

MINUTES
Ben Harrison Camp No. 356
January 10, 2026
Virtual Only

Call to Order: Commander Bruce Kolb called the meeting to order.

Roll Call of Officers: 2026 officers present were Commander and Camp Counselor Bruce Kolb; SVC Brian Mexin; JVC and Treasurer, Mike Beck; Secretary, Graves Registration, and Signals Officer Tim Beckman; Camp Council Garry Walls; Camp Council and Camp Guide Joe Beckman; Camp Council Michael Griffin; Camp Patriotic Instructor Lloyd Atterson. In all, nine camp members were present.

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve the November 2025 minutes as distributed was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was distributed and read.

Report of Sick Brothers or Families in Distress: [REDACTED] are still in need of prayers.

Membership Application Received: A new membership application was received from Carl Allen Strait who bases his eligibility on his 2nd Great Grandfather, Isaac Strait, who was a Sergeant in Company I, 48th Indiana Infantry. A motion was made to accept his membership application and it was seconded. Motion was unanimously approved. Congratulations to Al Strait for his membership into the SUVCW!

Initiation of New Members: None

Orders, Communications, and Bills: Commander Kolb informed the camp about many of the General Orders and the Special Messages sent out from the C-in-C since mid-November 2025. He also informed the camp about the very nice Williams Creek Cemetery Wreaths Across America ceremony that took place on December 20, 2025. The following camp members were in attendance: Bruce Kolb, Brian Mexin, Mike Beck, and Tim Beckman. Commander Kolb reminded the camp that the Lincoln Day ceremony at the Lincoln Boyhood Home will take place on February 8, 2026.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

* Garry Walls suggested that the camp should make an effort to utilize an information booth at many of our camp events. He has a large awning that would work for this purpose. He also said he will work up some informational posters for display purposes. He will have drafts of these to show the camp at our March meeting.

* Tim Beckman made a motion to purchase two new ground flag pole holders from Old Town Blacksmith and Supply for \$160, motion was seconded by Brian Mexin, motion passed. Tim will purchase these online within the week.

* Tim Beckman brought up an issue that the Dept. of Indiana is having with the Zoom account. The Dept. can no longer share logins to host meetings. As a result, the camp will have to find an alternative to Zoom to host virtual meetings. Camp Secretary Beckman is currently looking a several alternatives and will trial one at our next camp meeting in March.

* Mike Beck informed the camp about his upcoming meetings with the three hotels that the Dept. of Indiana is looking at to host an upcoming SUVCW National Encampment.

* Mike Beck also discussed the possibility of putting an ad in the Banner newsletter concerning our Last Union Veteran medallions that the camp has for sale. He is looking for volunteers to help with the formatting of this ad.

Upcoming Camp Meeting Dates and Department Events

February 8, 2026 – Lincoln Day Ceremony, Lincoln City, Indiana, 2PM CST

March 14, 2026 – Camp Meeting, Greenwood City Center, Greenwood, Indiana

April 11, 2026 – Camp Meeting, Greenwood City Center, Greenwood, Indiana

April 18, 2026 – Department of Indiana Annual Encampment, Indiana Veterans Home, West Lafayette, Indiana

For the Good of the Order: Michael Griffin informed that camp that his Brevet General Oliver Paul Gooding Commission that he showed the camp at the October 2025 meeting is being professionally restored.

Patriotic Instruction: Lloddy Atterson informed the camp that he is working on a presentation for the next camp meeting in March concerning National Cemeteries.

Tim Beckman, Secretary

Bruce Kolb, Commander

1/10/2026_____
Date