

MARY CHESEBRO LEE
DETACHED TENT #23

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**WELCOME
ROGENE MOORE**

Rogene is our first comrade member to Tent #23. Rogene is from Manitowoc, WI and is a member of Tent #21 (Cordelia Harvey). Her ancestor was Simon H. Stockmeyer who was with the 24th Wisconsin Infantry, Company I. Rogene enjoys reenacting at the Civil War/GAR encampments, sewing her many costumes and is an active member of the Manitowoc Civil War Roundtable.



PRESENTATION ON FLAGS

We were honored to have President Susan Fallon give a presentation at our June meeting on different flags used during the Civil War. She explained that guide on flags were hung on the first sergeant's bayonet and used to keep the privates in line. Signal flags which were waved in a way that would signify a number which in turn corresponded to a letter of the alphabet. They were used to give commands during battle. Corps flags were often handstitched by women and given to a company as it marched off to war. Regimental flags were large, sometimes 8 feet tall, and represented the part of the state or region where the regiment was from. They were a morale builder and reminder to the soldiers of what they were fighting for. Men would sacrifice their lives to prevent capture of their regimental flag by the enemy.

The official policy of the Union government during the Civil War was to leave the stars representing the Confederate states on the flag. There were 33 stars when Lincoln took office and 36 when the war ended. There were 3 Confederate flags: The Stars and Bars based on the Austrian National flag, the Stainless Banner which Was pure white with the confederate stars In the corner (it was not used long since it Was often confused with a surrender flag), And the Bloodstain Banner which was the Stainless Banner with a vertical red bar. Civil War battle flags were used on both Sides and had the names of the battles that Were fought under it. They presented the best target for the enemy.



FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY

The next meeting of Tent #23 will held at
The Delavan Community Centre
on Tuesday, July 26, 2016 at 6:30pm

THIRD GAR ENCAMPMENT AT WCHS

The Walworth County Historical Society hosted Post #8 of the Grand Army of the Republic Senior Reenactors the end of June. It was the third encampment for the group who portray Civil War Veterans. In addition to the encampment, the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865, Tents 21 and 23 provided meals for “their fathers” and hosted a style show spanning the years from 1866-1920. The “daughters” along with members of the Women’s Relief Corps not only modeled the fashions but provided the audience with the history of fashion during that time period. Familiar faces on hand for the encampment included members of Post #8 who have been kind enough to provide programming for Tent #23 over the past year. Brian Staples, husband of Past President Charlene who enlightened us about artillery, Mike Wozny, Commander of Post #8 who shared his love of the GAR and its history with our Tent and noted Civil War author and Iron Brigade authority, Lance Herdegen.

The Grand Army of the Republic was founded by Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson in Decatur, IL in 1866 after the conclusion of the Civil War. Membership in the GAR included veterans of the Civil War who served the Union in the Army, Navy, Marines or U.S. Revenue Cutter Service. The GAR served as an advocacy group supporting patriotic education, voting rights, the establishment of Decoration/Memorial Day and lobbying for veterans’ pensions.

The group founded on the principles of “fraternity, charity and loyalty” had nearly 490,000 members at its peak. The GAR was dissolved in 1956 when Albert Woolson, its last member died in Duluth, Minnesota. The Grand Army of the Republic was succeeded by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War who carry on the legacy of their “fathers”.



(above) Members of GAR Post #8 Senior Reenactors



(above) Women from Tents #21 and #23, Women’s Relief Corps and GAR Post #8



(right) Fashion show participants from Tents #21 and #23 and members of the Women’s Relief Corps

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Shirley Grant celebrated her 74th birthday at the end of June. She sends her gratitude and appreciation to the sisters in the tent who sent cards to cheer her regarding her illness.



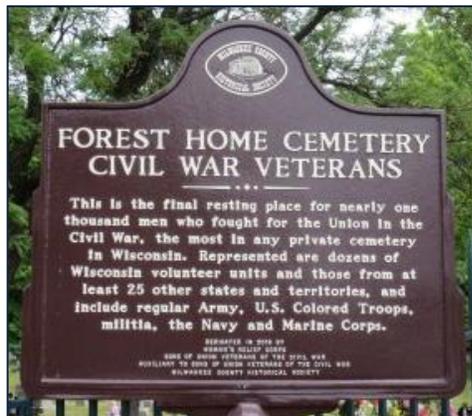
NAVY NEPHEW RETURNS TO GUAM

Barbara Steurer's nephew, James, has returned to duty in Guam. It will be two years before he will be able to come home again.



SONS OF UNION VETERANS UNVEIL PLAQUE

At Milwaukee's Historic Forest Home Cemetery on Sunday, June 12th, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and its Auxiliary unveiled a plaque at the entrance to the cemetery commemorating over one thousand Union veterans buried on the grounds. The ceremony included remarks by the SUVCW's National Commander-in-Chief, Gene Mortorff, as well as member Tom Ludka and the Woman's Relief Corps' Marge Beres, who researched each grave. Musket volleys were fired and Taps was played. There was a walking tour afterward for anyone who wanted to learn more about some of the Union veterans buried there. Tent #23 President Susan Fallon participated in the ceremony in period dress.



Welcome to Linda Tanner-Freitag who will replace Pam Johnson as Tent Secretary!