

MARY CHESEBRO LEE DETACHED TENT #23

<https://www.marychesebroleewi23.org>

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

TENT 23 CELEBRATES HOLIDAYS

Several members of the Tent met at the Wagon Wheel in Delavan to celebrate the holidays. We were able to meet our new member, Cheryle Jakum from Sheboygan as well as welcome long-time member Ann Day whose work schedule does not permit her to attend meetings. It was a wonderful afternoon!



Duv Natalie Scott crouches near the gravestone of John Wayles Jefferson, grandson of Thomas Jefferson. Buried in Forest Hill Cemetery, Natalie plans to do research so that Tent 23 can honor this Civil War Colonel. See page 2



FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY



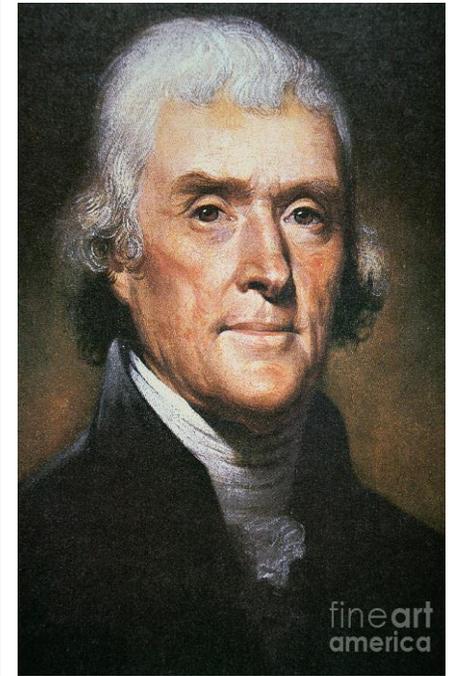
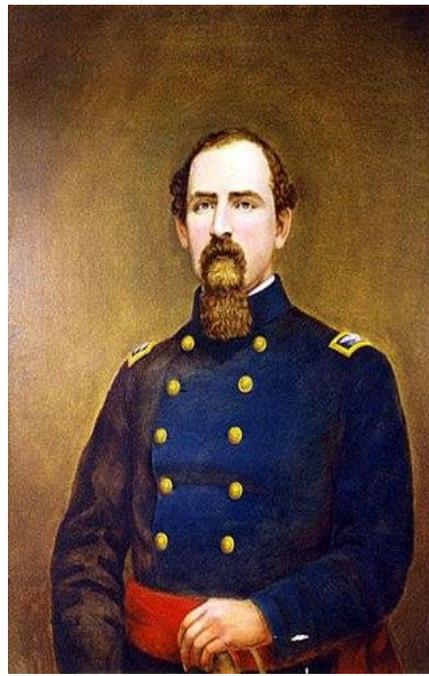
The next meeting of Tent #23 will held at
The Delavan Community Centre
on Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 6:30pm

TENT 23 HOPES TO HONOR THOMAS JEFFERSON'S GRANDSONS: JOHN WAYLES JEFFERSON and BEVERLY FREDRICK JEFFERSON

As America 250 (the birth of our republic) approaches and will be celebrated in 2026, Tent 23 is making preparations to honor John Wayles Jefferson who is the grandson of Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemmings. John was born into slavery. Hemmings was the half-sister of Jefferson's late wife, Martha Wayles Skelton and enslaved to the Jefferson family. Initially due to the slave laws of Virginia, Sally and Thomas' children bore the surname Hemmings. It was not until John's family moved from Ohio to Madison, Wisconsin when he was 17, did his father, Eston Hemmings, change their surname from Hemmings to Jefferson reflecting their ancestry.

At the age of 26, Jefferson entered the volunteer Union Army on August 26, 1861, at Madison, Wisconsin. He served in the 8th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment during the American Civil War. On September 28, 1861, he was promoted to major; to lieutenant colonel on April 23, 1863; and to colonel on June 16, 1864. He fought in significant battles of the war and was wounded at Vicksburg and during the Siege of Corinth. He was mustered out of service on October 11, 1864, at Madison, Wisconsin. His brother, Beverly Frederick Jefferson, also served as a white soldier in the Union Army. According to service records, John Jefferson had red hair and gray eyes (as did Thomas Jefferson). Photographs show his strong resemblance to Thomas Jefferson.

Jefferson wrote as a newspaper correspondent during and after the war, publishing articles about his experiences. After the war, he moved to Memphis, Tennessee, where he became a highly successful cotton broker, founding the Continental Cotton Company. Jefferson never married. He died on June 12, 1892. He was interred in Madison, Wisconsin, in the Jefferson family plot at Forest Hill Cemetery.



Left Photo: John W. Jefferson's headstone in Forest Hill Cemetery, one of the first U.S. National Cemeteries in Wisconsin

Center Photo: John Wayles Jefferson, grandson of Thomas Jefferson

Right Photo: President Thomas Jefferson, 3rd President of the United States

***Beverly Frederick Jefferson's biography will be featured in the February newsletter.**



I, as an Honorably discharged USMC veteran would like to thank the Daughters, notably, the Mary Chesebro Lee Tent, that sent me a Christmas gift at a time in my life when I felt like my own family and country had forgotten me and my fathers and mothers who all served before me. The Daughters showed up for me, with a simple gift, and in doing so not only warmed my heart and made me smile, but also honored those who served before and shaped the course of this great nation. The Fathers would be proud of you. I am proud of you. And I appreciate your service. And, as indicated above, my given name is not Saari. I am a Clark. And I am grateful for your compassion.

William Clark

My wish for 2025:

May your troubles be less
 May your blessings be more
 And nothing but happiness
 Come through your door!

**You're invited to our
 55th Annual**

**Patriotic Luncheon
 Honoring Presidents**

**Washington, Lincoln and
 McKinley**

**Saturday, February 1, 2025 at
 12:30 p.m.**

**"The Devil is in the Details:
 Lincoln & Temperance"**

**Guest Speaker: Steve Rogstad
 Luncheon buffet price \$27**

**Location: Alioto's Restaurant
 3041 N. Mayfair Rd.,
 Wauwatosa, Wis.**

**Hosted by C.K. Pier Badger
 Camp #1 and Auxiliary #4
 Sons of Union Veterans of the
 Civil War**

**For more information, call
 (414) 614-3690**

Dear Mr. Clark,

I was completely stunned by the gratitude you expressed regarding our "simple" gift to you from the Mary Chesebro Lee Tent 23. Though I act as the National Contact Us Advisor for the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865, I am the Co-President of Tent 23 located in Delavan. I will share your comments with my "sisters" at our next meeting.

It has been our holiday tradition for the past 12 years to honor those veterans that reside at Housing 4 Our Vets. In addition, we participate in the "adopt a vet" program at your facility.

Our organization continues to thank those who have served in our military and are current military personnel for the freedom which we enjoy. Again, thank you for your service!

May your troubles be less, your blessings be more and nothing but happiness come through your door.

Best regards,

Pat Blackmer

Contact Us Advisor

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865

LADIES, YOU DO WONDERFUL THINGS!