

# THE UNION INFORMER

Monthly Newsletter of the Indian Nations Camp No. 3  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

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SUVCW Brothers attending the Memorial Day ceremony at Rose Hill Cemetery in Tulsa are: Mike Rusk, PDC, Camp Cdr. Scott Preston, Clint Anderson, PDC, Joel Fallen, Kevin White, PCC, Rex Griffin, PDC, Mike Gates, and Carl Fallen, PDC.

## June Camp Meeting

Again, this month, our camp meeting will be in the Oak Room of the Hardesty Regional Library, 8316 E. 93<sup>rd</sup> Street in Tulsa. Starting time is 6:30 p.m. Our speaker will be SVC Mike Gates on the topic of Digital Imaging of the *USS Monitor*. Wear your membership badge, and bring a check to purchase a \$35 America 250 medal if you would like one, saving the shipping cost from headquarters.

## May Camp Meeting

Having secured the Oak Room for our camp meetings for June, July and August we will be meeting at the Hardesty Regional Library.

This is not a new topic, but the issue has arisen for an 'understudy' editor for *The Union Informer*. The current editor will reach age 90 before the year end, and after a lengthy run, a replacement is needed. Anyone wishing to inquire about, or assume the post, should contact the Camp

Commander. As indicated by the masthead, the publication has been a fixture of the Indian Nations Camp for almost the entire length of the camp's existence, and it would be a shame for it to lapse. Currently, Microsoft Word is the basis for the newsletter, but there are probably easier software methods for producing the newsletter, perhaps even AI. The current editor is willing to work with anyone with an interest.

Hopefully, before the year is out, we'll have a new addition to the masthead. The thought is a sketch of a Union horseman at rest being directed by a young barefoot boy pointing in the direction of the enemy: hence, The Union Informer.

Our speaker for May was Brother Mike Rusk, who as always, delivered a smooth, informative talk on "Battle Cries & The Rebel Yell." This is a topic that is open to some different interpretations, because one might imagine there were variations of battle cries, especially the Rebel Yell. One could expect that American Indian troops would certainly have some differences in the way they vocalized it. One thing is for certain: a battle cry is effective. You might remember the Korean War in which the Chinese troops blew the dreaded bugles, trumpets and whistles to signal a charge against our UN troops.

Mike concluded that the purpose of the Battle Cry is to instill fear in the enemy and at the same time to control fear in one's own troops.



Individuals attending events hosted by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, by virtue of their attendance, agree to the usage of their likeness in the Banner, any Camp or Department Newsletter, any SUCVW website and/or on any SUCVW Social Media outlet, promotional brochures, or any other SUCVW material.

## From the Camp Commander

Brothers,

I recently asked members of our Camp to contribute short articles for our newsletter. I am pleased to share a submission from Brother Kevin

Golinghorst of U.S. Grant Camp No. 68, Department of Missouri. A fellow Brother and good friend, Kevin resides in St. Louis, Missouri, and has graciously contributed the following article:

### Jefferson Barracks: St. Louis' Strategic Stronghold During the Civil War

As our nation commemorates the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026, another important bicentennial deserves recognition here in Missouri: the 200th anniversary of Jefferson Barracks. Established in 1826 and named in honor of Thomas Jefferson shortly after his death, Jefferson Barracks remains the oldest continuously operating military installation west of the Mississippi River. Today, it serves as home to the Missouri National Guard and Missouri Air National Guard, but its Civil War legacy is what makes it especially significant to students of Union history.

Before the Civil War, Jefferson Barracks worked closely with the nearby St. Louis Arsenal, serving as an important military hub for ordnance, training, and logistics. When the war erupted in 1861, control of St. Louis became critical to Missouri's future. From Jefferson Barracks, Captain (later General) Nathaniel Lyon moved to secure the St. Louis Arsenal, preventing weapons from falling into Confederate hands. His decisive action helped trigger the Camp Jackson Affair, a turning point that helped keep Missouri aligned with the Union. Lyon would later become the first Union general killed in combat at the Battle of Wilson's Creek.

Jefferson Barracks also hosted many of the war's most prominent Union leaders. Figures such as Ulysses S. Grant, William Tecumseh Sherman, and Winfield Scott Hancock all passed through this historic post during the conflict. Their presence underscores Jefferson Barracks' importance as a staging ground for Union operations in the Western Theater.

Following the Battle of Wilson's Creek, thousands of wounded soldiers streamed toward St. Louis, overwhelming existing medical facilities. Recognizing the crisis, Major General John C. Frémont issued General Order No. 159, establishing the Western Sanitary Commission to improve care for Union soldiers. Jefferson Barracks became a major hospital center due to its strategic location along the Mississippi River and

nearby rail lines, enabling the efficient movement and treatment of wounded men from battlefields across the region.

Its role did not end with caring for the living. The cemetery at Jefferson Barracks became a solemn resting place for many Civil War dead, preserving the memory of those who gave their lives to preserve the Union. Today, visitors walking its grounds encounter not only monuments and grave markers, but a powerful reminder that St. Louis was far more than a border city, it was a vital Union stronghold whose loyalty, logistics, and leadership shaped the outcome of the war in the West.

Jefferson Barracks has a special connection to our Camp Commander, Brother Preston. His 3rd great-grandfather, Pvt. Jacob Provard, is buried there. Provard served with Company K, 103rd Illinois Infantry during the Civil War, enlisting when the regiment was organized in Fulton County, Illinois, in 1862. After traveling south with his regiment for training and garrison duty in Mississippi and Tennessee, he became ill and was hospitalized in St. Louis. He died on May 15, 1863, before the 103rd Illinois saw its first major combat, and was laid to rest at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.

For members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Jefferson Barracks stands as sacred ground, a place where strategy, sacrifice, and service converged. Two centuries after its founding, it remains a living monument to the soldiers who answered the call to defend the nation.

If you would like to learn more about Jefferson Barracks, be sure to visit The History Underground on YouTube. Jefferson Barracks was featured in both the channel's very first episode and its milestone 500th episode, offering a fascinating look at its rich military history.

Scott Preston  
(918) 409-0039



The SUVCW's medal celebrating the nation's 250th Anniversary.

### America 250 Medals are Here

Treasurer Mike Rusk notifies us that the America 250 medals that he had ordered from National HQ have arrived. Mike says, "Ten were ordered for guys in our camp. I can bring them to camp meeting and anyone wanting one can write a check for \$35 to the camp."



CC Scott Preston renders a salute after placing the Camp's wreath at our GAR monument.

### Memorial Day at Rose Hill Cemetery



It was a bright, sunny day for our ceremony at our GAR monument at Rose Hill. No wind to tear at the flags in their stands and an ideal temperature for the event. Thanks to the DUVCW Tent #22, our attendance grew over previous years. Patriotic Instructor, Rex Griffin, PDC, organized the ceremony and assigned various duties to others. He was the featured speaker.



**Brother Rex Griffin, PDC, delivers his address as the principal speaker for the ceremony.**



**Brother Kevin White, PCC, drove from his home in Muscogee to honor his ancestor.**



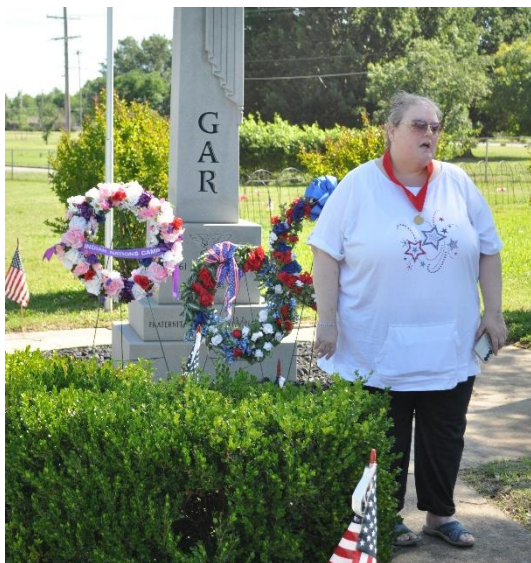
**DUVCW, Hanna Hitchcock Tent #22 members, Kathy Huber, Jae Jaeger, Kathy Rusk, and Jackie Darrah at the Rose Hill ceremony.**



**Kathy Huber, Pres. of DUVCW Chapter Hanna Hitchcock Tent #22 and Mike Rusk, PDC, read the traditional list of Union Soldiers known to be buried at Rose Hill Cemetery.**

Wreaths were presented at the GAR monument in honor of those who had served the Union in the time of its urgent need: CC Scott Preston for the Indian Nations Camp; Rex Griffin for the Sgt. Jacob Overturf Camp, and Pres. Lori Cooper for the Rachel Cormany Auxiliary #2.





Pres. Lori Cooper presented the wreath for the Rachel Cormany Auxiliary #2.



Jae Jaeger of the DUVCW Hanna Hitchcock Tent #22 holds a fist full of carnations to honor her Union ancestors.



Lana Cooper, Rachel Cormany Auxiliary, recognizes her several Union ancestors during the ceremony.



### *Camp Calendar*

- June 25 Indian Nations Camp Meeting  
Hardesty Regional Library
- July 23 Indian Nations Camp Meeting  
Hardesty Regional Library
- July 4 Independence Day  
**250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**
- July 30 – Aug. 2 National Encampment  
Gettysburg, PA
- Aug 27 Indian Nations Camp Meeting  
Hardesty Regional Library

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<http://indiannationscamp3-suvchw.weebly.com>

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