

MARY CHESEBRO LEE  
DETACHED TENT #23[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wimclduv/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wimclduv/)

## MEET YOUR SISTER



Charlene Staples, our senior vice president has been a lifelong resident of Walworth County. As an authentic Civil War era reenactor, she and her husband Brian (who portrays a Civil War soldier) were recently filmed at Old World Wisconsin. The documentary being made will be shown at the Kenosha Civil War Museum this fall. Charlene has been president of the AFSCME Walworth County employee's union and is a political activist. When not working at the Lakeland Nursing Home, Charlene enjoys her three dogs and cats!



## FIELD TRIP TO THE CEMETERY

Before our meeting July 25, our Tent met at Spring Grove Cemetery in Delavan. After a brief ceremony at his gravesite, Pat placed a new GAR marker for John Brabazon to replace the one that was missing. Afterward, we walked to the Civil War monument where Restoration Committee Chairman Ken Wargo gave an update on the progress of the restoration project. Over \$12,000 has been raised toward the goal of \$20,000. The monument has already been cleaned, and there are plans to replace the star-shaped sidewalks and the base of the monument. It is possible that the work may be done by 9/11.

*(right) Pat placing the  
GAR marker at John  
Brabazon's gravestone*



*(left) Ken Wargo  
addressing  
Tent #23 at the  
Delavan Civil  
War Monument*

## FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY

The next meeting of Detached Tent #23  
will be held at 6:30pm on July 23, 2013  
at the Delavan Community Centre.

Refreshments will be provided by Barb Steurer and Ann Day



### 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF BATTLES

**“The Battle of Gettysburg, July 1 - 3, 1863** In June 1863, Confederate general Robert E. Lee began to carry out his bold plan to invade Pennsylvania and perhaps deal a decisive blow to the Union. By the end of the month, troops from his Army of Northern Virginia had moved out of Fredericksburg, VA, and crossed the Potomac River into Maryland, on their way toward Pennsylvania. There, on July 1, near the small town of Gettysburg, Lee’s forces would meet those of Major General George Gordon Meade, the newly appointed Union commander of the Army of the Potomac. The ensuing three-day Battle of Gettysburg — in places soon known across the nation as the Peach Orchard, Little Round Top, and Devil’s Den — was the largest battle fought during the war and Lee’s first major defeat. Casualties exceeded 50,000, including more than 7,500 killed or mortally wounded. For Lee’s forces and the South, Gettysburg has often been called the ‘high water mark of the Rebellion.’

**“The Siege at Vicksburg, April 16 - July 4, 1863** Taking place at the same time in the western theater was the climax of the longest and most complex military campaign of the Civil War: the Battle of Vicksburg. A busy port city, Vicksburg was the last major Confederate stronghold preventing the Union from gaining complete control over the Mississippi River. President Abraham Lincoln considered its capture “the key” to bringing the war to an end. After the U.S. Navy was unable to bombard the city into submission, General Ulysses S. Grant planned and implemented what has been called ‘the greatest amphibious operation in American history up to that time.’ Grant marched his troops south along the western bank of the Mississippi River, and the Navy transported more than 20,000 men east across the river to an undefended site well below Vicksburg. The troops then mounted an attack from the open ground east of the city. Their assault began on May 19, but a long siege commenced after frontal attacks failed. Finally, six weeks into the siege and with the city in ruins, Confederate General John C. Pemberton arranged a meeting with Grant and surrendered on July 4, one day after the Union victory at Gettysburg.”

([http://about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2013/pr13\\_054.htm](http://about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2013/pr13_054.htm))



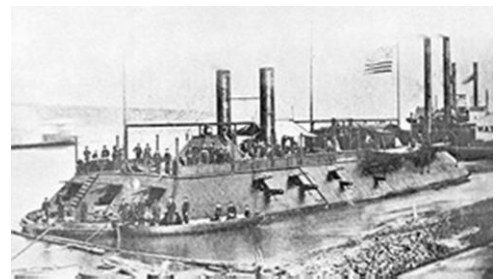
**Little Round Top - Gettysburg**

(<http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/gettysburg-battle-pictures.htm>)



**Vicksburg during the Civil War**

(<http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/siege-vicksburg.htm>)



**USS Cairo – Union Ironclad sunk near Vicksburg**

(<http://www.nps.gov/vick/u-s-s-cairo-gunboat.htm>)

“...But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate. . . we cannot consecrate. . . we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract.

The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.”

*President Abraham Lincoln - The Gettysburg Address, November 19, 1863*

“...what armies and how much of the war I have seen...what thousands of marching troops, what fields of slain, what prisons, what hospitals, what ruins, what cities in ashes, what hunger and nakedness, what orphanage, what widowhood, what wrongs and what vengeance.”

*Clara Barton*



### THE USPS & THE CIVIL WAR



On May 7, 1833, Abraham Lincoln was appointed postmaster of the New Salem, Illinois post office. He served in this position until 1836, when the New Salem Post Office was closed and he won re-election to the Illinois House of Representatives. He was the only U.S. President to have served as a town postmaster. On July 1, 1863, Free City Delivery Service was begun by the U.S. Postal Service to 49 post offices in Northern States. The new system was very successful, and after the Civil War ended thousands of veterans found employment as letter carriers, including many disabled veterans. The Postal Service continues its tradition of hiring veterans to this day. Over 1/5<sup>th</sup> of the half-million people employed by the USPS today are veterans. A series of commemorative Civil War stamps are being issued for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War. The most recent stamps feature the battles of Gettysburg and Vicksburg. (information from the Smithsonian National Postal Museum and the United States Postal Service websites)

### FUNDRAISING GARAGE SALE

On Friday, July 28 and Saturday, July 29, Detached Tent #23 held a garage sale to raise funds for the Delavan Civil War Monument restoration project.

Thanks to all our Sisters who donated their items and time, and special thanks to Merrybell for volunteering the use of her garage for the sale. There was a fantastic turnout and the sale was very successful, as can be seen by the before (top) and after (bottom) pictures. At the end of the sale, several boxes of household items were boxed up for donation to Homeless Veterans Transitional Housing Program in Janesville.



A West Point graduate, Lt. Alonzo Cushing was only 22 when he led the surviving members of his battery to the stone wall during Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863. He was wounded three times during the battle and died on the field of his wounds. It was owing to his bravery that the advancing Virginians were held off long enough for the Union troops to reorganize. An effort to award the Delafield, Wisconsin native a posthumous Medal of Honor was recently thwarted by a lone senator from Virginia.

Items needed for the Homeless Veterans Transitional Housing Program in Janesville include pillows, pillowcases, sheets, dishes, pots & pans, silverware, coffee mugs, water bottles, dish soap, hand soap, towels, denture cups/cleaner, dental flossers, Q-tips, mouthwash, and contact solution. If you have any items you would like to donate, please bring them to our meeting. **Please no more books or clothing at this time!**

### CEMETERY WALK SATURDAY, JULY 27

Held at Spring Grove Cemetery in Delavan. Please let Pat know if you would be interested in helping out as a hostess, guide, reenactor, or in any other way.

