

A Little History on Camp 21

Major William McKinley Camp No. 21 Sons of the Veterans, was mustered in Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio, in October of 1901, under the administration of Division Commander Colonel H.V. Speelman.

The first officers of the Camp were: Commander, W.T. Shrieve; Secretary, C.W. Henderly; Treasurer, M.A. Hunter; Council, H.R. Roley, B.L. Cave, and L.G. Silbaugh.

The present officers are: Commander, Bill Ficher; Secretary, Dan Starkey; Treasurer, Dan Starkey.

In 1905 and 1906 the headquarters of the Ohio Division were located in Lancaster, and W.T. Shrieve was the commander, H.R. Roley the secretary, and M.A. Hunter the treasurer of the division. Ever since the camp has been mustered in it has been one of the active patriotic fraternities of the city and county. The following members have served as commanders of the camp. W.T. Shrieve, H.R. Roley, Otto H. Minich, William Fishbaugh, Van M. Denton, M. A. Hunter, J.H. Reeves and Chase Fishbaugh.

The following are the principles and objects of the Sons of the Veterans:

Founded upon a trust in Almighty God, with a realization that under His beneficent guidance the free institutions of our land, consecrated by the services and blood of our fathers, have been preserved, and upon a true allegiance to the government of the United States of American, pledging fidelity to law and order, this society declares it objects to be:

First—To perpetuate the sacrifices of our father and their

services for the maintenance of the Union.

Second—To inculcate patriotism, to teach truthful history, and to spread and sustain the doctrine of equal rights, universal liberty and justice to all.

Third—To help members of the Grand Army of the Republic and all honorably discharged Union soldiers, sailors and marines, to extend aid and protection to their widows and orphans, and to honor the memories of their heroic dead through historical exercises and the proper observance of Memorial Day and Union Defenders' Day.

Fourth—To aid and assist worthy and needy members of our Order.

Regular Meeting of
William McKinley Camp #21 SUVCW
18th September 2007-10-02

The September meeting of the William McKinley Camp #21, Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by substitute commander (Sir Vice) Jeremy Grant of Brother Donald Lee Grant Sr. gave the divine blessing. Brother Jeremy Grant led every one in the pledge of allegiance. Brother Jeremy Grant declared William McKinley Camp #21 duly open.

Old Business

Missing Flag holders at the Forest Rose Cemetary (Open)
Also Grave registration (Open)

Our Project

Our camp has decided to all meet at Forest Rose Cemetary on Saturday October 20th 2007 to reset 5 Civil War markers they are as follows:

- 1) W.M. Caldwell
- 2) J.R. Willson
- 3) Eora Zellers
- 4) H. Wilkenson
- 5) Albert Q. Biffin

If you would like to come and help contact the Sir Vice Commander (740) 215-3471 or send an email jeremy_battery_i@yahoo.com.

History on the Cohorn Mortor

There were several different styles of Civil War mortors, mostly differentiated by their size, mounting, and missions. The smallest was known as the Cohorn mortor, after the 16th century Dutch engineer Baron Van Cohorn, who was the person who designed it. Four men could move one a short distance from its carriage wagon. The Cohorn Mortor weighs in at between 50 and 150 pounds, they were usually mounted on a wooden box. Cohorn mortor normally came in two sizes, 12-pounder and 24-pounder. Both the North and South used mortors extensively. Unfortunately for the South their inventory depended on what they could capture from the Federals. The mortors played a great role in the Union victory in the Civil War, one the is rarely noticed or appreciated.

Civil War Trivia

- 1) Jefferson Davis regarded what site in his home state of "the Gibraltar of the West"?
- 2) What city held the only gas works of the Confederacy capable of inflating observation balloons?
- 3) Mayre's Height, an important strategic site, was near what town?
- 4) What northern states were invaded by Robert E. Lee as the head of the Army of Northern Virginia?
- 5) Who refused to use pepper on his food, saying it gave him pains in his left leg?
- 6) What West Pointer, twenty-first of thirty-nine in the class of 1843, was a better than passable artist, specializing in horses?
- 7) What two future U.S. Presidents served in the Twenty-third Ohio?
- 8) When two or more pieces of field artillery moved frequently and rapidly a long battle line, what were they called?
- 9) What poetic-sounding name was given to the battle of Lookout Mountain?
- 10) What was the smallest shell thrown by a gun named for inventor Robert R. Parrot?

Camp Calendar

September

28th Friday 2007—Athens for Heritage Festival

5,6,7th—Robbers Crossing

20th of Saturday—Resetting the Civil War tombstones

Next meeting will be October 16, 2007 at Presbyterian Church in Lancaster, Ohio. Contact Commander Fischer or Sec./Treas. Dan Starkey for directions.

Trivia Answers

- 1) Vicksburg, Mississippi
- 2) Richmond, Virginia
- 3) Frederick, Virginia
- 4) Maryland and Pennsylvania
- 5) Lt. Gen. Thomas J. ("Stonewall") Jackson
- 6) U.S. Grant
- 7) Brev. Major William McKinley and Brev. Major General Rutherford B. Hayes
- 8) A flying battery
- 9) Battle above the clouds
- 10) Ten inches