



Major William A. McTeer Camp No. 39

Department of Tennessee

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

MINUTES – ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT – 13 DECEMBER 2014

1. Camp Commander George Lane opened the meeting at 10:10 a.m. at the historic Sam Houston Schoolhouse, 3650 Old Sam Houston School Road, Maryville, Tennessee. The following brothers were in attendance: George Lane (Commander), Stephen C. Wallace (Junior Vice Commander), David H. McReynolds (Treasurer), Craig Brown, PDC, PCC (Camp Counselor) and Robert Wallace (new member as of 13 Nov 2014). Apologies were received from several brothers who were out of town or out of the country at the time of the meeting. There was a brief discussion about the date of the meeting and the conflicts it posed at a very busy time of the year. Commander Lane stated that the usual meeting date was in conflict with the events at Fort Dickerson this year and an appropriate meeting space was difficult to obtain. He also stated that it would be the intent of the Camp to resume having its Annual Encampment in November of each year.
2. Camp Commander Lane greeted the brothers in attendance and offered a brief summary of camp activities over the past year. He expressed his disappointment that more could not have been done but noted that several brothers battled health problems that prevented more from being done. Despite this, the camp continued to be involved with a tent and booth at both the East Tennessee History Fair and Fort Dickerson. In addition, Commander Lane and Treasurer McReynolds manned a table and tent at the Battle of Blountville re-enactment in upper East Tennessee. This marked the first time that our camp had formally reached out to this part of the state. He commended Brother Fidler on his continued good job recruiting new members to the camp. And, he reminded the brothers of the camp's commitment to participate in the Blue & Gray Reunion and Freedom Jubilee in Knoxville, Tennessee from 30 April 2015 to 3 May 2015. Our camp is to host a presentation on the Sultana disaster.
3. Treasurer David McReynolds called the roll of officers. Present were Commander Lane, JVC Wallace, Treasurer McReynolds and Past Commander and Counselor Brown.
4. Having received the 2013 minutes for review prior to the meeting, the brothers voted unanimously to accept them as presented.
5. Brother McReynolds presented the Treasurer's Report for the camp for the period 1 January 2014 to 10 December 2014. The current balance in the camp's checking account is \$1,862.92. Some \$560.00 in 2015 dues has been collected to date. Upon motion of Commander Lane, seconded by JVC Wallace, the Treasurer's Report was approved and accepted.
6. No old business was carried forward from the previous encampment.
7. New Business
 - a. The brothers had the pleasure of welcoming new member Robert Wallace to the camp. Brother Wallace provided a brief history of his family and prior experience. The brothers look forward to working with him to initiate new vitality and growth for the camp in 2015.

- b. Since the last encampment, we have added 11 new members, 2 associate members and one junior member to our roster. Total membership is at 34 with 7 members residing in the United Kingdom, 1 member in Poland and one member in the United Arab Emirates.
 - c. Past Commander Brown reported on difficulties with administering the Eagle Scout and ROTC programs. Despite difficulties, the recognitions continue and these programs remain a high priority of the camp. Brother Brown strongly suggests that the camp meet more frequently so that the brothers may work on camp issues more effectively and develop more camaraderie and esprit de corps. Other brothers agreed.
 - d. Treasurer McReynolds announced that the Department Encampment will be held at Fort Negley in Nashville, TN on 31 January 2015. Department Commander Sam Gant will send out details when they are complete. We should try to send as many representatives as possible. The next National Encampment will be in Richmond, Virginia from 19 August 2015 to 23 August 2015. Being as close as it is, it represents another opportunity for the camp to be well represented.
 - e. Commander Lane recognized Brother McReynolds for starting a camp newsletter in 2014. At this time, the newsletter is being distributed in electronic format only on the camp website and by e-mail. Two editions have been published with a third planned for late January or early February 2015.
8. Camp Commander Lane began the election of officers. He explained that he had contacted several brothers and together suggested the following slate of officers for 2015: Commander, David McReynolds; Senior Vice Commander, Mike Down; Junior Vice Commander, Steve Wallace; Secretary, Doug Fidler; Treasurer, Robert Wallace; Counselor, Craig Brown. The Commander then called for any nominations from the floor and receiving none, he recommended that these brothers be considered as one slate and be elected by voice vote. This was moved and seconded and the brothers proceeded to elect the officers by unanimous consent. New Commander-elect McReynolds proposed that all appointed officers in 2014 remain the same in 2015. Motion was made, seconded and passed to honor Commander Lane with the Past Camp Commander Medal.
 9. During the “Good of the Order” discussion, newly elected Commander-elect McReynolds gave a summary of the 2014 National Encampment held at Marietta, Georgia. We had good attendance both from our Camp and from the Department this year and we likely made a memorable impression. Past Commander Brown also continued to emphasize the need for the camp to meet more frequently. Commander-elect McReynolds agreed and asked the members present to suggest a date in January or February to commence planning and organization for 2015. Brother Brown volunteered to organize a lunch meeting to be held at Calhoun’s Restaurant in Maryville, TN beginning at Noon on 14 January 2014. The other brothers present strongly endorsed this idea. Commander-elect McReynolds agreed and asked the brothers to come to the meeting prepared to work.
 10. Before closing the encampment, Commander-elect McReynolds summarized his goals for 2015 as follows: (1) to meet more frequently in order to provide more opportunities for our camp to bond as a cohesive working unit, (2) to include at least quarterly educational opportunities open to the public in order to potentially attract new active members, (3) to select events in the East Tennessee area for camp participation and by promoting only a few events encourage more camp participation, (4) to grow the camp by 10 new active members, and (5) to ensure camp participation in Department and National activities.
 11. There being no further business to come before the camp, Commander-elect McReynolds closed the Encampment at 12:15 p.m.

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

David H. McReynolds

Treasurer

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