

# CAMP ANDERSON WAR-CRY

## XIV No 2

41<sup>st</sup> Virginia, 2<sup>nd</sup> Company E  
May 25, 2004

### VA Event and Wauconda Decision Looms!

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Greetings:

Our first event at Dousman Inn is now history. We had eleven of our members participate in an event that benefited the Elmbrook Historical Society. On the up-side, while the inn's guests were present we did a great deal of living history (note images) and garnered some good spectator interest. Our own first-person impressions were good. On the down-side, we did have to tolerate other re-enactors that we'll just describe as, well, "Historically Challenged". This is always somewhat of a distraction, but rather than concentrate on those individuals and units not under our control, we should always take a good look at what we are doing and improving our own work. Let's also remember that the Dousman Inn event, like the VA Center and Old Falls Village events help raise funds to protect important historical sites.

Your humble servant, Terrence Lemke

### **BIG NEWS:**

It is time to make a decision on the Wauconda, IL event. The unit registration is due the 1<sup>st</sup> of June, and as of yet I do not know of anyone who has registered on our web site or sent an e-mail saying they were interested. As you may recall, at our December



meeting we voted to attend the Wauconda, IL event. Unfortunately, the August date we had for that event was wrong. The Lakewood Forest Preserve event in Wauconda, IL is set for July 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. The Old Falls Village event is scheduled for the following weekend. I would really like to hear from the members as to what they would like to do and participate in.

Don't forget, the event registration and event information that I have received is posted on the web under the Event Calendar. Available information for each event has been added including, map, description, dates, and a registration form.

### **VA CENTER EVENT:**

The VA center event for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of June is quickly approaching. This event is held at the VA medical center which is located in Milwaukee. The center has a cemetery and several historic buildings, some of which were constructed to service Civil War Veterans, and is still a working VA Center. We are welcome to come and setup camp on Friday. There is a school presentation on Friday for which the center is still looking for volunteer participants. Anyone interested should contact Laura M. Rinaldi, [Laura.Rinaldi@med.va.gov](mailto:Laura.Rinaldi@med.va.gov). Some of the events which have been planned are as follows: Parade March, Candle Light Cemetery Tours, Skirmish, Shooting demonstrations, Medical displays, and living history encampments. US veterans from several wars will be represented and this should be a good event for living history as well as visiting a special historic site. Guards and tour guides for the twilight Cemetery tour are still being sought. I am told that there are one or two confederate dead located in the Cemetery. At least one breakfast and dinner will be provided and firewood and straw will be supplied. I look forward to seeing you there. Please check the web site for updates as this information will be posted when received.

### **Lake County Discovery Museum, Wauconda IL**

July 9<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup>: Registration will be opening Friday from 3 to 10 pm and again at 7 am the following morning. A tactical battle will be offered in the morning followed by drill and an afternoon skirmish. A Reenactors Dinner and Twilight Tours and Twilight Artillery Demonstrations will follow the skirmish. A Dance will cap the evening off. On Sunday the event will close at 4 PM. I need to hear from anyone interested in going by the 28<sup>th</sup> of May as I intend to send in the registration form on Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup>. Registrations received after June 1<sup>st</sup> will be subject to a \$5.00 registration fee. We really need to know who is going to this event.

### **Paymaster's Report:**

As of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004 the balance in our account was \$219.16. Since that time dues of \$75.00 have been deposited and expenses for rations of \$48.86 have been disbursed. The current balance of the coffers as of May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004, is a total of \$245.30.

The following have been recorded as having paid dues.

ANDY ACKERT	NANCY TROXEL
MARC REED	JIM SCHUMANN

JOHN FRITZE  
TERRY LEMKE  
BRAD BODA  
MIKE RUSSEL  
KEVIN WEINSHROTT

JOHN VAN BECKUM  
KEN & BETH SOCH  
DAVID BUSHMOLE  
KENT AND ZACH COCKROFT

Thanks to those who have paid. For those waiting to pay, please wait no longer. Send your dues check to the following address:

Terrence Lemke  
528 Willow Drive  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

### **Events:**

May 1,2	Dousman Inn, Elmbrook Historical Society - Brookfield, WI
June 5,6	VA Administration, Milwaukee, WI - Company
June 11,13	Galloway House & Village (3rd Wisconsin) - Informational
June 26,27	Boltonville Sesquicentennial, WI - Company
July 10,11	Wauconda, IL NEW DATE! - Company
July 17,18	Old Falls Village, Menominee Falls, WI - Company
Aug 7,8	Boscobel, WI - Alternate
Aug 14,15	Green Bay RR Museum, WI - Alternate
Sept 11,12	Lockport, IL - Alternate
Sept 25,26	Wade House, WI - Company
Oct 1,2	Spring Hill - Alternate
Oct 9,10	Coon Valley, WI - Company

### **Good of the Order:**

Confederate Rest (Continued.) By Terrence J. Lemke

Jim Schumann and Terry Lemke, along with Bill Weinshrott (father of Kevin Weinshrott of our company) took a small trip to Madison, Wisconsin on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Our main goal was to visit the Confederate Rest Cemetery located within the Forest Hill Cemetery and the 139 confederate dead buried there. The men died as prisoners of war while held at Camp Randall in Madison. Most had been captured in and around Island No. 10 when it fell on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1862. During the short months of April, May and June, 1862, almost 140 died of exposure, disease, and mistreatment.



The Confederate Rest Web site (see sources below) has the history of several of the men resting here. Bill, Jim and I searched for each one of these men and read the history provided. All three of us were impressed with the fact that most of the men died of disease or wounds. There was one man however, that was murdered!

On the morning of May 16<sup>th</sup>, 1862, Private G.W. Spears, along with a few other prisoners came to the aid of Spears' brother, H.W. Spears. H.W. was attempting to relieve himself in what the guards claimed was an "Unauthorized Sink" when the group must have been challenged. G.W. is reported to have yelled, "You Damned Sons of a Bitches!" at the guard. According to the records, this is when a guard of the 19<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin by the name of Clarence Wicks shot and killed G.W. Spears. A subsequent Court of Inquiry was held and the 17 year old guard was presumably not charged as no mention of his conviction is listed. Lt Col. W. Hoffman, the Commissary General of Prisoners reported that camp Randall was a sorry place and he was not pleased with the shooting.

Forest Hill Cemetery also contains a Union Rest section. Our tour included a close examination of these graves as well. One thing that was immediately obvious to us was



that the shape of the head-stones between these two sections was markedly different. The Union graves were all marked with the familiar round-topped marker seen on all Union Veteran graves of this time period. The Confederate graves were marked with pointed top headstones. A little research on my part failed to turn up any "official" reason for this difference. It is known that the government/military did specify exactly what Union headstones were to look like and even had regulations as to what was to be used based upon branch of service. Some die-hard Union men claimed that because the Rebels were traitors that they would not go to heaven. Indeed some cemeteries even went to the extent of having the Confederate dead buried near the back on "unhallowed"

ground. The point at the top was said to, "point up to heaven, to the place Confederates can never go." More likely the difference was simply a way to tell the two apart. One southern man sited a reason that is as likely as any. When a northern man, visiting a southern cemetery asked this very question, his reply was simple enough, "That's so you Yankees can't come down here and sit on them!"

Sources:

[http://www.geocities.com/ad4os/WI\\_DIV\\_SCV/Confederate\\_Rest/index.html](http://www.geocities.com/ad4os/WI_DIV_SCV/Confederate_Rest/index.html)

<http://www.scgenealogy.com>

<http://www.record-eagle.com/1999/may/29sons.htm>

Images: Page 1, Zach Cockroft – the Kid magnet. Jim Schumann demonstrates to 'taters. Page 3, Headstone of Corporal G.W. Spears, Co B, of the 1<sup>st</sup>, Alabama, Tennessee and Mississippi Regiment. Page 4, Head stone showing "round-top" of Union Grave. William A. Fairman, Co A of the 7<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Volunteers.