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The Veteran

April - June, 2002

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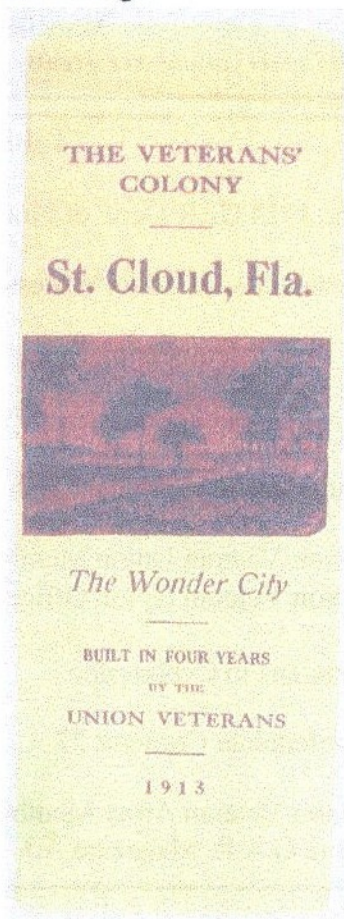
**The 1914 GAR Dept. of Florida Encampment
by Roger L. Heiple**

The union veterans colony of St. Cloud, was selected as the site of the 1914 Department of Florida Encampment, only five years after representatives of the *National Tribune* had surveyed the vacant acreage in central Florida. After a large tract of land had been purchased, the Seminole Land & Investment Company was organized to market residential and business lots. The first year was very successful because of the widespread distribution of the *National Tribune*, a veteran newspaper published in Washington, DC. In one month, 4,000 deeds were notarized. Many veterans sold their property in the North and headed south to St. Cloud, only to find the colony unprepared for the large

crowds of arriving veterans. The War Department sent a railroad car of tents to aid the housing shortage. One large tent was included to be used for community meetings and worship. St. Cloud was on the Atlantic Coast Railroad Line, so rail travel became the preferred manner of transportation. By October, 1910, the city was developing rapidly with over 600 buildings, including a waterworks, electric lights, telephones churches, schools, and a bank. At the 1913 GAR National Encampment in Chattanooga, Tennessee, the veterans of St. Cloud proudly wore and distributed ribbons, describing St. Cloud as the "Wonder City". The ribbon had a very blurry picture of a palm tree-lined street in St. Cloud.

As the encampment approached, various veteran committees prepared a citywide involvement. American flags, pennants, welcome signs and stars and stripes bunting decorated most of the

(continued on page 40)



The President's Message

By Howard A. Hoffman

Oh, Boy!! Its almost Mansfield time! I feel like a kid in a candy store, each show. What will I find this year? Anyway, whatever it will be, it will once again HONOR those men and women, who took up arms during the Civil War. We as members of C.W.V.H.A. pay homage to their memory. They continue to live as we remember those born in the land of the free , home of the brave!

Howard

Editor's Message - George G. Kane

The 16th National Encampment of the Civil War Veterans Historical Association will hold its annual dinner / meeting at the Comfort Inn, Saturday, May 4, 2002. A cash bar will open at 6:00 PM and the dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. The entree choices are Chicken Breast Teriyaki or 1/2 rack of Damons BBQ Ribs. Either entree is \$16.00. After the dinner, Dan Mitchell will be presenting a program on the Mississippi Ram Fleet and Mississippi Marine Brigade. The presentation will include a short history of these units, artifacts from Dan's collection and a talk on civil war collectibles as a learning tool for the study of the Civil War and its aftermath.

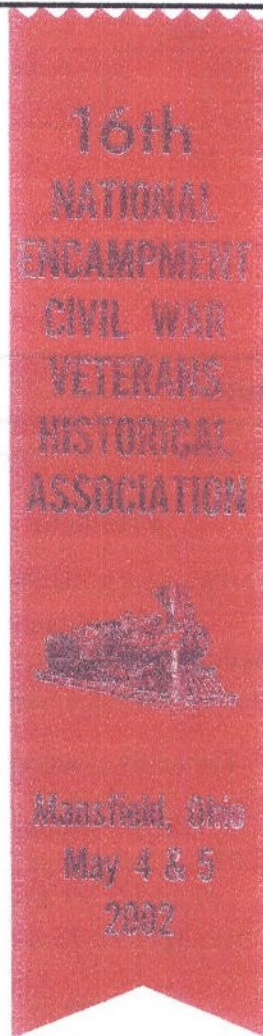
If you plan on attending, mail a check and your entree choice to:

George Finlayson
98 Parkwood Blvd
Mansfield, OH 44906-3218

Early reservations are greatly appreciated. See you there!

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The Veteran

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C.W.V.H.A.

Articles may be submitted either in typewritten form or electronically (e-mail or disk) MSWord, or Excel are the preferred software choices.

All materials will be returned. If you have questions, please call George Kane at 413-592-2166. Postal and e-mail addresses are listed on the front page.

G.A.R. Membership Badge Variations

by George G. Kane

A number of members have recently contacted me about a Type IV Membership Badge variation. If you put two Type IV's next to each other, one of which has this variation, you probably would not notice the variation until you are told were it is.



Type IV Variation

Type IV Standard

Except for the angle of the hanger pin, these badges look identical. The variation is in the stars in the trefolds of the obverse arms. On the badge to the left, the stars are incused. On the badge to the right, the stars are raised (in relief). The incused stars give the impression that the stars were stamped into the badge.



Type IV Variation

Type IV Standard

The amazing fact about this variation is that it was a one year occurrence. All badges with this feature are

numbered on the edge with an "H" prefix. When I looked at my collection of 75+ membership badges, I immediately discovered a Type IV badge with this incused star feature. The serial number on the edge is H1237. One of our members, who has a membership badge collection of over 1250 pieces, has told me that this variation occurs only in Type IV badges with "H" serial numbers. He has no Type IV badges with a raised stars and an "H" serial number. The "H" is the last name initial of John Frederick Hartranft of Pennsylvania, who was the G.A.R. Commander-in-Chief from 1875 to 1877. In previous issues I have established that the first Type IV membership badge was first distributed in early 1877. These badges were manufactured from early 1877 until June 1877, when John Cleveland Robinson of New York was elected the next Commander-in-Chief at the National Encampment at Providence, RI. The other badge displayed on this page has a "R" serial number. This badge would have replaced the "H" serial numbered badge. As you'll note, it has raised stars. The serial number is R10973.

I thought that the incused star might be a feature of the Type III badge that had been carried over to the new design. I have 10 Type III badges and I was unable to find an incused star on the pendant arms.



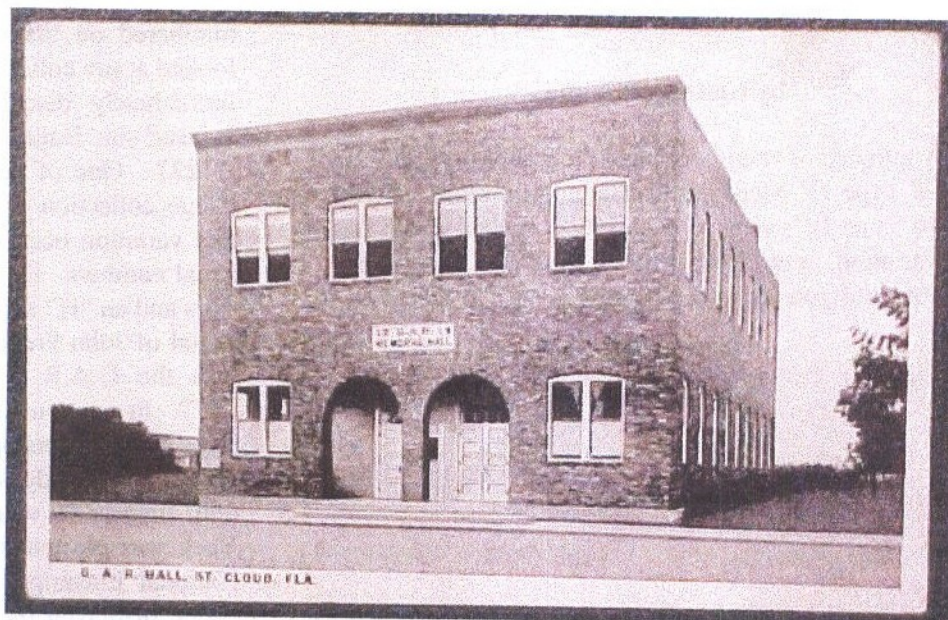
Type III Membership Badge obverse arm

As you can see, the trefold stars of the Type III are not only raised, but larger than the Type IV trefold stars. The trefolds of the Type III badge are smaller than those of the Type IV.

Now that you have seen this variation, you should be able to pick it out of your collection or a dealer's case without looking at the edge of the star for the serial number. Because of the rather short manufacturing run of six months or less, the number manufactured was probably considerably less than other Type IV badges.

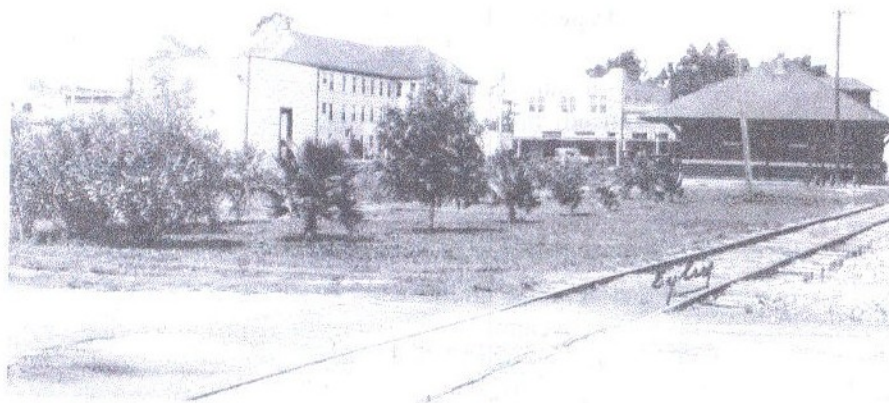
(Continued from Front Page)

main buildings of the city. The Lucius L. Mitchell Post No. 34 was the host for the encampment and their newly constructed GAR hall hosted all the encampment meetings. Although the hall construction was not entirely complete, it was still the largest GAR hall in the South. The post card at right shows the post building in 1918 as a rather square two storied building, its double arched entrances its only distinctive feature. The hall still exists today, occupied by an electrical contracting business.



A special encampment train originated in St. Petersburg with cars being added in Tampa and Zephyrhills. From the St. Cloud Railroad depot, the delegates proceeded along the city's first sidewalk to the St. Cloud Hotel, where the encampment headquarters were located. In the picture below the depot is pictured to the right while the hotel is the long three storied building to the left. The hotel hosted a grand reception on Monday evening, April 12, 1914. Delegates from the Grand Army were joined by delegates from the Women's Relief Corps and the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, who also held their department conventions at the same time in St. Cloud. The train carrying the honored guests, John McElroy (photo below, right), editor of the *National Tribune*, and Col. Gaylord M. Salzgeber, US Commissioner of Pensions, was late, but arrived before the reception finished. McElroy, one of the prime movers in the creation of St. Cloud and president of the Seminole Land and Investment Co., had been forced to withdraw as a candidate from the election of the GAR Commander-In-Chief due to rumors of irregularities in the financing of the St. Cloud Colony project and accusations of plagiarism in reference to "Si Klegg", an ongoing article in the *National Tribune* dealing with Si's war experiences. Salzgeber was later elected Commander-In-Chief of the GAR at the 1923 encampment in Milwaukee and presided over the 1924 encampment at Boston.

The roll call of posts during opening day (Wednesday, April 14, 1914) of the encampment determined that there were 39 posts established with 800 members in the Department of Florida. That afternoon, the largest parade ever held in

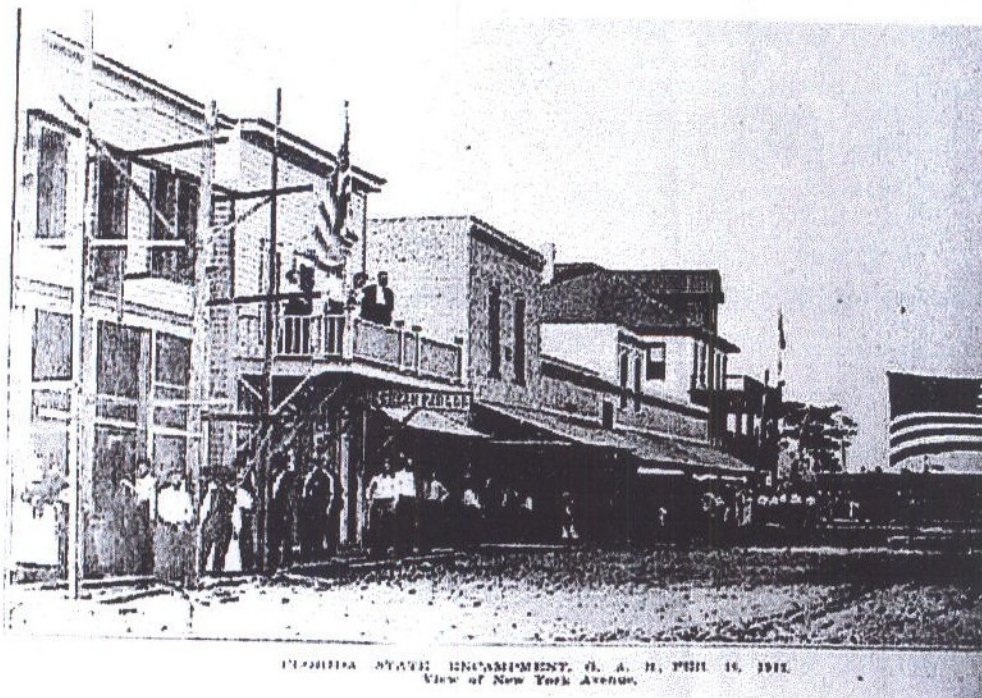




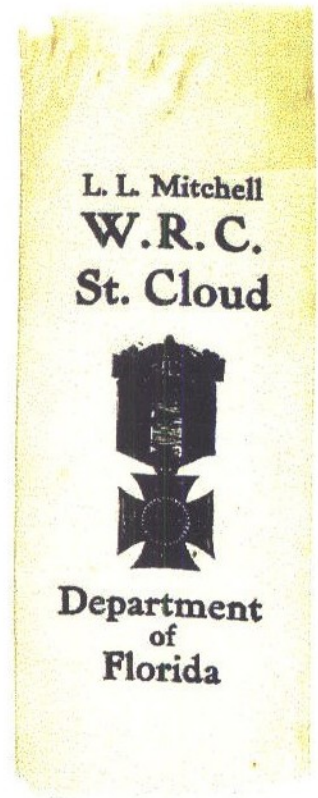
St. Cloud, up to that time, kicked off at the corner of Mass. and 11th Avenues. The parade consisted of 400 GAR veterans, 50 Sons of Veterans, 150 LGAR and WRC members, 200 flag waving teachers and children of St. Cloud High School, the L.L. Mitchell Post No. 34 Drum Corp, the city of St. Cloud Drum Corp, the Zephyrhills Coronet Band and the Mitchell Post Band. After winding through the streets of the city, the procession returned to its starting point, where its ranks opened for ladies and disabled veterans to pass through, and the parade participants were then dismissed. The encampment reconvened the next day for its typical department business session. Officer reports were read; new business was reviewed; and officers for 1914-5 were elected, including Lyman Leighton of St Petersburg as Department Commander. Jacksonville was selected as the site of the 1915 department encampment. The Officers were installed by Amos Huffman, Past (1905) Department Commander of Ohio. The encampment was closed.

The city of St. Cloud would continue to be a hot bed of GAR interests in Florida. Due to its central location and its railroad connection, the GAR Department of Florida held its encampments in the "Wonder City" in 1920, 1925, 1933, 1936, and 1940. The 1917 encampment was held in the adjacent city of Kissimmee. At least eight St. Cloud GAR members served as Department Commander in the years 1912-1945. It was appropriate that the last Department Commander and last GAR member in Florida was Logan J. Dyke, the last member of Lucius L. Mitchell Post No. 34, St. Cloud, Florida. Logan J. Dyke died January 8, 1945 at 102 years old. Two other veteran colonies were founded in Florida at Lynn Haven and Zeyphrhills, but they did not have the impact that the city of St. Cloud had on the growth of the Grand Army in Florida.

Photos: Upper left: Delegate badge of the 1914, GAR Dept of Florida Encampment. Lower Left: New York Ave., St. Cloud during the encampment. Lower right: WRC Corp No. 12 ribbon, St. Cloud.



FLORIDA STATE ENCAMPMENT, G. A. R., APRIL 14, 1914. View of New York Avenue.



**G.A.R. Memorial Hall Stock Certificate,
St. Cloud, Florida
by George G. Kane**

Many G.A.R. posts yearned to have their own post building and free themselves from the vagaries of renting space from other fraternal societies or scheduling meetings at municipal buildings where the accommodations did not always meet their needs. A post owned building could also generate income through leasing or renting rooms to other organizations, hosting wedding receptions and other private and public functions. The income could help to pay for the maintenance of the building; pay the mortgage; or help to fund charitable causes.

Soon after the founding of the union veteran colony of St. Cloud, Florida, the veterans of this hamlet joined together to "muster in" Lucius L. Mitchell GAR Post No. 34, Department of Florida. These veterans wasted little

time and in 1913, they began construction of a permanent G.A.R. hall at the corner of Mass. Ave. and 11th Street.

When financing such projects, the G.A.R. often sought the aid of wealthy members, donations from local businesses, fairs, bazaars or a combination of all of these money making schemes. St. Cloud's post hall probably employed all of these fund raising techniques, The post also used a rather unique capital funding idea. It sold stock in the G. A. R. Memorial Hall at \$10 per share. The total stock available was \$8,000. The stock certificate below was issued to Jennet Horn to recognize her/his purchase of five shares of stock on July 8, 1916. The certificate, Number 285, is printed in gray, black and red and has a very light green background for the bottom of the certificate. The certificate is 10½ inches wide and 8¼ inches high. A 3" x 8¼" verso was attached, but the certificate was never presented for payment and was never canceled.



The Sons of Veterans Punch Bowl
 by George G. Kane



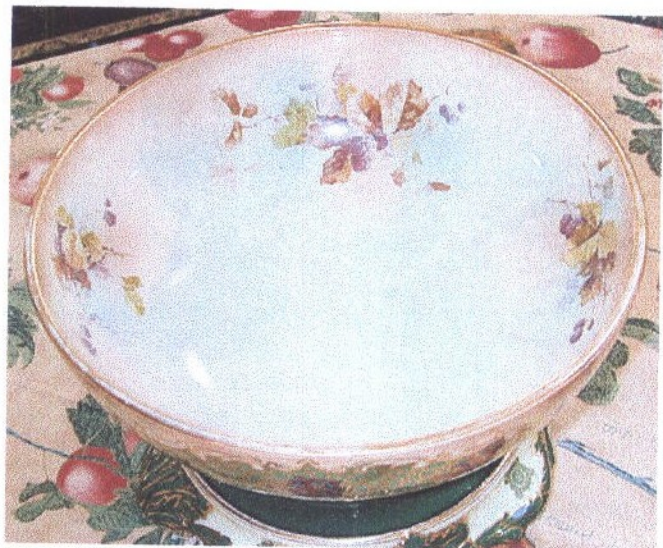
The ornately decorated punch bowl at left was created specifically for a member of the Sons of Veterans, the G.A.R. affiliated organization . The member had his monogram inserted in the middle of a panel on one side of the bowl. The initials "W", "S", and "R", in yellow, blue and red are intertwined and flanked by the initials of the Sons of Veterans. The word "of" is centered below the monogram. The logo of the Sons is found centered on all four sides of the base, which can be detached from the bowl. Although a number of views of this piece can be found on this page, more views can be seen at the web sites:

<http://www.fiestafanatic.com/ncpunchbowl2.html>
 or <http://216.71.56.112/0302svpunch.html>

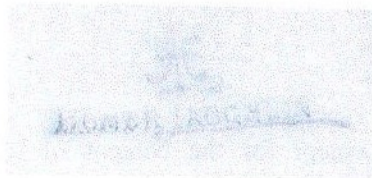
The owner of the bowl, Candy Fagerlin, has kindly agreed to let me display these pictures in *The Veteran*. If anyone has any further knowledge on this piece of china, Candy would like you to contact her at :

hlresearcher@aol.com or fiestafanatic@fiestafanatic.com

The other three sides of the punch bowl and the interior of the bowl, feature "ripe black berries with leaves turning color". The bowl is 12 inches wide and 6 inches tall (not including the base). The base is 10½ wide and 2 5/8 inches tall. The bowl and base were produced by Homer Laughlin China, probably sometime during the period 1902-1916. The piece is signed H. R. Thompson.



The pictures below are of the makers mark on the base (top left) and bowl (bottom).. The stand alone base is shown at the far right A close-up of the Sons of Veterans logo, found on all four sides of the base is pictured in the center.



Union Veteran Union Membership Badge

by George G. Kane

In the October - December 2001 issue of *The Veteran*, I authored an article on the Union Veteran Union (UVU) and its badges. In this issue we will add some more information on this veteran group.

In that previous issue, two UVU membership badges were presented, the two dimensional and three dimensional types. These are also the most common UVU badges on the collectors market. A third style of UVU membership badge predates the 2-D & 3-D types. The life of this badge must have been fairly short considering the few that have surfaced in recent years.



The delegate ribbon above (right) is from the 1890 UVU National Encampment at Lakeside, Ohio (courtesy of Everitt Bowles). The membership badge pictured on the ribbon is the 2-D type. The 2-D did not have the scabbard drag on the sword while the 3-D did. The ribbon is connected at the top arm of the pendant which is a characteristic of the 2-D style. Since the UVU was founded in 1886, it would appear that the type 1 membership badge was changed to the 2-D style less than four years later.

The UVU membership badge above (left) has an anchor attached to the bottom of the pendant. Was this common to all type 1 membership badges or did the member have to be a naval veteran?

Union Veteran Union Officer Badges

by George G. Kane

Photos by Everitt Bowles and Rance Hulshart

One topic that was not discussed in previous UVU articles was the UVU Officer badge. Because of a lack of UVU reference material, most of the conclusions of this article will be strictly from observation and the similarities to other union veteran society badges. One constant among UVU officer badges is the ribbon. All UVU officer badges (and membership badges) employ the red / yellow / blue vertical ribbon. Other societies used the ribbon to establish the officer level (local, Dept, or National). The GAR used borders on its flag ribbons while the WRC and the local UVL ribbons were solid colors. Many societies used rank strap hangers to designate the type of officer. Rank straps for many military societies were almost identical. The UVU, on the other hand, had a very distinctive rank strap which gave the appearance of a partially rolled-up scroll. The strap mimicked the hanger of the type 1 membership badge (see first column). The officer badges during the period of the type 1 membership badge (1886-1890?)



were almost identical except for the content of the hanger. While the membership badge had "U.V.U.", the officer badges use the various military rank insignia to designate a specific office. While most societies used black or dark blue backgrounds on their rank straps, the UVU used red, yellow and bright blue on their straps.

When the UVU membership badge changed to the 2-D type, the officer hangers remained the same as the

(continued on next page)

hanger on the type 1 UVU membership / officer badges. When the 3-D badges were introduced, the scroll rank strap remained a constant.



2-D



3-D

Past officer badges appear to be configured similar to past officer badges in other societies. The rank strap was placed in the middle of the ribbon between the top hanger and the pendant. Unlike other societies, the UVU

on the other hand, would use multiple badges rather than double up any rank straps.

Some members became a little creative with these badges as observed in the UVU officer badge below:



Others used the rank straps from other societies when the scroll type was unavailable:



UVU Past Officer Badges

appears to have allowed multiple past officer rank straps to be added to a single badge. The past officer badge above (right) not only has two rank straps, but one is for a command and the other for a department. The G.A.R.,



Until I find a Rules and Regulations booklet for the UVU, I can only guess at the names of these officer badges. Other societies used blue to signify their local units. This may or may not be true with the UVU. The rank strap insignia may also differ from other societies.

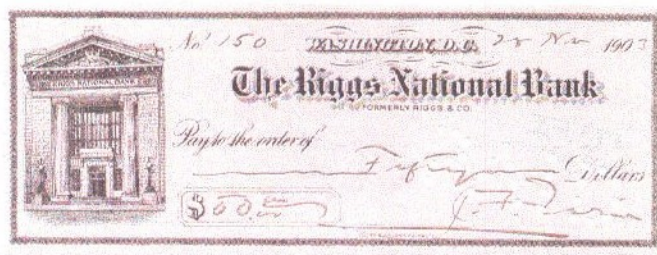
Veterans in Cyberspace

by George G. Kane

Anyone who tried to access the Park Service's web site, *Civil War, Soldiers and Sailors System*, in the last three months would have discovered that the site was off line. The site reappeared in early March with no explanation for its absence. The site now contains the names of 3.5 million civil war soldiers and sailors. The site has yet to upload the names of soldiers from the key states of New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, and New Jersey. No time frame for these additions is given by the Park Service. The site is :

<http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/>

Recently, a number of canceled checks from The Riggs National Bank of Washington, D.C. for the 1900-1910 era have been offered for sale claiming that the



signature was of a Medal of Honor winner. Although the checks are authentic, the MOH claim turned out to be spurious on all accounts. A photo of one of these checks is shown above. If you are unsure if a veteran has won the Medal of Honor, you can check the US Army Center of Military History web site:

<http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/moh1.htm>

The site is not limited to US Army MOH awards. All military services are represented. Another site that lists all recipients of the Medal of Honor is:

http://www.homeofheroes.com/moh/war/1_a_main.html

The format is slightly different but the results will be the same. The author is C. Douglas Sterner

An E-bay dealer has been trying to sell a collection of New York GAR Department Encampment ribbons / badges on-line. The pieces appear to be real, but the dealer claims that the lot was the personal property of the last NY GAR Department Commander, James Albert Hard. Hard was the NY Dept. Commander in 1942, and 1945-1948. He died in 1953. The dealer actually threatened me physically when I pressured him for the provenance of this lot. *Caveat Emptor.*

Another web site, *America's Shrine to Music Museum*, features a Cabinet Card Photograph of Avery Brown (1852-1904), a musician which the museum claims is "America's Youngest Civil War Soldier".



AVERY BROWN.

"Drummer Boy of the Cumberland," Avery Brown, 1852-1904. Soldier of the Revolution. Born at Danville, Ohio. Enlisted in the 31st Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving Company C, August 1861. He was 12 years, 11 months and 13 days old at his enlistment. He died in 1904. Photo by J. S. Sillars. Copyright 1995. All rights reserved. Photo by J. S. Sillars. Copyright 1995. All rights reserved.

You'll notice that veteran Brown is wearing his G.A.R. membership badge on a G.A.R. uniform and holding a new coronet. Brown enlisted in 1861, serving as a drummer boy for Company "C", 31st Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Brown was 8 years, 11 months and 13 days old at his enlistment. On his enlistment papers, he claimed he was 12. The rest of his story can be found at:

<http://www.usd.edu/smm/AveryBrown.html>

American Thunder Antiquities hosts a web site entitled, *Fakes, Fantasies, Frauds & Fluff*. The site displays civil war memorabilia that has been reproduced or altered. The artifacts are broken down into categories with photos of all the pieces. The site is located at:

<http://www.mcmsys.com/~rrenzini/4f/index2.htm>

One of our members, Jerry Sills, has created his own web page displaying memorabilia from his collection. Jerry specializes in G.A.R. from Southeast Ohio. The site has photos and descriptions of GAR badges, members and monuments. Take a look and let him know what you think:

http://www.geocities.com/jkdogrobb/OLDVETS_POSTHOME.html



**CONFEDERATE
CORNER # 27**

by
Peter Bertram # 244
P.O. Box 451421
Atlanta, GA 31145-1421

peterbat@aol.com

The flag logo above is the 4th Mississippi. They were organized in April of 1861, captured and exchanged at Fort Donelson and Vicksburg, and then fought in the Army of Tennessee. Surrendered with Joseph E. Johnston in May of 1865

1908 BIRMINGHAM - A RECENT RIP-OFF

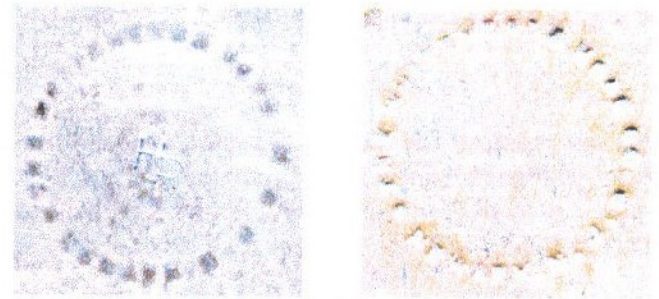
I recently observed an auction of one of these 1908 "Posey badges" (Fig 1) on e-Bay. Thought we'd take a look at the forgery and the genuine article and maybe save a fellow CWVHA member from a similar costly mistake.



Fig 1: 1908 Birmingham UCV Reunion Badge made c.1990 by Jeff Posey (dba Historical Reproductions)

An obvious first discrepancy is the modern safety clasp on the reverse of the Bar. Compare it with the safety pin type clasp on the original (Fig 3).

In Fig 2 note how the maker's name "The White-head & Hoag Co - Newark, NJ" is legible on the authentic badge but difficult to make out on the Remake. Note also that the initials "HR" (Historical Reproductions) are present on this Posey specimen.



Posey Remake - FIG 2 - Authentic Badge

I have another 1908 Posey Birmingham, however, that does not have the HR on it. The maker's logo should also appear on both the reverse of the Bar and the Drop (see Fig 3).



Fig 3: 1908 Birmingham UCV Reunion Badge made 1908 by Whitehead & Hoag - Newark, NJ (authentic)

Finally, note the differences in color between the two badges. The authentic has a brown "coppery" look while the Posey piece has a yellowish tinge, and the Battle Flag on the Bar shouldn't be in color.

New Reference Booklet:
**FAKE CONFEDERATE
ID DISCS**
By
Peter Bertram

Illustrates in detail eight fake "coins" engraved to look like Confederate ID discs. The text describes what's wrong with them so you'll know what to look for.

5-1/2 x 8-1/2 paper cover; 14 pages;
illus B&W: \$5.00 (postage included).
IN STOCK - READY TO SHIP!

Union Veteran Army Membership Badge

by Rance Hulshart

In the last issue of The Veteran, an announcement in a G.A.R. newspaper contained a graphic of the Union Veteran Army Membership Badge. Below is a photo of a UVA membership badge from my collection.



The hanger has crossed cavalry sabers over a chained square. Two rows of five links hold the star pendant to the hanger. The star pendant closely resembles the G.A.R. membership pendant, with a profile of an army veteran located in the center of the pendant. The top bar does not have a ribbon bar but does have a loop. My original thought was that the loop was used to hang a disc such as a state seal disc. It could have held a stick type pin which went through a ribbon. In last issues graphic, it appears that the ribbon is above the pin bar. Perhaps the pin clasp fastens to the ribbon while a stick pin also went through the ribbon and was also used to attach to a garment? From ten o'clock clockwise the points of the star are marked "1861", "1865", "A", "V", "U". Each of these markings is surrounded by three five point stars. There is no manufacturers markings. The card on which a previous owner mounted this badge and stud, stated that the UVA was organized in 1866.

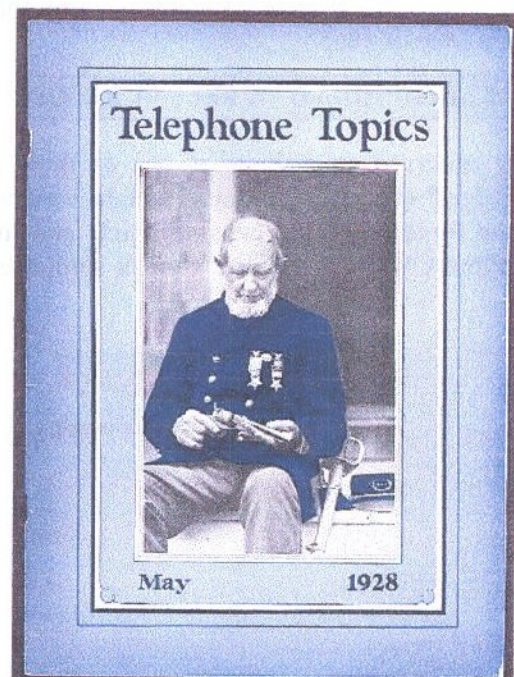
The UVA also used a membership lapel pin as shown below:



More Magazine Artwork

by George G. Kane

The following magazine has a photo of an old civil war veteran looking over his trusty old colt revolver. Note the two badges on his chest. One is a G.A.R. past officer badge and the other is a G.A.R. membership badge. Beside him lays an original civil war sword and a G.A.R. hat. The veteran is not identified and there are no articles on veterans in this issue. The cover on this issue is probably a salute to veterans day, 1928.



Telephone Topics was a corporate magazine published by the Telephone company, whose readership was limited to their employees. I doubt few other copies still exist.

Attention Members

This is the last issue of this Volume and the end of the membership year. Membership dues begin and end with the CWVHA National Encampment which is held each year in Mansfield, Ohio on the first weekend in May. Check your address label. If there is a circled "15" on your label, then your membership will expire on May 4, 2002. A membership renewal form is attached to this issue.