

MARY CHESEBRO LEE
DETACHED TENT #23www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wimclduv/<https://www.facebook.com/duvcwmarylee>**UPCOMING EVENTS****June 12 at 1:30pm**SUVCW Monument
Dedication and Tour of
Historic Forest Home
Cemetery, Milwaukee**June 25 & 26****10:00am – 4:00pm**Grand Army of the Republic
Encampment, Walworth
County Historical Society,
Elkhorn**July 4 at 3:00pm**

Fourth of July Parade, Delavan

July 21-25DUVCW National
Convention, Springfield,
Illinois**SUSAN FALLON'S ANCESTOR RECEIVES
GRAVE MARKER FOR SERVICE**

The family of Ludwig Charles Marks along with representatives from the Allied Orders met at the St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church outside of Chilton, WI to honor his service as a Civil War veteran. Marks had never become a member of the GAR and received no military rites when he was buried in April 1889. A Prussian immigrant to the United States, he enlisted in the Wisconsin 18th Regiment, Co. I, serving in Sherman's Army. While on picket duty he incurred pneumonia which eventually resulted in his lifelong asthma condition. Honored on Saturday, May 14th at his grave site, Marks received a bronze marker for his service. Present at the ceremony were Commander Patrick Fallon of C.K. Pier Camp 1 of the SUVCW, Joseph Fallon and Tom Miller of the SUVCW, Susan Fallon who orchestrated the event and represented the Women's Auxiliary to the SUVCW, Charlene Staples, President of the Mary Chesebro Lee, Tent #23 in Delavan, WI DUVCW and Pat Blackmer who attended the ceremony on behalf of the Women's Relief Corps, W.H. Bennett, Post #71 of Richland Center, WI. Susan Fallon read a letter sent by the National President of the Ladies of the GAR who was unable to attend.

(from left: Charlene, Pat, Laura Abrahamson and Susan Fallon (3rd great-granddaughters of Marks), Joseph Fallon (4th great-grandson of Marks), Patrick Fallon. & Tom Miller.)

**FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY**

The next meeting of Tent #23 will held at
The Delavan Community Centre
on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at 6:30pm

AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN LANCE HERDEGEN SPEAKS TO TENT

Tent 23 was thrilled to have Lance Herdegen, “the Iron Historian” as our speaker at the April meeting. Herdegen is considered one of the foremost leading authorities on the Iron Brigade in the entire country. A graduate of Marquette University with a degree in journalism found Herdegen working for the UPI news service. Following what he described as a collapse of the newspaper industry he hired on at Carroll College where he was the Director of Civil War Studies. Currently, Herdegen is an Historical Consultant for the Civil War Museum in Kenosha and the author of seven books on the Civil War.

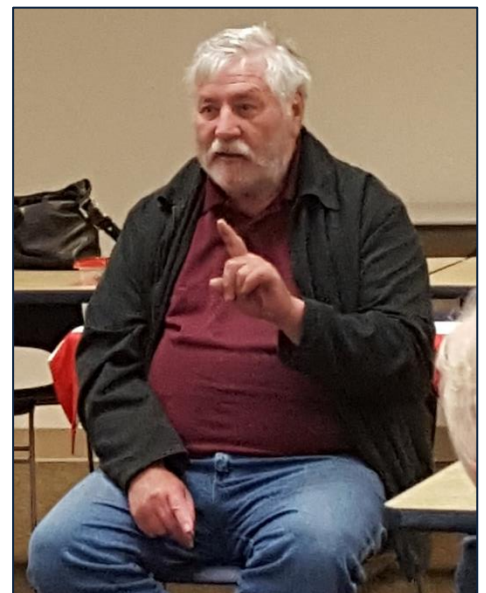
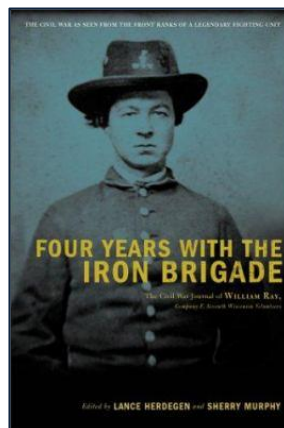
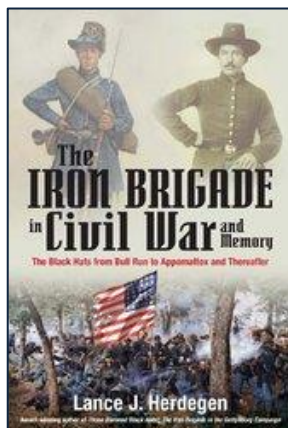
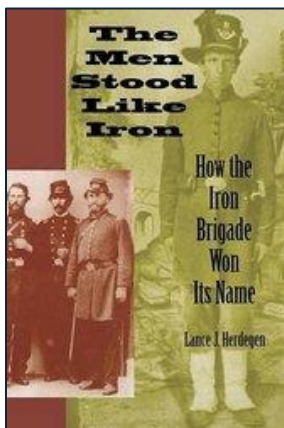
Herdegen describes his interest in the war effort as one of the social impact that the war had on families, individual soldiers and society. Relating stories that he has researched through studying diaries and letters from the Civil War era he captivates his audience with his unique ability to “spin a yarn”.

Herdegen discussed the impact that slavery had on our Wisconsin troops, who for the most part had never met a “person of color”. Many of the veterans of the War wondered whether the fighting was in fact worth it and with the end of slavery as a result felt some redemption.

During the war, runaway slaves were considered contraband. It was no wonder that slaves gathered around the northern troops who accepted them. Herdegen related the story of Matt Bernard who was a 60 year old slave from the Bernard Plantation in Fredericksburg, VA. Bernard sought refuge with troops from Prairie du Chien when he signed on as a cook for the men in the 6th Regiment. Another story was related regarding Richard Epps, a 16 year old runaway who also became a cook for Wisconsin troops. Epps had run away from the Epps Plantation near City Point, VA and was befriended by a soldier who patiently taught him to read around the campfire. When the soldier was fatally injured in the Battle of the Crater, Epps dragged his body out of the pit and cried for 12 hours mourning his friend. He promised to erect a monument to the Wisconsin soldier. Epps eventually became a teacher and the President of a black college in the south. He kept his promise by erecting a granite monument at the site of the Battle of the Crater to honor the Wisconsin soldier who changed his life.

Herdegen also discussed the post-traumatic stress of soldiers after the war citing stories of Wisconsinites who arrived home and were unable to integrate back into the families they left or the lives they lived before enlisting. He indicated that the melancholia and depression these men felt was known as “Soldier’s Heart”!

Everyone present resoundingly agreed that Lance Herdegen be invited back to “spin more yarns”.



Lance Herdegen (right) and several of the books he has written on the Civil War (above). His other books include *Those Damned Black Hats!; The Iron Brigade in the Gettysburg Campaign; In the Bloody Railroad Cut at Gettysburg; The 6th Wisconsin of the Iron Brigade and its Famous Charge; and In the Bloody Railroad Cut at Gettysburg.*

CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNUAL LINCOLN TOMB CEREMONY

Pat Blackmer represented the Mary Chesebro Lee Tent when she attended the 60th Lincoln Tomb Observance at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, Illinois on April 16th sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS).

The event commemorated the 151st anniversary of the death of President Abraham Lincoln. A military processional of members of the SUVCW and related reenactment units began the ceremony followed by the Posting of the Colors and the original National Anthem played by the 33rd Illinois Volunteer Regimental Band. Don Martin, the Senior Vice Commander in Chief of the Sons presented the Welcoming Address while SUVCW Commander Eugene Mortoff provided the program Address. James Simmons, Commander in Chief of MOLLUS also spoke for the occasion. Wreath bearers were introduced and came forward to present their tribute for the event. All of the Allied Orders were represented at the Ceremony. Of special note were Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War present to include Past National President Carole Morton and Janet Uribe from California, the Department of Illinois, Past National President Ellen Higgins from New Jersey and current National President Sally Redinger from Michigan. A luncheon followed the event at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel.

(article submitted by Pat Blackmer)



THE HISTORY & ORIGIN OF MEMORIAL DAY IN WATERLOO, NY

The story of Memorial Day begins in the summer of 1865, when a prominent local druggist, Henry C. Welles, mentioned to some of his friends at a social gathering that while praising the living veterans of the Civil War it would be well to remember the patriotic dead by placing flowers on their graves. Nothing resulted from this suggestion until he advanced the idea again the following spring to General John B. Murray. Murray, a civil war hero and intensely patriotic, supported the idea wholeheartedly and marshalled veterans' support. Plans were developed for a more complete celebration by a local citizens' committee headed by Welles and Murray. On May 5, 1866, the Village was decorated with flags at half mast, draped with evergreens and mourning black. Veterans, civic societies and residents, led by General Murray, marched to the strains of martial music to the three village cemeteries. There impressive ceremonies were held and soldiers' graves decorated. One year later, on May 5, 1867, the ceremonies were repeated. In 1868, Waterloo joined with other communities in holding their observance on May 30th, in accordance with General Logan's orders. It has been held annually ever since.

Waterloo held the first formal, village wide, annual observance of a day dedicated to honoring the war dead. On March 7, 1966, the State of New York recognized Waterloo by a proclamation signed by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller. This was followed by recognition from Congress of the United States when the House of Representatives and the Senate unanimously passed House Concurrent Resolution 587 on May 17th and May 19th, 1966 respectively. This reads in part as follows: "Resolved that the Congress of the United States, in recognition of the patriotic tradition set in motion one hundred years ago in the Village of Waterloo, NY, does hereby officially recognize Waterloo, New York as the birthplace of Memorial Day..."

(Information taken from the Waterloo, New York Web Site)