



Daughters of Union
Veterans of the Civil War
1861-1865
Rebecca Otis Tent #54

Fort Wayne, Indiana



Meeting Schedule

SEPTEMBER 8
New Haven Library Branch

OCTOBER 6
Hessen Cassel Library

NOVEMBER 3
Georgetown Library Branch

DECEMBER 1
Hessen Cassel Library
Annual Pot-Luck Luncheon

From the Fort

Volume 2 Issue 1 & 2

Spring and Summer 2007 Update

Department duvs Special Project Huge Success

By Sister Vickie Day

The duvs special project was completed the week after Department Convention. There were a total of 6 boxes sent to Ramadi Iraq. A total of 60 phone cards were purchased at a cost of \$634.00. The remainder of the donated money was spent on a few items to go in the boxes and shipping.

We have 4 family, or friends, of our members that are currently serving in Iraq and I sent them 2 phone cards each. The remaining 52 phone cards were sent with the boxes to Ramadi for Jason and Jeff, friends of my son Tim and fellow Indiana Army National Guard Recruiters. The phone cards were given to the soldiers that need them most. Jason emailed that he was thanked over and over by the soldiers and he told them he would pass their thanks on to the ones responsible for providing them.

Items sent in the boxes included: 1 gallon container of Gum suckers, a tub of Twizzlers, 128 pop tarts, Oreo cookies, 4 boxes of granola bars, Hershey cookies, 12 cans of meat, 2 cans of Pringles, 12 boxes of drink singles, 6 packs of cheese and pretzels, 2 packs of sandwich cookies, 2 bags of tootsie rolls, 10 boxes of slim jims, a large can of slim jims, 2 packs of raisins, 2 packs of dice, 22 bags of beef jerky, 2-2 packs of oatmeal/chocolate chip cookies and a bag of assorted sample size per-



Passing the Hat, the SUVCW members donate to the Phone Cards at Department Convention.

sonal items.

Also included in the boxes were 27 cards that were created by our new div Jerrica Hidy, with the help of the Department duvs Chairperson Margaret McClellan.

I received an email from Jason that they got the boxes okay and wanted to thank us for our kindness. He is going to send me some pictures of the soldiers and Iraq to put in our Department scrapbook. I want to thank everyone in the Department for their support of this project. Some of you gave items for the boxes and some provided money for the phone cards and shipping. It was all very much appreciated!

A special thank you also to the SUVCW, our National President Patricia Mullinex and the Ridgeville American Legion for your monetary donation to our project. I think we should be very proud of ourselves!!!

Three More Grave Markers to Dedicate in 2007

The Bronze marker for Pvt. Gideon Brothers was received earlier this spring and has been cemented in place. The ceremony that was to take place in June has been moved to either October 21 or 28 depending on when the 44th Indiana Reenactors are available to assist in the ceremony.

At the ceremony for Pvt. John Hart in St. Joe/HessenCassel Cemetery last fall, it was brought to our attention that there were two more Civil War soldiers in that cemetery who had no stone mentioning their service.

Mr. Beckman's ancestors August and Frederick Beckman will have their grave marking ceremony this September 2nd at 3pm.

It has been fulfilling to serve these soldier by making sure their service to our country has not been forgotten.

2007 Grave Marking Ceremonies: St. Joe/Hessen Cassel September 2, Gar Creek in October



Pvt. James H. Baker
33rd Indiana Volunteer Infantry
April 3, 1862 - April 12, 1865

Ancestor Dedication in Nebraska

By Vince Barker (Sister Stephanie Barker's Husband)

Last weekend we traveled to Stanton, Nebraska, to participate in the headstone dedication for Pvt. Baker, who was Stephanie's great-great-grandfather. I had coordinated the marker placement and dedication ceremony with Norm Weber, the Nebraska Dept. Commander, SUVCW. The dedication was part of Stanton's 125th Anniversary celebration held that weekend and following week. We had a wonderful time. The folks in Stanton were so appreciative that we had made the trip out for the ceremony. Our little boy, Seth, who is 7, participated as well. He did a great job!



Seth Barker participating in the Ceremony for his ancestor

The Rebecca Otis Tent #54 Annual Contributions 2007

In March the Tent voted to donate from the Tent Treasury to the following:

Department GAR Living Memorial Scholarship fund (\$10), the Department Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (\$40), and to the Department home started by the GAR—Knightstown (\$30).

To the National: GAR Living Memorial Scholarship fund (\$20), National Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services (\$20), Southern Memorial and Wreath fund (\$15), National Service Academy Awards fund (\$15), National President's Project—new headquarters—(\$10), and Gallaudet

University History Award fund (\$5).

In the past these contributions have been paid through the Tent's annual membership dues. There is talk that the National portion of our dues may increase soon, and we will have to raise our dues as well. Starting next year for (2008) we will send out reminders of Tent Dues Renewals and include space for members to donate additional monies for these funds. The tent wishes to raise more money to give without taking away from our ability to serve our community too.

Ten Tent Members Attend Department Convention



Department of Indiana SUVCW join the Daughters in introductions and congratulations to each other.



Attending Convention: (L) Tammy Armstrong, new members Erin Opper and Jerrica Hidy, and Vickie Day.



National President (2006) Patricia Mullinex gives the Oath of Office to the 2007 Department Officers.

- The 2007 Convention had the attendance of special guest: National President Patricia Mullinex.
- During the traditional visit by the Indiana SUVCW—meeting in the next room—a hat was passed for our brothers to donate to the duvs phone card project. The men raised \$138 in only a few minutes. Wow.
- At Knightstown this past May, there were 25 graduates. The Department presents each grad with \$10. And several thank-you notes have already been received from the graduates this year.
- Sister President Lee Ann Teller supplied the Department with new Department Rosters which fit into the Constitution and Bylaws notebook.
- The Indiana Website is still under development. To be featured, our state's only Real Daughter Helen Beck of Wabash, IN.
- It was motioned and accepted to donate the monies raised from the Department Chief of Staff to go to the National Convention 2008 fund.
- Donations to the State Owned Homes and Hospitals included \$170 to Knightstown, and items valued at \$129. Whether we support the home in Lafayette was not conclusive, but Lafayette has been difficult to work with over the last few years. They will gladly take our money, but prefer we did not attend any ceremonies.
- Members of Rebecca Otis Tent #54 elected to Department Offices are Vickie Day as Registrar, Margaret McClellan as Patriotic Instructor, Patricia Frederick as Delegate-at-Large, and Tammy Armstrong to the GAR Living Memorial Scholarship Committee.



Tent Members look over the Silent Auction Table

Tent working on New ByLaws

The Bylaws committee has been working on New Tent Bylaws. The section from the National Constitution and Bylaws that pertains to Tents will be included in Rebecca Otis's Tent Bylaws since not all members have copies of the National documents.

Also, because each Officer must fill out annual reports to be sent to the Department, the requirements for the reports shall be included under each Officer's duties.

Each member, and new member, getting these complete Bylaws will know what each Officer is responsible for and required to do. Hopefully some may run for an office they have not been before. Knowing what is involved to serve in each office, we can assist each other more fully and keep communication flowing so the work load does not fall on only a few.

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil
War 1861-1865
Rebecca Otis Tent #54
Fort Wayne, Indiana

**0202 County Road 36
Avilla, IN 46710**

Phone: 260-357-4216

Email: duvcwlady@yahoo.com

Visit the tent website:
<http://rebeccaotistent54.tripod.com>

Tent's Tidbits

- (Dec) Tent voted to buy a brick for the President's Project at National Headquarters. The \$50 brick will list: DUVCW, Rebecca Otis Tent #54, Fort Wayne, IN
- (March) Tent voted to donate \$50 to National to help fund the monthly security system bill.
- Tent accepted 3 New Members: Stephanie Barker (in Appleton, Wisconsin), Erin Opper (in Waterloo, IN), and Jerrica Hidy—a duv (in Avilla, IN)
- For Easter Tent donated holiday cellophane bags filled with sugar free candy to the Fort Wayne V.A. Hospital. Sister Vickie Day received a nice Thank-you card to the Tent.
- Tent is starting to form Committees to help with the work of the Order. Those found in the Ritual are the Floral, Visiting, Relief, duvs & Membership. New Committees added by the Tent are for the Website, Grave Marker Project, & a Nominating committee. Tent has two Temporary Committees: Scrapbook, and Tent #54 Bylaws which will dissolve when their tasks are complete.
- Sister Vicki Layman has chosen to transfer her primary membership to Fort Wayne's sister Tent #2. She will remain a dual member of Tent #54 for now. The Sarah White Tent #2 is the oldest in the Department of Indiana (1915) and Sister Vicki is lending her years of experience to help Tent #2 thrive once again.