

# John A. Logan Camp #26 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



## Camp Minutes Meeting at Memorial Hall April 7, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Com. Carter at 7:05 pm. 13 members present: Steve Aarli, Robert Buerger, Jr., Greg Carter, Leonard Cassaro, Terry Dyer, Raymond Empeur, Stephen Haight, Bill Johnson, Jim Lyon, Jon, McGinty, Tom Oestricher, John Wade, and Paul Zeien.

Three guest(s):

- John Allen, Allen's Laurel Hill Sutlery
- Don Purn, McHenry County Civil War Roundtable
- Ed Urban, McHenry County Civil War Roundtable

Bro. Dyer led the group with the opening prayer.

### Officers Reports:

Secretary: The Minutes for March 3rd meeting were approved as presented. Bro. Robert Buerger Jr. motioned to accept, Bro. Empeur 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Treasurer: We have a balance of \$1,031.30 in the account.

Description	Balance
Balance as of 3/3/2010	895.30
Dues In	136.00
G. Carter, R. Buerger Jr, J. McGinty	
Balance as of 4/7/2010	1,031.30

Bro. Empeur motioned to approve the Treasurer report as presented. Bro. Wade 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Comm. Carter expressed concern over the fact that there are remaining members that have still not paid their membership dues. If the members fail to pay their dues proceedings will begin for removal from the roster. Bro. Aarli requested that after 30

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additional days a reminder phone call be made to each member with outstanding dues as a reminder. Bro. Johnson stated that he had mailed a letter to each member.

#### **Old Business:**

**Technology:** Bro. Zeien reported that he has created a Last Civil War Veteran page that will list by county the last veteran and any picture and biography as they are provided. He also stated that he has the name tag template complete for the Department Encampment as well as a program started. He will be finalizing both of those items with Comm. Carter. Bro. Dyer has requested that Bro. Zeien create the picture for the front of the program for the National Encampment. He will photoshop the picture and present it to the members at the next meeting.

**Recognition.** Bro. Oestricher reports that he has received 6 additional Eagle Scout award requests following the last meeting and he will have an additional 6 more soon. When complete that will put the total count to 172 Eagle Scout Awards presented. Bro. Oestricher has been notified that one Boy Scout council has sent out over 100 certificates which is more than has been issued for the entire state. He believes that these were not filled out just sent out to units. He is investigating. He also notes that there are some camps that have not issued any Eagle certificates.

Thanks to Bro. Oestricher's daughter for making the members black drape ribbons for the membership badges. We are under orders to drape our membership badges for 30 days in recognition of the passing of Bro. Bill Kooser.

Bro. Oestricher sent via a pastor and friend of Real Son George Cox of Shawnee, OK an Army of the Tennessee Medal. Bro. Cox's father was a member of the 127<sup>th</sup> IL Infantry. He sent Bro. Oestricher a letter expressing his appreciation of receiving the medal.

The Virginia Governor McDonnell, issues proclamation stating that April is now to be Confederate History Month. There was no mention of slavery in the proclamation and he has since apologized for that. This was a previously defeated initiative by the previous Democratic governor. Read the whole story at: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/04/07/AR2010040705100.html>

**Graves registration.** Com. Carter requested that the membership prepare to be present at the headstone dedication ceremony for Lt. Col. Smith on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am prior to the Spring Encampment meeting. Bro. Aarli is coordinating this effort along with coordinating the Masonic Lodges ceremony. Bro. Cassaro's GAR star will be placed at the grave of Private Mosher during the May 8<sup>th</sup> cemetery visit. Bro. Aarli stated that he still has plenty of grave registration packets that could be given out. Comm. Carter and Bro. Empereur turned in grave registration packets and received replacements.

**Education.** Com. Carter stated that the Memorial University awards will be presented to the graduates at the Spring Encampment. The awards are being sent to Comm. Westlake.

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***Investment of Members.*** Jim Lyon, John Wade, Geoff Carter, Stephen Haight, and David Eisele will be sworn in properly during the May encampment in Rockford. Ongoing.

***Monument Project.*** Com. Carter reports that he has been informed of a cemetery close to Richmond Illinois with veterans memorials. Comm. Carter is planning on completing the additional cemetery in time for the encampment.

***Recruiting.*** Ongoing initiative.

***State Encampment.*** Ongoing - Rockford will host the spring encampment of the Department of Illinois on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. Com. Carter has requested that all members be present at Memorial Hall at 9:00 am for setup and preparation prior to attending the headstone dedication ceremonies. All members that will be attending the Spring Encampment have been requested to attend the April meeting for final instructions and preparations. Bro. Dyer's wife has already begun preparing the food for the event. Bro. Aarli will contact all media outlets for possible coverage of the event. Bro. Haight will check to see if he can get Channel 17 to the event. The last time a National Officer attended a local camp function in Rockford was 1927 and we will have the National Vice Commander present for the event. Bro. Dyer has been checking with the Governor's staff to see if Gov. Quinn will be attending the event. It is on his calendar. No commitment will be made prior to 2 weeks of the event. Mayor Morrissey could possibly attend. Mayor Morrissey will also be presenting our camp with a Rockford Zouave Proclamation. Bro. Dyer is leading this project. It has been requested that our camp perform a flag retirement ceremony at the Stephenson gravesite. Bro. Lyon will attempt to obtain a sample ceremony from the VFW. Bro. Zeien has forwarded a copy of the SUVCW's flag retirement ceremony to Bro. Lyon and Comm. Carter. Bro. Lyon and Bro. Oestricher are selected by Comm. Carter to retire the old flag as well as raise the new flag at the event.

***National Encampment.*** Ongoing Bro. Dyer has last year's submission following the photoshop project of Bro. Zeien will get presented to the members in the May meeting for review.

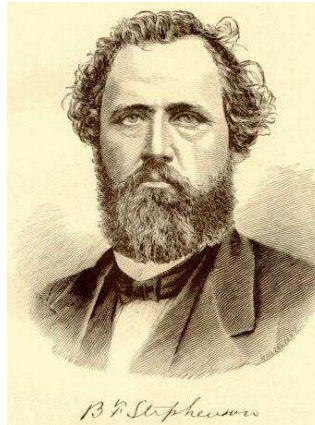
#### **New Business:**

Comm. Carter has requested that the weekend of April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> be set aside for work beginning on the Amboy cannon. Bring sandpaper, battery tools, etc.

Patriotic Instructor, Bro. Empereur presented to the camp membership a story about a Dr. Benjamin Stephenson in honor of Grand Army Day, April 6th.

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Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson, founder of the Grand Army of the Republic and provisional commander-in-chief, April 6, 1866 to November 21, 1866. Born in Wayne County, Ill, October 3, 1823, his father being a native of South Carolina and his mother a native of North Carolina. When he was about 3 years of age the family moved to Sagamon County.

Read More: [GAR--Commander-in-Chief Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson](#)

Bro. McGinty recognized Bro. Empereur for his book that he has written and published. *Creating Your Legacy: A Do-it-Yourself Guide for Baby Boomers*. Visit his website [www.boomerlifestory.com](http://www.boomerlifestory.com) we are sure if you asked, Bro. Empereur would be willing to sign your copy.

Comm. Carter reported that for Memorial Day Logan Camp #26 has been invited to the John A. Logan home to participate in a wreath laying ceremony and for a luncheon.. Names were taken as possible attendees and Comm. Carter will notify the Logan Home administrators. They will send participants tickets and such for the events. The camp has also been invited to participate in the Pecatonica Memorial Day Parade. Com. Carter would like to see the camp participate in both events and we will discuss who can go to what event at the April meeting. The camp has also been asked to participate in the Winnebago 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. Bro. Zeien reported that the Winnebago Veterans Administration is planning on having a Memorial Day parade. Comm. Carter will be attending the festivities in Murphysboro at the Logan Museum and has asked Bro. Aarli to coordinate any participation in local Memorial Day activities.

Comm. Carter announced that for the Department Encampment voting delegates would have to be named to represent the camp. Bro. Dyer and Comm. Carter were defaults and three positions needed to be filled. Bro. Johnson, Bro. Zeien, and Bro. Aarli have been selected to fill those positions. Following the May meeting the delegates will be meeting with Comm. Carter to discuss platform and positions.

Bro. Dyer has been asked to create a display at the Soldiers home in Milwaukee WI. The display will be available for viewing at the Reclaiming Our Heritage event. This is the second time that Bro. Dyer has been asked to create this display.

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Bro. Haight announced to the members that the Kenosha Historical Society will be presenting a very nice program the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in June. Comm. Carter had a few brochures outlining the event.

Upon hearing no additional business Comm. Carter moved to adjourn the meeting.

Bro. Dyer conducted the closing prayer.

Com. Carter formally closed the meeting according to protocol.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul T. Zeien Jr.  
Secretary / Signals Officer