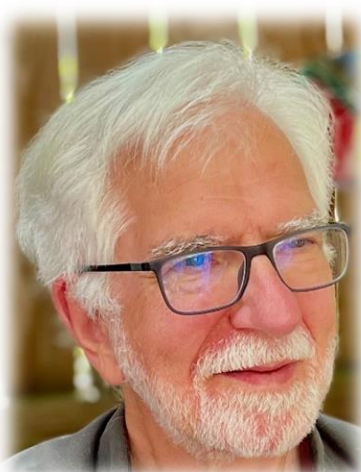


GRAND ARMY SCOUT

Newsletter of the Grand Army of the Republic
Civil War Museum & Archive Winter 2023-2024



From the President



Reflections after reading *When Books Went to War. The Stories That Helped Win World War II* by Molly Guptill Manning

From the book jacket:

“When America entered World War II in 1941, we faced an enemy that had banned and burned 100 million books. Outraged librarians launched a campaign to send free books to American troops and gathered 20 million hardcover donations. In 1943, the War

Department and the publishing industry stepped in with an extraordinary program: 120 million small, lightweight paperbacks for troops to carry in their pockets and rucksacks in every theater of war. These Armed Services Editions were beloved by the troops and are still fondly remembered today. Soldiers read them while waiting to land at Normandy, in hellish trenches in the midst of battles in the Pacific, in field hospitals, and in long bombing flights.”

At its September 1941 Annual Meeting, The American Library Association formed the National Defense Book Campaign (NDBC) to collect as many as ten million books. Just as the Campaign was taking shape the Japanese waged its surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. The NDBC was renamed the Victory Book Campaign (VBC).

The American Women’s Voluntary Services arranged a series of programs featuring celebrities to build interest in the VBC. Of the dozen performances given at the New York Public Library in January 1942, the one that seemed to strike the deepest chords was the reading of

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8110 FRANKFORD AVENUE
PHILA. PA 19136
(215) 289-6484
garmuslib1866@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor
PATRICIA CALDWELL

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Christopher Morley's address that draws a parallel to America's bloodiest conflict, the Civil War and Abraham Lincoln's most famous speech, the Gettysburg Address. Honoring the lives lost on that battlefield, Lincoln dedicated the nation to ending the war and proving that democracy and freedom can endure the test of time. Morley's address would honor the printed word and freedom of thought.

The Gutenberg Address

"Twenty-five score years ago a German workman brought forth a new idea, conceived in worship and dedicated to the proposition that men's words can travel, that their thoughts can freely communicate and multiply, and are worth preserving. Now we are engaged in a world Civil war, testing whether the freedom of mind and word, or any other freedom can long endure."

*Joe Perry
President & Librarian*

Please renew your Museum membership! Keep history alive!

The Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum and Archive is the only museum in the Philadelphia area solely dedicated to preserving the history and telling the story of the Civil War. The collection is recognized for its historical importance and includes numerous artifacts of singular historical significance. We wish to thank you for your membership and financial support that has given us strength and encouragement as we move forward in our new and more accessible historic location.

Your continued membership will help maintain the legacy that has been handed down to us by the veterans who gave their last full measure of devotion to our country.

Please renew your membership for 2024.

it is solely through your generous support that we can secure the future of the Museum's collection.

To those who have already renewed, we thank you!

**GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
CIVIL WAR MUSEUM & ARCHIVE
FIRST SUNDAY PROGRAMS
JOIN US THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH
MONTH
REGULAR PROGRAMS BEGIN AT 1:00PM**

These are either FREE virtual programs



UPCOMING FREE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Sunday, January 14, 2024 (Note 2nd Sunday) - 1:00 PM via ZOOM

Speaker – Herb Kaufman, Museum Curator and Treasurer

“Duels, Fools, and Scoundrels of the Civil War”

This presentation focuses on unusual and often controversial incidents and events. Topics include the fascinating story of murder and deceit of the incredible General Daniel E. Sickles, the strange case of Ulric Dahlgren and the plot to kill the Confederate President, the spy who was hung twice and buried in three places, dueling generals, murders, the plot to burn New York, sensational trials, and the stories of eccentric and unusual personalities and events.

Sunday, February 4, 2024 – 1:00 PM via ZOOM

Speaker – Historian James Paradis

“African Americans and the Gettysburg Campaign”

Sunday, March 3, 2024 – 1:00 PM via ZOOM

Speaker – Historian Professor Nilgun Anadola-Okur

“The Life of Lucretia Coffin Mott”

Reservations for a seat at our virtual programs may be made by sending a request to
garmuslib1866@gmail.com

Please make your reservation by the Saturday prior to the program.

Email is not monitored on Sunday morning.

For additional First Sunday Community programs from the Museum, please follow the Museum website <https://garmuslib.org/> for information as it becomes available.



Your membership is essential to the continued survival of the only museum in the Philadelphia area solely dedicated to the history of the Civil War

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to all of our wonderful members who have already generously renewed their museum membership for 2024. We thank you for your continued support.

Please consider maintaining your support of history by renewing your membership to the museum.

You can renew your support by sending a check to the museum, OR renewing your membership through the museum web site by PayPal.

We are so very pleased and gratified by the many new members, especially those who have become Life Members of the museum. Our list of esteemed Life Members has continued to grow, and we extend a gracious "Thank You" to those who have made this commitment.

Our news magazine "The Scout" has received wide acclaim for its design and content. The current and numerous back issues are available through the museum web site. Our Editor, Pat Caldwell, has worked diligently in publishing one of the finest museum magazines. She is always seeking contributions from our members.

You too can become a published author.

Our monthly Zoom programs continue to be exceedingly successful and have attracted many new members and friends of the museum. We are now averaging over 50 registrants for each monthly program. This is so exciting, and we are very pleased both with the response and the financial support from those who have been attending our Zoom programs.

I wish to express the sincerest appreciation of the museum board to all of our members for their continued generous support and interest in the museum. With your continued support we can ensure that this historic collection remains as a central part of the Philadelphia area historical community.

*Herb Kaufman
Treasurer & Curator*

MUSEUM PEOPLE & HAPPENINGS

Museum News

Museum Hours

The GAR Museum and Archive is open for visitors and tours following the completion of the construction of our new accessible first floor bathroom. Our regular hours are Tuesdays from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm, and by appointment. Please visit the Museum website for more information about scheduling a visit for tours and research.

Call for Volunteers

One of the benefits the Grand Army of the Republic Museum and Archive provides is the opportunity to volunteer. Volunteers are a necessary and desirable part of the museum workforce. They are a distinct class of people who benefit from museums in deep and meaningful ways. They expand our ability to do good work that reaches others.

Volunteering can provide a healthy boost to your self-confidence, self-esteem, and life satisfaction. You are doing good for others and the community, which provides a natural sense of accomplishment. Your role as a volunteer can also give you a sense of pride and identity.

Benefits of volunteering

- Provides you with a sense of purpose
 - Provides a sense of community
 - Helps you meet new friends
 - Improves self-esteem
 - Teaches you valuable skills
 - Provides job prospects
 - It's fun!

You can make a difference. If you are interested in volunteering at the Museum, 8110 Frankford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19136, please contact us at garmuslib1866@gmail.com or talk directly to one of our Board members.

Research Requests

The Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum's extensive archival and library resources are highly sought-after by researchers.

To effectively meet the requests in the overwhelming number of emails we receive and to provide financial support for the Museum, our Volunteer Research Associates and Historians will work on GAR members' requests only. Non-members will be asked to become a member before the research work begins.

Research will be limited to information relevant to GAR Post records and histories, records related to the other Allied Orders of the GAR such as the Ladies of the GAR or Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, etc., and military records for Civil War veterans, when possible. We cannot conduct family/ancestral genealogy research.

Civil War Capt. Jonathan Taylor's Sword Returns to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

For the full story of Captain Taylor's Sword, please see the articles on pages 14 through 17.

[Civil War Capt. Jonathan Taylor's Sword Returns to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HycZ0JKmSqY)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HycZ0JKmSqY>

MUSEUM RESOURCES

A Museum Valuable Resource – *Sunday Transcript* by Joe Perry

This distinguished newspaper was published during the Civil War. Its owner and editor was Thomas Hawkesworth, a supporter of the Union who joined the Union Army and was promoted major of the 68th Pennsylvania Regiment, the Scott Legion. He was killed in action at the Battle of Fredericksburg, VA on December 13, 1862.

The GAR Museum and Archive possesses a run of the *Sunday Transcript* from 1860-1865, both in bound originals and on digital CDs.

The *Transcript* is available for in-house use only.

“Connecting the Public” Campaign by Joe Perry

For many years the Grand Army of the Republic Museum and Archive has been an esteemed resource for researching American history. Whether in-person, via email or by mail, the Museum’s volunteers continue to help all who seek knowledge of the Civil War era using the Museum’s collections.

The Museum has not had an electronically searchable catalog of its holdings that include primary source documents, artifacts, books and files. We have paper indexes and inventories of all our collections, but a database that can be searched to show what we have, and the location would greatly increase search efficiency and save time.

Improving access to the Museum’s collections is extremely important, and we felt the need to purchase database software for an online catalog. One that will allow multiple users access to unlimited records.

To raise the funds, the Museum initiated a “Connecting the Public” campaign.

Because of the success of the campaign, funds are now available to purchase museum software to create the GAR Museum’s searchable database that will store content and location of all the Museum’s records. It is essential that we have a searchable inventory that will be a permanent record of the Museum’s holdings. Preserve, protect, and disseminate are the tenets the GAR Museum Board believes in. The future of the Museum depends on leaving a usable access pointer for future generations.

Thank you for donating to the Campaign!

*Kammal Baker * John Beck * Richard & Carol Bennis*

*Michael Borish * Dan Cashin * Edward Chambliss*

*Tedd Cocker * Gregory Coleman * Frank Czeiner*

*Steven Decker * Ed Duffy * Marilyn Goutmann*

*Ellen Higgins * Holmesburg Civic Association * Carol Ingald*

*Gary Kaplan * General Meade Society of Philadelphia*

*Edward Mikus * Military Order of the Loyal Legion*

*Randall Miller * Rajan Ramanujam * Walter Stewart*

*Michelle Wallenta * Jeffrey & Kim Williamson * Steve Wright*

Museum People

Our condolences and sympathy to member Dan Cashin on the recent passing of his mother-in-law Pat Kelly Cleary.



Museum Board Member Mary Wible was presented with the Frank Avato Award in November by the Delaware Valley Civil War Round Table. This award, named for a former vice-president and founding member of the Round Table, is presented to a member chosen by the President who best exemplifies Del Val's tenets – Information, Preservation, Fellowship, and Education. Driving the award was Mary's dedication not only to Del Val, but also to the GAR Museum's outreach programs, and her tireless help in inventorying and reorganizing the museum's archives. As noted by Walt Lafty, the Museum's Research Administrator, himself a previous Avato Award recipient, *"She is a high energy woman with great ideas on how to educate, promote, and preserve history."*

[Editor's note - With grateful acknowledgment of the Delaware Valley CWRT for the text and photo.]

Museum President Joe Perry readies the Museum for the December Open House (right) and Vice President Andy Waskie welcomes the visitors to the Holiday Concert (below) – Photos by Mary Ann Hartner



In Memoriam

..... by Joe Perry & Andy Waskie

Eric Schmincke



Former President of the Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum and Archive Eric Joseph Schmincke Sr. died on October 27, 2023. Eric was President of the Museum from 2006 to 2012.

Eric was born on September 30, 1959, and lived in Gilbertsville, PA. He is survived by his wife Toni, son Eric Jr. and daughter Abby.

He was a member of the Anna M. Ross Camp #1, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and served as Commander of the Department of Pennsylvania.

Remembrance by the GAR Museum and Archives Vice-President Andy Waskie:

“I have been a member of the Board of the GAR Museum since 1983, 40 years this year. During that period, I served with Eric for his entire tenure on the Board and as President.



I always considered Eric a good friend, colleague and brother in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). Eric also was a member of the 28th Pennsylvania Volunteers SUV and Mifflin Guard reenactment unit.

Eric was a true and loyal advocate of the Museum and interpreter of Civil War history and a preservationist. He served well as president of the Museum and was actively involved in the Lincoln DNA and pillowcase project.

Later Eric moved far away and was unable to be as active in his service to the Museum and we lost contact with him. I know that later he was very active in the Strasburg Railroad and continued his interest and passion for history.

We will miss his activism, passion, good humor. We extend to his family profound expressions of sympathy at his passing and our deepest condolences.

May he be carried to the Lord and enjoy eternal rest.”

Programs

September 10 , 2023

“President Andrew Johnson's Swing Around the Circle, August-September 1866”

Presented by Michael Wunsch via Zoom

[Photo by Mary Wible]

The presentation included eyewitness and newspaper accounts of this controversial and contentious campaign undertaking, between August 27 and September 15, 1866, an arduous trip that stretched from "Washington, D.C. to New York, including Philadelphia, west to Chicago, south to St. Louis, and east through the Ohio River valley and back to the nation's capital," as President Johnson tried to gain support for his mild Reconstruction policies and his preferred candidates in the forthcoming midterm Congressional elections.



October 8, 2023

“Major Octavius V. Catto, a Philadelphia Equal Rights Activist; Scholar; Educator; Emancipator; Military Hero”

Presented by Andy Waskie via Zoom

[Photo by Pat Caldwell]



Octavius Valentine Catto was born in 1839. A memorial to him is positioned prominently on the south side of City Hall in Philadelphia. Catto organized streetcar boycotts in Philadelphia to lead an effort to desegregate streetcars. Catto fought for voting rights for African Americans and was assassinated protecting Black voters on Election Day of 1871 a few steps from his South Street home. Shot by a man who believed Blacks voting was a threat to the power, privilege and corruption of the Democrat rulers of the time. This program detailed the life and heroic career of Octavius V. Catto via PowerPoint and presented highlights of his life.

Sunday, November 5, 2023

“Civil War Legacy: Accessing Records of the Grand Army of the Republic”

Presented by Walt Lafty via Zoom

[Photo by Mary Wible]



The program briefly discussed the history of the G.A.R and the men and women who make up the Allied Orders who keep the legacy of the G.A.R. alive. The focus was on how to access G.A.R. records for genealogy/family research. Resources discussed included both those at the G.A.R. Museum as well as various sites and resources outside of the museum.

Sunday, December 10, 2023

“Civil War Band Concert”

Becks' Philadelphia Brigade Band is a Civil War era brass band portraying the brass band of the 2nd Division, 2nd Corps, 2nd Brigade of the Union Army of the Potomac in 1863. The Band has played the music of the Victorian era for concerts, ceremonies, balls, parades and commemorations. The band was authentically uniformed, playing music of the period on instruments that are correct for the time.



The program featured tunes played during the Civil War era, including Christmas songs that date back to the 1850s, plus some vocal renditions from that period. Songs included "Cheer Boys Cheer," "Battle Hymn of the Republic," "Shenandoah," "Battle Cry of Freedom," and "Dixie" (a personal favorite of President Lincoln.) The music came from manuscripts dating back to 1830, publications courtesy of the Library of Congress, and arrangements created for the band by our own members. Photos are courtesy of Andy Waskie.



Museum Visitors

“Visits by Genealogist Groupies”..... text and photos by Mary Wible

October is Family History Month, the perfect time for genealogists to visit the Hugh Boyle Archive at the GAR Museum. We had several “groupies” do just that.

Walt Lafty and I hosted three professional genealogical societies with a tour and a chance to do research in the archive. There is no other place those family history buffs would rather be than here to search for Civil War ancestors.

The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, a local organization located on Byberry Road in Philadelphia, visited on Oct. 13, 2023. Walt and I are both members, and we highly recommend that you join if you need help with researching your family.



The following day we were joined by the Association of Professional Genealogists Greater Philadelphia Chapter. Sydney Cruice was surprised and excited to see a surgeon’s sword in the medical display case. She distinctly remembered the one just like it that was passed down in her family from her great, great grandfather Robert Cruice, a Union surgeon.

We wrapped things up on November 9 with the Bucks County Genealogical Society. I belong to this group and can attest to the numerous means and support that they provide to help you

with finding those loved ones from the past.

It was a good time had by all learning some Civil War history, sharing stories, searching for ancestors in the archive, and getting to know one another. We now have some new members to add to our GAR Museum family.



Perhaps you’ll become part of our family one day. No need to wait until next October. Our Family History Month is year-round at the GAR Museum.

“Taking It to the Kids”..... text and photos by Mary Ann Hartner

On Sunday, October 29, Jim Minshall and his son Jimmy came to the GAR Museum for a tour. They had heard about the Museum from the internet. Members Kyle Purchase, and Mary Ann and John Hartner were on hand to conduct the tour.


The following pictures are of Kyle showing Jimmy how to handle and load the Springfield Rifle, a replica that the Museum has for visitors to handle.



Museum Members At Home, Out, and About

Community Outreach

Board Member Mary Wible and Research Administrator Walt Lafty are continuing their community outreach program to promote the museum and its new location. They have visited senior citizen groups, local schools, and historical societies. Mary shared a new ad that is included in the Saint Jerome Church parish bulletin. In December Mary visited the NE Council of Senior Citizens that had 17 representatives of senior organizations and is planning a follow-up meeting in February for a formal presentation.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>G.A.R. CIVIL WAR MUSEUM Visit this neighborhood gem at 8110 Frankford Ave. Free admission. Open Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. garmuslib.org</p> |  |
|--|---|



Curator's Corner ... by Herb Kaufman

It's time! If you have not visited the new G. A. R. Museum and Archive, now is the time!

The Captain Jonathan K. Taylor Sword Project

The museum is thrilled to announce the acquisition of a most significant and historic sword; the Presentation Sword of Captain Jonathan K. Taylor, 129th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

While now owned by the museum, this historic personal relic is currently on loan to the Bethlehem School District where it is on display at the Nitschmann Middle School.

In 2017, Ed Root and John Rohal, members of the CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc and the museum worked with the City of Bethlehem to restore the Jonathan Taylor Post 182 G.A.R. Monument in Bethlehem's Rose Garden Park which is located across the street from Nitschmann Middle School.

One of the speakers at the Rededication Ceremony was Peter Maugle, a former student at the school, who is a Ranger at Fredericksburg National Military Park.

By pure coincidence, at the Fredericksburg Battlefield, Ranger Maugle came into conversation with a visitor, Rev. Jeffrey Miller. Rev. Miller stated that he had, in his personal collection, the sword of a Captain from Pennsylvania who had been mortally wounded leading his company at the battle of Fredericksburg.

Ranger Maugle asked if this might be the sword of Capt. Jonathan Taylor.

Rev. Miller acknowledged that it indeed was Capt. Taylor's sword. Maugle exclaimed that Taylor was a native of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania as was he. Capt. Taylor was Bethlehem's only officer to die in the Civil War.

Ranger Maugle later contacted Ed Root and John Rohal and told them of this conversation, and that the "lost" presentation sword of Capt. Taylor now resides in a private collection.

Ed and John contacted Rev. Miller and inquired of his interest in selling this historic relic so that it could be returned to be placed on display in Bethlehem.

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Upon reaching agreement to purchase the sword, Ed and John then contacted Herb Kaufman, Treasurer and Curator of the museum. Ed detailed the plan that he and the Eastern PA CWRT would raise the necessary funds to purchase the sword. The funds would then be donated to the Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum and Archive. The museum would then purchase the sword from Rev. Miller and the sword would become the property of the museum.

Once the museum took possession of the sword, it would be placed on loan with the Bethlehem School District.

A display including the presentation sword was dedicated on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, 161 years to the day when Capt. Taylor was shot at the Battle of Fredericksburg. The museum was represented by Curator Herb Kaufman, Board Member Tom Donnelly, and Research Administrator Walt Lafty.

The museum also placed on loan a display case with numerous memorial ribbons including the original ribbon from the dedication of the Post 182 memorial, and a photograph of a Civil War veteran from Bethlehem.

The sword is encased for students and visitors to see at Nitschmann Middle School — across the street from a war monument honoring Taylor and the Civil War veterans post named for him.



[Civil War Capt. Jonathan Taylor's Sword Returns to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HycZ0JKmSqY)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HycZ0JKmSqY>



Photos courtesy of Herb Kaufman

Jonathan K. Taylor – Civil War Hero ... by Herb Kaufman, Curator

Jonathan Taylor was born on April 21, 1842 in Carbon County, Pennsylvania. When he was 16 years old his family moved to Bethlehem where he lived for the remainder of his life. When the war began, 18-year-old Taylor enlisted in the 1st Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, a 3-month regiment.

In 1862, President Lincoln, realizing that the war would not be over quickly, called for a half-million men to defend the nation. Taylor then enlisted in the 129th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. The regiment was organized at Camp Curtin in Harrisburg. He was elected as Captain of Company C.

The regiment was attached to 1st Brigade, 3rd Division, V Corps, Army of the Potomac. They served on guard duty and reconnaissance duty and marched with the Army of the Potomac to Fredericksburg in December 1862.

At Fredericksburg the 129th was a part of Brigadier General Erastus B. Tyler's Brigade, Brig. Gen. Andrew H. Humphrey's Third Division, Major General Daniel Butterfield's V Corps.

The Confederate troops held the high ground known as Marye's Heights. Their lines were secured behind a stone wall, with an open field of fire to their front.

The charge of Andrew Atkinson Humphreys' Division (3rd Division, Fifth Corps, US Army of the Potomac, made up entirely of Pennsylvanians) was the last major assault made against the Sunken Road on December 13, 1862.

"Humphreys ordered his men forward at sunset. As the division crossed the plain, Confederate infantry and artillery fire blasted its ranks, belying reports of a rebel withdrawal. Nevertheless, Humphreys' men pressed forward, approaching to within 100 yards of the stone wall that ran along the base of the ridge. The division paid dearly for its courage. In little more than an hour's time, it lost 1,019 men, 25 percent of the 4,000 men that it took into action." (National Park Service)

In this gallant yet futile charge, 20-year-old Captain Taylor led from the front. After a Confederate volley, his line began to break, men fell, hugging the ground. Captain Taylor drew his sword and circling it above his head, commanded his men, advance and follow me! As he turned a Confederate bullet caught him on the upper part of his right arm. This massive piece of lead spun him around, sending him crashing to the ground. Some of his men carried him to the rear. While doing so he continued to grasp his sword. His wound turned out to be mortal. One hundred and five days later, Capt. Taylor succumbed to his wounds.

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The train carrying his remains arrived in Bethlehem and was greeted by a city in mourning. All were saddened by the death of this heroic man and officer. He was buried at the Moravian Cemetery.

After 1866, when the Grand Army of the Republic began forming their posts, the Bethlehem Post 182 was named after him.

Today the post's charter, commission for its first commander, and the post records reside at the Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum and Archive.

In December 2024 his sword, inscribed "Presented to Jonathan K. Taylor by his friends, Bethlehem, PA" also became a part of the museum's collection. The sword is currently on loan to the Bethlehem School District.

GAR MUSEUM GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Looking for the ideal gift for someone who has everything? How about giving the gift of history? A membership in the Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum and Archive is something that is special.

The Museum is the only Civil War research institution in Philadelphia and a treasure house of information found nowhere else.

The Museum's artifacts, library, archives and open house presentations provide an historical understanding of the Civil War era. Only members can get answers to their research questions that are submitted via email free of charge.

Membership will help us to preserve the heritage of the men and women who sacrificed their lives and fortunes to preserve the Union.

So much of our future lies in preserving our past.

See the Museum's website to get a look at the Museum and to find a link to PayPal.
www.garmuslib.org We have also attached our membership application.

.....Joe Perry

NEW AT THE MUSEUM by Herb Kaufman

NEW CABINET DONATION

We wish to express our sincerest appreciation to Ms. Carol Ingald for her generous donation of a cabinet to be used for new exhibits. Carol has been a strong supporter of the museum for many years, giving many hours of her time as a volunteer and also expressing her support through generous donations.

The exhibit display cabinet has allowed us to feature both artillery and cavalry relics and artifacts.

The cavalry exhibit is from the generous donation by Nancy Caldwell.



DID YOU KNOW????????

The Museum has a Facebook Page.

Visit it at Grand Army of the Republic Museum and Archive in Philadelphia.

<https://www.facebook.com/GrandArmyOfTheRepublicMuseumAndLibrary>



The Men of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

by Walt Lafty

The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) is a Fraternal Organization founded on April 20, 1865. It was established by and for former Civil War Officers who honorably served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Revenue Cutter Service. Male descendants of those Civil War Officers are eligible for membership as Hereditary or Associate Companions.

This issue features Lieutenant Daniel G. Blett, ancestor of G.A.R. Museum member as well as MOLLUS member, Dr. Gary Lee Grove.



Daniel G. Blett was born on August 2, 1828 in Snyder County, Pennsylvania and was the third son of Peter and Rachael (Biedler) Blett. In 1851, he married Catherine Reigle, the daughter of John and Catherine (Bingamann) Reigle. Shortly, thereafter they moved to Milroy, PA where Daniel set up his own carriage shop. The couple later relocated to Lewistown where Daniel served as a Captain of a pre-war militia unit.

Shortly after the firing upon Fort Sumter, Daniel Blett became the drill master and 1st Sergeant of the Raftman's Rangers in Curwensville, Clearfield County. The Raftsmen's Rangers became Co. K of the 1st Pennsylvania Rifles when mustered in at Camp Curtin. This regiment was also designated as the 13th Pa. Reserves or the 42nd Pa. Volunteer Infantry but is best known as the "Bucktails" from their distinctive headgear which Lt. Blett is wearing in this CDV (photo left).

Sergeant Blett served in the battles of Dranesville and Mechanicsville where he was captured, and was held for several months in Richmond's Libby Prison before being exchanged. He and the Bucktails went on to serve in many major battles including Second Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, and Fredericksburg.

Daniel was promoted from 1st Sergeant of Co. K to 2nd Lt. of Co. F shortly before Gettysburg. At Gettysburg the Bucktails played a critical role in the battle for Little Round Top on July 2nd, 1863. The charge of the Pennsylvania Reserves across the "Valley of Death" towards Devil's Den helped save the day. On July 3rd, they captured over 200 rebels and a battery in Devil's Den.

The Bucktails also fought during the Mine Run Campaign and the battle of the Wilderness. It was then at battle of Laurel Hill near Spotsylvania Court House where he was mortally wounded when hit by an

GRAND ARMY SCOUT

exploding shell on May 8, 1864. After having his right leg amputated, he was transferred to the Seminary Military Hospital in Georgetown where he died on June 30th.



Lt. Daniel G. Blett was brought home to Pennsylvania and buried at Mount Rock Cemetery in Lewistown, Mifflin County.

His widow Catherine was forced to send three of her four children to the McAllister School for Soldier's Orphans for a year or so until she could fully support them. She became a seamstress to support her family and received a pension for her husband's death in service. Catherine lived to be 88 years old and was buried next to Daniel in Mount Rock Cemetery in 1916.

In 1985, Lt. Daniel G. Blett was honored with a special graveside ceremony held by the Bucktails Descendant Association at Mt. Rock Cemetery.

4 Generation Family Photo taken around 1949



Mother...Betty Joyce (Boyer) Grove
Great Grand Mother Harriet Belle (Blett) Wolfkill
Grand Mother...Eva Elizabeth (Wolfkill) Boyer
Gary Lee Grove

Photos of family and Lt. Brett, as well as some content, are courtesy of Dr. Gary Lee Grove. To learn more about MOLLUS, visit their website at: <https://loyallegion.org/>

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

A warm **THANK YOU** to all our generous museum members who have already taken the opportunity to renew their membership for 2024. We are so very gratified by your support.

Our historic museum relies on your membership funds which are utilized for so many reasons.

Preservation – Purchase of acid free archival storage boxes and folders, acid free paper, and book and document protection and preservation materials.

Conservation – Framing of historic and significant paintings and documents and preventing possible damage and loss of singularly important relics and artifacts.

Community – Funds for our Sunday Speaker Series which is available to the entire community without charge. Your memberships allow us to offer tours to school students, senior citizen groups and other organizations and the community without charge to visitors.

Operation – Funds for utilities and essential museum maintenance.

Protection – Funds for museum insurance, surveillance cameras, and alarm system.

Improvements – Funds for upgrades in the museum's physical plant and exhibit areas.

We most sincerely appreciate all of our members. Your financial support through membership and donations will allow our historic building and singularly historic collection to withstand time and be available for future generations.

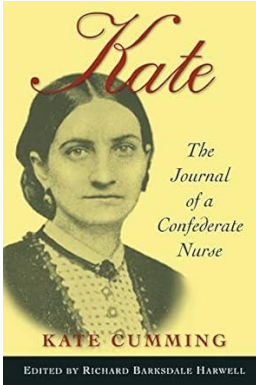
***Thank you all!
Herb Kaufman, Treasurer and Curator***

THE MUSEUM'S BOOK CORNER *by Walt Lafty*

Kate: The Journal of a Confederate Nurse

By Kate Cumming, edited by Richard Barksdale Harwell

Baton Rouge, 1998, 352 pages



Kate Cumming was born in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1836. Around 1840 her family emigrated to the U.S. and settled in Mobile, Alabama. While she developed a strong southern connection, she also valued her Scottish roots, which helped form a feisty, strong willed, dedicated, and compassionate woman.

With the outbreak of the Civil War and a dedication to the Southern cause, she decided to do her part as best she could. Against her family wishes and those of the southern societal thinking that a woman nurse was not ladylike, Kate became one of the most successful, well known, and most contributing of the many southern women nurses.

Throughout the war years she kept a diary which became a valuable source on southern nursing and the medical and hospital situation in general. In addition, her writings capture details about military movements, both Union and Confederate. She also writes extensively about the civilian perspective of the gradual downfall of the Confederacy.

One of her behaviors, which was of special interest to this reviewer, was that even with her venomous hatred for President Lincoln and “anything Yankee,” she treated Union captured/wounded soldiers as she did the Confederate soldiers – with care and compassion. It’s not just her hatred of the Union which she lashes out against, she also writes negatively against her own people for anything less than wholehearted patriotism.

While her diary contains so many names which at times seems redundant and perhaps too many, it’s her details about the civilian attitudes, army medical practices, and the administrative workings of the Confederate hospital system which make this a good read.



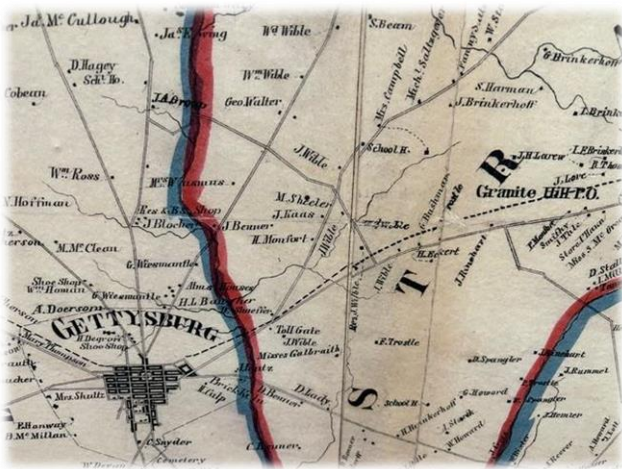
Remembrance Day at Gettysburg 2023 by Mary Wible

I attended my first Remembrance Day this year. It was both a solemn and moving experience, as well as an enjoyable weekend of camaraderie with friends and colleagues from the Civil War community. Those of you who have attended and participated over the years surely know what I mean.

Some familiar faces that I saw were from the GAR Museum, DelVal CWRT, General George Meade Society, SUVCW, DUVCW and other organizations.

On Friday morning I awoke to see a magnificent view from my hotel room of the Evergreen Cemetery where many Wible family members are buried. That was followed by research at the Adams County Historical Society and the various Wible family farms outside Gettysburg in Straban prior to and during the war.

Evergreen Cemetery view from my hotel room



Map of Wible Farms

After a ride through the battlefield where my ancestors fought, it was off to the former GAR Skelly Post 9 for an afternoon tea sponsored by the DUVCW, Tent 55 from Gettysburg, before wrapping up the day with dinner with my tent sisters and others.



Tent 58 Left to Right - Mary Wible, Michele Wallenta, duv Cadence Wallenta, Ellen Higgins

Saturday began with Ellen Higgins, Michele Wallenta, Cadence Wallenta and I representing the DUVCW Tent 58 at the wreath laying ceremonies for Gen. George

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Meade and Albert Woolson, before they left to join the parade. I snuck in for a visit to a nearby museum, then sat down to watch the parade and take photos.



Andy Waskie and Mike Peter salute at the wreath laying at the General Meade monument

Mike Peter acknowledges the crowd at the Remembrance Day parade



Bryan Sigmund marches with the Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp #7 SUVCW

A cheerful Abraham Lincoln attends the ceremony at the Albert Woolson GAR Memorial



GRAND ARMY SCOUT



Going to Mass on the battlefield by the Father Corby statue was one of the most meaningful experiences of my life. At least 75 people attended, and I could not stop thinking about those brave men who were at this site 160 years ago receiving a blessing and absolution before heading into battle. The privilege of my being there to go to Mass and Communion would not have been possible without the sacrifice of these remarkably brave soldiers.

Mass on the battlefield at Father Corby statue

As the sun set, I took a photo of the 72nd PA monument where my uncle Lt. Sutton Jones died on July 3, 1863. As I stood there, it was hard to comprehend the peaceful beauty of this spot, while realizing the atrocities that occurred that day.



Sunset at 72nd PA monument



My night ended with a visit to the National Cemetery where another uncle, Pvt. Edward Camp of the 75th PA, is assumed to be buried with the PA Unknowns. I purchased a luminary in his honor, and was grateful to experience the solemn, respectful ceremony and calling of the names of those buried there. One is literally moved to tears.

Gettysburg National Cemetery - Luminary Ceremony

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Sunday morning was my day to say goodbye once again to Gettysburg, but not before going to early Mass at the historic church of St. Francis Xavier. I found a free parking spot in the neighborhood, and few were in the church when I arrived. By the time Mass started it was full.

Like those of you who have visited Gettysburg in the past, you know how it touches you and draws you back as you anticipate your return.

Each visit brings me closer to my Union Civil War family which includes my great, great grandfather along with eight uncles, several of whom fought at Gettysburg. There are also ancestors of my sisters-in-law and friends.

I come to honor and thank them, leaving a part of me with them each time. The impact of the sacrifices they made, as well as my grandmothers, aunts and cousins, makes me grateful beyond words. Grateful for them, for our country which I treasure and for the freedoms they fought to maintain for us.

May Remembrance Day not just be in Gettysburg each November, but in our hearts each day of our lives. God bless them, and God bless America.

GETTYSBURG IN THE NEWS

..... by Andy Waskie

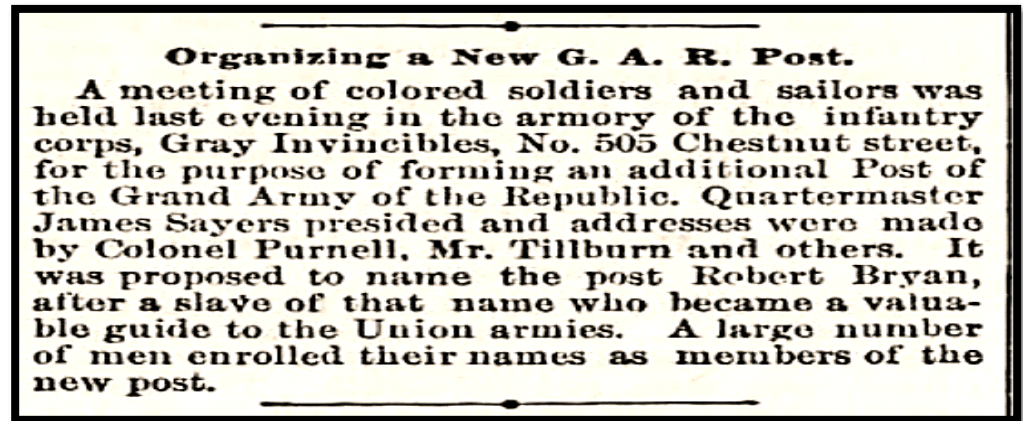
Gettysburg tells the story of more than a battle – the military park shows what national ‘reconciliation’ looked like for decades after the Civil War

<https://theconversation.com/gettysburg-tells-the-story-of-more-than-a-battle-the-military-park-shows-what-national-reconciliation-looked-like-for-decades-after-the-civil-war-215788>

Stories of Posts of the Grand Army.....by Walt Lafty

At its heyday, there were thirty-six (36) Posts of the Grand Army in Philadelphia alone. This is part of a continuing series on GAR Posts and GAR History that will appear in the Grand Army Scout

ROBERT BRYAN G.A.R. POST 80 DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA



The Philadelphia Times 30 August 1877 page 4

Bryan Post 80 was organized on 29 August 1877 and mustered in on 28 September 1877 with 12 charter members. Within a couple months, approximately 40 men had joined. By 1883, the members in good standing were at 175, and eventually membership reached over 290 or more.

The Post met at many locations during its many active years. Some of those addresses included 505 Chestnut street (1877, 1885); 11th & Bainbridge streets (1890); 1532 South street (1900); and 11th & Fitzwater streets (1913).

Post 80 was very active in the Pennsylvania G.A.R. Department sending members to almost every annual encampment in the state from 1877 to the mid-1930s. One of the more active members was Samuel Jones. He was born in 1844 at Reading, Pennsylvania and became a boatman by trade. On 31 October 1863, at age 19, he enlisted in the 29th Connecticut Infantry Regiment (Colored) as a Private. Samuel was promoted to Company 1st Sergeant on 1 January 1864. Wounded at Deep Bottom, VA on 15 August 1864, and after recovering, he served until mustering out on 24 October 1865.

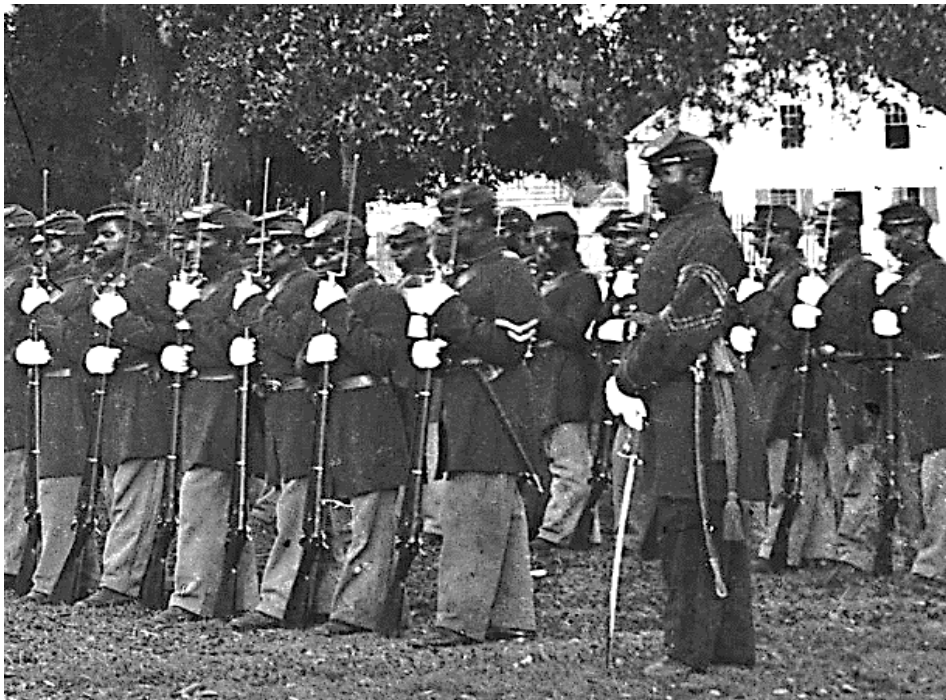
After the war he lived in Philadelphia and joined Post 80. Samuel served in various Post positions up to his first stint as Post Commander in 1883. It was a position he held a few times over the years. In 1896 he was again Post Commander when the Robert Bryan Circle 47 of the Ladies of the G.A.R (L.G.A.R). and Bryan Post 80 presented a flag to the Octavius Catto Public School. His name is

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recorded on many encampment records representing Post 80. Samuel's wife Mary Cowen Jones possibly was a member of Circle 47 of the L.G.A.R and the Bryan Women's Relief Corps.

Comrade Samuel Jones died on 7 April 1903 and is buried in Charles Evans Cemetery in Reading, Berks County, Pennsylvania. His wife Mary survived until 24 May 1931 and is buried at Eden Cemetery in Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

One man he most certainly knew was Alexander H. Newton. Sergeant Newton was covered in this newsletter in the summer issue of 2023. He was the Commissary Sergeant of the 29th Connecticut Infantry and an active member of Robeson Post 51 in Camden, which was the first Colored G.A.R. Post in New Jersey.



*29th Regiment Connecticut Volunteers, Beaufort, South Carolina
-Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division*

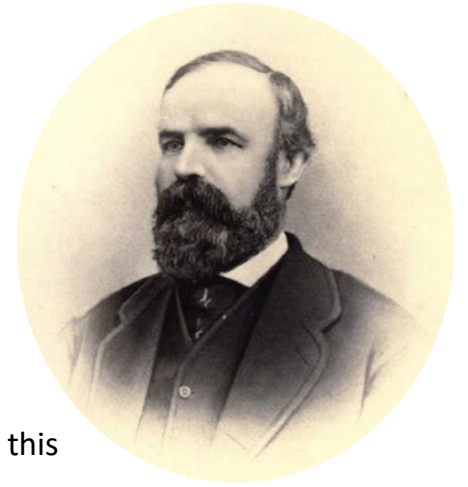
No known records for Bryan Post 80 exist. However, a binder of records for Post 80 has been developed at the G.A.R. Museum & Library at 8110 Frankford Avenue, in Philadelphia PA. The binder includes an index of **291 men** who were members of Post 80 serving in both the Army and Navy. This project was created using G.A.R. Encampment records. The encampment records capture death dates for some men, and the Company and Regiment number, or name of Ship, for many men. Other entries include their attendance at annual Department Encampments. Also utilized were newspaper articles about the Post and newspaper obituaries. Some of the newspaper articles include lists of men who served as officers of the Post.

In the absence of any official records known, this binder of information can provide helpful and useful information about these men, whose names and service should not be forgotten.

THE HERO NEXT DOOR

.....Text and Photos by Tom Donnelly

In 1858, John Clark bought the house at the northwest corner of Frankford Ave and Welsh Road in Philadelphia. John was born in Philadelphia in 1822 to an Irish American family. After school he started to work with his father as a construction contractor, mostly on public construction projects. He ended up working for the Pennsylvania Railroad, as well as many other railroads. He also worked on a number of out-of-state projects. These included the Boston waterworks and the Corton Water Project, which was to supply water to New York City. He also worked in Canada on the Welland Canal. The Welland Canal was built across the Niagara Peninsula to get water traffic around Niagara Falls. While working on this project, John met his wife.



He was a member of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange and the Common Council for the 23rd Ward. He was a successful and prominent member of the Holmesburg Community. When the Civil War started Holmesburg raised a company of infantry for service, which they called the Desilva Guard. Mr. Desilva was a local businessman who bought uniforms for the company and allowed them to drill on his land. John Clark was elected Captain of the company. The company was accepted by the state and became part of the 32nd Regiment of Volunteers. At this stage, in April of 1861, the state had raised more troops than the Federal government requested.

At first, the federal government refused to accept them. Rather than send these troops home, Gov. Curtin formed them into a Reserve Corps for the state. The 32nd was included in this group. Shortly after, the Federal government accepted these troops. They formed a solid Division of Pennsylvania troops, which was known as the Pennsylvania Reserve Division. The 32nd PA became known unofficially as the 3rd Pennsylvania Reserve regiment. The 3rd was placed in a brigade commanded by Gen. George Meade.

The Division would become famous. It was assigned to the Army of the Potomac and went to Virginia. The Division saw a lot of hard and bloody service and was in some of the most brutal fighting of the war. John Clark was with the Division for most of it. The regiment stayed with the army around Washington until the Spring of 1862, when it went to the Virginia Peninsula. During the Seven Days battle, as the Confederate Army attempted to drive the Army of the Potomac away from Richmond, the Reserves was one of the units that bore most of the fighting. They fought at Mechanicsville, Beaver Dam, Gaines Mill and Glendale. George Meade was wounded at Glendale and the 3rd Reserve lost 200 men in the fighting.

After the Peninsula Campaign, a number of vacancies occurred in the officer ranks of the 3rd PA Reserve. John Clark was elected to be lieutenant colonel of the regiment after the previous

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officer resigned. In August, the Reserve was sent to Northern Virginia to serve in John Pope's Army. Again, the Reserve was engaged in heavy fighting at the Battle of 2nd Bull Run. At the end of the battle, the Reserve held a position on Chinn Ridge to cover the retreating army from the advancing Confederates. During the battle the colonel of the 3rd Reserve became very ill, and Lt. Col. Clark had to take command. He remained in command as the regiment moved in to Maryland in pursuit of the Confederates. The regiment was present at the battle of South Mountain.

On September 17, 1862, Lt. Col Clark led the 3rd Reserve into the battle of Antietam. They fought in the brutal battle in the East Woods and Miller's Cornfield. The regiment had only 200 men going into action and lost 46 men killed and wounded, 25% of those present. Lt. Col. Clark received a painful hand wound in the action but stayed on the field.

Lt. Col Clark had led the regiment well and the regiment would again be heavily engaged at Fredericksburg, but John Clark would not be with it. The army decided his experience as a railroad builder was needed by the U.S. Military Railroad.

3rd PA Reserves Monument at Antietam



As the army moved east toward Fredericksburg, they needed a new supply line. The Army decided to use the small Port of Aquia Landing on a tributary of the Potomac River to bring supply ships in. To use this, it had to restore the Aquia Landing and the Fredericksburg Railroad to service.



The railroad had been badly damaged in the course of the war. There are a number of letters in the Official Records in which Gen. Herman Haupt writes to Gen. Burnside about the need to get the railroad in order. Haupt was in charge of the military railroad in Virginia. Haupt was also a Philadelphian and a chief engineer for the Pennsylvania RR. It can be assumed that he knew John Clark, as Lt. Col. Clark was given the job of rebuilding the railroad.

Union supply base at Aquia Landing



Rebuilt Bridge on Aquia Landing-Fredericksburg RR

The line ended up being an important Union supply line through most of 1863 and into the Overland Campaign of 1864. Even when this job was completed, Lt. Col. Clark did not return to his regiment. The military railroad sent him to help build railroads around Nashville, Tennessee. These lines were critical to the Union offensives against Chattanooga and Atlanta. John Clark rejoined his regiment when it mustered out in 1864.

After mustering out, John returned to the railroad building. He worked on a number of lines throughout Pennsylvania, but he was not done with public service. In 1867-68, he was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. Then in 1869, he became Speaker of the House. During his Speakership, the house ratified the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. John retired from the House in 1870. He passed away a few years later, at the age of 49, in 1872. He was buried at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church just up Frankford Ave from his home.

As a builder, soldier, and legislator, he accomplished many important services to his community and country. He certainly is not well known today but deserves to be remembered by his community. We remember a few of the generals, but the contributions of many people who made the generals' fame possible are often overlooked. John Clark deserves to be remembered.



OUR VETERANS IN THE NEWS AND ON THE WEB

..... by Andy Waskie

Across the county and around the world, U.S. war, military and veterans memorials stand to honor those who served in uniform and the battles they fought to protect our nation's freedoms. The American Legion is now establishing a database to identify the locations, document histories, and share photographs of our nation's monuments and memorials to those who have served.

<https://www.legion.org/memorials/241757/huntsville-madison-county-alabama-veterans-memorial>

When Your Great-Great-Great-Grandfather Is a Civil War Hero

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/when-your-great-great-great-grandfather-is-a-civil-war-hero-180983426/>

World War II heroes, ages 100 and 98, fought in Battle of the Bulge, now are grand marshals of Philly parade. This has gone viral over the nation. Jake Ruser and Benjamin Berry are now "iconic." God bless them.

<https://www.foxnews.com/lifestyle/world-war-ii-heroes-ages-100-98-fought-battle-bulge-grand-marshals-philly-parade>



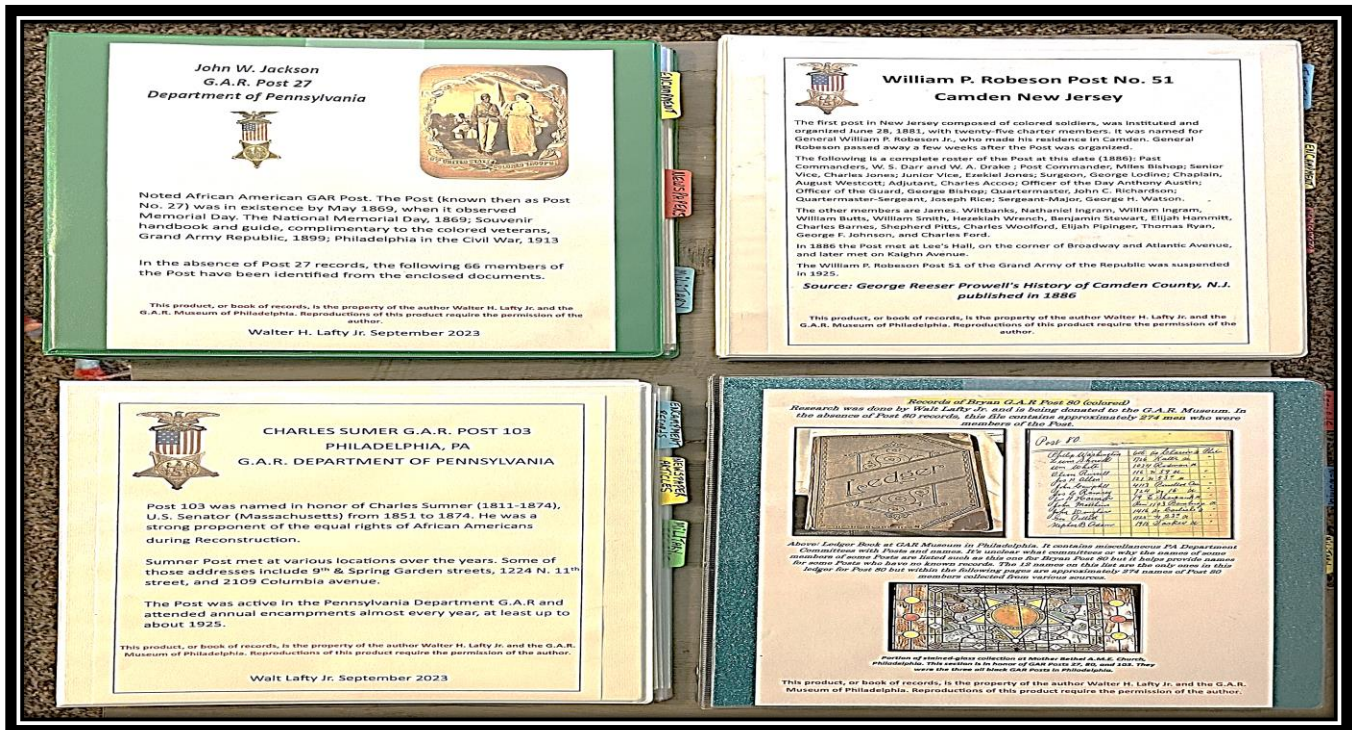
World War II veterans Benjamin Berry, left, age 100, and Jacob Ruser, age 98, are grand marshals of the 2023 Philadelphia Veterans Parade & Festival. (Courtesy Philadelphia Veterans Parade & Festival)

In Search of Records for Colored G.A.R. Posts

by Walt Lafty

It may not be a surprise to our readers that when searching for black men who served in the United States Colored Troops, the U.S. Navy, or other military units of “colored” men during the Civil War, records of their participation in the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) are hard to find. To use Pennsylvania as one example, there were approximately 645 G.A.R. Posts within that state. Only 21 were African American or “colored” posts, and of those only one (1) has records which appear to have survived. That collection of records is from Colonel Robert G. Shaw Post 206 which met in Pittsburgh. Post 206 records are held at the University of Pittsburgh as well as the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Recently, the G.A.R. Museum and Archive in Philadelphia put together a project which includes the names of over 535 men of color who were members of four various G.A.R. Posts locally to the museum. Three of those Posts were in Philadelphia and one right across the river in Camden, New Jersey.



**Jackson Post 27, Bryan Post 80, and Sumner Post 103, all in Philadelphia, PA
Robeson Post 51 Camden, New Jersey**

This project was created using G.A.R. Encampment records and newspaper accounts to put together a binder of records for each Post. The encampment records capture death dates for some men, and the company and regiment number (or name of ship) for many men. Other entries include their

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attendance at annual Department Encampments. Also utilized were newspaper articles about the Post and newspaper obituaries. Some of the newspaper articles include lists of men who served as officers of the Post.

In the end 535 men were identified within the following Posts:

- John W. Jackson Post 27 with a total of 74 men.
- William Robeson Post 51 with a total of 82 men.
- Robert Bryan Post 80 with a total of 291 men.
- Charles Sumner Post 103 with a total of 88 men.

Each binder for each Post contains an index and copies of the various records found. While many men were recorded multiple times in various documents, the index only counts them once for one account as to get an accurate total of how many men were found overall.

In the absence of any official post records known, this research technique with each binder of records can provide helpful information about these men whose names and service should not be forgotten.

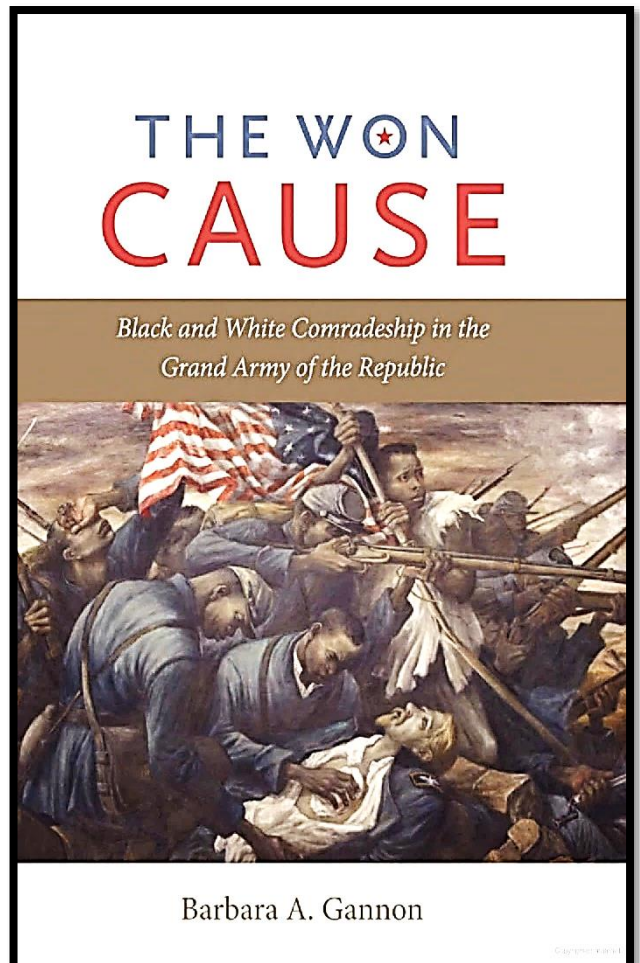
While this project only focused on those four Posts, it suggests ideas for researchers for future work on other G.A.R. Posts, whether colored, white, or integrated.

Regarding Integrated Posts, according to author Barbara A. Gannon, Pennsylvania also had 36 Posts which were integrated and accepted black men as members. Her book (photo right) highlights her groundbreaking research of black and white comradeship in the Grand Army of the Republic.

Ms. Gannon's book includes two appendices with one listing all African American G.A.R. Posts in each state. The second appendix list all Integrated G.A.R. Posts in each state.

It is a great resource for anyone conducting research of an ancestor, or any person or post for African American military service in the Civil War and the G.A.R.

For those not aware, membership in the G.A.R. was limited to honorably discharged veterans of the Union Army, Navy, Marine Corps or the Revenue Cutter Service who had served between April 12, 1861, and April 9, 1865. Race was not a requirement nor a disqualifier for membership.



A Blast From the Past

***Women of the Civil War Series By Margaret Atkinson
(Originally published in the GAR Scout in Winter 2014)***

Hetty A. Jones of Roxborough, Pennsylvania

As many women living during the Civil War Conflict, Hetty A. Jones, a resident of Roxborough, Pennsylvania, was moved to offer her services to aid the cause in any way she deemed possible. At this time in the history of Philadelphia, Roxborough was not in the city confines, but considered a township in Philadelphia County. Hetty was a maiden lady, the daughter of Horatio Gates Jones, a local minister, who later went on to author a history of the area.

At the outset of the war, Hetty made generous donations of her funds to help equip companies being organized in her own neighborhood. When she received news of the death of her oldest brother, after the initial shock, she decided to take on duties where she could help relieve the wants of suffering men. She began travelling to the Filbert Street Hospital (southeast corner of 16th & Filbert Streets in Philadelphia) and kept up this service for many months. She had a bright cheerful personality and the men felt better when she was present. One patient was quoted as saying "I have seen her sit and talk away the pain and gladden the heart of the patient." Also, when she became aware of a local soldier who was recovering at home, she visited, bringing medicine and comfort items.

In the fall of 1864 Hetty decided to accompany a friend who was going to visit his sick and wounded son at Fortress Monroe and she was further exposed to the needs of the wounded patriots. On her return home she declared her intention to use her nursing skills at the front. Family and friends tried to dissuade her because of her delicate health but she felt it her duty, and left on November 2, 1864, arriving at City Point, Virginia, the headquarters of General Grant. She became attached to the Third Division, Second Corps Hospital of the Army of the Potomac. Once again her devotion to duty and untiring energy quickly gained the affections of the soldiers.

In the latter part of November, Hetty had an attack of pleurisy, probably caused by her over-exertions in preparing a Thanksgiving Dinner for the patients. Partially recovered, she wrote to a friend, describing her tent and its accommodations. "When I was sick, I did want some home comforts, my straw bed was very hard. Even that difficulty was met. A kind lady procured some pillows from the Christian Commission, sewed them together, and made me a soft bed. But I did not complain, I was so much better off than the sick boys."

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Hetty tried to continue her nursing labors, but in her weakened state, was unable to do all that the work required. Friends urged her to return home and regain her strength. In her journal she wrote at this time "Another battle is expected and our poor crippled boys will need all the care we can give. God grant that we may do something for them!" Two days after writing this, in her chilly leaky tent, she was struck down again. At first she did not want her family notified, but her disease progressed rapidly and she finally consented that word be sent to them. Unfortunately, the day after she made this decision, she passed away on December 21, 1864.



She was laid to rest in Leverington Cemetery in Roxborough, with many of the convalescent soldiers from the Filbert Street Hospital attending the funeral. Her bier was borne by four of the recovering soldiers who had gained sufficient strength to



do so. Her gravestone can still be visited in the cemetery.

Although not as well-known as Anna M. Ross, Hetty A. Jones served valiantly although for a much shorter period of time.

She was a female hero of the Civil War as were many other women who labored for the cause but left no history of their names or activities.

In 1866 the Hetty A. Jones Post No. 12 of the Grand Army of the Republic was formed, meeting at the Post Hall, on Ridge Avenue in Roxborough, with S. Irwin Givin serving as Commander in 1866-67. In later years, a Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans and their Auxiliary were also named for her. Apparently the original building is still in existence near Roxborough High School reportedly at 422 Fountain Street. While it now appears to be an apartment house, the façade still retains an interesting feature (see photo right). (It is of interest to the writer to note that this is the second G.A.R. Post in Philadelphia to be named for a woman, when most G.A.R. Posts were named for a male officer. Perhaps the G.A.R. members in Philadelphia in the 1860s were ahead of the thinking of the times!!)



Information found in Brockett's *Woman's Work in the Civil War* published 1866

Copy of Roster of Hetty Jones GAR Post from 1892

Leverington Cemetery Information on Web Site

[Editor's Note: Walt Lafty wrote on the Hetty A. Jones Post 12, Department of Pennsylvania in his Stories of Posts of the Grand Army series in the Summer 2023 issue of the G.A.R. Scout]

***THE CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE & HISTORY INSTITUTE
AT MANOR COLLEGE
IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE DELAWARE VALLEY CWRT***

Spring Session Coming Soon

The Spring 2024 session of the Civil War & History Institutes is being finalized and will feature programs beginning in March. We are planning to offer these programs in hybrid format – that is, they will be in-person in a Manor College classroom, while being simulcast via ZOOM.

You can expect classes from Jerry Carrier, Tom Donnelly, Mike Jesberger, and Herb Kaufman.

The Civil War & History Institutes is a joint venture of Manor College and the Delaware Valley CWRT to bring the knowledge of history to both Round Table members and the general public. This venture is an effort to fulfill the tenets of the Del Val Round Table – Information, Preservation, Fellowship, and Education.

The support of the Civil War and History lovers community is needed to keep this project viable. All members of the community are encouraged to try to attend at least one program and to promote these programs among your friends and family. The importance of education and, in particular, of the study of history is more apparent every day.

To register for the programs, log on to <https://manor.edu/academics/adult-continuing-education/history-institute/>

If you are attending in-person, you will be sent a confirmation email noting the classroom location. Manor College is located at 700 Fox Chase Road in Jenkintown.

If you are attending virtually, you will be sent a link with a password that will enable you to access the program. A reminder email will be sent again within 24 hours of the start of the class.

All classes will be taught from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. with a fee of \$30.

Full details will be provided on the Manor website.



UPCOMING EVENTS

**BEFORE ATTENDING ANY EVENT,
PLEASE CHECK WITH ORGANIZERS TO MAKE SURE THE EVENT IS STILL ON!!!**

**Grand Army of the Republic Museum and Archive Sunday Community Program via Zoom
Sunday, January 14, 2024, 1:00 pm**

A FREE Virtual Online Program

“Duels, Fools, and Scoundrels of the Civil War”

Speaker – Herb Kaufman, Museum Treasurer & Curator

This presentation focuses on unusual and often controversial incidents and events. Topics include the fascinating story of murder and deceit of the incredible General Daniel E. Sickles, the strange case of Ulric Dahlgren and the plot to kill the Confederate President, the spy who was hung twice and buried in three places, dueling generals, murders, the plot to burn New York, sensational trials, and the stories of eccentric and unusual personalities and events.

Please send a request to reserve a virtual seat for this presentation to garmuslib1866@gmail.com.

You will be sent a link and password to access the program within 24 hours of the start of the presentation.

Delaware Valley CWRT Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, January 16, 2024, 7:00 pm

In-person at Radisson Hotel, Route 1 @ Old Lincoln Highway, Trevoise, PA

Simulcast via ZOOM

“Footsteps in the Snow: The Continental Line in 1776”

Speaker – Mike Jesberger, Local Historian, Lecturer, and Reenactor

This presentation recounts the very real human story of those men who marched with General George Washington in the year of the Declaration of Independence. This was the year when the entire American cause was depending on their success, without which all possibility for independence would have been crushed and the sacred ideals of the Declaration would have amounted to simply words on a worthless piece of paper. This is the story of Americans in the ranks of the army, men of every size, shape, and color, simple farmers, teachers, tradesmen, and mere boys turned into soldiers. These were the men that stayed with the Army and did not quit. They stayed because their commanding officer, General George Washington, did not quit!

If attending in person, check hotel lobby listing for meeting room location. To attend virtually via ZOOM, send an email request to Walt Lafty at wlafty51@verizon.net for the ZOOM link.

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FREE ZOOM Program Offered by the Delaware Valley CWRT

Tuesday, January 23, 2024, 7:00 pm

“Little Round Top: Who Cares?”

Speaker – Herb Kaufman

This is a controversial and thought-provoking presentation that provides a stimulating alternative view of the standard historical narrative that Little Round Top was the key to the Gettysburg battle.

You may request a seat for the virtual seminar by emailing a request to:

delawarevalleycwrt@gmail.com – Several days prior to the seminar you will receive a Zoom link.

Grand Army of the Republic Museum and Archive Sunday Community Program via Zoom

Sunday, February 4, 2024, 1:00 pm

A FREE Virtual Online Program via ZOOM

“African Americans and the Gettysburg Campaign”

Speaker – Historian James Paradis

Please follow <https://garmuslib.org/> for program updates. When the program is announced, please send a request to reserve a virtual seat for this presentation to garmuslib1866@gmail.com. You will be sent a link and password to access the program within 24 hours of the start of the presentation.

Annual Lincoln Birthday Celebration

Monday, February 12, 2024, 10:00 am

Sponsored by the Union League of Philadelphia. Civil War military units, civilians, and heritage groups are welcome and encouraged to march in the parade to honor President Lincoln on his birthday.

Participants will gather at the Union League, 140 S. Broad St. by 10:00 am.

Complimentary parking available at Laz Garage on the NW corner of 15th & Sansom St. ONLY. Arrive between 9:00 and 10:00 am and obtain a parking pass from a guard at the Sansom St. entrance, opposite the Union League garage. Proceed to Laz garage at 114 S. 15th St to park. Return to the Union League.

To register: Contact: Dr. Andy Waskie 215-423-3930 or awaski01@gmail.com

Delaware Valley CWRT Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 20, 2024, 7:00 pm

ZOOM ONLY MEETING

“Fraud of the Century: The Election of 1876”

Speaker – Historian Dr. Susan Adler

To attend virtually via ZOOM, send an email request to Walt Lafty at wlafty51@verizon.net for the ZOOM link.

GRAND ARMY SCOUT

CROHL (Citizens for the Restoration of Historical La Mott) Black History Lecture

Sunday, February 25, 2024, 3:00 PM

ZOOM Pre-Registration Required, Free Event

“The Families’ Civil War”

Speaker – Dr. Holly Pinheiro, Jr.

Dr. Holly Pinheiro Jr. is an assistant professor of African American History at Furman University and will talk about how freeborn northern African Americans struggled to maintain families while fighting against racial discrimination. In his recent book, *The Families’ Civil War*, Dr. Pinheiro, provides a compelling account of the lives of USCT soldiers and their entire families. The intersections of gender, race, class, and region will be examined to illuminate experiences of northern USCT soldiers and their families.

To reserve a virtual seat, send an email to pt@usct.org and you will be sent a link giving you access to the presentation.

FREE ZOOM Program Offered by the Delaware Valley CWRT

Tuesday, February 27, 2024, 7:00 pm

“Soldier of Faith: The Chaplains of the Civil War”

Speaker – Walt Lafty

You may request a seat for the virtual seminar by emailing a request to:

delawarevalleycwrt@gmail.com – Several days prior to the seminar you will receive a Zoom link.

Grand Army of the Republic Museum and Archive Sunday Community Program via Zoom

Sunday, March 3, 2024, 1:00 pm

A FREE Virtual Online Program via ZOOM

“The Life of Lucretia Coffin Mott”

Speaker – Historian Professor Nilgun Anadola-Okur

Please follow <https://garmuslib.org/> for program updates. When the program is announced, please send a request to reserve a virtual seat for this presentation to garmuslib1866@gmail.com. You will be sent a link and password to access the program within 24 hours of the start of the presentation.

Delaware Valley CWRT Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 2024, 7:00 pm

In-person at Radisson Hotel, Route 1 @ Old Lincoln Highway, Treose, PA

Simulcast via ZOOM

“Women Combat Soldiers of the Civil War”

Speaker – Author Dr. James Hedtke

If attending in person, check hotel lobby listing for meeting room location. To attend virtually via ZOOM, send an email request to Walt Lafty at wlafty51@verizon.net for the ZOOM link.

2024 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC CIVIL WAR MUSEUM AND & ARCHIVE

Lewis-Pattison House

8110 FRANKFORD AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19136

The Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum is a registered non-profit 501c3 corporation.

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

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Please either mail this application to the Museum with your membership check payable to "GAR Museum"

OR

Become a member through PayPal

Go to our website www.garmuslib.org

Select "MEMBERSHIP" then scroll down to PAYPAL "Donate Now".

Select the membership from the above list and pay that amount.

It is very important to us that we acknowledge your membership.

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OUR MISSION



The mission of the Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum & Archive is to preserve the heritage and history of the Civil War era through the presentation of historical programs, forums and exhibitions designed to promote a better understanding of American history.

WE ARE THE ONLY MUSEUM IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA DEDICATED TO THE HISTORY OF THE CIVIL WAR. THE G. A. R. MUSEUM IS ALSO A 501(c)3 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

GARMUSLIB1866@GMAIL.COM