



Volume 20, No. 2 *The Veteran* October - December 2006

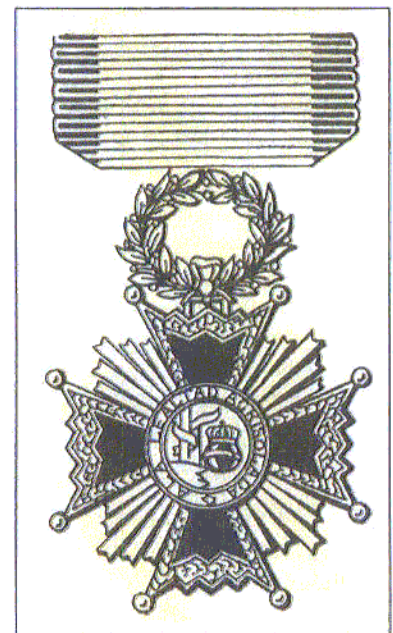
An Unusual Foreign Award to a Confederate Officer
by George G. Kane

In 1869 in Madrid, Maria Christina, Queen Regent of Spain conferred and personally decorated an ex-Confederate Officer with the Order of Isabella the Catholic. Colonel Andrew Glassel Dickinson, formerly CSA General Magruder's Chief of Staff, received the award for his actions in the battle of Galveston, Texas, October 1862. During the battle, Dickinson noticed that a Catholic Convent was in the line of fire. With risk to his own safety, Dickinson gallantly removed the nuns residing in the convent to safety. Col. Dickinson was the only Confederate officer that was wounded during the battle. He was also badly wounded in the assault and capture of the U.S. Revenue Cutter *Harriet Lane*, January 1, 1863 in Galveston Harbor. The recapture of Galveston by Confederate forces immediately followed the ship capture. The Colonel is shown below with his wife. He is wearing his Order of Isabella the Catholic badge. The photo is from the December 1909 (Vol. XVII) issue of the *Confederate Veteran*.

(continued on Page 15)



COL. AND MRS. A. G. DICKINSON.



The Order of Isabella the Catholic, Kingdom of Spain

Illustration taken from "Ribbons and Medals" by Capt. H. Taprell Dorling, D.S.O., R.N., London, 1956, Page 257.

The President's Message

Dear Members:

It seems to me that I am seeing some interesting items of rather obscure veterans associations. I have seen several badges for the Army and Navy Union and it's auxiliaries for sale and even items such as their semi-annual reports that contain a wealth of information about their organization.

I recently obtained a bound pamphlet of The Union Society of the Civil War, which was founded in 1909. This obscure society was composed of loyal officials outside of military and naval service who rendered aid and assistance to the national or state governments and commissions. I find this fascinating.

If any of you have found such obscure organizations it would be of great interest, I am sure, to our membership. Keep looking! There is still a lot to be discovered.

Dan M. Mitchell, President

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Tom McCrory	*	Rance Hulshart
Wayne & Rose Kuntze	*	Vann Martin
George Finlayson		

Members

We received a number of copies returned due to the expiration of Changes of Address by the USPS. I know moving can be traumatic, but over a year, you'd receive a number of issues of The Veteran with a yellow USPS forwarding sticker on the envelope. When it's returned to us, we have to pay the postage again. Please contact us with your new address when you move.

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The Editor's Message

by George Kane

At this time, all copies of the first four years of "The Newsletters of the Civil War Veterans Historical Association" have been shipped. Apologies to all members who paid for this book so long ago. I'm thinking of putting past issues of "The Veteran" on a CD. I scan pages of back issues into my computer as a .jpg file. Because the scans are so large and are printed at full size, it takes forever to print most of these pages. The first four years has 190 pages and takes a couple of days to print on my HP Laserjet 6L. In contrast, these current pages take twelve to twenty seconds for each page to print. So, what takes less than 5 minutes for a current issue, takes about an hour for a similar copy of scanned pages. Any Ideas?

Happy Holidays. Hope all your suggestions to Santa end up under the tree.

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 is the preferred software choices.

All materials will be returned. If you have questions, please call George Kane at 413-592-2166.

123 Springfield St., Chicopee, MA 01013-2627.

An e-mail address is listed above.

Unusual Foreign Award to Confederate

(continued from the front page)

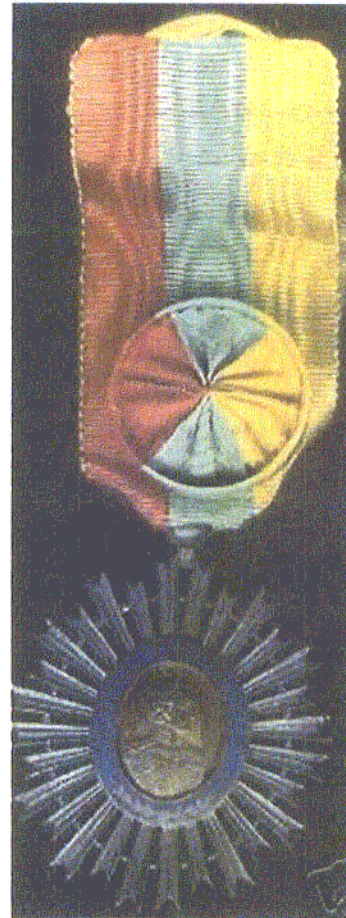
The Royal American Order of Isabella the Catholic was founded in 1815 to recognize loyalty in the defense of Spanish Territory in the New World. After the loss of those possessions the award became a general Order of Merit. It came in five classes. Colonel Dickinson's award is the fourth class, Knight. The Badge hangs from a ribbon of white and yellow vertical stripes. The large white stripe is in the center. From the ribbon hangs a wreath of green enameled laurel. Attached at the bottom of the wreath is the Maltese cross of the order. The cross is in gold wash with red enamel in the center of each arm. The center has the monogram of Ferdinand VII, the founder of the order, and a globe topped with a Spanish Crown. Around the center is the phrase "*ALA LEALTAD ACRISOLADA*", which translates "Wing Loyalty Pure". Five uneven spikes are between each arm.

Praised by friend and foe alike, one might consider resting on his laurels, but not Colonel Dickinson. Besides his heroics during the civil war he also helped to establish the Cotton Bureau, which moved southern cotton through Mexico. The cotton was shipped on foreign vessels from Mexican ports to Europe, thereby avoiding the Union blockade.

After the war, Col. Dickinson moved to New York City where he was employed by the New York Life Insurance Co. Andrew organized a department for the Life Insurance Company that encompassed all of Central and South America, the West Indies and Cuba.



At some time during this period, he was awarded the Order of the Bust of Simon Bolivar by the United States of Venezuela for his civic services.



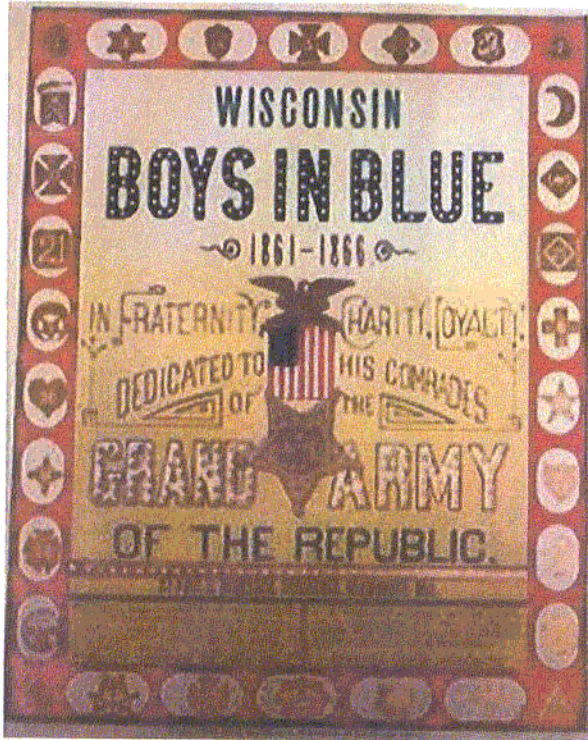
Order of the Bust of Simon Bolivar

In 1890, Col. Dickinson helped to establish the Confederate Veterans' Camp of New York, where he was the first camp commander. Dickinson was also the President of the Association of Southern Democrats in New York. He was also a member of the Manhattan Club, the Sagamore Club, and the New York Southern Society. He was director of the Bear Lithia Spring Company.

Besides his business and fraternal associations, the Colonel loved to travel the world. With his family, he visited the Holy Land, Egypt, India and other exotic places. What makes all these accomplishments seem extraordinary is that the Colonel was blind in one eye from a civil war wound. He died in New York City, April 5, 1906.

Wisconsin Boys in Blue Music by Tom McCrory

The sheet music shown below was published in 1902 in an attempt to raise money for the GAR and the WRC.



The music was entitled "Wisconsin Boys in Blue, 1861-1866, in Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty." It was "dedicated to his comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic." Paul C Biersach published the music in Milwaukee Wisconsin in 1902.

The author / publisher also states:

"This song and quartette is published in state editions with suitable verses for each state and is circulated for the benefit of the Woman's Relief Corps, who will receive large discounts from the publisher or from the E B Wolcott Woman's Relief Corps #16 Milwaukee Wisconsin. This edition includes the solo piano and quartette parts and is not sold separately. The design of this copy was compiled from Corps Badges, every note of music represents a Corps badge and the engraving is in itself a curiosity-it was so engraved by me for the

purpose of furnishing to my comrades a souvenir of dear remembrances."

According to a statement on the last page, the sheet music was to be published for 22 different states as well as a general US edition. The sheet music is 15" x 10 1/2" and contains 6 pages. Has anybody seen this sheet with another state listed?

More Confederate Boy Scout Badges by Vann Martin

Below is another UCV badge presented to Boy Scouts attending the August 1939 UCV Colorado Division reunion in Trinidad.



The badge was presented to certain Boy Scouts as a "Special Recognition Award." The qualifications for this badge are not known, but probably dealt with their contributions to the local community.

The pendant has busts of Robert E. Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson, as well as a western Confederate fort, circa 1864, and an enameled CSA battle flag.

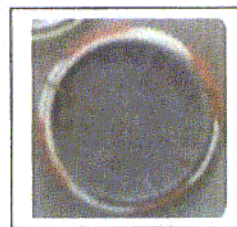
UCV & GAR Fake Celluloid Pins

by Rance Hulshart

Recently, an e-Bay Seller has begun selling reproductions of UCV and GAR celluloid pins. The seller uses the e-Bay ID of Civil-War-Stuff and lists his location as Absecon, NJ. Included in his list are a number of UCV, UDC, GAR, Union X-POW, and 1938 Gettysburg souvenir pins.

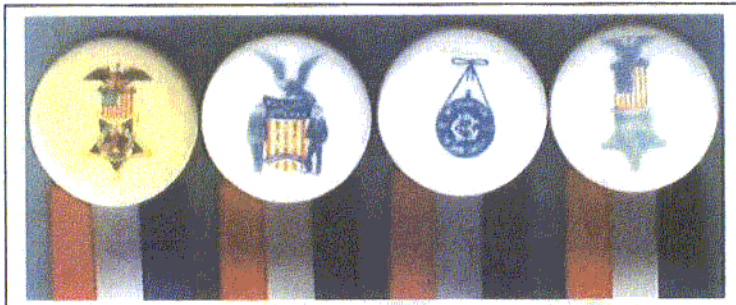


The UCV / UDC pins shown at right would fail to fool the veteran collector, but might fool the novice. The top pin with Winnie and Jefferson Davis and two confederate flags has a Whitehead & Hoag makers mark on the reverse. The rest do not. That reverse is shown below.

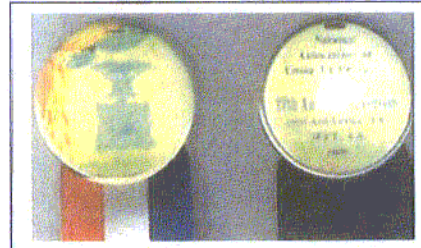


The Union X-POW pin fakes appear to be of poor quality. It looks like they were reproduced from faded originals.

The GAR fakes from this seller appear to be graphics copied from the small paper flags that are often sold on e-Bay. See below.



The 1938 Gettysburg Souvenir pin has also been reproduced. See my article on page 23 on the original pin.



A 1922 G.A.R. Badge History

By George Kane

In 1922, there appeared in the June 1st issue of the National Tribune, a letter from a recipient of the first batch of Type III G.A.R. membership badges. The letter was in response to a question from a G.A.R. member in a previous edition of the newspaper. The piece is reproduced in full below.

THE G.A.R. BADGE

Brief History of the Changes From the Earliest One.

Editor, National Tribune: For the information of Comrade Harlow, Post 26, G.A.R., Department of Massachusetts, who inquires if there are any more of the very early badges of the G.A.R. extant, allow me to give a short history of one badge, which probably antedates not only his, but also the vast number of badges issued since 1869.

In 1870 the Encampment of the G.A.R. was held at Washington, D.C. The Commander-in-Chief was Gen. John A. Logan; W. T. Collins, Adjutant General; F. A. Starring, Inspector General; T. Lubey, Quartermaster General.

The new Grand Army of the Republic badge, which had been designed by Gen. Starring, as the representative of the Staff, acting with a committee of the G.A.R., had been authorized, ordered, and was expected daily to be in time for the coming meeting of the Encampment.

The first consignment was received at Headquarters, opened and distributed to those of the Staff who happened to be present. Gen. Logan received No. 1, Gen. Starring No. 2, Adj. Gen. W. T. Collins No. 3, and Q. M. Gen. Lubey No. 4. The writer, who was Assistant Inspector General on the Staff and was in the city as a delegate from Minnesota to the Encampment, was honored by receiving No. 5 of this first series.

The badge is now before me as I write. It differs in some respects from those of later issue. The standing figures seem slightly smaller; the marginal lettering is the same, but with wider spaces between the words and dates. There is no number on the badge. The clasp shows a wider variation from the later forms. The metal is brighter; the spread of the eagle's wings is nearly horizontal and nearly one-fourth of an inch wider. There are 10 cannon balls under the crossed cannon on the face of the clasp, and on the back at the bottom, is a small picture, in relief, of a camp kettle suspended from a supported crossbar over a fire. The metal in this badge is the hardest and most refractory gunmetal. After 52 years of constant service the badge shows but little signs of wear, except on the reverse side, where it rested on the coat. I still have the original ribbon that came with this first badge, a worn, faded, broken, discolored fragment of the Red, White, and Blue, which we wore so proudly in the early days of the G.A.R., and which I hope to wear when "taps" sound above me in the grave provided for me at Arlington.

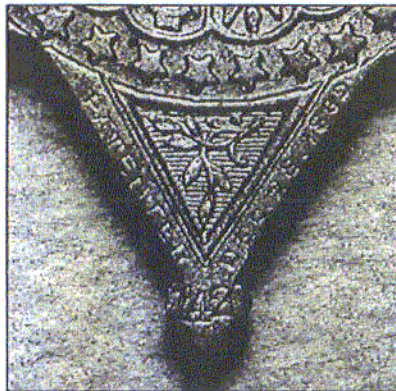
In later years, when Aide on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, I received another badge with a staff ribbon. This badge is numbered 1397, and has the patent mark "Dec. 28, 1885." There are other light differences, previously pointed out, in the metal of the star. The clasp is noticeably different. The metal is brighter, the eagle's wings rise sharply above the head, and the spread is a quarter inch shorter. There is no outline relief emblem on the reverse of the clasp. There are nine cannon balls under the crossed cannon, somewhat crowded together because of the limited space.

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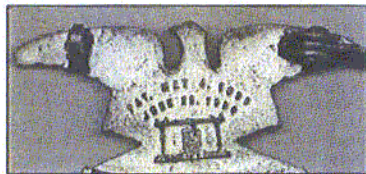
The G.A.R. Badge
(continued from previous page)

It would appear that this later badge was from a later die, following the original almost exactly, but adding the numbering and patent mark. There must be others of this first issue of badges of 1870. Many doubtless rest with the remains of dead comrades, but there may be others, that only need close examination to determine their identity with this first issue. Where are they?

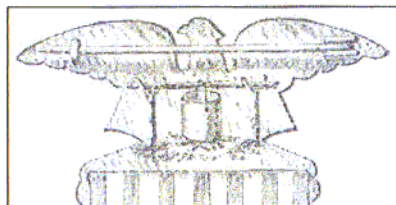
Wm. F. Morse
Kit Carson Post, No. 2, G.A.R.
Department of the Potomac
Cleveland, Ohio.



**Type III Patent date
Dec. 28, 1869**



**Type V Patent dates
with Campfire Scene**



**Type V illustration
from General Order No. 2
without patent dates**

The letter above, written almost 52 years after the fact and in the author's eighth decade, would appear to be a remembrance with incredible clarity. Unfortunately, his memories are flawed. William F. Morse is, indeed, listed as a delegate from the Dept. of Minnesota in the Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Meeting of the National Encampment, GAR, held at Washington, D. C., May 11th and 12th 1870. His appointment as Assistant Inspector General is also mentioned with his appointment date, February 26, 1870. Although a delegate from Minnesota, his residence is listed as Washington, D.C.

In fact, Comrade Morse seems to have switched his two badges, The patent with the date December 28 was for 1869, not 1886. He doesn't mention a patent date on his first badge. The patent dates on the Type V badge were May 8, 1886 and June 22, 1886. He does mention the campfire scene on the back of the hanger, which was added to the Type V badge. This campfire scene always had the 1886 patent dates above it. How did Morse miss these dates? The June 22, 1886 patent and the General Order No. 2 show the campfire scene without patent dates, but I've never seen a hanger with the campfire scene without the 1886 patent dates.

Grandfather' G.A.R. Clock by George G. Kane

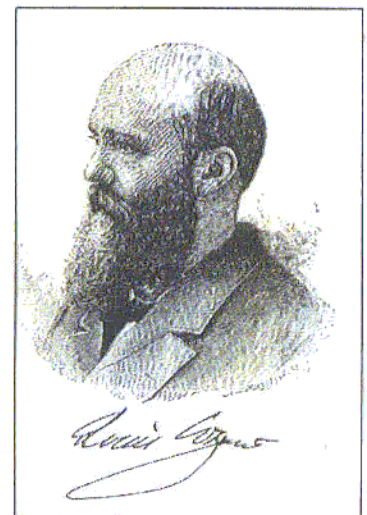
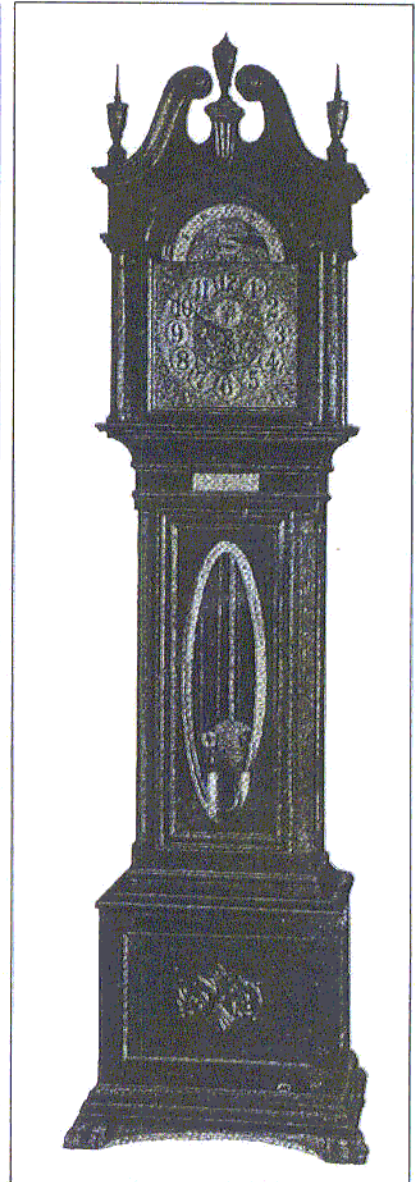
Over the years, the GAR had been generous in their testimonials to their Commander-in-Chiefs. But the testimonial to GAR Past CIC Louis Wagner was more material than verbal. At the 1905 National Encampment at Denver, Colorado, a committee was created to "procure" an acceptable testimonial to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of Wagner's election as Commander-in-Chief.

"We were at a loss as to what it should be," declared Past CIC John C. Black. "He was too good a Presbyterian, too fine a man to need a watch; he needed no badge, for his breast sparkles with them; he needed no title for he had one earned in four years of war. He needed nothing of material assistance, for the good God has favored him in his earthly labors. So we took counsel of her who has walked beside him through all these many years and have chosen that which will sound a friendly "tic, tac, take care" when he departs from his home to his business, and will greet him with joyous chimes, "welcome, welcome" when he returns. We have chosen, and he will find it awaiting him when he returns, in his hall, a good grandfather clock."

The clock (shown at right) has an engraved inscription just below the face and just above the pendulum:

"The Grand Army of the Republic to General Louis Wagner, first among peers, on the twenty-fifth anniversary on his election as Commander-in Chief"/ "Minneapolis, Minnesota, August 9th, 1906."

Louis Wagner was born in Giessen, Germany, August 4, 1838 and immigrated to the United States in 1849. In 1861 he was commissioned a Lieutenant in Company D, 88th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He was wounded and taken prisoner at 2nd Bull Run, but was subsequently paroled. Before the end of the war, he rose to the rank of Colonel and was brevetted a Brigadier General on leaving the army. The General worked for the city of Pennsylvania as recorder of deeds and the head of the Department of public works. He was G.A.R. department commander for Pennsylvania, Junior and Senior Commander-in-Chief before his election as CIC in 1881. He died January 15, 1914 at his home in Germantown, Pennsylvania.



“Mother, I do not hate to die.”
by George Finlayson

Shortly after the firing on Ft. Sumter and President Lincoln’s call for troops to invade the South, 18-year old Sam Davis joined Capt. William Ledbetter’s Rifles on April 30, 1861. Sam’s home was in Smyrna, TN, the eldest son of Charles Davis and his second wife, Jane Simmons Davis. In the following years, Sam served under General Robert E. Lee, General Stonewall Jackson and General Albert Sidney Johnston. He was wounded at Shiloh, but was able to stay with his command.

In October 1863, Sam, now 20, joined Coleman’s Scouts as a courier, bringing intelligence on the Union Army movements to General Braxton Bragg and his Army of Tennessee. Strictly speaking, Sam was not a spy. He did penetrate Union lines for information but did so in the uniform of a Confederate soldier. At the moment of capture, he was also wearing a poorly dyed Union overcoat. The war in Eastern Tennessee picked up in the early fall of 1863. The Union XVI Corps under General Granville Dodge moved eastward from Corinth. Sam’s detail was to bring information on General Dodge’s progress across Middle Tennessee. Following the Union Army at the time was an eccentric herb peddler who was generally ignored by the northern soldiers. The peddler was, in fact, Captain H. B. Shaw of the Confederacy and the source of information to Sam and the other couriers. On the 18th of November, Sam and the other scouts were summoned to a meeting with Capt. Shaw near Pulaski. He had important news for Bragg about Dodge’s forces and troop movements. There were three scouts that night, each to take a different route. Two of them memorized information, but Sam was given military notes, maps and messages to carry on his person (shoes) and in his saddle. On the night of November 19th, while resting on the bank of the Tennessee River, Union cavalry, known as the Kansas Jay Hawks, discovered Sam.

General Dodge and the Provost Marshal repeatedly demanded to know the source of



Sam’s information, which was so accurate that Dodge was amazed. But Sam refused to divulge Shaw’s cover. On November 24th, a court martial was convened and Sam was found guilty of (1) being a spy, and (2) being a courier of paper from within Union lines to persons in arms against the US Government. The sentence was hanging.

(Continued on Page 22)

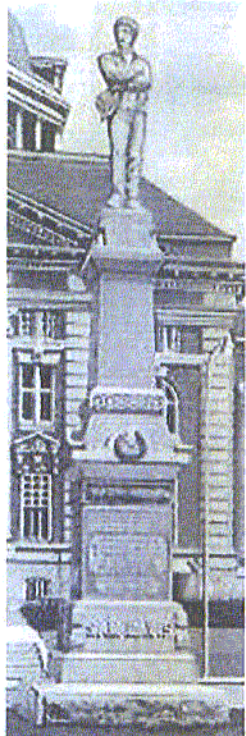
**"Mother, I do no hate to die."
(continued from previous page)**

The 81st Ohio Volunteer Infantry was detailed to carry out the sentence. That unit's chaplain, James Young, spent many hours comforting Sam. Sam was offered his life, his horse, side arms and safe conduct to the Confederate lines in return for giving up the source of his confiscated documents. Unbeknownst to his Union captors, Capt. Shaw, still masquerading as the peddler, sat in the cell next to Davis, a victim of the sweep that had also netted Davis. Sam again refused and was hanged on November 27, 1863.

In the few remaining days of his life, Sam was allowed to write to his parents and his amazing letter contains these lines: "Mother, tell all the children to be good..." "Do not forget me." "Mother, I do not hate to die."

The Union Provost Marshal at Pulaski wrote his parents that Sam was "the bravest of the brave...an honor to them...and had the respect of every man in his command."

In the years following the civil war, Sam Davis has become a cult hero. Today, tourists follow the "Sam Davis Trail."



The "Trail" has four stops, which includes the site of his capture with monument, the site of his execution with museum (on Sam Davis Avenue), the cemetery where he was briefly buried, and a life size statue atop a monument to him that resides in the center of Pulaski, Tennessee. A photo of this monument is to the left. The monument is located in the town square, directly in front of town hall.

The Sam Davis Home (on Sam Davis Road) in Smyrna, Tennessee, is also a Museum.

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October – December 2006*

**Book Review
by George G. Kane**

Many of our members have written books on Civil War Veterans. I usually don't review books whose subject is not the Civil War, but I think you'll be interested in Peter Eisert's new book, "*The National Convention Badges, Membership Badges & Award Medals of The American Legion*," 99 pages, 8½" x 10¾". The book is short on text, but long on photos. After a brief history of the Legion, Pete presents photos of all the National Convention Badges from 1919 to 2003. Other chapters deal with Membership, Officer, School, and Award Medals. Although the photos are in black and white they are larger than the actual badges. The reverses of pendants that are not blank are also pictured. There is also a page explaining the elements of the American Legion Emblem.

The National Convention Badges,
Membership Badges,
& Award Medals
of

The American Legion



Peter J. Eisert
Lake Meade American Legion Post #349

The best part of this book is the price. \$7.50 post paid. Most Legion badges are not expensive. If you're looking for a new collectible outlet buy this book and start buying badges. Send a check to:

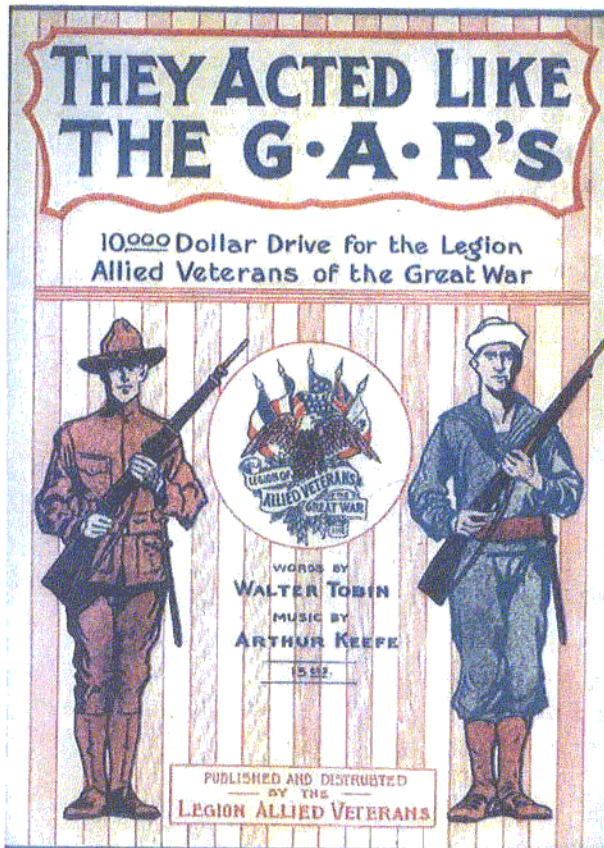
Peter Eisert
7 Halleck Drive
East Berlin, PA 17316-9353

For more info contact Pete at:

oneoldboot@comcast.net

**G.A.R. Sheet Music
by George G. Kane**

In 1919, a little known WWI veterans' society published sheet music honoring the Grand Army of the Republic. At first I thought the society may be an early name of the American Legion, but a quick check of Legion history listed twelve names that were considered and the Legion of Allied Veterans of the Great War, Inc (LAV), was not one of them.



The LAV had hoped to raise \$10,000 to jump-start their new society. Their purpose, listed on the last page was "to rehabilitate soldiers and sailors who have completed their service in the World War" and "to provide a means of re-establishing the returning soldiers by acting as a point of contact between them and their future labors". Joseph Bligh, Vice Legion Commander, signed the statement. I hope he wasn't a Captain.

Neither the title nor the lyrics, by Walter Tobin, appear to roll off the tongue. The dreadful unrhyming chorus ends with "Tell of the soldiers of the Allied fighting force as in days of yore. They acted like the G.A.R.'s fought and bled for the stripes and stars. Welcome the boys back home." I doubt they were singing this ditty in the GAR halls.

**1938 Gettysburg 75th Anniversary Badge
by Rance Hulshart**

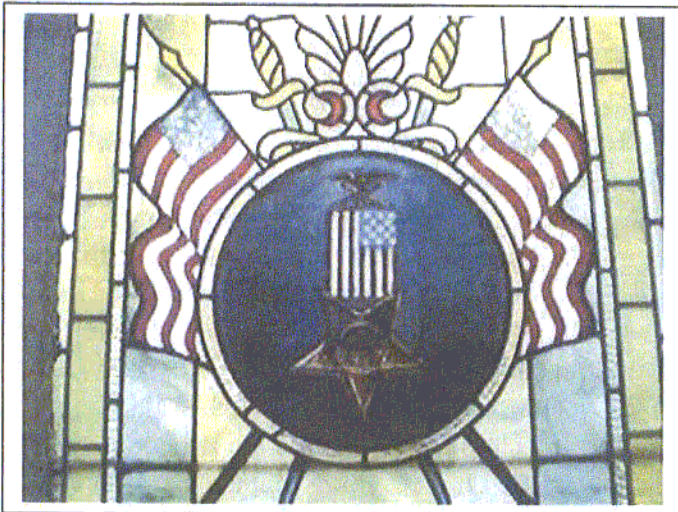
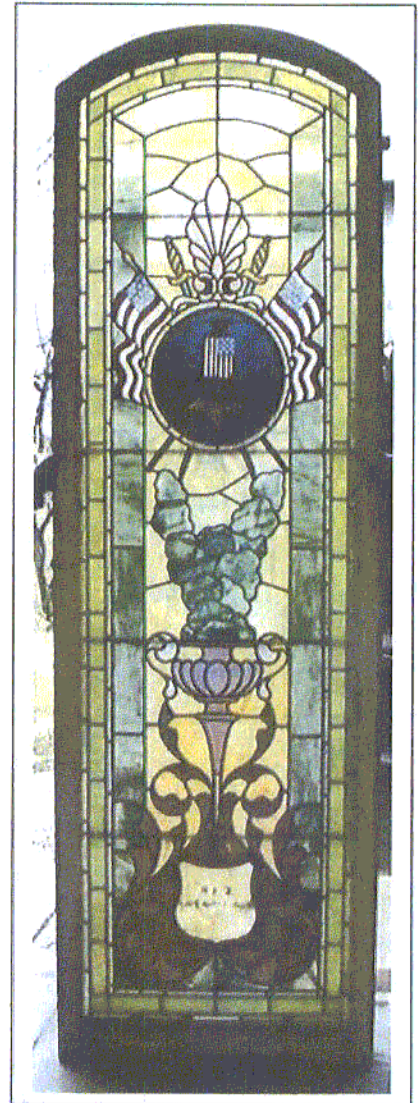
Illustrated is a souvenir badge from the 75th Anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg held in 1938.



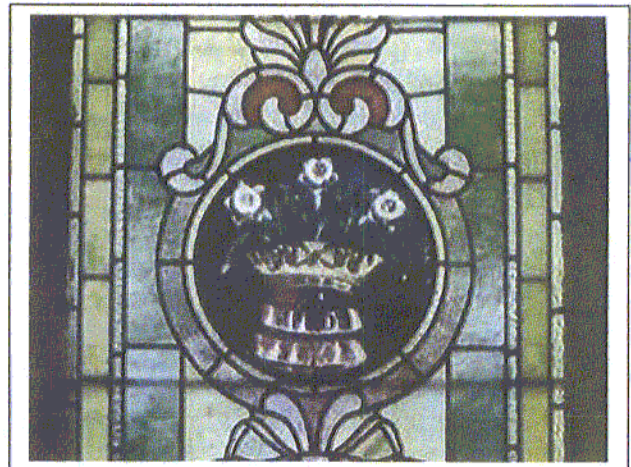
I am sure many of our club members own either the top celluloid pin back badge or the bottom brass fob badge or both, but as for myself and I am sure many of you, have not been aware that the two pieces belonged together connected by a red, white and blue striped ribbon. The round stick pin celluloid badge (32mm) is marked 75th Anniversary/ 1863-1938/ crossed USA & CSA flags motif/ uniformed Union and Confederate soldier's shaking hands/ Battle Of Gettysburg. Label on the reverse is marked Mitchell's/ Restaurant/ and Souvenirs/ Gettysburg, Pa. The fob badge features bust motifs of a Union and Confederate soldier, shaking hands. It is marked around this 1863 Battle Of Gettysburg 1938/ 75th Anniversary. The reverse has a cannon and stack of cannon balls motif and is marked Souvenir/ Blue and Gray Reunion. I do not have easy access to souvenir booklets from this time period but if any member does, please check to see if Mitchell's advertises in any of these and forward a copy to George for inclusion in the next newsletter.

G.A.R. Glass Stained Windows by George G. Kane

Did you ever dream that one day you'd be coming home from a civil war show and the truck from HGTV's "While You Were Out" was just pulling out of your driveway? The gang from WYWO had just completed turning your spare room into a state of the art collectibles display room. If they did, they would have selected a window like the one shown here. The stained glass window at right is one of a few pieces that remain of Harris Elson G.A.R. Post No. 728 of Magnolia, Ohio. A similar window (lower right photo) with a crown full of flowers in the circular section was dedicated to the Ladies Aide Society. Both windows are in their original arch topped wooden frames. The glass measures 27.5" wide X 8' tall. The frame measures 33.75" wide X 8'7" to the top of the arch. Together these crystal monoliths flanked the entrance to the G.A.R. Hall. The two windows were recently offered for sale on e-Bay (Item no. 280022504554). The windows were recently sold.



*Photos
courtesy of
Wayne &
Rose Kuntze*



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