



Sons Of Union Veterans Of The Civil War Colonel John C. Bryner Camp 67 Department Of Illinois

The monthly meeting of the Colonel John C. Bryner Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Camp 67 of Peoria, Illinois opened on Monday, **December 11, 2006** at 7:15 PM at the GAR Hall with SVC Dace presiding in the absence of Commander Wachtveitl. Chaplain Pletkovich performed the invocation. Those members in attendance were as follows:

Brothers: Jon Lickey John Dace Dave Rogers Tim Pletkovich
 Joe Hutchinson Lionel Kinney Rick Powers

Secretary's Report: Camp secretary, Joe Hutchinson, read the minutes of the November meeting. Brother Lickey made a motion to approve the minutes. Brother Powers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Kinney reported the balance of the Camp's account. Deposits consisted of payments from Brothers White, Huber and Triplett for membership materials and Brothers Dace and Kinney's dues for 2007. Brother Hutchinson made a motion to approve the treasurer's report with Brother Rogers seconding the motion. The motion was approved.

The membership stands at 27 with six being "Real Sons", seventeen regulars, and four associates.

Sickness and Distress: Brother Lickey reported that his wife would receive knee replacement surgery on January 16.

Committee Reports: Brother Hutchinson reported that he is continuing the work on getting the graves registration database ready to forward to the National grave registration officer and hopes to have it sent in January.

Communications: Brother Lickey read portions of several E-mails forwarded from National C in C Pahl regarding holding multiple offices within the Sons. C in C Pahl had made a ruling limiting brothers from holding more than one elective office in any level of the organization. This meant that a brother could not hold, for example, an elected office in a Camp at the same time as an office in the Department nor could a brother hold two elected offices in the same level. C in C Pahl made this ruling to prevent conflicts of interest and ethics issues. After much communication from the membership, most were from members taking issue with the ruling on the grounds that it was sometimes necessary to hold multiple offices to help start new Camps and to accomplish the work that needed to be done in smaller Camps, C in C Pahl rescinded his order until the issue could be fully debated at the 126th National Encampment.

Brother Lickey stated that we in Camp 67 and also in the Department of Illinois would have been in violation of the order had it remained. Had it not changed, the ruling would have meant that resignations would have been necessary and many positions would have been unfilled throughout the Camps and Departments due to the lack of candidates.

Brother Lickey also stated that C in C Pahl is planning to attend our year-end Department Encampment in May 2007.

Old Business: Brother Hutchinson stated that his wife Linda wanted a supply of postcards to sell to Peoria Public Library patrons that she deals with who have an interest in history. Brother Lickey questioned if the Camp could have a display at the library, but Brother Hutchinson did not think so. Brother Rogers stated that the Peoria Historical Society may be receptive to having a display at the museum house gift shop and that he would check on it.

Brother Hutchinson requested the remainder of the stock of candles that the Camp had on hand to sell at work. Brother Lickey reminded everyone that his daughter has a Christmas collection of scents for the holidays.

Brother Pletkovich brought copies of his book, *Civil War Fathers* for those who had ordered copies. Copies may be obtained directly from Brother Pletkovich at a price of \$24.95. **His new address is 1601 W. Coneflower Dr., Apt 4108, Peoria, IL 61615. Phone: 309-243-8187.**

Officer Elections: Brother Pletkovich noticed an error in the slate listed in last month's mailing. He stated that Council #2; John Whitman's tenure was not up yet. He stated that Fritz Upham was listed to temporarily fill the opening caused by the death last year of Brother Gene Mallory. There had been confusion in filling out Form 22 last year as to who was filling the office for how long. He stated that John Whitman should have been listed as the permanent replacement.

Brother Pletkovich also regretfully informed the Camp that due to his increased workload and his inability to fulfill his duty as Chaplain in the way he would like, that he was removing his name from the slate. Brother Powers nominated Brother Wachtveitl to be Chaplain, which was seconded by Brother Lickey.

Officer candidates are as follows: Commander-John Dace, SVC-Joe Hutchinson, JVC-Larry Wachtveitl, Treasurer-Lionel Kinney, Secretary-Joe Hutchinson, Chaplain-Larry Wachtveitl, Guide-Bill White, Color Bearer-Dave Rogers, Patriotic Instructor-Rick Powers, Council 1-Jon Lickey, Council 2-John Whitman, Council 3-Jeff Givens, Historian-Jim Shea, Graves Officer-Joe Hutchinson, Monument Officer-John Dace, Eagle Scout Coordinator-Jon Lickey, ROTC Officer-John Hemingway.

The members present voted the slate in unanimously.

New Business: Brother Hutchinson reported that his wife has been in contact with Abel Vault and Monument in Pekin about the availability and cost of a replacement statue to be placed on the pedestal in the center of Soldiers Hill in Springdale Cemetery in Peoria. Abel Vault is willing to acquire a statue constructed of white granite from their supplier at cost. The supplier is in Georgia, but the piece will be carved in China with the granite coming from India. They require good photographs that can be worked from. The estimated cost is between \$6000 and \$7000 for the statue not including shipping and site work that will be needed. Approximately \$10,000 to \$12,000 will need to be raised.

Brother Hutchinson said that his wife has been in contact with several groups interested in assisting with the project. He states that Pat Lewis, the cemetery manager has an anonymous donation for \$2500 and that the Soldiers Hill Volunteers who help maintain the section may be willing to match the amount. Brother Hutchinson said that he would be applying for the \$500 Memorials Grant from National and that if acquired; the Department would match it. Brother Hutchinson also stated that his wife has been in contact with the Peoria Historical Society to determine their interest and will be in contact with the Springdale Historic Preservation Foundation as well as others.

Brother Hutchinson said that he is issuing a challenge to the membership of Camp 67 stating that the total contributions of the Camp 67 membership up to a maximum of \$500 will be matched.

Dues Notice: Brother Hutchinson reported that National wanted the paperwork submitted in a more timely fashion. He said that he would like all dues in by **February 1, 2007** instead of March 1, so that all paperwork could be submitted to Department Secretary Clark by Feb. 15 to give him ample time to submit the Department paperwork.

For the Good of the Order: Brother Dace stated that he would like the Camp to set some goals for the coming year and that he is looking to the membership for ideas. One item he would like to see accomplished is the restoration of the remaining altars. Brother Hutchinson stated that he would like the Camp to take a more active roll in helping the CILF and the Friends of the GAR finish the restoration of the Hall before its 100th anniversary in 2009.

Brother Pletkovich performed the benediction and the meeting was closed at 8:22 PM.

*****The next meeting will take place at the GAR Hall on February 12 at 7:00 PM.*****

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Hutchinson
Senior Vice-Commander
Secretary, Camp 67

Brother Joe Hutchinson will present a program during the February 12 meeting about Peorian, and member of the 77th Illinois Infantry Robert H. Avery entitled:
**Robert Avery, From Andersonville
To
Industrial Giant**