FEBRUARY 2015

DAUGHTERS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865 MARY CHESEBRO LEE DETACHED TENT #23

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wimclduv/

https://www.facebook.com/duvcwmaryclee

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Terri DeVoy, past Jr. VP and charter member of Tent #23, passed away on Feb. 2 at the age of 49 after a long battle with cancer. She graduated from DDHS in 1984 and lived in Delavan her whole life until relocating to Lake Geneva in 2013. She worked in education for 12 years, served as an EMT for the Delavan Rescue Squad and Mental Health Counselor for the American Red Cross. Terri was also a member the Walworth Genealogical of Society. Terri is survived by her husband, Bruce, and sons Jordan and Cody. Always cheerful and positive, she will be greatly missed by our Tent.



The Civil War Expo at the Civil War Museum in Kenosha is held every year to educate the public on all aspects of the Civil War. This year, Tent #23 will be one of the twenty organizations represented at the Expo on Sat. March 21st from 11-4. Jenna Theissen, Historical Timekeepers event coordinator and guest speaker at our September meeting, is hoping the Expo will once again "highlight all aspects of the Civil War, from military to civilian, from Round Table groups to Sons and Daughters of the Union Veterans groups, from Union to Confederate." There will also be presentations that afternoon:

**1pm** – William W. Robinson, Colonel of the 7th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Learn about Col. Robinson's service in the Iron Brigade in this program performed by his descendent, Paul Johnson.

**2:30pm** – A Musical Concert by the Old Soldier Fiddlers. Songs of the Civil War come to life with fiddles, banjos, and sing-alongs.



(photo and information from http://www.kenosha.org/wpcivilwar/events/)



FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY

The next meeting of Tent #23 will held at the Delavan Community Centre at 6:30pm on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 /// /// ///

# **Types of Civil War-Era Valentines**

**"Puzzle Purse** valentines were a puzzle to read and to refold. Scattered among their many folds were verses that had to be read in a certain order.

Acrostic valentines had verses in which the first letter of the lines spelled out the loved one's name.

**Cutout** valentines were made by folding the paper several times and then cutting out a lacelike design with scissors.

**Pinprick** valentines also had the look of paper lace. These were made by pricking tiny holes in paper with a pin or needle.

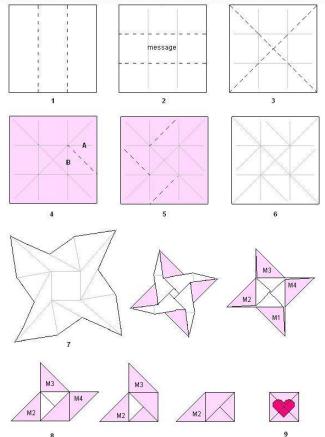
**Theorem or Poonah** valentines had designs that were painted through a stencil cut in oil paper, a style that originated from the Orient. A coat of gum arabic kept the paint from running.

**Rebus** valentines had verses in which tiny pictures took the place of some of the words. An eye might stand for the word I, a heart shape for the word heart.

**Fraktur valentines** had ornamental lettering in the style of illuminated manuscripts of the Middle Ages.

**Love Knot** valentines were made of ribbon or drawn on paper and consisted of graceful loops, sometimes in the shape of hearts. On the loops were written messages that read by turning the knot about."

(from: <u>http://home.kendra.com/victorianrituals/Victor/val.htm</u>)



#### **PUZZLE PURSE INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Start with a square piece of paper. Valley-fold it into thirds. Unfold.
- 2. Repeat in the opposite orientation. You will have the outline of 9 smaller squares. Write a message in the center square.
- 3. Fold the paper in half on the diagonal to form a triangle. Unfold and repeat on the other orientation.
- 4. Turn the paper over. Bring crease A over-top crease B. Press firmly to form a new crease on the diagonal of the smaller square.
- 5. Repeat on the remaining 3 sides.
- 6. Turn the paper over and twist close the paper into a pinwheel.
- 7. First, re-enforce the 4 creases around the central square. As you do this, the 4 sides of the paper will rise up away from the central square. Twist these sides along their crease lines to form a pinwheel.
- 8. Write messages on the 4 arms of the pinwheel, like: M1: Roses are Red, M2: Violets are Blue. M3: You are pretty, M4: And very smart too.
- 9. Fold the bottom arm of the pinwheel up (M1). Going anti-clockwise, continue to fold the arms inwards allowing them to overlap. Tuck the last arm (M2) under M1.
- 10. On top of the puzzle purse, draw a picture and indicate which arm of the pinwheel is to be pulled out first.

**How it Works:** The recipient receives the puzzle purse and pulls out M1 and reads the message. M2 is loose and can be read. Once M2 is moved aside, M3 and M4 can then be read. The recipient then pulls open the paper to reveal the inner message. The challenge is for the recipient to refold the puzzle purse into its original form with the picture on top.



(Purse instructions reprinted from <u>http://www.origami-resource-center.com/puzzle-</u> purse-instructions.html)

### MARY CHESEBRO LEE **DETACHED TENT #23**

## **INFLUENCE OF THE GORILLA CRAZE**

One of the nicknames the Confederates had for Abraham Lincoln was the "Gorilla." Even Edwin Stanton, when he was still a critic of Lincoln before he was elected President, had called him "the Original Gorilla." This reflects an interest at that time in Africa and the "gorilla craze" inspired by London adventurer Paul Du Chaillu. During a trip to Africa in 1856, Du Chaillu came face to face with actual gorillas, which until that time had been mysterious, mythical beasts. At the time of his trip, Charles Darwin was finishing On the Origin of Species, and the discovery of the gorillas fueled the debate about whether humans had evolved. In the U.S., "gorilla" became a dehumanizing name for blacks, and part of Civil War propaganda. While Du Chaillu himself observed that the "blackness" of the skin of native Africans did not correspond to savageness, some religious fundamentalists believed that blacks should grouped with gorillas be and considered beasts, and that slavery was a biblically commanded.

(info from Between Man and Beast: An Unlikely Explorer, the Evolution Debates, and the African Adventures that Took the Victorian World by Storm, by Monte Reel)

#### THE CONFEDERADOS OF BRAZO

"The Americana municipality, in São Paulo, Brazil, is home to a very unique subculture - the Confederados...descendants of 10,000 Confederate refugees who chose to leave the United States after they lost the American Civil War. Today, the Confederados make up 10% of Americana's population; they've managed to preserve the unique culture and traditions belonging to the Confederate South of the 19th century.

"When the war ended in 1865, many former Confederates were unwilling to live under the rule of the Union...so when Emperor Dom Pedro II of Brazil sent recruiters to the Southern States of Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia, South Carolina and Texas to pick up experienced cotton farmers, many disgruntled Southerners jumped at the opportunity.

"...Between 1866 and 1867, 10,000 Confederates emigrated from their home country... It was the largest and only recorded exodus in the history of the United States; the people who left are sometimes referred to as the Lost Colony of the Confederacy.

"Understandably, starting a new life wasn't as easy as expected drought, tropical disease and the inability to continue their former lifestyle discouraged many of the Confederates and they fled back home. Eventually, only 40 percent of the original refugees remained in Brazil.

"Today, the 120,000 Confederado descendants continue to celebrate

their history with an annual festival and quarterly memorial services. Fiesta Confederada... is a celebration that includes Confederate flags, parades of people dressed in Confederate uniforms, pre-war Southern cuisine and elaborate Southern-style dancing."



(Photo of the house of the first confederate family in Americana from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Casa\_dos\_Norris.jpg (article from http://www.odditycentral.com/travel/the-confederate-south*still-lives-in-brazil.html*)

Did vou know.

(information from Trivial Pursuit question cards) ...that three of the floors of Ford's Theatre collapsed on the day John Wilkes Booth's brother Edwin died? ...that Robert E. Lee was Lincoln's first choice to lead the Union Army? that Abe Lincoln was once shocked to see his son Tad waving a Confederate flag while he was reviewing troops?

**FEBRUARY 1864 EVENTS**: (information from <u>http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/february-1865-civil-war.htm</u>) On Feb. 1, Illinois became the first state to ratify the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Lincoln met with representatives from the Confederacy on Feb. 3 but rejected their peace plan based on an independent South. He insisted that America was one nation and that until the Union was restored, nothing else would be discussed. During February, Charleston, Columbia and Wilmington (the last port possess by the Confederates) were all taken by Union troops.