



The Veteran

Volume 13, Issue 2

Founded 1987

Autumn 1999

C.W.V.H.A. OFFICERS

President

Don Limpert

P. O. Box 524

Manchester, MI 48158

Recording Secretary

Everitt Bowles

1036 Washington

Woodstock, GA 30188

Secretary-Treasurer

Julieann Brighenti

1035 Rostaver Road

Belle Vernon, PA 15012

Acting-Editor

Don Limpert

P. O. Box 524

Manchester, MI 48158

Printing & Distribution

Harry A. Seifert

1928 Oak Tree Dr. East

Ketternig, OH 45440

Contributors

George Finlayson, M.D.

Don Limpert

Lincoln Guard of Honor: Is there a connection?

By Don Limpert

Several years ago I acquired two badge ribbons in a small picture frame (figures 1 and 2). On the back of the frame was the name "Richard Dillon." He entered the 24th Michigan Infantry on July 26, 1862 as 1st Lieutenant Co. A. He rose through the ranks: Captain, 1863, Acting Assistant Inspector, 1864, 1st Brigade, and was Brevet Major U.S. Volunteer April 9, 1865. He was wounded at Gettysburg July 1, 1863. He was mustered out at Detroit June 30, 1865. He died May 3, 1886.

The 24th Mich. Inf. was part of the Guard of Honor at Springfield at Lincoln's funeral.

In catalog #90 of "Sword & Saber", the same Lincoln Guard of Honor was pictured and offered for sale. This ribbon along with a pair of white gloves was reported the property of an officer of the 83rd PA. Inf.

How many and to whom were the ribbons given and by whom and when?

The smaller badge ribbon, with a small picture of Lincoln in the frame (figure 1), was worn at Lincoln's funeral.



Above - Figure 1

Above - Figure 2

— continued on page three —

The President's Message

September 1, 1999



Greetings,
Fellow Collectors,

My new roll as Acting Editor of our newsletter has been a real learning experience. My thanks to the people who really did the work. Kathy Kueffner and Lisa Molnar with their combined computer skills, and Harry Seifert and his very helpful staff are the ones who have made the newsletter happen.

The founding editor, Roger Heiple, who had to give up his position due to health problems and who has been my friend for over forty years, has passed through serious surgery and is now on the road to recovery.

Few people stop to realize how much time and effort is required to put together a publication. The newsletter will only be as good as the articles and pictures supplied by fellow members. Please use your knowledge and resources to come up with interesting articles that would be one or two pages long and of general interest relating to post Civil War, both North and South, reunions.

Sincerely,
Don Limpert

DUES NOTICE

Treasurer Julieann Brighenti —

Dues for 1999 were voted at the May general membership meeting to be raised from \$10 to \$15. The members who may have prepaid \$10 may send \$5 to the treasurer. This is on an honor system and if you are not sure, contact treasurer Julieann Brighenti.

In this issue of *The Veteran*

Lincoln Guard of Honor: Is there a connection?	Page 1 & 3
The President's Message and Association News	Page 2
Lincoln Guard of Honor	
Declaration, J. C. Power, Secretary	Page 4
"I am not going to leave my bones here"	
Civil War Memoirs of Carroll Scott Waldron	Pages 5 & 6
National Society Andersonville Survivors	
Items belonging to George H. Young	Pages 7
Sole Survivor	Page 8

The Veteran

The Veteran is published quarterly and is the official publication of the Civil War Veterans Historical Association.

All articles, photographs and art are copyrighted. Nothing may be reprinted or copied without permission of the C.W.V.H.A.

Articles may be submitted either in typewritten form or via electronics by MacIntosh disk. Art work or photos may be sent and will be returned after copying. Please attach your name and complete address to all materials to insure proper return and credit.

If you have any questions, or wish to discuss an article, please call Acting-Editor Don Limpert at 734-428-7400. *The Veteran* is your newsletter and members are welcomed and encouraged to participate.

**Lincoln Guard of Honor: Is there a connection?
continued from front page**

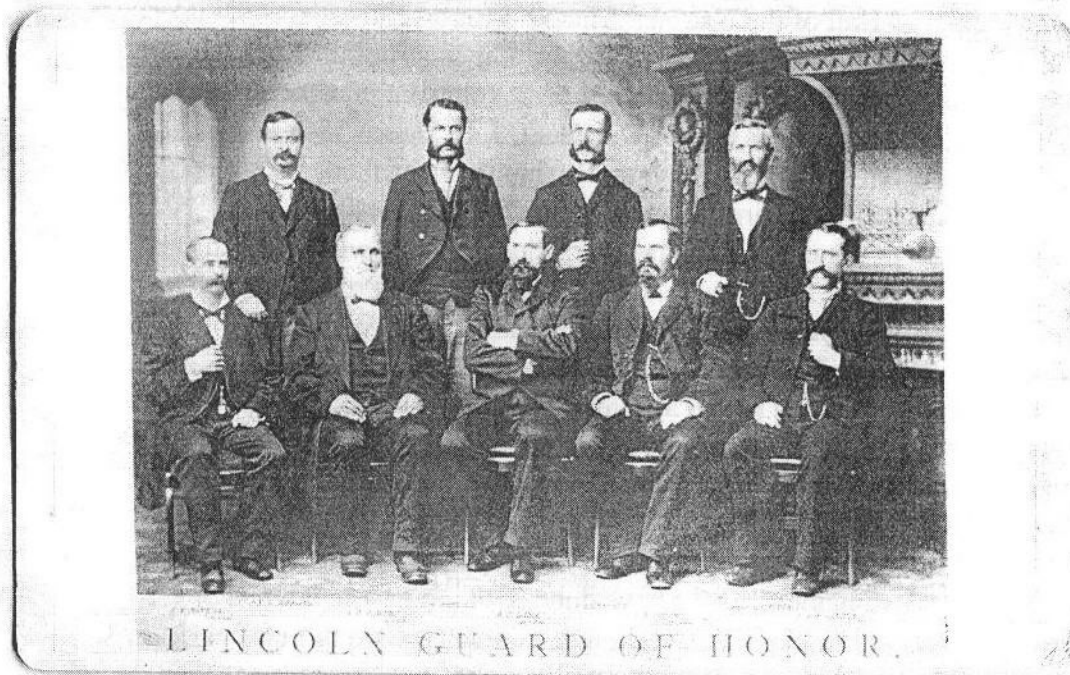
Below-Figure 3 - Reunion ribbon, September 12, 1893

Again, were these issued only to members associated with Lincoln's funeral or were they generally available to anyone?

About two years ago, I acquired a photo (figure 3) showing nine gentlemen in a formal pose with the caption "Lincoln Guard of Honor." On the back of the picture (figure 4) was the printed explanation of the postwar "Guard of Honor." I also am aware of a ribbon "Veteran Guard of Honor, September 12, 1893."

I welcome any information regarding the "Lincoln Guard of Honor."

— Don Limpert



Left-Figure 4 shows nine gentlemen in a formal pose.

In future issues — we will devote space to members interested in exchanging information or have comments to make relative to what type of articles would be of most interest.

Deadline is no later then the 15th of the month preceding our quarterly publication date — January, March, June, and September.

LINCOLN GUARD OF HONOR

During my first four years as Custodian of the National Lincoln Monument, I was compelled almost daily to hear disparaging remarks against the people of Springfield, because the former home of the illustrious patriot, statesman and martyr, Abraham Lincoln, was then in a dilapidated condition, and was not accessible to the public. Having from other causes been drawn into very intimate relations with Gen. J. N. Reece and G. S. Dana, making it almost imperatively necessary that there should be a small body of men bearing confidential relations to each other, we three determined to effect an organization. We called others to our counsels, and on the twelfth day of February, 1880, the seventy-first anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, at a meeting in Memorial Hall of the National Lincoln Monument, organized under the laws of the State of Illinois as the Lincoln Guard of Honor. The incorporators are J. C. Power, J. N. Reece, G. S. Dana, J. F. McNeil, J. P. Lindley, E. S. Johnson, H. Chapin, N. B. Wiggins, and C. L. Conkling. G. S. Dana was elected President, J. N. Reece Vice-President, J. C. Power Secretary and J. F. McNeil Treasurer. The membership is unchanged, also the officers, except that Mr. Lindley is elected Treasurer, in place of Mr. McNeil, resigned.

We declared the objects of our organization to be the raising of funds with which to purchase, keep in repair, and accessible to the public, the former home of President Lincoln; also to hold memorial services on the anniversaries of his birth and death. We reported to Hon. Robert T. Lincoln, informing him of our aims and that we were ready to enter into negotiations. Meantime, the home had been repaired and leased as a residence for a term of years. We feel that we have discharged a patriotic duty in offering to act as the medium between the owner of the Lincoln Homestead and the public.

The Lincoln Guard of Honor, as an organization, has nothing to do with the care of the Monument, but we have a permanent and enduring reason for perpetuating our existence, in holding memorial services at the Monument, as we have done with increasing interest on the last five anniversaries of his martyrdom, April fifteenth; twice at twenty-two minutes past seven in the morning, corresponding with the exact time of his death, and three times in the afternoon. It is highly probable that, owing to the inclemency of the weather at this season of the year, in the future we will hold only a brief service at the Monument in the morning, and if a more extended programme is adopted, it will be carried out at a later hour of the day, in a hall or church in the city.

For the purpose of defraying the expense of these services, we have devised a beautiful certificate of honorary membership in our organization, which can be obtained for Two Dollars. The profits on the sale of this little picture for twenty-five cents, is devoted entirely to the same object. The money, in either case, can be sent to the undersigned or anyone of the other eight members, and the certificate or picture will be sent by mail.

Memorial Hall, National Lincoln Monument, Springfield, Ill., April 21, 1884.

J.C. POWER,
Secretary of the Lincoln Guard of Honor,
and Custodian of the National Lincoln Monument

" I am not going to leave my bones down here!"

Civil War Memoirs of CARROLL SCOTT WALDRON, Pvt. CoG 146th NYVI

Courtesy of James Wiggin, M.D. (great-grandson)

Excerpted by George Finlayson, M.D.

Waldron was born September 9, 1837 in Illinois and died December 28, 1921 in Los Angeles. Waldron's family moved to Nyack, NY when he was a teen. He learned the trade of a wheelwright and he and his three brothers enlisted in the Union Army in October, 1861. He initially served in the 17th NYVI and participated in the peninsular campaign, 2nd Bull Run and was in the reserves at Antietam and Fredericksburg as regimental carpenter. In June 1863 he was transferred to the 146th NYVI. At Gettysburg, as brigade carpenter he was in the rear with the headquarter's train.

On May 5, 1864, in the Wilderness, the 146th was in Warren's 5th Corp, Charles Griffin's 1st Division, 1st Brigade. After an all day small arms fire fight, the 146th was outflanked and Pvt. Waldron was one of 130 of his regiment captured by the Confederates.

His memoirs begin here.

Captured at Lucas Dale, we were marched to the rear and this guard was mostly composed of boys 12-16. Between May 6 and 12, we marched and rode cattle cars to Andersonville. I never saw the time during my 10 months imprisonment when I gave up hope. I was philosopher enough to see that others as soon as they abandoned hope it was all up with them. And I bent all my energy and endurance to holding on and enduring all things.

I found 13,000 prisoners in about 15 acres fenced in by stockade 15 feet high with guards at regular intervals on platforms outside the fence. At first we drew one 1/2 lb. corn bread and 1/2 lb. boiled bacon, but the bacon soon ceased and the corn bread, too. We came down to corn meal and sometimes cowpeas cooked with some hulls, sticks, stones, bugs and worms. Dumped out of dirty kettles into pitch pine boxes, the heat drew out the pitch and soured so it was not fit to feed pigs.

Henry Hook and I had a tin plate and quart cup between us. Our room measured 4x6 with an old blanket overhead to keep off sun and rain and another old blanket to form a mattress on sand. Our bed was rather buggy as they crawled all around in the sand, not typical flat ones but fat and juicy, the only thing fat in camp. I saw one man picking them off his clothes and eating them. I have seen them so thick on dead men's blankets as to completely change the color of it. When the body gets cold they all leave.

On June 24 we commenced digging a well with half a canteen and on the 25th finished it 20 feet deep with 3-1/2 feet of water. There were probably 50 wells dug by prisoners, the deepest 75 feet and not a spade or shovel in camp. Just inside the stockade on a steep hillside, a fine large spring was brought to surface. It always went by the name of Providence Spring, it was splendid water. There would be a constant line of men waiting their turn day and night.

On July 8, I finished a bucket for water. I made it out of firewood issued to us with a jackknife alone. I made it with staves like a common wooden pail with wooden hoops like a barrel and a wooden bail. I was very proud of it, it didn't leak. There were many made in camp.

On July 11, six raiders were hung in prison by our men in full view of 30,000 spectators. They were convicted of murder for the purpose of robbery.

On September 2, John Brown of our regiment died cursing and swearing but we felt he was unbalanced and not fully responsible. He cursed God and the Government for allowing him to suffer so.

During July and August there were said 9,000 died. One day 160, over 100 on average. 12,000 died there from February 1 to September 13.

The unwashed masses refused their freedom when the price was treason to their government. The Rebs made a failure of offering us liberty at such a price and at same time there were hundreds hatless, coatless and

shoeless without a particle of shelter from sun and dew and rain besides the starvation, and will live in history as a standing rebuke to a pretended chivalrous people that called us Northerners, before the war, Mudsills. It was Hallowed Ground.

September 6 they began taking prisoners away. Hook and I both had scurvy in mouth, teeth loose, gums swelled and inflamed spots over limbs. On September 13, it began to settle in my ankle and made me lame. We arrived at Florence 90 miles north of Charleston at 2:00 PM September 14, lay in cars all night, no rations yesterday or today.

Hook and I agreed our chance had come. We noticed that the guard had made a break in the line some going ahead and some falling back and at 3:00 PM we jumped on bank and threw ourselves over the fence and ran. We were both lame and weak but we ran until we reached the woods. Next morning, on the 16th, we waded the Pee Dee river and secured all the grapes we could carry. We took our old blanket and fastened a stick to each side and hauled it through like a net. As a result we had pickerel and bullheads, boiled, and beans, corn squash and sweet potato stewed together. Didn't we have a spread.

Started at dark and travelled until 1:00 AM and struck the railroad 19 miles from Cheraw. Next midnight we followed the railroad until daylight then started at dark and followed railroad for two miles and was captured by railroad guard. We were sent back and then handcuffed together. Next morning they took us to Cheraw. At Cheraw the whole town turned out to see us as we were the first Yanks they had seen. I weighed 135 lbs, had lost 41 in four months. My mate lost 50 lbs. In the evening they took us on cars back to Florence Stockade

In November, the Rebs started a recruiting office and offered release from prison to those who would take the Oath of Allegiance to the Confederacy. "All that a man hath will he give for his life," proved true to some but they were a small minority. The Rebs called them "Galvanized Yanks."

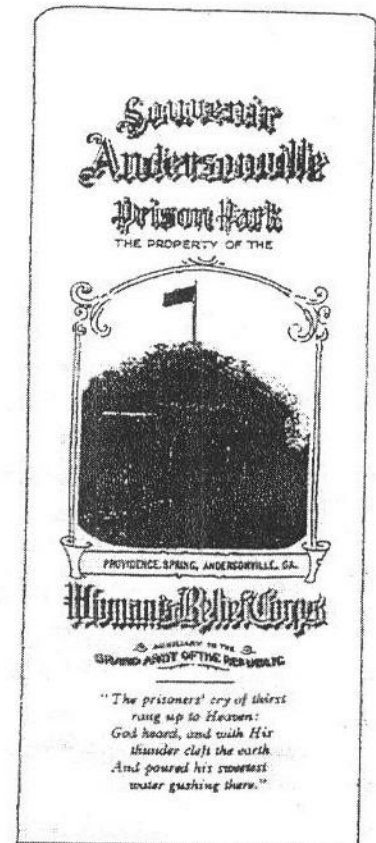
On November 8, the Rebs felt much interest as to whether Lincoln would be elected or beaten and to test the feeling among prisoners, they hung two bags on the inside of the stockade. Those who favored Lincoln were to vote black beans and those favoring McClellan, white beans. It was understood that if a majority was for Little McC, we should get extra rations that day. The result of the election was 13,00 for McClellan and 6,000 for Lincoln. We didn't get the rations but we felt better than if we had,

On December 9, I got on police force which brought extra rations. About this time, they began selecting the sick of camp to be paroled and on December 15, Hook and nine others were selected. He pitched his blanket back to me and he asked me, "What should I tell your folks from you?" "Tell them that I am not going to leave my bones down here!"

On February 15, they began to move men away by rail. I helped to move those who could not help themselves and found out how many had suffered from cold and the great numbers who had their feet frozen. We didn't know then that Sherman was swinging through Georgia.

On the 25th, they paroled us and on February 26, 1865 we entered our lines. On March 7, I was taken down with fever and as the boys said, out of my head. The captain had me taken to the hospital. I could not speak or move. The captain telegraphed, "If you wish to see your son alive, come immediately." On the 10th, Mother arrived and stayed and nursed me. I gained rapidly and arrived home on the 20th of March.

It was six months before I did a stroke of work and then, worst of it was, I didn't want to; all ambition seemed to be starved out of me.



Badge - Member National Society Andersonville Survivors

This group of items belonged to George H. Young- Co. "A" 95th Ohio Vol. Inf.

6" x 3" photo taken in 1910, penned on back "George H. Young of Evans, Colo., Private, Co. A 95th OVI, taken by Mrs. Cella of Evans, Colo., July 4, 1910. The cap is original government cap drawn in Memphis, Tenn. 1865 after explosion of Steamer Sultana, April 27, 1865, being a survivor of the same. The overcoat is original government drawn 1862 and worn two years in service 1862-1864. Saved by being sent home from Memphis, Tenn. 1864 after the Vicksburg Campaign."

Photo shows George in greatcoat with about six GAR medals on his jacket. Kepi appears to have a GAR wreath on it.

Book — "Andersonville" by John McElroy, 1879. Penned in front is "Property of George H. Young, Evans, Colo." Book is well worn, covers almost separated, saw much use. On page 259 dealing with July 1864 conditions at Andersonville, is pencilled "I was in this crowd". On page 490

dealing with movement of prisoners to Savannah, thence to Blackshear, is pencilled, "Was here".

Small packet of Civil War related cards (three) with two of George's personal greeting cards.

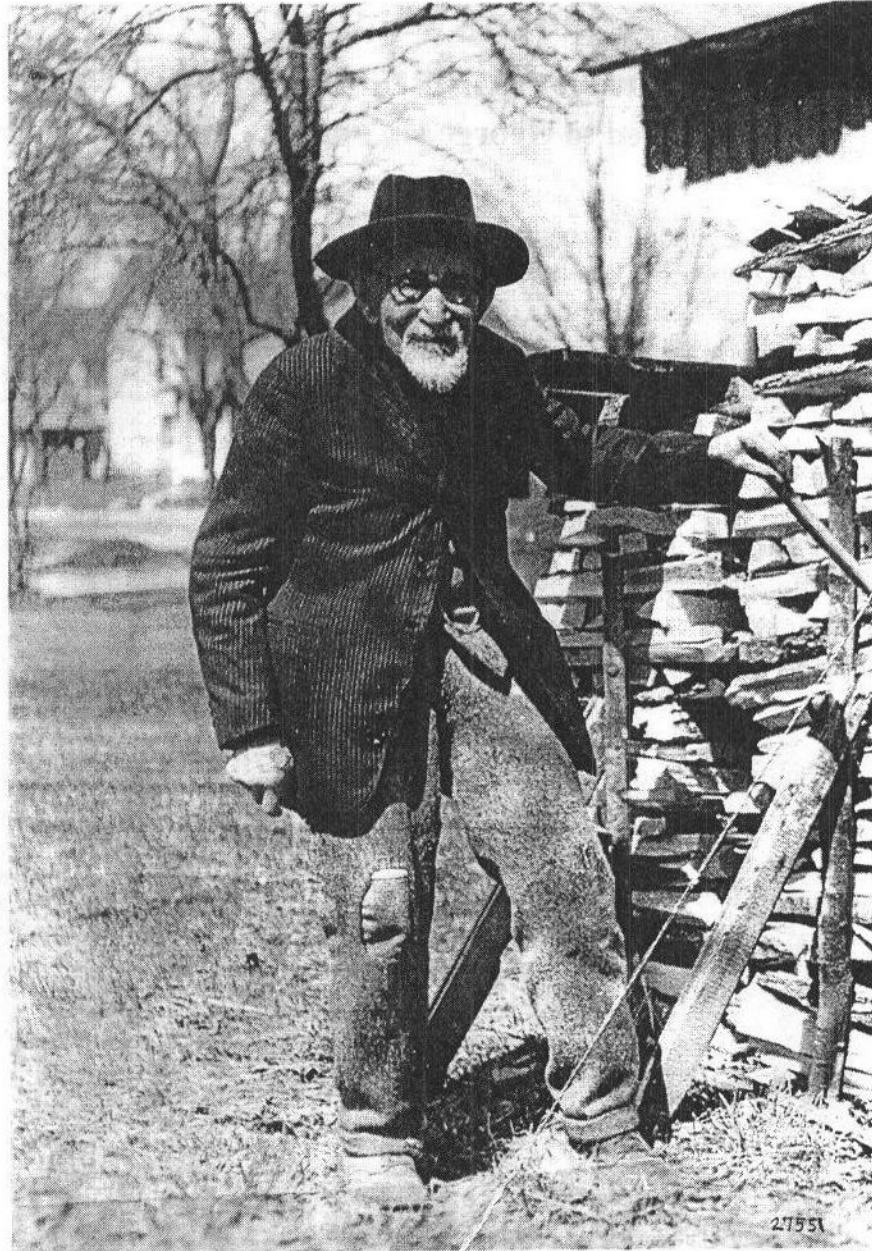
Ten-page handwritten memo describing some events of the Civil War as well as George's participation therein. Written by his granddaughter (grandson?).



Xerox copy of "Portrait and Biographical Record" from 1889 "Genealogy and Biography of Colorado: Denver and Vicinity." Describes George's pre-Civil War, Civil War, and post Civil War experiences. Adds much knowledge of George. Also, xerox copies of photographs of "Youngs Hall, Evans, CO."

Diary - penned in front "George H. Young's Book, Memphis, Tenn., April 19th/64 Co. "A" 95th O.V.I." Entries are penned and/or pencilled. Some easily read and others difficult to read. Wartime entries appear to end May 31st which was most likely around the time of his capture in Mississippi which led to his imprisonment at Andersonville. More entries made in 1866. Good condition.

Framed certificate - overall size 11-1/2" x 9-1/2" - "National Association Union Ex-prisoners of War" attests to the fact that George was a member of the Association



Ex-Rebel Soldier Sole Survivor of G.A.R. Post

(EDITOR: The following caption was written in the late 1930s.) John Johnson, 98, who fought with the Confederacy against the Union, will march in the Memorial Day parade at Charlevoix, Michigan as the only living member of Baxter Post No. 119, G.A.R. Although he was a confederate veteran, the 100 members of the post invited him in 1890 to join their ranks. They liked him and had decided to let bygones be bygones. He outlived them all. Johnson still works as caretaker at the Belvedere Club overlooking Lake Charlevoix in the heart of the Michigan vacation and fishing country.