

MARY CHESEBRO LEE
DETACHED TENT #23www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wimclduv/<https://www.facebook.com/duvcwmarylee>

Joe Fallon displays a Confederate Officer's Frockcoat.



Sister Shirley Grant's Memorial
June 21, 1942- July 17, 2016

**CIVIL WAR UNIFORMS "DRESS UP" MEETING**

Durable and cheap, hand sewn or machine made, two sizes – small or large describes the basic uniform of a Civil War soldier. Joe Fallon, a knowledgeable reenactor and a member of the SUVCW, C.K. Pier Camp #1 was the guest speaker for our July meeting.

Fallon's collection of museum quality uniforms includes both Union and Confederate coats, vests, trousers and hats.

Describing the typical Civil War soldier as 5'7" and 165 pounds, each carried a pack weighing 100 lbs and was issued a uniform, a hat and two pair of brogans (shoes) in addition to a firearm and accoutrements.

Coats consisted of frockcoats, sack coats, shell jackets, greatcoats and capes. An inspection stamp on the coat lining indicated where it had been manufactured. Vegetable dyes were used to produce the uniform color while the buttons were made of brass.

Union issued trousers were navy blue for officers and sky blue for infantry men. The waistband of the pants rose above the belly button and was held in place by braces (the 19th century word for suspenders).

Hats consisted of kepis, forage hats, wheel hats left from the Mexican war and brimmed hats sent from home.

Socks were made of cotton or wool while shoes were solid leather with metal heel cleats. While the shoe heels were nailed in place, the remainder of the brogan was held together by wooden pegs. They were not durable and the soldier often fought or marched bare footed.

Confederate uniforms were generally hand sewn. Colors consisted of gray or later in the war, butternut.

Union and Confederate officers ranks were denoted by epaulettes (for dress) or removable shoulder straps (for field) worn on their coats. Fallon's frockcoat denoted that he was a captain. In battle he would have removed the shoulder straps to prevent being a target for the Confederate troops.

Thanks Joe! It may have been the first "male fashion show" that many of our sisters have attended!

FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY

The next meeting of Tent #23 will held at
The Delavan Community Centre
on Tuesday, August 23, 2016 at 6:30pm

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861 -1865 126th National Convention July 21 -25 Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield, IL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



Linda Tanner-Freitag attended the Memory Banquet at the convention and enjoyed the presentation by Harriet Tubman



National President, Sally Redinger and Board of Trustees President, Carole Morton unveil the Stephenson sign at the dedication of the Library and Research Center



A unique feature of the DUVCW National Headquarters is the Memory Garden (to the left) which is located behind the Library. The lovely garden honors our Civil War ancestors, members and Tents. Tent #23 recently purchased a brick inscribed "Mary Chesebro Lee, Detached Tent #23, Delavan, Wisconsin to be placed in the garden. If you wish to purchase a brick honoring your ancestor, you may do so by going to the national web site for prices and further information. It is a wonderful way to record family history.

Wartime convention decreed that a woman mourn a husband's death for 2 ½ years progressing through the stages of heavy, full and half mourning. In contrast, a widower was expected to mourn for only three months.

**THE 127TH NATIONAL CONVENTION WILL BE HOSTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN IN GRAND RAPIDS AT THE CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
JULY 26 – 30, 2017**



Grand Army of the Republic stained glass window at the Walworth County Historical Society



Stephenson's grave site at Rose Hill Cemetery in Petersburg, IL

TENT ASSISTS WITH PRESERVATION OF GAR WINDOW

The Walworth County Historical Society received a donation of a Grand Army of the Republic stained glass window from Franklin Stoneburner.

The window had been part of the Methodist Church in Allen's Grove. Stoneburner purchased the window at a sale many years ago and had the window displayed in his home as you ascended the staircase to the second level. Prior to his death, he donated the window to the Walworth County Historical Society to be displayed with their Civil War collection.

It is the intent of the WCHS to commission the building of a "light box" so that the window can be displayed appropriately. This would not only require the "light box" but the addition of protective archival glass to insure the safety of the stained glass window.

This seems like a most appropriate project for DUVCW Tent #23 to assist with. Windows of this era and nature are extremely rare. Tent #23 has decided that it will donate \$100.00 to assist with building a lighted display case for this window. We are also hoping that our "brothers", the SUVCW will contribute to this wonderful project.

While the history of the Allen's Grove window is surrounded with speculation, it can be surmised that the Civil War veterans who had enlisted from the small town, took great pride in honoring their fallen comrades.

* It is interesting to note that our National Headquarters in Springfield, IL is fortunate to have received the donation of a GAR stained glass window from Maine.

DR. BENJAMIN STEPHENSON HONORED AT CEREMONY

The founder of the GAR was honored by the National DUVCW in Petersburg, Illinois when Carole Morton and Sally Redinger placed a wreath at the site of his grave. The local mayor and historian welcomed the "Daughters" and provided insight into Stephenson's life and achievements. A Civil War doctor and veteran who was in poor health, Stephenson died in 1871. The town of Petersburg who held him in such esteem, built a home for his widow and children. The home was a stop on the tour sponsored by the Illinois Dept. who hosted this year's convention in Springfield.

'KEEP THE MEMORY GREEN'

Recent DNA testing completed at the University of Wisconsin, Madison has decidedly confirmed that "OLD ABE" was in fact a male eagle. Testing was made possible by obtaining DNA samples from "OLD ABE'S" feathers which existed in private collections, including the LaFollete Collection.