



CIVIL WAR VETERANS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

"THE FOURTH BATTALION"

Newsletter Volume One Number Four

January, 1988

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Hope every one made it safely through the holiday season. May the new year be good to you all.

Now is the time to be making your advanced plans to attend the Ohio Civil War Relic Show in Ashland, Ohio on April 30 and May 1, 1988. Don Williams does a fine job putting on the show. He always welcomes our group, and we appreciate his efforts. Try to plan on bringing more displays.

A special thanks to Marshall for the fine work he is doing with the newsletter. So far it has been coming every other month.

DJK

For anyone seeking applications for tables at the Ashland, Ohio Show please contact: Donald Williams
1083 Oak Hill Circle
Ashland, Oh 44805

We welcome the following new member:

Edward R. Huyer

The correct spelling of the following member's name is:
Gilbert S. Deiblers

Membership badge submitted by Richard A. Hausmann has been approved as the official emblem of the Civil War Veterans Historical Association. The initials of the organization have been added to the white stripes.

The following appropriate comments concerning the badge were received from Dr. George Finlayson: The discussion on the proposed design of the CWWHA badge leads me to request that some how the letters GAR&UCV be incorporated in the design. This is not to increase the alphabet on so small

a badge, but to recognize that a small but significant number of our members are predominantly UCV in orientation. Such a concession by the majority would be an act of good will.

Serious consideration was given to inserting the letters GAR&UCV on the badge. Comments were also received that since our organization is dedicated to researching and collecting all veterans memorabilia, it would be inappropriate to specifically identify only two organizations.

A common bond exists between collectors of southern and northern memorabilia. To signify this bond the thirteen white stars in the center of the shield will also represent the thirteen white stars on the confederate battle flags. Therefore, the badge represents both type of collectors. Hopefully, in the near future we will be able to obtain the metal badges.

Dr. George Finlayson comments on the lack of UCV items for sale at shows stems from several causes: "The general scarcity of UCV especially in the north. The relative high asking price on any item either by mail or phone. Which leads those with duplicate UCV items to withhold them for trade."

Jay S. Hoar has recently authored a book, THE SOUTH'S LAST BOYS IN GRAY, a companion volume THE NORTH'S LAST BOYS IN BLUE, is almost completed and should go to the publishers in the spring. Hoar's life work is studying veterans. He preserves their lives, not to give them immortality, as he realizes death is inevitable for all, but that they may cheat oblivion. NEW ENGLAND'S LAST CIVIL WAR VETERANS is for sale at the present. Price \$8.50 Prof. Jay S. Hoar, Star Route 75, Box 9, Farmington, ME 04938

David J. Klinepeter is currently looking for photos of civil war veterans wearing the GAR membership badge and the Sons of Union Veterans membership badge.

Charles Davis recently made some interesting discoveries on the west coast pertaining to civil war army nurse Jennie R. Hall.

The enclosed article on the 1870 and 1874 ribbon were submitted by David Klinepeter.

We wish to thank Orland L. Roberts for submitting the enclosed articles on the GAR, UCV, and THE SOUTHERN CROSS OF HONOR.

Members areas of interest published on a rotating basis.

Dan Toomey
37 Glendale Avenue
Ferndale, MD 21061
Any veteran item if they were Marylanders or in Maryland, photographs of Maryland veterans and Maryland monuments

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Joe Copley
P.O. B. 43
New Castle, NH 03854
EX-POW, NAVAL VETS, CORPS MEDALS AND PRESENTATION ITEMS
souvenirs and biography

Jerome L. Orton
Box 233 Syracuse, New York 13201-0233
SONS OF VETERANS GAR NYS Dept. encampments and GAR of Saratoga
County 1907 National GAR Encampment

Thomas E. Neville
377 Dehaven Avenue
Penndel, Pa 19047
GAR, UCV, ARMY NURSES, Gettysburg items all types, reunion
pictures, ribbons medals, badges, programs, books etc.

James A. Binder
535 Treadway Blvd.
Sheffield Lake, Oh 44054
General interest

Elmer F. Atkinson
1016 Gorman St.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19116
GAR, SONS of VETERANS, President of board of directors of
GAR museum in Philadelphia interested in preserving civil
war artifacts and educating the public about the civil war

Lt. Col Robert L. Krasche
PSC Box 5107 APO NY 09305
GAR, SONS OF VETERANS, SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR VETS souvenirs,
national encampment items, GAR uniform items, GAR, SUVCW,
camp items

Rance Hulshart
4000 Old Orchard Road
York, Pa. 17402
GAR, UVL, UVU, EX-POW, NAVAL VETS, UCV, ARMY NURSES, WRC, LADIES
OF THE GAR, SONS OF VET, Pa. department encampment journals
and representative badges items related to veterans of
the civil war associations

Charles Annegan
P.O. Box 1304
San Marcos Ca 92069
GAR, UVL, UVU, UCV, ARMY NURSES, LOYAL LEGION, 5Th OHIO V.V.I.
REUNION ITEMS, original photos of vets wearing encampment
and reunion items

Charles Davis
7484 Gardner Avenue
Sacramento, Ca 95828
GAR, UCV, ARMY NURSES

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FROM VOLUME ONE NUMBER 3

#1 As far as I know there has never been found a reason or a listing of the numbers stamped on membership badges. The letter stamped in front of the numbers denotes the last initial of the Commander-in-Chief the year it was issued from the national. With the duplication of last initials over the years it is difficult to place a year on a badge. Some times by comparing the initial to the type of badge helps. If anyone has any additional information please leave us know. DJK

#2 Earliest Delegate Badge (ribbon) see enclosed article DJK

QUESTIONS

Does anyone have information on GAR unit rifle or marching competitions in the late 1800's ? DJK

Information on GAR post flags: Description of their colors?
Submitted by Jeff Schrock

COMING EVENTS:

Newsletter will contain articles on civil war monuments.

Forks of the Delaware Gun Show Agricultural Hall
Allentown, PA. FEB 13-14-1988

Presidential Grand Military Ball-GAR Memorial Hall Aurora;
ILL. March 1988 For information, write the GAR Memorial
Association, P.O, Box 1043, Aurora, Ill. 60507

CWVHA

Secretary,

Marshall J. Brighenti



ORLAND L. ROBERTS
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
BUFF

THE G.A.R. FOREVER IN MEMORY
BY JOSEPH K. SHEPARD
OF THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR.



Grand Army of the Republic.

Early Recruiting technique of the G.A.R. was much like that of a secret lodge. Post portals were guarded carefully. Rituals were flowery and impressive, at times approaching the theatrical. There were secret handclasps, passwords, and countersigns.

A candidate, after knocking at the bastion, would be led into the inner portions blindfolded and clad in a tattered blanket "to remind him of Andersonville Prison", and was administered this oath: "You do solemnly swear or affirm on your honor as a man and soldier, in the presence of these, your former comrades-in-arms - that you will not divulge to any human being any questions that have been or may be asked you whilst you are in the camp; anything you hear said, or anything you may see - that you will true answers make, to the best of your knowledge and belief - so help you God?"

When the blindfold was torn from his eyes, the initiate would discover that he was kneeling before an open coffin, and that the lid beside it was stenciled with his name, that a muffled drum was rolling, and that across the coffin stood a firing squad with muskets at the ready. Over this grim reminder of military justice, the initiate was administered the final oaths and told the secrets, given the countersigns "of this encampment and its hidden mysteries", told never to wrong a soldier or his family ... always extend the hand of charity", on pain of "being treated and punished as a spy and a traitor by this order." He was told that the "great and main object of this order is the protection and education of families of deceased soldiers."

1866

To the first National Encampment, November 20th, 1866, held in flag-decked Morrison's Opera House in Indianapolis, Indiana (northeast corner of Meridian and Maryland Streets) came 288 delegates from 11 states. The stage fluttered with battle flags.

Sessions were orderly and enthusiastic. "Into the hall crowded," according to the Journal, "such of the Indianapolis citizenry as could find a place." But all was not peaches and cream. On the day before the Encampment opened, the Indianapolis Daily Herald declared:

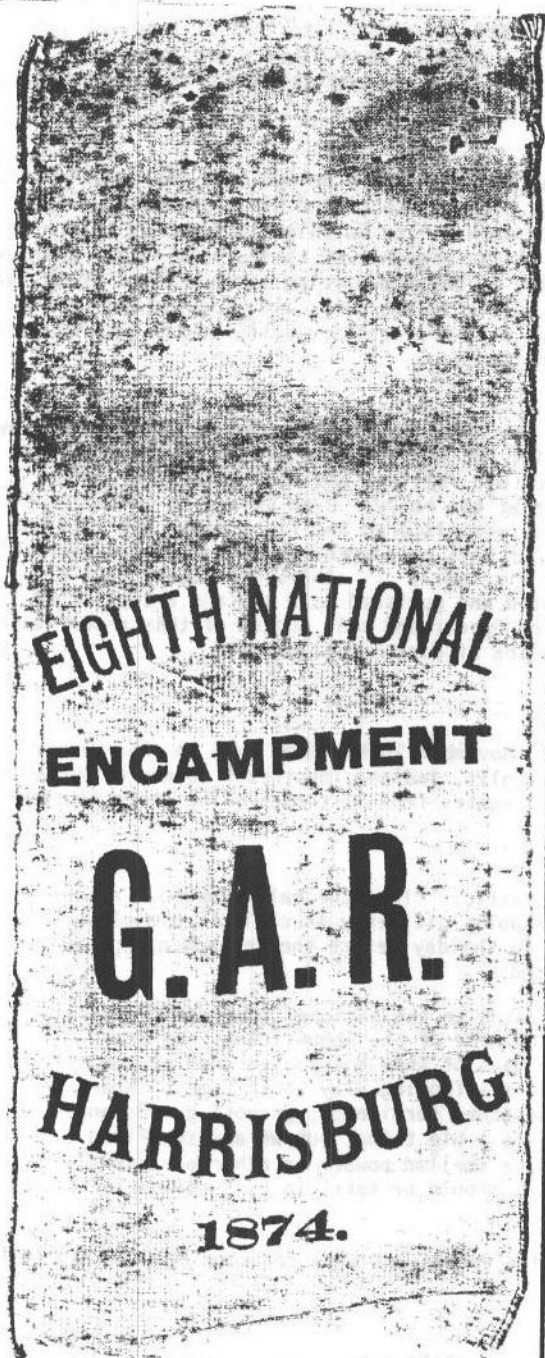
"The city is full of delegates to the national convention of this infernal humbug - the Grand Army of the Republicans. We are painfully reminded of the days of Know Nothingism when we see sensible men and good soldiers fooling away their time on Grand Army convocations. For detached servicemen, provost guards and such like, the Grand Army is a big thing, but we are surprised that real soldiers, who have smelled powder on other occasions than on the Fourth of July, should be taken in by such a weak invention of the enemy."

The first day's proceedings of the encampment were reported only in four lines of type.

But the Encampment left the city and state enthusiastic! General editorial approval was not long in coming. Soon G.A.R. Posts numbered in the hundreds, and the G.A.R. was off and running!

The first Commander-in-Chief was S. A. Hurlburt of Illinois. Maj. Stephenson was elected Adjutant General. Subsequent histories of the G.A.R. said that Stephenson, generally credited with being the father of the G.A.R., was bitterly disappointed at not receiving the honor of being its first Commander-in-Chief, and one stated that his disappointment hastened his death seven years later.

The 1870 ribbon is a faded pink. The 1874 ribbon is pale yellow. Although it does not say delegate on the ribbon, I believe this to be the correct one. It is my opinion that this was a two section ribbon. DJK




**The United Confederate Veterans**
By S. A. CUNNINGHAM, LATE SERGEANT-MAJOR, CONFEDERATE STATES ARMY,
AND FOUNDER AND EDITOR OF "THE CONFEDERATE VETERAN"

The United Confederate Veterans was formed in New Orleans, June 10, 1889. The idea for a united association is credited to Colonel J. F. Shipp, a gallant Confederate, Commander of N. B. Forrest Camp, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, the third organized - who was in successful business for years with a Union veteran. Colonel Shipp had gone to New Orleans in the interest of the Chattanooga and Chickamauga Military Park, and there proposed a general organization of Confederates on the order of the Grand Army of the Republic, his idea being to bring into general association all the Confederate State organizations.

A circular was sent out from New Orleans in regard to the proposed organization, and the first meeting was held in that city on June 10, 1889, the organization being perfected under the name United Confederate Veterans, with F. S. Washington, of New Orleans, as President, and J. A. Chalaron, Secretary. A constitution was adopted and Lieutenant General John B. Gordon, of Georgia, was elected General and Commander-in-Chief.

While the organization was perfected in New Orleans, the first reunion was held in Chattanooga, Tennessee, July 3 to 5, 1890. To this reunion, invitations were extended "to veterans of both armies and to the citizens of the Republic", and the dates purposely included Independence Day.

The first comment both in the North and South was "Why keep up the strife or the memory of it?" But it was realized that such utterances were from those who did not comprehend the scope of the organization of the U.C.V. or its founders. It was clear from the very outset in the minds of the veterans it was to be created on high lines, and its first Commander was the gallant soldier, General John B. Gordon, at the time Governor of Georgia, and later was United States Senator. General Gordon was continued as Commander-in-Chief until his death.

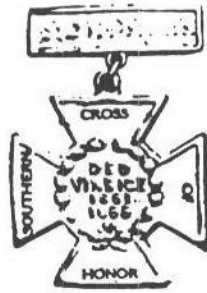
The U.C.V. endeavored - "to unite in a general federation all associations of the Confederate veterans, soldiers and sailors, then in existence; to gather authentic data for an impartial history of the war; to preserve the relics or momentos of the same; to cherish the ties of friendship that exist among the men who have shared common dangers, common suffering and privations; to care for the disabled and extend a helping hand to the needy; to protect the widow and orphans and to make and preserve the record of the services of every member, and so far as possible of those of our comrades, who have preceded us in eternity."

Likewise, the last article provides that neither discussion of political or religious subjects nor any political action shall be permitted in the organization, and that any association violating that provision shall forfeit its membership.

The reunions, thus happily inaugurated, became at once popular and were held every year.

The greatest of all gatherings was at Richmond, Virginia, June 30, 1907, when the superb monument to the only President of the Confederacy was unveiled. There were probably a hundred thousand people at the dedication. An idea of the magnitude of these reunion conventions and the interest in them may be had by reference to that held in Little Rock, Arkansas, in May, 1911, a city of a little more than thirty thousand inhabitants, wherein over a hundred thousand visitors were entertained during the three days.

Within a score of years, there had developed a close and cordial cooperation between the veterans and such representative Southern organizations as the Confederate Southern Memorial Association, the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the United Daughters of the Confederacy. All are devoted to the highest patriotic ideals.

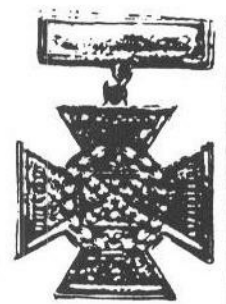


THE BADGE
of the **United Confederate Veterans**

THE SOUTHERN CROSS OF HONOR

by - Bauman L. Belden

THE SOUTHERN CROSS OF HONOR



Bronze cross pattée, bearing in the centre a laurel wreath encircling the inscription in four lines, DEO VINDICE 1861 1865. The four arms of the cross inscribed SOUTHERN CROSS OF HONOR

Reverse. In the centre a similar wreath encircling the Confederate battle flag, the four arms of the cross inscribed UNITED DAUGHTERS CONFEDERACY TO THE U. C. V. Suspended from a plain bar, on which the name of the recipient may be engraved.

At a meeting of the Athens (Georgia) Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy held late in the summer of 1898, the following resolutions were presented by Mrs. Mary Cobb Erwin, and were enthusiastically received and adopted:

Whereas, It has been the custom of every civilized nation to bestow upon its members of the Army and Navy, and such others as peculiarly deserve it, medals and crosses of honor, such as the Victoria Cross of England, the Iron Cross of Germany, and the Cross of the Legion of Honor of France, and medals and crosses bestowed by the United States Government; and

Whereas, We, the Daughters of the Confederacy, recognizing the fact that the army and navy of the Confederate States have never had such decorations conferred upon them, consider it especially our duty and privilege to supply the deficiency; and

Whereas, Every veteran of the army and navy of the Confederate States "quitted themselves like men" in the "times that tried men's souls," and gave an exhibition of dauntless and unyielding courage in the face of overwhelming odds, such as has never been known in the history of the world, therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the Daughters of the Confederacy, do confer upon each and every member of the Army and Navy of the Confederate States of America a cross, to be known as "The Southern Cross of the Legion of Honor," to be handed down from one generation to another as the most priceless heritage, bought as it was, with the blood of their fathers, and though of no intrinsic value within itself, to stand as a record for all time of the memory of those men who represented all that was lofty in principle, pure in patriotism, and dauntless in courage.

Resolved, That upon those who distinguished themselves by remarkable feats of courage, the cross to be attached to a laurel leaf pin, to distinguish it as a special mark of valor.

Resolved, That it be made a feature of Memorial Day to confer these crosses.

These resolutions were referred to the Georgia state division of the Daughters of the Confederacy and were approved in October, 1898, and referred to the main society for final adoption, which took place in November, 1899, a committee at that time being appointed to prepare a design. The cross was designed by Mrs. S. E. Gabbett, of Atlanta, Georgia, and the first presentation to Confederate veterans took place on the Confederate Memorial Day, April 26, 1900, about twenty-five hundred crosses being distributed at that time. The distribution would have been much larger had it not been that the manufacturer failed to supply the amount needed.

Since that time the Southern Cross of Honor, as it has since been called, has been bestowed upon many thousands of Confederate veterans, and it is still being given to such as are entitled to receive it. In spite of the immense number of crosses that have been distributed, it is almost impossible to obtain a specimen, so highly are they valued by those who possess them.

The American Numismatic Society is fortunate in possessing two specimens of the Southern Cross of Honor, one of which was presented by the brother of a deceased Confederate soldier, who gave it for the reason that he wanted to place his brother's cross where it would have a permanent home, and never be passed from hand to hand, as having a value simply commercial.