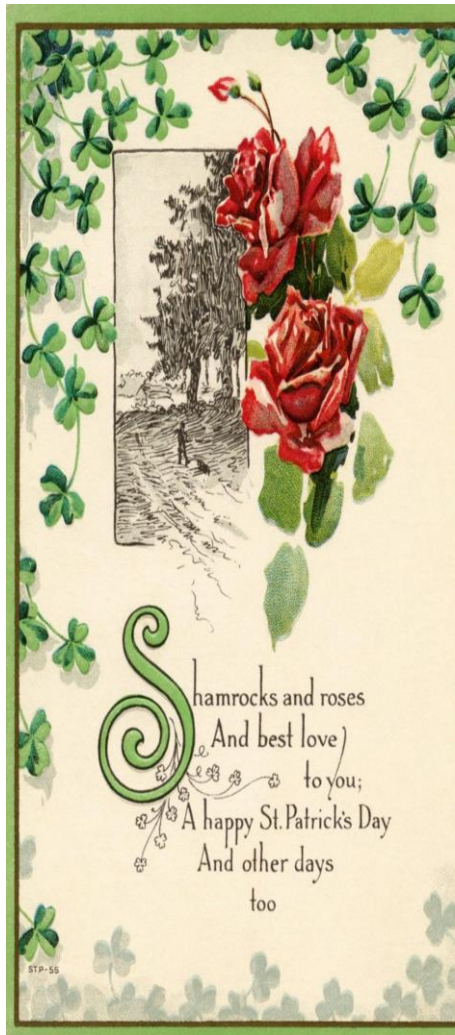


MARY CHESEBRO LEE

DETACHED TENT #23

<https://www.marychesebroleewi23.org>

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



How Many Irish Fought in the American Civil War?

The Great Hunger, the Irish Famine of 1845-51, happened just a few short years before the breakout of the Civil War and thrust millions of young Irish men, women and children into the US melting pot of the time. It's estimated that wartime America had 1.6 million Irish born immigrants.

It's estimated that up to 200,000 Irish Americans fought in the American Civil War, with 150,000 on the Union side and approximately 30,000-40,000 on the Southern Confederacy side.

Many joined of their freewill, as they fully accepted America as their new homeland, but others were drafted by the controversial Enrollment Act of March 3, 1863. This controversial move, by the Union, lead to bloody battles in the form of the Detroit Race Row of March 6th 1863 and the New York Draft Riots of July 13-16th of the same year.

Many of the Irish formed units and regiments of their own people. The 69th New York State Volunteers, 90th Illinois Infantry Regiment and the Wisconsin Irish Brigade on the Union side while the 24th Georgia Volunteer Infantry and Louisiana Tigers were of those on the Confederate side. (Excerpts from Emerald Heritage)



FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY

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

ESTON HEMMINGS JEFFERSON

Eston Hemmings Jefferson was born to Sally Hemmings, a mixed-race slave, on May 21, 1808 in Monticello, Virginia. DNA evidence in 1998 supported the widely accepted conclusion that he was the son of Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the United States who was the principal author of the Declaration of Independence.

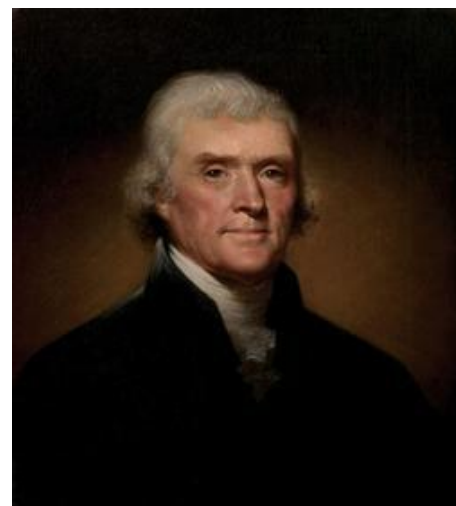
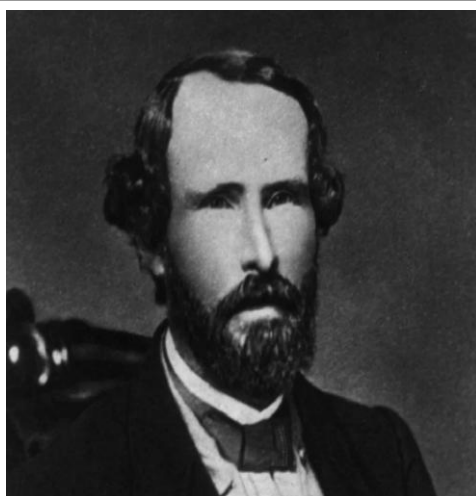
Eston's mother, Sally Hemmings was the youngest daughter of a widowed planter, John Wayles and his mixed race slave, Betty Hemmings, and therefore, was three-quarters European in ancestry. She was also the step-sister of Jefferson's wife, Martha Wayles.

Even though Eston was born a slave, he was allowed to stay around the Jefferson household and was required to perform light duties like running errands. He was taught carpentry at Monticello. Following in the footsteps of Jefferson, who regularly played the violin when Eston was young, he also learned to play the instrument at a young age.

In 1832, Eston married Julia Ann Isaacs, the daughter of David Isaacs, a successful Jewish merchant from Germany, and Nancy West, the daughter of former slave Priscilla and her white master Thomas West. The couple had three children together, John Wayles Hemmings, born in 1835; Anne Wayles Hemmings, born in 1836; and Beverly Frederick Hemmings, born in 1838.

While living in Cillicothe, Ohio when the Fugitive Slave Act was passed in 1850, the towns along the Underground Railroad were overrun by slave catchers who often captured and sold free people into slavery. To ensure the safety of his family, Eston Hemmings moved to Madison, Wisconsin in 1852 and dropped the black surname Hemmings in favor of the white Jefferson surname.

He died at the age of 47 on January 3, 1856 in Madison, Wisconsin and is buried in the Forest Hill Cemetery. (Excerpts from The Famous People biographies)



Photos: Left: Eston Hemmings-Jefferson
Center: Eston Jefferson's restored gravestone at Forest Hill Cemetery
Right: Thomas Jefferson

Our meeting on March 25 will be a Power Point presentation on "The Jeffersons in Wisconsin" in honor of America 250. It is the intention of Tent 23 to honor Col. John Wayles Jefferson and Beverly Frederic Jefferson who are at rest in Forest Hill Cemetery in Madison with commemorative GAR grave markers.



Ben Hobbins, Commander of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Camp #2 Colonel Henry Harnden in Madison was recently honored by the Department of Defense, earning a National Service Award for the Vietnam War Commemoration Program as an official Program Partner.

Dept of Defense VWC Director, Maj General Edward J. Chrystal Jr., US Army, issued Ben an "Outstanding Partner" national service award. The DOD flew Western District Vietnam War Commemoration Director Major Alec Lange, US Army to make the Official Presentation in Indian Wells, CA.

The National Freedom and Liberty Tree Project is the principal acting DOD Vietnam War Commemoration Partner represented by Executive Director Ben Hobbins and Secretary Ashley-Anne Hobbins.

"We thank the Department of Defense for working so effectively with our non-profit, NFALTP, over the years, allowing us to organize, and help celebrate our Vietnam era Veterans and all Veterans, America, our Military branches, our Flag, Constitution, Family and Community values across the nation."

The Surrender of Lee to Grant at Appomattox Court House

The surrender of Confederate General Robert E. Lee to Union General Ulysses S. Grant on April 9, 1865, at Appomattox Court House, marked the end of the Civil War in the United States. This event is considered one of the most significant turning points in American history, signaling the defeat of the Confederacy and the preservation of the Union.

The American Civil War, which began in 1861, was a brutal conflict fought over issues including states' rights and slavery. By 1865, the war had taken a tremendous toll on the nation, with countless lives lost and widespread destruction. The Confederate Army, led by General Robert E. Lee, had been struggling against the increasingly powerful Union forces under General Ulysses S. Grant.

The two generals met at the home of Wilmer McLean in Appomattox Court House. The atmosphere was solemn yet respectful. Lee, dressed in full military regalia, and Grant, in a simple field uniform, represented the stark contrast between the dignified Southern aristocracy and the pragmatic Northern leadership. Grant offered generous terms to Lee and his men. The Confederate soldiers were to lay down their arms, but they were allowed to return home with their personal belongings, horses, and sidearms. Additionally, Grant ensured that none of the men would be prosecuted for treason. This decision was aimed at fostering reconciliation and healing the divided nation.



Photo: (Above Left) L-R, Ben Hobbins, Maj. Alec Lange, Ashley-Anne Hobbins Photo: (Above) Appomattox

Join the Allied Orders on March 22 at the Kenosha Civil War Museum for an Expo. Tent 23 will have a display at the event which lasts from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.