024 at this time. There are two members who have not responded at all to my initial and reminder emails regarding their 2024 membership. And, of course, I have already said that I will not be renewing my membership this year.

I will be emailing all of the membership information to Camp Secretary Ky White so that he can begin preparing the Camp's Form 27 Annual Report.

Treasurer's Report for February 2024:

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Beginning balance:    | \$2,342.24 |
| Income:               |            |
| 2024 Membership Dues: | 152.00     |
| Expenses:             |            |
| PayPal fees:          | (3.04)     |

Ending Balance: \$2,491.20

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

David B. Appleton  
Treasurer pro-tem

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## Good of the Order

*[from Brother John C. Vander Meulen, Commander, Camp #2 Houston, and Department Signals Officer]*

Preparations for our Department Encampment are now being formed. One of the rituals we typically follow is taking a moment to remember any brother who died since the last Encampment. This involves playing, “The Empty Chair” and giving a short BIO. However, this year we would like to expand this into a Roll Call of all brothers who are no longer on your Camp rosters due to having passed away – regardless of how long ago it was. As each Cmdr. reads the names from his Camp (no BIOs), a ceremonial bell will be rung.

I am asking each Camp to send me the names of their departed brothers. That way I can add up the total names and plan for the ceremony within the time allotted.

If any Camp 1 Brother has information about the passing of a fellow Camp member, no matter how long in the past, please pass that information forward to the Camp 1 Secretary, Brother Ky White ( [ky.white@ancestralcharts.com](mailto:ky.white@ancestralcharts.com) ), so that he may combine the information and send to Brother Vander Meulen as soon as possible. Thank you.

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## From the Camp Graves Registration Officer

Camp 1 GRO Report 3-5-24

I am up to 64 undocumented bluebellies in Tarrant Co. I found 22 total in Mt Olivet Cemetery in Ft Worth.

Mt Olivet Cemetery- Ft Worth

51. James C Calvin 2nd LT, Co A, 70th USCT; Sgt, 2nd MS

HA/5&6 USC HA; Co H, 30th MO Inf

52. William M Hoover Cpl, Co B, 8th TN Mtd Inf

53. Peter A Teachout Co I, 110th NY Inf

54. Robert Stine Co D, 10th KY Inf

55. John C Criswell Co L, 6th WV Inf; Co B, 12th WV Inf; Co C, 10th WV Inf

56. Jasper N Mitchell Co K, 125th IL Inf
57. Hugh P Campbell Battery H, 2nd MO LA- **Last member of Parmley Post 4**
58. Franklin Willcheck Co F, 31st MO Inf; Co A, 31/32 MO Inf
59. John A Irvine Sgt, Co H, 4th US Cav; Co C, 9th PA Cav
60. William J Bracewell Co G, 120th IL Inf
61. William S Williams Co L, 17th KY Cav
62. Levi D Caldwell Co D, 4th TN Mtd Inf- **Parmley Post Member**
63. Edwin R Jennings Co H, 174th OVI

New Trinity Cemetery- Haltom City

64. Robert Hopkins Co A, 1st USCT; Co I, 10th US Cav- Buffalo Soldier

All duly entered into the graves database.

In F, C, & L,

Todd Wilber  
Camp 1 GRO

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## News From Around the Department

Tuesday, 27 Feb 2024 – Update - 144th National Encampment in 2025

Ten leaders of the Department of Texas and Louisiana met virtually on February 27, 2024 to review the progress and status of plans to host the 2025 National Encampment of the SUVCW. Host Committee Chairman, John E. Schneider, PDC, announced that he has received confirmation that the Department has been officially selected to host the National Encampment in Houston in August 2025.

With that confirmation, Brother Schneider declared that the real work now begins. The goal is to ensure that the 2025 Encampment will be successful and memorable - one that folks will talk about for years to come. Members of the Department are asked to step forward and volunteer to serve on one of the various committees. Some areas where help is needed include fundraising, the banquet and other meals, and sightseeing activities.

Timelines for this work have been established and volunteers are needed immediately. Please support the Department by lending a hand. For more information about how you can help, contact the Host Committee Chair Schneider at [schneider1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:schneider1@sbcglobal.net) or your Camp Commander.

--Michael L. Lance, DC - Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp No. 2, Houston





*Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*  
**Department of Texas and Louisiana**  
Michael L. Lance, Commander



**Department Order No. 15**  
SERIES 2023-2024  
20 Mar 2024

**30<sup>th</sup> Annual Encampment of the Department of Texas and Louisiana**

Brothers,

We are now making final preparations for the *30<sup>th</sup> Annual Encampment of the Department of Texas and Louisiana*. Once again, we will be following the rich historical traditions and rituals of our *Order* and the *G.A.R.* Many elements of the program were established by our forefathers and had great meaning and import to them. Our commitment to honoring their memory and legacy will be reflected in the content and conduct of our upcoming Encampment.]

**Attire**

As with any formal SUCVW function, proper attire and decorum are expected. Attendees should either wear a 'civilian' uniform - consisting of a navy-colored blazer or sport coat, gray slacks, black shoes, a light-colored dress shirt, and a tie (*ties with the SUCVW logo are available for purchase online at the SUCVW Quartermaster store*). You may optionally complement the 'civilian' uniform with a Union kepi or slouch hat. In place of a blazer or sport coat, it is acceptable to instead wear a navy-colored Union vest with kepi or slouch hat.

Attendees may also wear a complete Civil War-era uniform if they choose. Brothers having active roles in the program, such as the Guard, Guide, Color Bearer, etc., are encouraged to properly 'roll play' the part by wearing a period-correct uniform. But again, wearing a 'military' uniform is optional.

Your SUCVW membership badge should be proudly attached to the left breast of your jacket or vest.

**Registration and Credentialing**

Any Brother in good standing can attend the Encampment. If you have not pre-registered, we will make it possible for you to remit the registration fee and obtain a credentials card at the door. Only those with proper credentials will be allowed into the Encampment room. *Be sure to bring your current Membership Card.*

A finite number of elected voting Delegates are allowed from each Camp. If you are not an elected Delegate, and therefore cannot vote, you are still encouraged to attend in-person and participate in discussions and voice your opinions. You may be 'promoted' to voting Delegate status if a vacancy is created due to the absence of an elected Delegate.

### Virtual Attendance

The Encampment will be viewable via Zoom by non-delegates who are members of the Department in good standing but will be muted and not able to participate in discussions or ask questions.

### Decorum and Protocol

- a) The Encampment will begin at 1:00 p.m. Delegates should arrive 30 minutes early to avoid last-minute congestion at the registration table.
- b) At all times, discourse between Brothers should be respectful and cordial and in keeping with our core values of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. Never interrupt or speak over the person who has the floor.
- c) Never walk between the Altar, where the Bible is placed, and the Department Commander's station while the meeting is in progress.
- d) To address the Encampment or ask a question, step to the floor microphone placed conveniently near the seating area, salute the Commander, and wait to be recognized. Once recognized, (a) state your name (b) your title and (c) your Camp name. End your remarks with a salute to the Commander.

Promoting the memory of the Union Soldiers and Sailors who fought to preserve the Union and keeping fresh the ideals of the *Grand Army of the Republic* are our primary goals. Let us keep that foremost in mind as we conduct our business and deliberations. I am looking forward to seeing you on May 4!

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Ordered this 20<sup>th</sup> Day of March, 2024

By Order of:



**Michael L. Lance, Commander**  
Department of Texas and Louisiana  
*Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

Attest:



**Don Gates, Secretary/Treasurer**  
Department of Texas and Louisiana  
*Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

*[Your newsletter editor notes that all this informational publication does not divulge the physical location of the Encampment. We shall make every effort to pass that information along to our Members when it becomes available.]*

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## From the Beginning to the End

*Submitted to the Dept. Newsletter February 2024 by Michael Lance, Department Commander*

Often referred to as the First Battle of Manassas, this was the first major battle of the Civil War, fought on July 21, 1861, near Manassas, Virginia. While not directly on Wilmer McLean's farm, the battle did take place in the vicinity of his property. McLean's house served as a headquarters and field hospital during the battle. This initial clash signaled the beginning of a brutal and protracted struggle that would engulf the country for four long years.



*[photograph of Wilmer McLean at left]*

Seeking a calmer and safer place to live, McLean moved his family to the relative safety of a 2- story house on the Lynchburg-Richmond Stage Road in the small village of Appomattox Court House. However, as fate would have it, this 'calmer' residence gained even greater significance at the war's end.

On April 9, 1865, nearly four years after the first shots were fired, McLean's farm in Appomattox County, Virginia, became the site of the surrender of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee to Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. This momentous event marked the symbolic end of the Civil War. McLean's farms thus bookended the Civil War.

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### Upcoming Camp Events (updated details/reminders to follow)

04 May -proxy Camp meeting as part of the all-day Dept Encampment (Plano)

Memorial Day commemoration event, Oakwood Cemetery, Fort Worth, details to be developed and reported by Brother Todd Wilber, Graves Registration Officer

Memorial Day commemoration event in Temple/Belton, details to be developed and reported by Brother Michael Belcher, Senior Vice Commander

June Camp meeting, late in the month, details to be developed

August Camp meeting, late in the month, details to be developed



# Camp 1 Officers for 2024

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Commander             | Butch Durham   |
| Senior Vice Commander | Mike Belcher   |
| Junior Vice Commander | <i>vacant</i>  |
| Secretary             | Ky White   |
| Treasurer (pro tem)   | David Appleton, PCC  |
| Camp Council          | Paul Kendall, PCC, PDC<br>Craig Reves, PCC<br>Gene Willis, PCC |
| Patriotic Instructor  | Ky White   |
| Chaplain              | Timothy Phillips, PCC  |
| Graves Registration   | Todd Wilber  |



The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) is a fraternal organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of veteran heroes who fought and worked to save the Union in the American Civil War.

Organized in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1954, SUVCW is the legal heir and successor to the Grand Army of the Republic. <https://suvew.org/>

The Department of Texas and Louisiana, SUVCW website may be found here: <http://txsuv.org/>

