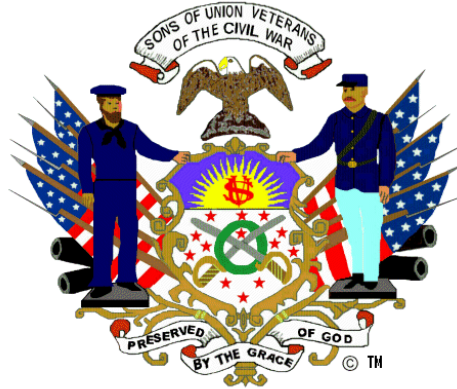




DEPARTMENT OF THE CHESAPEAKE



THE CHESAPEAKE GAZETTE

Summer, 2021



2021 National Encampment – Election of Michael Paquette, CinC

Congratulations to Chesapeake Brother Michael Paquette on his election as Commander-in-Chief! Brother Paquette was elected at the National Encampment, on 7 August 2021. He serves as the 135th Brother to hold the office of Commander-in-Chief. He entered the Order as a Charter Member of the Irish Brigade Camp #4, Department of the Chesapeake in 2000. The Department stands ready to serve and support our fellow Brother in his command.

From the Editor in Chief/Senior Vice Commander

Brian W. Horgan, DSVC

In this edition of The Gazette, we reflect back on the activities of the past few months. I am always impressed at the work we are doing throughout the region, via the Camps and at the Department level to honor “The Boys in Blue”. I am extremely proud of our efforts and I am sure you take great pride as well. Keep up the great work!

Just prior to the publishing of this edition, we learned of the passing of PCC Chuck Odell, of the Antietam Camp. I had the pleasure of serving as Department Secretary-Treasurer when the camp was re-activated those many years ago and Chuck led the way. He was a dedicated brother with eight decades of membership and service, and he was also a veteran who served our Nation. He was one-of-a-kind and shall truly be missed. My condolences to his family and Camp brothers.

There are exciting things ahead in the coming months within the Department, which include Veterans’ Day and Remembrance Day. Please send me updates regarding your activities for inclusion in the next edition.

All brothers should feel free to submit articles to the Gazette for publication. Submissions and the next quarterly reports should be consolidated at the camp level, submitted as a Word document or email, and forwarded to me at: BHorganPA@aol.com, no later than 31 December 2021. Your feedback is always appreciated.



From the Department Commander's Desk



A couple of our Brothers recently tested positive for COVID-19. Thankfully, they are recovering. This Delta Variant causes more infections and spreads faster than the earlier form of the virus, so please take precautions for you, your brothers, and your families safety and health when participating in Camp or other public activities.

All too soon, I am approaching the halfway point as Department Commander and there are still several unfinished items on my "to do list". One, not originally planned for, has been a time intensive project.

NDAA 2021 established the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorates the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America (A.K.A. the Naming Commission). The legislation requires renaming any "base, installation, street, building, facility, aircraft, plane, weapon, equipment or any other property owned or controlled by the Department of Defense." The Commission's initial focus is the nine bases owned by Department of Defense named after Confederate leaders. Four of these bases (forts Belvoir, A.P. Hill, Lee, Pickett) are located in the Department's geographical area. The Naming Commission is visiting these forts for the purpose of gathering information from the local communities. They want to hear the recommendations and concerns of these "stakeholders".

With National Order approval, the Department of the Chesapeake has engaged in a campaign to educate Commission members and other key stakeholders about Union heroes whose names should be considered for the renaming of these installations. From the collective effort of Department Brothers, four Union heroes were selected. They were carefully vetted before biographies were prepared for submission to the Commission.

My task was to carry our message. I have since met the Commission and local stakeholders at three of these installations. I explained who we are and why we have a stake in the renaming. I gave a brief history of each candidate's contributions / acts of heroism and requested that this generation of heroes, who answered their nation's call when they were needed most, not be left out when the decisions are made to rename anything named after the Confederacy.

There is no guarantee our recommendations (General Thomas, General Humphreys, Sergeant Carney, Corporal James) will become the new name for any of these bases. We may succeed in getting one of these names, or other as yet chosen names, on other assets that will be renamed. Regardless, we in the Department of the Chesapeake have stayed true to our mission, and for this we should be proud.

The Commission has set up a website for the public to submit nominations. If you wish to submit your own recommendation, you may do so by going to www.thenamingcommission.gov.

The Department of the Chesapeake is hosting a Testimonial Dinner for CinC Michael Paquette on November 6, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in Fredericksburg, VA. I hope you will join me in supporting one of our own.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Roger Leturno, DC

Commander

Department of the Chesapeake

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Special Order No. 1 October 6, 2021

Series of 2021-2022

Passing of Brother Charles Odell

1. It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Brother Charles Odell of the Antietam Camp #3, Frederick, Maryland. A noble son of a noble ancestor has fallen. As his forefather offered his life and sacred honor for the preservation of this Country in the hour of her greatest need, so Brother Odell pledged himself to the protection of the Flag of his Country and the guarantee of equal rights to all under that Flag. May our hearts be inspired anew with the spirit of his patriotism.

2. It is hereby ordered that the department website, department charter, the charters of the camps within the Department of the Chesapeake, and the membership badges of the brothers of the Department of the Chesapeake be draped in black. Brothers will attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badges.

3. This order shall remain in effect for 30 day from this date.

Ordered this 6th day of October, 2021.



Camp Updates

The “Camp Update” section shares activities of our Brother camps. These updates are intended to provide information of the various ways in which our Brothers serve to honor “the Boys in Blue”. As you read this section, you can take great pride in our collective effort as a Department.

James A. Garfield Camp #1



The Camp met on July 3, 2021, on Culp’s Hill, 3rd Maryland Infantry Monument, Gettysburg PA.

Commander Mathews led an informative talk about the Gettysburg Campaign and provided insights on the battle for Culp’s Hill that many of the members had never heard before.

Thereafter, the Camp held its business meeting. Dialogue surrounded many issues that the camp is involved in. It was decided to order grave markers for 12 unmarked USCT graves at the Historic Ellsworth Cemetery. The camp plans to hold a dedication service for those veterans’ markers that are installed in the future.

Brother Tim McCoy represented the camp at the National Encampment, in August. Brother McCoy, currently resides in Switzerland, where he is researching Swiss Union veterans who returned to their native country.

On October 16th the Camp will be holding a dedication ceremony to the last veteran, William James Lowery, Gunners Mate United States on Tilghman’s Island, MD. The camp will be honoring this veteran with a Last Veteran Marker and memorial service. Gunners Mate Lowery was buried on Tilghman’s Island, just south of Easton, MD. The camp will conduct business and the election of Officers.

Taylor-Wilson Camp # 10

Camp Commander Mark Day and his wife Barbara attended the recent National Encampment.

We have completed applications to purchase two bricks honoring our camp's namesakes, Capt. John Fleming Wilson and Major Forrester Lore Taylor, to be placed downtown at Monument Terrace amongst other local military heroes. Those bricks will be placed during the next phase of brick placements. There is a gathering of patriots that meet there weekly, and have done so continually for many years, to honor those that have served and are serving as military soldiers and sailors, first responders, etc., so this is a totally appropriate location to honor these two fine gentlemen who played important roles during the Civil War (Taylor received the MoH for gallant actions at Chancellorsville in May 1863) and afterward upon moving south and relocating in the Lynchburg area where their remains rest today. Wilson became postmaster of Lynchburg upon taking up residence here and the Lynchburg Museum still has the postal scale he used as postmaster.

We had members present in uniform at the annual city observance of Memorial Day at Monument Terrace.

The T-W Camp continues to pursue a state highway marker near the road (Memorial Avenue) designating the site of the Union POW camp in Lynchburg where E.C. Glass High school now stands. About a decade ago, we obtained a Virginia Civil War Trails marker for that site but that sits up next to the school and one has to go up on school property to view it. This new sign will sit close to the road and public sidewalk so will offer a better opportunity for passersby to read about the history of that site.

Annually, we have observed President Lincoln's birthday with a dinner and program for a number of years. We plan on continuing this tradition in 2022 and as February 12 falls on a Saturday I assume that will be the date of our observance. The Historic Avoca Museum in Altavista, VA has been mentioned as the possible venue for 2022. In the past, this event has been held at the University of Lynchburg/Lynchburg College, a historically relevant location as that ground was a prominent part of the June 1864 Battle of Lynchburg. It has also been held in historic homes, such as Locust Thicket, the site HQs of cavalry commander Alfred Duffie during the Battle of Lynchburg and other historic homes in downtown Lynchburg.

We are also moving forward with plans to observe the 200th birthday of General/President U.S. Grant in April 2022. Appomattox Court House NHP has been mentioned as a possible site for this observance. Still early on in the planning stage and this will be further discussed at our camp meeting this week on Thursday.

General Alfred T.A. Torbert Camp # 1862

The camp has maintained its membership, despite the challenges of the pandemic and has picked up a new brother, a descendant of the 88th PVI, he has a great story to tell.

At the last meeting, the camp voted to donate \$100.00 to the GAR Museum in Philadelphia, PA, the museum is relocated to another more secure area in the Philadelphia area and needed funds to make the move. So, I felt it was a good cause for the donation.

CC Pyne recently traveled to Federalsburg, MD and visited the Hill Crest Cemetery. The cemetery has a GAR statue which is very impressive, worth a trip over. Thank you to Brother Eaton for the heads up. Brother Gumz found a GAR memorial in Harve de Grace, MD, Angel Hill Cemetery, have not made it up there yet.

The camp is planning a trip to Gettysburg Battlefield in October. Brother Warren has volunteered with his buddy, to give a walking tour of the route that his ancestor made during the battle. I don't have all the details yet and will pass them along as I get them. I am looking forward to it, I believe one of my Confederate ancestors was on the receiving in of the 88th PVI volleys near Oak Hill.



Army of the James Camp # 1864



The camp, under the leadership of CC Howard Bartholf, has worked with the City of Richmond to clean up this site.

The marker is at the site of Libby Prison here in Richmond, VA at S 20th and East Cary Streets.

The original marker was commissioned in 1911 and put up on the site. In September 1993 the marker was rededicated and an additional plaque installed by the Sons of Confederate and Sons of Union Veterans.

Additional Camp Notes

Appomattox Camp #2 – Will be hosting its first in-person meeting, in 18 months, on 28 October 2021.

Taylor-Wilson Camp # 10 – Shall be starting their flagging efforts for the upcoming Veterans' Day observance.

Sgt. James H. Harris Camp #38 – The camp is busy with recruitment, creating a Facebook page, community engagement, and preservation efforts.

Col. James D. Brady Camp #63 – Commander Ahlgren is sending out correspondences to all camp commanders entitled, "The Week that Was" highlighting corresponding events of the week from the Civil War.

Upcoming Events

This section of The Chesapeake Gazette is dedicated to upcoming activities within the Department and sponsored by the Camps. Camp commanders and SVCs, please submit your calendar of events for the next quarter with your quarterly report for inclusion here. In addition, you can send your updates to Department Signals Officer Mark Day, PCinC at: OSCMBB64@msn.com, for inclusion on the Department webpage.

160th Anniversary of the 1st Ball's Bluff... 21 October

23 October....Join the Friends of Ball's Bluff at the Ball's Bluff Regional Park just North of Leesburg, VA for a day of events commemorating the 160th Anniversary of the Battle of Ball's Bluff.

11:00 - Guided Interpretive Battlefield Tour

12:00 - Skirmishes between Union and Confederate reenactor units

1:00 - A concert from GMU's Civil War Band

2:00 - Cannon firing demonstration

Sundown, 7:00 PM - Lighting of luminaria and a Cemetery Ceremony
(Location: Near cemetery)

Veterans' Day... 11 November

Tomb 100

<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Portals/0/Docs/Events/TUS100%20Toolkit%20SEPT24.pdf?ver=2021-09-29-192829-127>

Remembrance Day... 20 November... Gettysburg, PA



2021-2022 Department of the Chesapeake Officers

Commander - Roger Leturno, DC

Senior Vice Commander - Brian Horgan, DSVC

Junior Vice Commander - Tommy Chapman, DJVC

Secretary-Treasurer – D. Michael Beard, PDC

Council - Faron Taylor, PDC, Jay Rarick, PDC, Timothy McCoy, PDC

Chief of Staff – Timothy Alghrim, CC

Patriotic Instructor – Andrew Johnson, PCC

Chaplain - Dr. Clifton Potter, PCC

Signals Officer - Mark Day, PCinC

Assistant Treasurer - Larry Vance

ROTC Coordinator - Roger Leturno, DC

Eagle Scout Coordinator - Robert Stine, PCC

Graves Registration - Steve Hammond, PDC

Guide and Guard – Howard Bartholf, CC

Color Bearer - Robert Heath, PCC

