

*Department of New Jersey
Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War
General
George Armstrong
Custer*

Camp #17 News

Volume 1

Issue 1

January 2009

Commander's Corner

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Commander's Corner

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Please send your information,
materials and photos to;

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Senior Vice Commander
General George Armstrong Custer
Camp #17 at;
MRTRUEX@ATT.NET

Or Brother Bob Goodyear
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Custer Camp #17 Website;
<http://georgecustercamp.org>

Troop Mascots of the Civil War

Soldiers on both sides of the Civil War used specific animals as emblems of their devotion to their cause. Soldiers, facing death daily no doubt welcomed the chance to care for a pet once the fighting ended for the day. Members of the 1st Massachusetts favored their hawk who accompanied them during the battle from atop Malvern Hill. Co. E, 12th Wisconsin Vol. Infantry chose for its mascot a young bear who marched alongside the troops. Gamecocks brought along for the 49th Illinois Infantry; a wildcat joined a rebel Arkansas reg. into the battle of Shiloh; cows, goats, even stuffed and live badgers and raccoons were also used.

But the most famous was an American eagle named "Old Abe," adopted by the Wisconsin Vol. Infantry, 8th Reg. He was tethered on a long wooden pole and was carried into battle. After the war he became Wisconsin's special ambassador at National events and fundraisers

*Commander Jack W. Ensel
Custer Camp #17
S.U.V.C.W.*

Recent Events

Archives Day

October 11, 2008

Monmouth County Library



Brothers Mike Todd, Jay Godin
and Dan Lynch

Headstone Dedication

Private Lorenzo Reynolds

11th New Jersey Infantry

October 18, 2008

Mt. Prospect Cemetery,
Neptune, NJ



Brothers Dan Lynch, Mike Truex
and Mike Todd

Swearing In New Members

December 6, 2008



New Members
Brothers Chris Torkelson and John Case

Upcoming Events

Special Events

Living History
South Plainfield, NJ
Saturday, May 16, 2009
10 AM to 4 PM

Meetings

Saturday, March 7, 2009
12:00 noon at
the National Guard Militia Museum,
Sea Girt, NJ.
Guest Speaker, Joseph Bilby

Sunday, April 26, 2009
12:00 noon at
American Legion Post 248,
South Plainfield, NJ.

Saturday, June 6, 2009
12:00 noon at
B.G. Fields Restaurant,
Westfield, NJ.

Saturday, Sept 26, 2009
12:00 noon at
the National Guard Militia Museum,
Sea Girt, NJ.

Sunday, November 1, 2009
12:00 noon at
American Legion Post 248,
South Plainfield, NJ.

Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009
12:00 noon at
B.G. Fields Restaurant,
Westfield, NJ.

Alternate sites may be required for the
B.G. Fields meetings

History Center

They Finally Found The Fair

Rahway, N.J. is still chuckling over an amusing incident connected with the big fair of Barry Post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

A general invitation was extended by Barry Post to Grand Army men to attend its fair in a body or individually. Among others J.J. Tooker Post of colored veterans of Jersey City accepted the invitation and landed at Rahway a couple of nights ago.

It so happened that none of the Barry Post were at the station to meet the visitors.

The latter were not discouraged, but formed ranks and with the drum major in front followed by the drum corps, they marched down the main street in search of the fair!

Noticing that the upper stories of Washington Hall were brilliantly lighted, the colored visitors concluded they had found the fair.

They threw on some additional style and marched shoulder to shoulder up the stairs and while the drum corps were splitting the air, tramped into the midst of a Ball which the Ancient Order of the Hibernians were holding.

The stay of the colored veterans was short, but they finally found the fair and were well taken care of there.

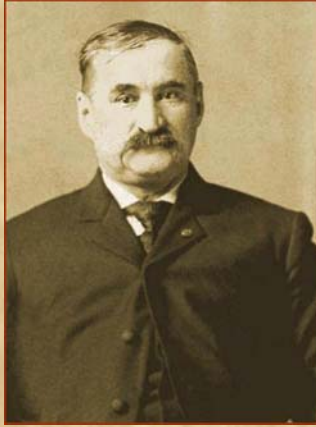
*Copyright, The New York Times
Published February 26th 1886*

*Submitted by
Brother Jay Godin*

Our Ancestors

My Grandfather

By Brother Robert Goodyear



EZRA GOODYEAR was born in February, 1848, near Carlisle, Pennsylvania, the second child of four to the first marriage of Benjamin Curtis Goodyear. His mother, Catherine Stoner, died when he was only four and a half years old, and he, along with his siblings, were raised by Benjamin's second wife, Catherine Ramp.

In early July of 1863, after JEB Stewart's troops shelled and burned much of Carlisle, Ezra took off on foot towards Gettysburg. He came upon 5 troopers of the 8th Illinois Cavalry who had escorted the body of General Elon Farnsworth from Gettysburg after Farnsworth was ordered to mount a futile attack, and was killed. They asked where he was going and he said he was going to enlist. They had one extra horse, and he rode with them to Alexandria, Virginia, was put into uniform, and sworn in at Petersville, Maryland on July 18, 1863.

The officer who swore him in asked his age and he said he was 18, for fear they would not accept him. He was actually only 15 years and six months old.



Chronology;

Sworn in on July 18, 1863, in Petersville, Maryland. Joined Company K, 8th Illinois Cavalry Regiment on August 17, 1863 near Martlet's Station, Virginia. Fought on September 13, 1863 at Culpeper, VA. From October 31, 1863 to April 30, 1864 he was listed as "With detachment in Army of Potomac." Fought on July 7, 1864 at Monocacy, MD. Fought on July 8, 1864 at Frederick, MD. Fought on July 9, 1864 at Monocacy, MD. ("The Battle that saved Washington") Fought on July 18, 1864 at Cockeysville, MD. Fought on July 30, 1864 at Monocacy, MD. Fought on October 9, 1864 at Piedmont, VA. Fought on October 10, 1864 at Reedtown, VA. Fought on October 11, 1864 at White Plains, VA. Fought on October 30, 1864 at Upperville, MD. Fought on November 11, 1864 at Manassas Junction, VA.

From January through April of 1865 he was "On Detached Service" with General Sheridan's forces in and around Burke's Station, Virginia. It was near there (Sailors Creek) on April 6, 1865 that Sheridan's forces cut off, and killed or captured 7,600 of the remaining Confederate forces, and in so doing, helped bring about their final surrender on April 9, 1865.

Ezra was never wounded in any of these engagements.

The 8th Illinois was also involved in the search for John Wilkes Booth, and served as Honor Guard for President Lincoln's Funeral Train.

The 8th Illinois was mustered out of service on July 17, 1865, at Benton Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri, and received their final pay and Discharge papers in Chicago, Illinois

In 1886, Ezra married Anna Hays, a great granddaughter of Mary Ludwig Hays (Molly Pitcher).

In 1897, when Ezra was 49 years old, he had a son, Charles Ezra Goodyear

In 1943, Charles married Vincenzina Mascarò.

In 1945, when Charles was 48 years old, he and "Vincie" had a son..... Robert Charles Goodyear.

Camp Officers

<i>Camp Commander</i>	<i>Jack W. Ensel</i>
<i>Senior Vice Commander</i>	<i>Michael Truex</i>
<i>Junior Vice Commander</i>	<i>Kevin Gunn</i>
<i>Camp Secretary/Treasurer</i>	<i>Clark D. McCullough, PDC, PCC</i>
<i>Camp Historian</i>	<i>Frank McGonigle, PCC</i>
<i>Patriotic Instructor</i>	<i>Michael Todd</i>
<i>Asst. Camp Secretary</i>	<i>Daniel J. Lynch, Jr., PCC</i>
<i>Camp Quartermaster</i>	<i>Russel Becker</i>
<i>Press Relations Officer</i>	<i>Kevin Gunn</i>
<i>Graves Registration Officer</i>	<i>Arthur Green</i>
<i>G.A.R. Officer</i>	<i>Russell Becker</i>
<i>Camp Guard</i>	<i>Michael Woomer</i>
<i>Camp Guide</i>	<i>Richard McCarthy</i>
<i>Chaplain</i>	<i>Frank McGonigle, PCC</i>
<i>Monuments and Memorials</i>	<i>Clark D. McCullough, PDC, PCC</i>
<i>Camp Counsel</i>	<i>Clark D. McCullough, PDC, PCC</i>
<i>Camp Counsel</i>	<i>Daniel J. Lynch, Jr., PCC</i>
<i>Camp Counsel</i>	<i>Frank McGonigle, PCC</i>

Fund Raiser Slideshow DVDs

New Jersey's Civil War Cannons



Produced by
George Armstrong Custer
Camp #17
Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War

\$8.00

New Jersey's Civil War Monuments and Cannons



Produced by
George Armstrong Custer
Camp #17
Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War

\$15.00

New Jersey's Civil War Monuments



Produced by
George Armstrong Custer
Camp #17
Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War

\$8.00

*These DVDs are for sale
Right Now !!!
to S.U.V.C.W. Members
and other interested parties.*

*They will go on sale
to the general public at the
Living History Event
in South Plainfield
on May 16, 2009.*

Contact;
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Or
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bob@goodyear-mascaro.org