



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, **October 08, 2007** at 7:12 PM at the GAR Hall. Chaplain Wachtveitl performed the invocation followed by the Pledge. Those members in attendance were as follows:

Brothers: Jon Lickey John Dace Dave Rogers Mike Triplett
 Joe Hutchinson Lionel Kinney Larry Wachtveitl

Joe's wife, Linda Aylward was also present.

Secretary's Report: Camp secretary, Joe Hutchinson, read the minutes of the September meeting. He noted that there was a correction added to notify the membership that the bill to allow veterans not in uniform to salute the flag had not passed yet as had been previously reported. Brother Kinney made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Brother Wachtveitl seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Kinney reported that the balance of the Camp's account. He said that a check was issued to Brother Hutchinson to acquire two flags and poles to be placed on Colonels Thrush and Bryner's graves. He also stated that he had not deposited the money from last month's postcard sales as he was waiting to see if there would be any more to add to it. 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 Hutchinson stated that he expected to be released by his doctor after his next appointment. Brother Mike Triplett said he would be off work for at least two more weeks. Brother Dace notified the group that Brother Canterbury's son had finished military training and is being sent to Iraq.

Committee Reports: Brother Hutchinson reported that the flags had been placed on the Thrush and Bryner graves. He said he was able to construct better poles out of common materials cheaper than the store-bought poles. He also said that they are well anchored to hopefully prevent their being easily stolen.



Colonel Thrush



Colonel Bryner

Brother Hutchinson then had his wife Linda take the floor to inform the body of the progress for the replacement of the statue at Springdale Cemetery. She reported that Abel Vault and Monument Co. had called the cemetery September 20 informing them that the statue had arrived. It was delivered to the cemetery on September 26 and was uncrated by Rich Murray of Rich Murray Granite. Mr. Murray had volunteered his services in setting the statue. It was decided to place the statue as soon as possible while the weather was cooperative and the people were available to do the work.

The statue was placed back on its pedestal on October 4 with Vietnam Veteran, Corporal Bruce Brown as honor guard. The soldier faces east, as the original did, with his back is to the road. He is constructed using light colored granite that should last many years, in contrast to the original's marble that weathered terribly before vandals pulled him down.

The press was not invited to the setting to avoid the focus of the project from being on the people doing the work instead of the soldier and what he represents. Over the past year there has been major controversy among the various entities that operate the cemetery regarding the status of artist Nita Sunderland at the cemetery. The project came in well under budget due to the donated labor and materials of several businesses. She reports that after the last of the bills are in that there should be money left, enough to purchase a granite bench or improved landscaping. There will be a formal dedication ceremony on Memorial Day weekend 2008.



Uncrating the soldier.



Hoisting the soldier into place.



Saluting the return.



Silhouette against the morning sky.



The soldier returns.

Old Business: Brother Lickey said that a firm time has not been decided yet for the rededication ceremony to take place on Veterans Day, November 11, in McComb for the Sumter gravestone. He is still trying to contact members of the Chicago camps who expressed interest at the Dept. Encampment last May. He said he would contact the Brothers when he had the information.

Commander Dace handed prospective brother Jim Carrow's application paperwork to JVC Wachtveitl to be duplicated. A vote on his application will be at an upcoming meeting.

Brother Rogers has information that the Veterans Day parade will be on November 11 and that the route will be starting from Hancock Street and traveling down Monroe to Main to the Courthouse. Participants are to assemble at 9:30.

Brother Lickey said that raffle tickets that he received at the National encampment could not be sold in Peoria. The raffle would have to take place in Peoria County and be for the benefit of entities of Peoria County. However, since the intent was to sell tickets at the gun show that is held in East Peoria, he contacted Tazewell County and discovered that they have no such restriction. He requested that Commander Dace find out the date in November when the sale is to be and whether booth space must be purchased. He also would like someone to assist during the sale. Brother Lickey stated that the Camp gets to keep fifty percent of the purchase price and would receive an additional bonus if we sold the winning ticket. Brother Hutchinson made a motion to authorize the Camp to spend up to \$25.00 to rent a space at the gun show if necessary. Brother Lickey seconded. The measure was approved.

New Business: Brother Hutchinson asked when the Midyear Dept Encampment was to be held and what the arrangements were. Brother Lickey said that the date was October 27, but he had no other information as to the lunch arrangements. He said he would find out and notify the brothers individually. Brother Hutchinson said that he needed to make the Camp report out and that he was not sure if he was going. Brother Lickey said that he wanted to take postcards to sell at the Encampment.

For the Good of the Order: Brother Kinney reported that Brother Tim Pletkovich was married on October 6 to Melissa Beth Williams. Brother Rogers said that he would get a card to send congratulating the couple.

Brother Kinney said that he had not had time to listen to a tape of an interview his wife had made several years ago with local historian and early member of the CILF, Ed Coltrain.

Brother Hutchinson's wife reported that the upcoming Veterans Day program at Springdale Cemetery would be featuring a segment on Navy pioneer aviator Frank "Spig" Wead, a Peoria native who was instrumental in furthering the Navy's aviation program after WW I. He was also a prolific writer on aviation topics and became a screenwriter after an accident that partially paralyzed him. He was reinstated to active duty in WW II and helped create the air tactics that defeated the Japanese in the Pacific. This is the sixtieth anniversary of his death in 1947. Commander Dace said that his father was a good friend of Commander Wead's brother David.

Brother Lickey performed the benediction due to Chaplain Wachtveitl feeling ill and leaving early. The meeting was closed at 8:43 PM.

*****The next meeting will take place at the GAR Hall on December 10 at 7:00 PM.*****

Respectfully submitted,

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

Please Note: Officer elections for 2008 will be coming up at the December meeting. Be sure to vote. Please contact Secretary Hutchinson if you would like to help the Camp by filling one of the positions. The Camp needs your support.