



A publication of the second Wisconsin volunteer
infantry

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PASS IN REVIEW



April 24, 2009

“Prepare to open ranks”. In a few short days we will begin our '09 campaign season. School presentations, parades, drill and re-enactments have filled our calendar quickly and completely. Our ranks will be filled with old friends and new recruits who are eager to fall in and ‘see the elephant’. Take time to share with the new guy the ins and

outs of camp life and drill. All are welcomed who have a love of the history of the American Civil War.

Although I would like 100% attendance to all of the association events, I realize that this would be impossible, if not suicidal to any family life. But, what I do ask of our membership is when we attend an event we take special care and bring to the event our best possible portrayal of the Wisconsin soldier. To this end we must make every effort to learn the drill. School of the soldier and school of the company are very important to our appearance on the field.

Also, we must present to the public, to other re-enactors and more importantly to ourselves, a strong and accurate effort in our appearance in our uniform and military decorum. Is your uniform and equipment in order? Have you studied the letters and diaries of soldiers to understand their background and 'mind set' during the war? Beyond appearances, carry with you an inquisitive knowledge of the Wisconsin soldier of the American Civil War.

Your Obedient Servant,

Lt. Col. Pete Seielstad

THE VIEWS FROM THE CAMPS

SPRING MUSTER SET
FOR MAY 2ND AND 3RD AT
THE OLD WADE HOUSE

THE 2ND WISCONSIN
REGIMENT TO GATHER IN
GREENBUSH

On the weekend of May 2nd and 3rd, 2009, the Second Wisconsin Regiment is being called out for an all out effort to work on all

aspects of battalion drill. This is a great chance to interact with our comrades from other companies and sharpen our field movements for upcoming events during the campaign season ahead.

It is also necessary to train our officers in handling their companies and the regiment on the field. This is important to our overall impression on the field.

As the editor writes this article it appears we

are enjoying a warm up and some long absent sun! However, as we Badgers know, in early May the weather can be quite changeable and you should dress for the weather. An extra pair of dry socks might be a good idea as well.

There will likely be some firings during drill, and if time allows, a skirmish against those boys from the 10th Tennessee! Bring 35 to 40 rounds to the drill, that should be sufficient for the event.

Be prepared to take the field at 9:00 a.m. sharp! There is much to do and time will be of the essence. Our fresh fish should try to make this drill. It will give you the opportunity to learn the skills of safe firings under controlled circumstances. This is a far better time to attain those skills than it a battlefield setting with all the hubbub and excitement. If the skirmish occurs it will also give you that brief taste of "seeing the elephant" for the first time!

**EFFORT LAUNCHED TO
PRESERVE ANOTHER RELIC
RELATED TO THE CIVIL
WAR**

The Fugelman received the following communiqué from Rick Raatz and the introduction speaks for itself

Hi Jim,

Feel free to throw the article below into a newsletter if you see fit. It is an article that was sent for publication in the Columbus Journal newsletter. If you can retrieve the picture you will see the banner, a cane carved at Shiloh, POW shackles, a cavalry saber and the furled Post Stars and Stripes.

**Columbus Sons of the
American Legion Begin
Drive to Preserve Civil
War Banner**

The Columbus Sons of the American Legion Squadron has taken on the project of preserving a piece of Columbus history. The Squadron, in conjunction with the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, is working to preserve the communities Grand Army of the Republic banner that is currently hanging in the City Hall. The silk banner is in remarkable shape for its age but is in danger of falling beyond repair soon. The local Squadron will now start taking donations to assist in the preservation of this local treasure. Upon completion of the

raising of approximately \$5,000 dollars the banner will be preserved by the same company that the Veteran's Museum in Madison has hired to preserve it's Civil War battle flags.

On April 6, 1866 the United States Congress granted a charter for a veterans organization titled the "Grand Army of the Republic". The primary goal of this veterans organization that was limited to members of the Federal or Union Army (veterans from the North in our Civil War) was to commemorate fallen comrades, promote fraternity and provide mutual assistance.

Columbus first chartered its Post on March 22nd, 1884 with A. C. Parkinson as its first Commander. The Post was simply titled "Columbus Post #146" but that was soon to change. In 1887 when it appears that the Post was at it's peak in membership (around 72 members) it was named "Frank A. Haskell Post #146". G. A. R. Posts were typically named after high ranking officers, battles, localities or home-town heroes. Frank Haskell was a Madison lawyer whose connection to Columbus came through his brother, a local lawyer named Harrison Haskell. Frank Haskell was an adjutant in the famed 6th Wisconsin (part of the Iron Brigade) who was killed at the battle of

Cold Harbor in 1864. Harvey Brown, a local politician, veteran and driving force behind the chartering of the Post is likely the person responsible for the naming of the Haskell Post. F. Haskell was much beloved and respected as an officer by Mr. Brown and the locals that knew him and his efforts in chronicling the battle of Gettysburg are still used by historians today in describing the battle (most notable here is author Bruce Catton). Harvey Brown, who had served with Haskell and himself twice wounded at Cold Harbor, was a member of the Haskell Post for nearly 20 years before he passed away. Following his death the Post was re-named in December of 1894 the "Harvey M. Brown Post #146". It is unknown when the Post surrendered it's charter but we do know that the last member, Conrad Koblitz, died in 1934.

Anyone wishing to make donations toward the preservation of the banner can do so by contacting S. A. L. members Rick Raatz (623-2285) or Don Lamb (623-0556).

**THE LAST LIVING EYE
WITNESS TO THE
ASSASSINATION OF
PRESIDENT ABRAHAM
LINCOLN!**

I've Got A Secret was a very popular TV show that aired during the 1950s. This guest was a man who saw Lincoln shot. Samuel Seymour, 96 years old when this episode aired recalls Booth's fall and hoped that "the man who fell out of the balcony didn't get hurt." Seymour died a few weeks after the show. The cause of death was an injury received when he fell down steps at the hotel before the filming of this episode.

Here is the You Tube link: [I've Got a Secret](#) has a Winston cigarette commercial included. The commercial boasts that "Winston tastes good like a cigarette should."

Text Below is located at [Inner Tube](#)

On February 9th, 1956, 96 year old Samuel Seymour appeared as a guest on 'I've Got A Secret'. (The celebrity guest that night was Lucille Ball.) Mr. Seymour was the last surviving witness to the assassination of President Lincoln, and he was five years old at the time. He had gone with the family of one of his young friends. All Mr. Seymour remembered of that fateful and fatal night was that a man fell out of the balcony and onto the stage. It wasn't until after they had escaped the pandemonium in the theater did the little boy find out that the President had been

killed. Mr. Seymour lived in Maryland and he died in April of 1956, 91 years after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. Posted by Rea Andrew Redd at [9:33 PM](#)
<http://www.civilwarlibrarian.blogspot.com/>



' Lee and Grant ' Exhibit Opens

April 6, 2009
at Kenosha Civil
War Museum

The following notice was passed to the newsletter by our roving correspondent, Gary VanKauwenbergh. The Editor finds it a very interesting exhibit. It was discussed on my civil war chat group and was well received by those who post there and have seen it.

Civil War Museum
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&nbs p;

March 26, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Peggy Gregorski,
Development Coordinator
262-653-4428

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KENOSHA – Civil War generals Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant will be the focus of an exhibit on display at the Civil War Museum April 6 through May 25, 2009 in the John M. Antaramian Gallery. The exhibit has been made possible by NEH on the Road, a special initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Mid-America Arts Alliance.

An opening reception for the exhibit will take place on Saturday, April 18. There is no admission fee for the Lee & Grant exhibit, which includes the Bible General Lee carried with him throughout the war and General Grant's field glasses. During a Civil War Saturday program from 2 to 4 p.m., people can meet Rebel soldiers who fought for Lee at Petersburg, try an authentic Civil War drink and try on Civil War era clothing. This free family program is sponsored by Friends of the Museums.

Also on April 18, Bob Welch will perform Civil War era music and refreshments will be served. Confederate reenactors will be in "The Fiery Trial" exhibit from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission to The Fiery Trial free for members and children 15 and

under. Cost for nonmember adults is \$5.

A Civil War theater presentation featuring Cordelia Harvey, who worked to improve medical care for soldiers during the war, will be at 3 p.m. on April 18. Cost is \$2 per person.

Several other programs will tie in with the exhibit this spring. At 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, the Civil War Museum will host a program, "Media Controversy! The Media Coverage of General Grant the Battle of Shiloh." Civil War Museum volunteer Ron Larson presents his masters thesis research on the newspaper coverage General Grant received after the Battle of Shiloh on April 6 and 7, 1862. Free tickets will be distributed the day of the program at the Civil War Museum.

The "Lee and Grant" exhibit includes photographs, paintings, prints, coins, reproduction clothing, items owned by the two men, documents written in their own hands, and biographical and historical records to reveal each man in his historical and cultural context, allowing audiences to compare the ways each has been remembered for almost 150 years.

"Visitors will enjoy discovering similarities

and differences between Lee and Grant that are rarely pointed out," said Dr. William M. S. Rasmussen, exhibition co-curator and the Lora M. Robins Curator of Art at the Virginia Historical Society. "These generals have been explored by historians for decades, but "Lee and Grant" is the first exhibition to present the two men together so that visitors can make decisions about them, side by side, based on facts. We hope that after they view "Lee and Grant," visitors will give more thought to the legacies of both generals."

For more information on the touring exhibit, visit www.maaa.org or www.nehontheroad.org.

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A SCHEDULE OF EVENTS COMING UP AT THE CIVIL WAR MUSEUM IN KENOSHA

Gary Vankauwenbergh has reported to the newsletter a schedule of upcoming events at the Civil War Museum in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The editor must say there are some very interesting events as outlined below. Thank you Gary for keeping our readers informed of these wonderful opportunities to expand our knowledge of the era in which we spend T00 much time!!

* "Re-Examining the Lincoln Assassination"

Saturday, April 25 -

1 PM

Lincoln scholar and Racine native, Steven Rogstad, examines the assassination, the assassin, conspiracy theories, and how the event transformed a controversial President into one of the most beloved figures in world history. Free ticket required.

* The Politics of Lincoln Today: To Whom Does He Belong?

Tuesday, April 28 - 7:30 PM

Join Elaine Mackevich, Executive Director of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, for a presentation on Lincoln and his legacy. Learn why today's politicians are eager to rally under the Lincoln banner. Free and open to the public

* Lincoln, Habeas Corpus and the Wisconsin Supreme Court

Saturday, May 2 -

1 PM

President Lincoln authorized the arrest of civilians who military authorities believed were a threat to the Union war effort. Deputy Attorney General, Ray Taffora, discusses one such case in Wisconsin. A detainee challenged his arrest and detention, setting up a confrontation between Wisconsin courts and President Lincoln over the legality of the President's power to arrest and hold citizens suspected of disloyalty. Taffora is a student of the Lincoln Presidency and a native Kenoshan. Free ticket required.

* What Not To Wear In The 19th Century,

Saturday, May 9 - 1PM to

3PM

Nancy Wolfe, contributing editor for Antique Trader's Vintage Clothing Price Guide, will present a workshop on fashions from the mid-19th century. She will show a large selection of original garments and accessories from her personal collection, and will discuss appropriate patterns, fabrics and trims for those that plan to sew their own clothing. She will also discuss where ready made garments and accessories may be purchased. \$25 (\$20 FOM/Seniors)

***Downtown Second Saturday
Curator Exhibit Tour,**

Saturday, May 9 - 7PM
Join Education Curator Brett Lobello as he leads a tour of the "Lee and Grant" exhibit as part of the Downtown Second Saturday events. Friends of the Museum membership or admission fee required.

*** Second Annual Great Lakes Civil War Forum**

September 12, 2009
Speakers include Lance Herdegen on the Iron Brigade at Gettysburg, Marshall Krolick on the Command Structure of the Union Army at Gettysburg on July 1, 1863; Steve Rogstad on Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address, and David Eicher with a slide-illustrated talk on interesting and unknown sites on the famed battlefield. The fee for the program is \$50 for the public or \$40 for Friends of the Kenosha Public Museums. This fee includes lunch and admission to the special main exhibit gallery. For information call 262-653-4140 or go to www.thecivilwarmuseum.org.

**A GREAT AND GLORIOUS
EVENT REMEMBERED**

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE
TIFFANY FLAG TO THE
IRON BRIGADE REENACTED**

Good Morning, My name is Mike Benton and I am the First Vice President of the Civil War Roundtable of Milwaukee. Bob Mann gave me your contact information as you may find this of interest.

As you are aware, the original Iron Brigade Association veterans voted to give their children and grandchildren membership in the Association in 1897. In 1990, James

Sullivan and William Upham, sons of Iron Brigade soldiers, gave the Civil War Roundtable of Milwaukee, Inc. authority to keep an official roster of the Iron Brigade Association and to hold Iron Brigade reunions.

Since the Civil War Roundtable of Milwaukee, Inc., continues the tradition of the Iron Brigade Association, it was determined that a replica of the original Tiffany Iron Brigade Flag (actual at the Wisconsin Veteran's Museum) and a replica of the guidon for Co B, 4th U.S. Light Artillery be procured to be present at our regular monthly meetings.

At our May 7, 2009 meeting, we will reenact the presentation of the Tiffany Flag to the Iron Brigade on September 18, 1863. Mr. W. Y. Selleck, Military Agent for the State of Wisconsin will present the flag to Col. W. W. Robinson. We will have all five regiments and Battery B represented.

The May meeting will be held at The Wisconsin Club, 900 W. Wisconsin Avenue. Milwaukee, WI 53233 starting at 6:30 pm. Period attire is worn at our May meeting. Cost for the dinner, if desired

is \$23. No charge if just attending the program.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Paul Eilbes at 262-376-0568 or paul.eilbes@ipaper.com.

Feel free to communicate this information to anyone that might be interested.

I can be reached at 262-243-9610 or m.benton@andersontackman.net

Jim boullion recovering after surgery and a scare!

Friends and Family,

For those who may not have heard, and to update others who heard something but not the whole story, I wanted to send out a note on what happened to me this weekend. On Easter Sunday I had to go to the Emergency Room with severe pain in my lower right chest. It felt like a bad runner's cramp that would not go away. It turns out that the shoulder surgery that I had on April 1st caused blood clots to form.

Two of them dislodged and replanted themselves in my right lung. They also discovered that three clots are still in my repaired shoulder. I was in the Hospital until Tuesday night when they felt comfortable enough to send

me home with blood thinners and pain pills.

According to the many doctors I have spoken to over the last few days it is VERY rare for arthroscopic shoulder surgery to generate blood clots. I guess I am just lucky! On the other hand, I really am lucky that they lodged where they did and did not go someplace that would have been a bigger deal. That would have really ruined my day! The prognosis is quite good once you get past the first 48 hours, so I am feeling good about a complete recovery. The Doctors can not predict when the clots in my lungs and arm will breakdown enough to get mobile again, but I am hopeful it will just be a week or two. We will see....

I will keep you posted as things go forward.

Take care,

Jim Boullion

p.s. Sorry I can't make any events early in the year, I am hopeful that I will be up and active by mid-summer.

The editor is sure he speaks for all of us when he extends our hopes that Jim's recovery is full, total and that he is back with his pardis in the very near future!

LINCOLN' S FUNERAL IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

A SPECIAL ROLE FOR A REGIMENT FROM THE OLD IRON BRIGADE

The good times came to an abrupt end on April 15. On that day, the men of the 24th Michigan learned that President Lincoln had been assassinated. As in the rest of the country, the banners put up in celebration of the surrender were removed and replaced with black mourning bunting. Within a few days, the Regiment was notified that it was to be included in the honor guard and funeral. In addition to the 24th Michigan, several other regiments were stationed in the Springfield area. The 14th Iowa, 42nd Wisconsin, 146th Illinois and units of the Veterans Reserve Corps were also ordered to be ready for this special duty.

"Upon receipt of the orders, the unit began its preparations. The men were drilled with special care for the treasured duty by Major Hutchinson assisted by the line officers and noncoms until they appeared at their best. New uniforms were issued; muskets, brass, and shoes polished until they shone, and the whole topped off with a new issue of black hats, feathers, and white gloves."

[\(Smith p. 252: 253\)](#)



That the Hardee hat was reissued is also evident from the uniform and hat in the photograph of [John R. Brown](#). This clothing issue is significant in that members of the 24th Michigan would be expected to have Hardee hats. Soldiers from other regiments *could* have the Hardee

(it was, after all, part of the official dress uniform), but would more likely have had a forage cap.

On May 3, a detachment of soldiers from the 24th led by Lieutenant Colonel Edwards was in Springfield as the train bearing the late president's body arrived. The detachment formed up on Jefferson Street and helped to escort the coffin to the State House.

Thousands of people had come to Springfield and lined up outside the State House to view the body. The soldiers in this photograph stationed to help maintain order. It is probable that the detachment from the 24th Michigan did similar duty that day. All the soldiers visible in this picture, however, have forage caps, and thus are more likely to belong to one of the other units.

Inside the building, an honor guard composed of union officers was placed in close proximity to the body. Lieutenant Colonel Edwards, Major Hutchinson, and Captain Dodsley each served a turn. Approximately 75,000 slowly filed past the coffin. The viewing lasted until 11 p. m.



At 8 o'clock on the morning of May 4, a special train arrived at Camp Butler to convey the soldiers to Springfield. Along with the 24th Michigan, soldiers from the 14th Iowa were also loaded on the train. After arriving at Springfield, was allowed to view the body of the late president. By 11 a. m. , the funeral procession had been formed. The 24th Michigan was

given the place of honor at the head of the military escort, directly behind the hearse, despite the fact that the 14th Iowa Veteran Volunteers was the senior unit (the 14th Iowa was originally formed in November 1861). The men stood waiting in the hot, humid morning, sweating in their newly issued dress uniforms.

At around 11:30, the funeral procession began. The Regiment marched at the slow step. The "bands," possibly including a reconstituted regimental band,



played funeral dirges. Four separate Lincoln funeral marches had been composed for the occasion. Family history states that Webster Wood was in charge of the "drum corps" on this solemn occasion.

"...when the music was silent all that could be heard was the muffled ominous, unbroken roll of the drums..."

Mary Lincoln had decided to bury her late husband in Oak Ridge Cemetery, the gate to which is shown above. Notice the sentry. Under magnification the soldier appears to be wearing a Hardee hat and possibly gloves. Military guards had been assigned to keep out the curious as well as potential Southern-sympathizing vandals.

Until a permanent tomb could be constructed, Lincoln's body would rest in the cemetery's receiving vault. Again, military guards were stationed, and reinforced vault doors were installed.

Although the man on the left is wearing either a Hardee hat or a similar civilian model, he is probably an officer. Since the men are wearing forage caps, this guard detail is most likely from one of the other regiments.



Reverend Bishop Simpson

After arriving at the Oak Ridge Cemetery, the Regiment was dismissed, and the soldiers mingled into the crowd. [Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address](#), so recently given by the great man himself, was read to the crowd. The Reverend Bishop Matthew Simpson, a noted Methodist Minister, had been selected to give the [oration](#). There followed several hymns and a benediction by After a final hymn, specially composed for the occasion, was sung, the gates and vault doors were swung shut and locked and Lincoln's funeral was over.

After the rites were finished, the soldiers were reformed and returned to Springfield, somberly marching to the tune of the "Dead March from Saul." The 24th re-boarded the

train and returned to Camp Butler by 4:30 p. m. For some of the soldiers in the 24th this was probably the hardest march of a long terrible war.

<http://www.geocities.com/capecanaveral/lab/1419/funeral.html>

