



EGG-CITING TIMES

Newsletter of
Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1
Haymarket, VA
Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865
<https://elizabethvanlewtent.weebly.com>
July 2020: "Summer Breeze"



MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT—KAREN LYDDANE

Hello Egg-stra Special Sisters,

Welcome to the "Summer Breeze" edition of our newsletter. This warm, light-hearted edition is all about *you* and your summer adventures. Welcome to our new Junior Vice President, Jane Shackelford, and Elise Geller, our new Press Correspondent, who are busily exploring their roles; and welcome to our new members, whom we embrace with full hearts and great excitement.

Let us cast aside our struggles and worries for a moment, and lift our heads in merriment, as our ancestors did in facing their own challenging future. Know that your officers are here for you, and we await your contact as you find need.

In my own high spirits, I share the confession that being your president is greatly rewarding, as your own enthusiasm, energy, and activity regularly reaches my leadership. May we continue to strive forward, in unity, toward the healthy future of our tent. Huzzah!

Karen



"Keep Green the Memory"

Message from a New Member

I am a new member and have only attended one meeting, plus our zoom meeting.

I joined because I wanted to honor the memory of my ancestor, Joseph C. Finley.

When he joined the Union Army he had been a carpenter and a Wheelwright. His family migration followed the wagon trails west.

When he was killed at the Battle of Shiloh he was a 26 year old husband and father of two. These two surviving children received the pension after their mother, Rachel, remarried. In all my years of researching I have never learned a death date for Rachel, or her daughter, Lydia. One of the things I periodically do is stay up late and do marathon research sessions with my west coast cousin. We bat around lineage scenarios and also share tasks of searching record sets. Some day we hope to find the information.

I have found the Elizabeth Van Lew chapter warm and inviting and look forward to knowing them better.

—Debbie Warren Cupp

**Please welcome
Our new member since
May!**

Cyndi Fein



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Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1 Officers & Appointed Officers/Chairmen

<i>President:</i> Karen Lyddane	elizabethvanlewtentVA@gmail.com ; sunsup605@yahoo.com
<i>Senior Vice President:</i> Vicki Meadows	aartimesia@gmail.com
<i>Jr. Vice President:</i> Jane Shackelford	janealogyusa@yahoo.com
<i>Chaplain:</i> Cynthia Matsumoto	cynthia.matsumoto@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer:</i> Crystal Geller	crystalgeller@gmail.com
<i>Registrar:</i> Peggy Burroughs	peggyburroughs@cox.net
<i>Patriotic Instructor, Webmaster, & Newsletter Editor:</i> Karen Misiano	kmisiano@yahoo.com
<i>Council #1:</i> Donetta Bantle	donettabantle@yahoo.com
<i>Council #2:</i> Jan MacQueston	janteagues@verizon.net
<i>Secretary:</i> Amanda Morris	amanda384@gmail.com
<i>Historian:</i> Gayle Machee	bitsom@verizon.net
<i>Press Correspondent:</i> Elise Geller	elisegeller@ymail.com
<i>Service to Veterans Committee:</i> Midge Elliott	mequilts@aol.com
<i>Scholarship Committee:</i> Jane Shackelford	janealogyusa@yahoo.com
<i>JROTC & ROTC Scholarship Task:</i> Crystal Geller	crystalgeller@gmail.com
<i>Bylaws & Standing Rules Committee:</i> Ann Beer	rabeer@mac.com
<i>Ancestor Minute Committee:</i> Norma Fields	fieldsx4@comcast.net

Tent Web address: <https://elizabethvanlewtent.weebly.com>

Tent email address: elizabethvanlewtentVA@gmail.com

SUVCW Irish Brigade Camp Web address: <http://irishbrigadecamp.com/index.html>

MOTTO
Fraternity,
Charity and
Loyalty

**Most Sacred Duty of a Daughter of the
Daughters of Union Veterans of the
Civil War, 1861-1865**

“Loyalty to God, Country and Flag”



National Convention

Start making plans now to attend
next year's convention!

August 3, 2021 - August 8, 2021

Make plans now to attend!

<http://www.duvcw.org/national-convention.html>

Hilton St. Louis Frontenac Hotel
1355 South Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, MO



National Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW)
American Battlefield Trust

www.duvcw.org
www.suvcw.org
www.battlefields.org



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Meet Karen Lynn Crawley Misiano, Your Patriotic Instructor

Karen was born in Bradenton, Florida and lived almost the first thirty-years of her life in the state. Karen graduated summa cum laude from Clearwater Christian College with a history major and a Bible and education double-minor. She met her husband, Joseph, while attending graduate school at the University of South Florida. After marrying in 1995, they started their moves up the Eastern seaboard, stopping in SC, NC, and then VA, where they've lived since 2008. Although she has been a paid teacher, she also homeschooled her only son, Thomas, from K-8th grade. She's also been employed as a deputy, an insurance customer service representative, an executive assistant, a quality administrator, and is currently is employed as a purchasing coordinator.

Karen spent about seven years as an adult Scouter, having served in a variety of roles in Boy Scouts and attending Leave No Trace Trainer training and Wood Badge training. While in Scouts, she developed a love of nature and a special affinity for opossums. She would love to one day be a licensed wildlife rehabilitator. Karen taught classes to Scouts and adult Scouters on proper etiquette and protocol for the Flag of the United States of America, tree identification, and Leave No Trace principles.

Karen lives in Stafford with her husband, son, mother (Kathleen Crawley, who is also a member of EVL), and six cats (Fluerken, Mongo, Crow, Napoleon, Wookachocka, and Jynx). She is a member of five lineage societies, and also serves as an adult leader in three children's lineage societies.



Meet Crystal Michele Benton Geller, Your Treasurer

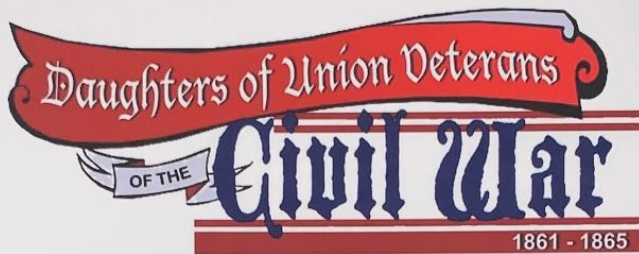
Crystal Geller was born in Quantico, Virginia, the first of several military bases she would live on. The daughter of a U.S. Marine, she lived in California, D.C. and eventually settled in Richmond, Virginia, her parent's hometown. Loudoun County is her current home with her husband of 22 years and her three teenage daughters, EVL duvs Elise, Sophie and Sarah.

Crystal is a registered nurse and currently works as Director of Quality at a Telehealth company. During her 26 years in nursing, she has had varied experience including being an Intensive Care Unit Nurse (including Cardiac, Medical, and Trauma), an Emergency Room Nurse, a Legal Nurse Consultant, a substitute school nurse, and more.

Crystal spends her spare time growing exotic plants and trees and traveling around with her daughters. As figure skaters, the girls travel the country during the competitive season. She also likes to drop-spin her own yarn, weave cloth with rigid heddle looms and she is learning to 'knit like the vikings', a process called nalbinding. She recently started a "side-gig". *Upper Lobe* is her in-home, concierge-style ear piercing business. She is nurse consultant with a company based in New York, Hey Rowan.



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Certificate of Recognition and JROTC Medal

Awarded to

Cadet Nina Segura

a JROTC student who has demonstrated academic excellence, leadership, good character, deference to military discipline, leadership and a fundamental and patriotic understanding of the Reserve Officers Training Corps.

Presented this day

May 14, 2020

Crystal Geller
Crystal Geller, ROTC Representative



Retreat with a Recipe (Civil War style)

Orange Cake

1/2 c. butter
1 c. sugar
2 eggs
1 tsp. soda
2 c. sifted flour
1 c. buttermilk
1/2 c. chopped raisins
2 orange peels, ground

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Cream butter, sugar and eggs. Add buttermilk. Add dry ingredients. Save juice from 2 oranges. Spread mixture in 13 x 9 x 2 inch greased pan. Bake until golden and pulls away from edges. Mix equal parts of orange juice and sugar. Pour over hot cake. It is great served with was-sail spiced tea.



From the *1899 GAR Encampment Journal*

Submitted by
Verna Griffith via Karen Lyddane

The Order of Daughters of Veterans grew out of an organization known as the Ruby Seal, a society among the Grammar School girls of Massillon, Ohio. On the thirtieth day of May, 1885, five of these girls on their return from the cemetery, where they had assisted in decorating the soldiers' graves, decided to organize an Order for the purpose of assisting the Grand Army on Memorial Day. The articles of incorporation were secured the following December.

In May, 1890, the first National Convention was held, at Quincy, Ill. The next year was at Massillon, Ohio; and, since then, it has been held at the same time and place as the National Encampment of the G. A. R.

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Sangster's Station

"Tears And Love For the Blue—Love and Tears for the Grey"

By Allen C. Browne, November 14, 2017

Submitted by Gayle Machey


Erected by Virginia Civil War Trails.

Location. Marker is in Clifton, Virginia, in Fairfax County. It can be reached from the intersection of Main Street (Virginia Route 645) and Ford Lane, on the right when traveling north. Marker is at or near this postal address: 7145 Main Street, Clifton VA 20124, United States of America.

SANGSTER'S STATION

★ ★ ★


"Tears And Love For The Blue—Love And Tears For The Grey"




During the Civil War, the Orange & Alexandria Railroad was strategically important to both the Union and the Confederate armies. Sangster's Station, located 1-3/4 miles to your right where Colchester Road crosses under the railroad tracks, was the site of at least two engagements.

In March 1862, Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston abandoned his northern Virginia lines and led his army south to defend Richmond. As the last of his forces neared the Rappahannock River on March 9, Union cavalrymen advancing from Alexandria encountered a Confederate rear guard at Sangster's Station. During the fight, Lt. Henry B. Hidden of the 1st New York (Lincoln) Cavalry was killed leading 14 dragoons in a charge. The Confederates continued to withdraw.


On the evening of December 17, 1863, during a winter lightning storm, Sangster's came under attack for the second and last time. Confederate cavalry of the Laurel Brigade, with local soldiers of the Chinquapin Rangers as guides, captured a Union stockade fort guarding the railroad there. The Confederate raid, which began near Fredericksburg, ended in the Shenandoah Valley. En route, some of the troopers drowned crossing swollen waterways while others had soaked clothing freeze to their saddles as the cold rain turned to snow and sleet.



Sangster's Station, 1864
Courtesy National Archives and Records Administration





Civil War-era map of Fairfax County showing Orange & Alexandria Railroad and stations including Sangster's - *Courtesy Library of Congress*



"The Cavalry Charge of Lt. Henry B. Hidden" by Victor Nelig - Courtesy New York State Historical Society

In 1849, Edward and Mary Sangster sold part of their land to the Orange & Alexandria Railroad Company. A station house was built nearby, and a post office was opened in March 1852. The county poor farm was located at Sangster's from 1842 to 1911.



Monument to the Laurel Brigade's assault on Co. I, 155th New York Volunteers (Corcoran's Irish Legion). It stood near the Poor Farm at Sangster's until vandals dismantled it in the 1960s. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum now holds the white bronze plates on loan. - *Courtesy Lee Hubbard*

Sangster's Station Marker

Inscription. During the Civil War, the Orange & Alexandria Railroad was strategically important to both the Union and the Confederate armies. Sangster's Station, located 1-3/4 miles to your right where Colchester Road crosses under the railroad tracks, was the site of at least two engagements.

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Continued on page 6.

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Continued from page 5.



The Bunnyman Bridge

This underpass through which Colchester Road passes under the Railroad marks the location of Sangster's Station. The bridge is famous as "The Bunnyman Bridge" because of an urban legend involving a murderous maniac dressed in a bunny costume who is said to have committed several murders there.

Hello Sisters!

Since we last communicated regarding dues, the world has changed. With this in mind, the EVL Executive Board understands some may still be experiencing financial challenges. We are thinking about you and want you to know that we will get through this together.

In the spirit of EVL sisterhood, if you are experiencing loss and need assistance with your dues this year, please reach out to our President, Karen Lyddane and/or treasurer, Crystal Geller. If you are in a position to assist another member, please consider adding a sum of your choice to your dues check.

Dues notices will be sent in the coming months so remember to watch for it.

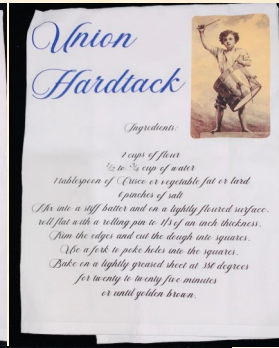
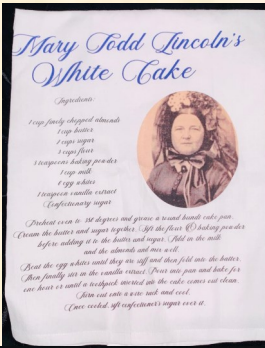
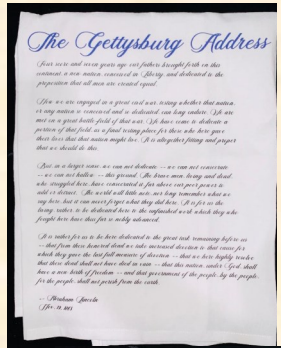
MEMBERSHIP DUES

Go Crazy at Bett's Boutique!

"Crystal Geller's submission of a name for our boutique was the best, "Bett's Boutique."
The runner-up was Gayle Machey, with "Crazy Betty Boutique."



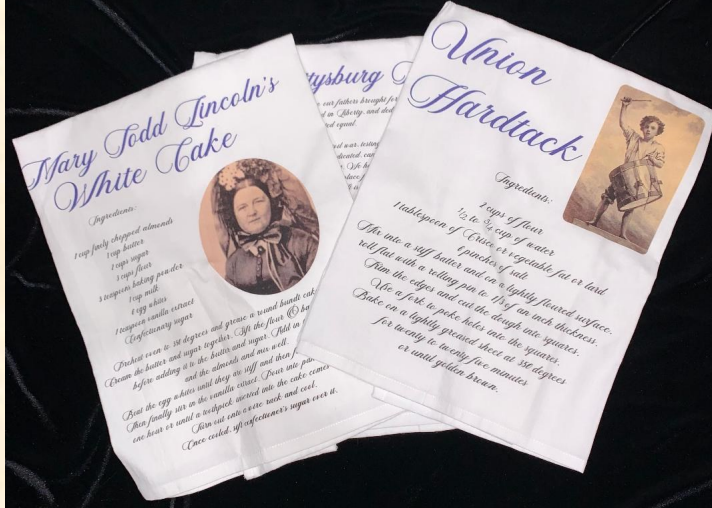
Patriotic Eyeglass Case
(glasses not included)
\$10.00
Proceeds go toward the National Service Academy Awards Fund



Tea Towels \$12/each
Mug \$14
Laser engraved wine tumbler \$17

Orders can be picked up at our next in person meeting.

Email orders to crystalgeller@gmail.com.



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Ancestor's Minute



I am bound to them, though I cannot look into their eyes
or hear their voices. I honor their history and their sacrifices.
I cherish their lives. I will remember them!

Greetings Sisters, Gail and I want to thank you for the enthusiastic response we received from our request for patriot biographies. We were thrilled! Bless you! Karen Misiano very graciously placed them on the website. Thank you, Karen!

We are still collecting biographies. If you have not done so and would like to introduce your ancestor to our Tent, please send a brief biography, (one to two pages), telling us about your ancestor. We will honor him and his memory by placing the biography on the website and scheduling a time for you to present him to the Tent at a future meeting. You may email the biography to Gail Itschner, gitschner69@gmail.com or Norma Fields, fieldsx4@comcast.net.

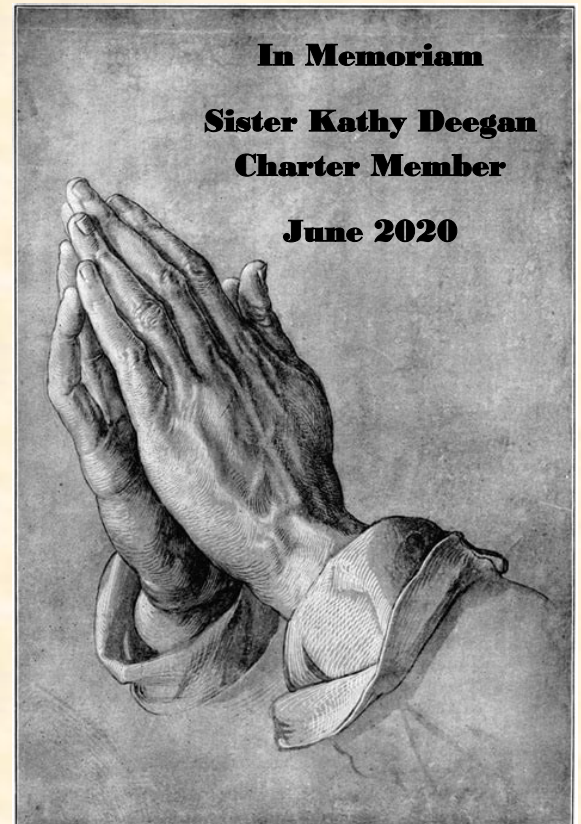
Stay safe! Happy summer! God bless you!

Is your Civil War ancestor on the list? Our brothers, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, have adopted the National Graves Registration Project to help create and maintain a national database of the burial sites of veterans of the Civil War, both Union and Confederate. This information can be used to assist local historical societies and libraries, help families find the final resting places of their ancestors, and even to request Civil War military headstones to be placed on previously unmarked graves. They need our help in this huge undertaking.



If you are interested in helping with this project, information can be found at suvcwdb.org or <http://www.suvcw.org/graves/graves.htm>. On this site you can determine if your ancestor is already in the database, and if not, instructions are provided for registering him. My husband and I have registered our Civil War ancestors. Let's all help our brothers with this important work.

—Ann Beer



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"Thank you Karen for the beautiful kitchen cloths! I just love them. I have a summer house and the kitchen is the Americana theme this will be perfect! Thank you so much for thinking of me. I am overwhelmed at times when I think about how wonderful this group is, thank you Peggy Burroughs so many times over for inviting me!"
 —Cathy Burcham

5/23/2020 ZOOM Meeting
 Door Prize Winners

Catherine Burcham
 Kathleen Crawley
 Susan Trunzo
 Andrea Walter

Dr. Mary E. Walker
Only female Recipient of the Medal of Honor
 by Crystal Geller

Mary E. Walker of New York, graduated from Syracuse Medical College in 1855. When the Civil War broke out in 1861, she wished to lend her experience to the cause as an Army surgeon. Being denied commission because she was a woman, she volunteered instead.

After working at a hospital in D.C., organizing the Women's Relief Organization and treating the wounded throughout Virginia, she was finally appointed as a paid War Department Surgeon in Tennessee.

Dr. Walker was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1865 for her performance and devotion as a physician and having been held a prisoner in a Confederate camp while a contract surgeon.

In 1917, the government attempted to rescind her Medal because she was a civilian, not a commissioned officer. That attempt was in vain as Dr. Walker refused to relinquish her medal. Even though wearing it was considered a crime, she continued to wear it everyday until her death in 1919.

In 1977, President Jimmy Carter restored her honor, thanks to the efforts of her family. She remains the only woman to ever receive the Medal of Honor. Her medal is displayed in the Pentagon's women's corridor.

Dr. Walker was not only a doctor, she was also an advocate for women's rights. She was arrested for wearing "men's clothes" and impersonating a man. She simply wore what she wanted. At one trial, she asserted her right to, "Dress as I please in free America on whose tented fields I have served for four years in the cause of human freedom." The judge dismissed the case and ordered the police never to arrest Dr. Walker on that charge again. She left the courtroom to hearty applause. In 1868, she sued the Election Board in Washington saying that as an American, she had the right to vote. She would die only months prior to Congress passing and a year prior to the ratification of the 19th amendment. She was buried in a black suit and tie.



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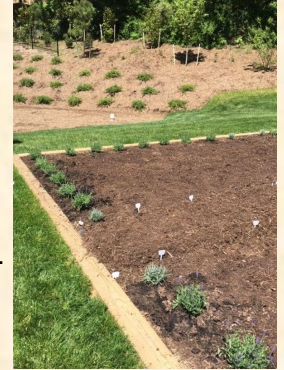


Gardens are spectacular and connect us with nature. I live in Alexandria and moved into a new house last year. My new neighborhood has a 20'x 30' new community garden.

Here's our new garden before any plantings in April 2020. Even here, there are plenty of deer roaming through the hills to Mount Vernon. Deer devour most garden plants, so I organized a community garden group to plant lavender as a deer deterrent strategy to help the garden succeed.



Here's a photo of the 140 lavender plants in May 2020.



Later we laid garden timbers to divide the plots, some big, some little, and opened on May 17, 2020. The garden plots were 1 per household and on a first-come, first-served basis.

Here's what some gardeners planted with many of the plants from our local nursery (photo).



Top 10 Tomato Growing Tips

- Provide Lots of Light. Tomato seedlings need strong, direct light.

Quick Guide to Growing Peppers

- Set pepper plant seedlings out after the last spring frost. They grow well in raised beds, containers, and in-ground gardens.
- Plant them 18 to 24 inches apart in a sunny, well-drained spot ...
- Mix compost or other organic matter into the soil when planting.
- Water immediately after planting, then regularly throughout the season. Aim for a total of 1-2 inches per week (more when it's hotter).

GROWING EGGPLANTS

Botanical Name:	<i>Solanum melongena</i>
Plant Type:	Vegetable
Sun Exposure:	Full Sun
Soil Type:	Sandy
Soil pH:	Slightly Acidic to Neutral
Bloom Time:	Summer
Flower Color:	Purple, White
Hardiness Zones:	4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10

• The planting site needs to receive full sun; the soil should be moist and well-drained, but not soggy.

• Squash plants are heavy feeders. Work compost and plenty of organic matter into the soil before planting for a rich soil base. (Learn more about soil amendments and preparing soil for planting.)

• Most summer squash now come in bush varieties, which take up less space, but winter squash are vining plants that need more space. Bush varieties will need to be thinned in early stages of development to about 8 to 12 inches apart.



At the garden's curb side, we planted Million Bell flowers to attract butterflies (photo).



We have 14 gardeners this year. Here are some of our July results (photo).

All in all, the garden is one of the best features of my home and a place to relax after a long day of work or during the weekends. Even though we're no experts in gardening, our garden has also become a kind of resort and gives us a great sense of accomplishment to connect with nature and watch the plants we like grow. Thanks, Luann (Luann Whittenburg)



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Submitted by Crystal Geller:

Please find below the words of a Civil War letter I recently acquired. The letter is a farewell to the troops of the 1st Division, 9th Army Corps of which the Brevet Major General led. I thought it was lovely when I saw it up for sale and wanted it for my collection. The words are inspiring. Of note, O.B. Willcox has a storied history and is buried in Arlington Cemetery. He was given the Medal of Honor for his "most distinguished gallantry" at the 1st Battle of Manassas where he was taken prisoner. <http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/owillcox.htm>

He was an attorney and had a way with words!! There are several books either written by him or containing his papers. He also wrote under the pseudonym of Walter March.



*Special Order No. 57
Headquarters Dist. Of Washington July 25t, 1865*

Officers and Men of the 1st Division, 9th Army Corps:

The time has come when we must all separate and go to our welcome homes. The ties of comradeship - the bloody brotherhood into which we have been baptized for our Country's sake, will survive the change. The story of the Old Division, various Regiments of which have left the bones of their dead to white battle-fields in seven different States, will form part of your individual life hereafter.-

To the Officers and men of the Division, my own thanks are due for their cheerful cooperation with me in the performance of mutual duties, and for the gallantry, self denial, devotion and good conduct they have always shown in the Service of their Country whenever acting under my command. Your achievements will brighten many a page of impartial history.

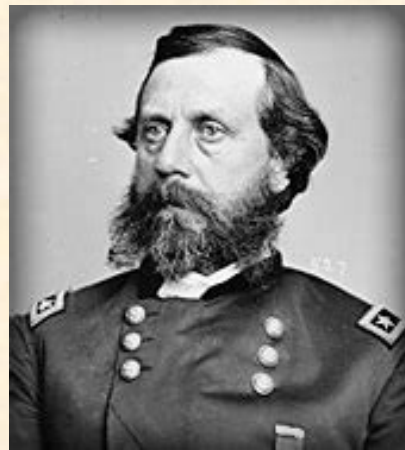
Let us cherish the associations of the past four years; let us keep alive the patriotic fires which have burned so brightly under cloud and sunshine. The red Shield of the Division shines with full lustre and reflects a glory upon all who have fought under it.

Your families and fellow Citizens will welcome your return in peace and victory; you will carry about you in civil life a sense of your own worth, and self-respect will characterize those who have done so well and deserved so well their Country. Keep high the standard of your honor; preserve your honesty and integrity, and the worthy returned Soldier will purify the atmosphere of home, State and Country, by his own simple and steadfast purity of Character.

Wishing you every success and prosperity in life, your General bids you a sad but proud farewell.

*O.B. Willcox
Brevet Major General U. S. Vols.*

*Official, Robert A. Hutchins
A.A.G.*

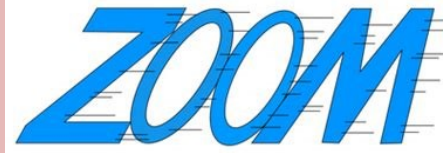


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Tent Meeting Dates: 2020 & 2021

2020-October 24, 11:00 via Zoom

2021: January 23, March 27, May 22, October 23



"We meet the fourth Saturday in January, March, May and October."
Email elizabethvanlewtentva@gmail.com for more information regarding meetings.

Weir Family Cemetery



We are often asked why this cemetery is so close to the house. The answer is simple – it's not the original site! The Weir cemetery was first located to the east, in what is now known as Point of Woods East/Lakeside. In 1989, with the consent of the family, 24 graves were exhumed and moved. Little was recovered with one exception – the remains of Walter Weir were found interred in a cast iron coffin with a glass viewing pane. The coffin itself is very unusual – only the very wealthy were able to afford them and not many have been discovered from the nineteenth century. The coffin did a good job of preserving Walter's remains, enough that forensic analysis determined he died from an infection, likely caused by an abscessed tooth. The headstones and everything found in the original cemetery were later reinterred according to the original burial plan.

1841 - 1870



Specialists from the Smithsonian Institution worked alongside city staff to carefully document graves that were exhumed and moved.
— Manassas Museum Collection



Walter Weir's headstone (top) and cast iron coffin (middle). The present cemetery (left) contains the remains of Walter, his father William James, and other family members.
— Manassas Museum Collection

Visit www.manassascity.org/leisure or call 703-368-1873 to learn more



Who Wrote on Liberia's Walls?

In January, we voted to help the Elizabeth McIntosh Hammill Chapter, NSDAR, with providing half of the funds for erecting a historic marker that describes the Weir family. In 1825, this family built Liberia Plantation in Manassas. The house was originally situated on 1,660 acres, and today, is undergoing much-needed renovation. Below is an edited article that you'll find interesting.

Whether leaving their signatures, expressing their frustrations, or demonstrating their creative spirits in drawing and poetry, soldier of the time used pencils, red crayons, or charcoal to leave a piece of themselves behind as they marched toward their destiny. Of many stray marks on the walls at Liberia, eight complete signatures have so far been uncovered.

Maybe you'll find a relation here:

1. Lt. John Banks Dayton, Company A, Pennsylvania 34th Infantry (aka the 5th Reserves), jeweler/watchmaker.
2. Private Preceptor Anthony, Company A, 105th Infantry, New York, carpenter.
3. Private John Benjamin, Company I, 26th NY Volunteers, painter from Madison.
4. Captain Levin Bevin Day, Company D, 3rd Infantry, Delaware, farmer.
5. Leverett Horatio Waldo, 1st NY Dragoons, millwright.
6. James McLaughlin, 24th NY Cavalry, passenger conductor, wrestler.
7. Adam McKelvey, Company F, 12th PA, day laborer.
8. William Jackson, 26th NY Cavalry, only soldier who wrote on Liberia's walls to have died during the war.

Credit: <https://www.manassascity.org/1962/Civil-War-Graffiti>

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A tasty main course salad for a hot summer evening.
Serve with crusty bread, iced tea or homemade lemonade and a simple cool dessert. Enjoy!!
Submitted by Ms. Patricia Everts

Summertime Pasta Salad

YIELD

Serves 6 to 8

PREP TIME

15 minutes

COOK TIME

8 minutes



For the dressing:

- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 2 teaspoons dried Italian seasoning
- 1/2 teaspoon granulated sugar
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

For the pasta salad:

- 1/2 medium red onion, finely chopped
- 8 ounces dried short pasta, such as rotini
- 8 ounces cherry tomatoes, halved or quartered
- 1 small English cucumber, quartered lengthwise, then thinly sliced crosswise
- 4 ounces mini mozzarella balls, drained and halved
- 4 ounces salami slices, cut into 1/2-inch-wide strips
- 1/2 cup pitted kalamata olives, halved
- 1/4 cup coarsely chopped fresh parsley leaves

INSTRUCTIONS

Make the dressing. Place all the dressing ingredients in a small jar with lid, shake to combine.

Soften the red onion in the dressing. Add the finely chopped red onion to the jar and shake. Set aside while preparing the salad.

Cook the pasta. Bring 2 quarts of salted water to a boil. Add the pasta and cook until al dente, about 8 minutes. Meanwhile, prepare an ice bath in a large bowl.

Quickly cool the pasta. Drain the pasta in a colander and run under cold water. Dunk the colander in the ice bath and set aside to cool for 5 minutes.

Place the pasta salad ingredients in a bowl. Drain the pasta well. Combine the salad ingredients in a large bowl.

Toss the pasta with the dressing. Add the dressing, including the onions, to the pasta and toss until evenly com-

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We have a unique treasure here in Virginia, right in Fauquier County. The Messick Family holds a private cannon collection. My father-in-law Obrey Messick began collecting cannon (yes, the plural of cannon is cannon!) in the 1970's. He studied the Civil War, and found a particular interest in the armament. He found a dealer that sourced the original barrels for him, and who made the reproduction carriages. This dealer worked with and for museums, and the carriages are to museum standards. I would like to think that Obrey would have been proud that I did so much research and put all the info together for the family. I would love to have had his input on this project!

When doing research on the cannon, I learned some very interesting things. There is a wealth of information right on the barrels, everything you'd need to know. You can find numbers and clues on the muzzle face, rimbases, trunnion, breech, and top by the fuse hole. Among the information found is manufacturer, inspector's mark, weight in pounds of barrel, ID number assigned by the government, manufacture date, and ID number assigned by the foundry.

Three of our original barrels were Union guns, one Confederate. And we have one mortar made right here on the farm with the help of a local reenactment legend, Ripley Robinson, who always played Stonewall Jackson. We bring our cannon out only once a year, on July 4th, for display and to make some noise.



Our Confederate gun is an 1863 cast iron 10-pdr Parrott Rifle, manufactured by J. R. Anderson & Co., Richmond, VA at the Tredegar Foundry. There are only 20 known surviving 2.9" Confederate Parrott rifles, two by Macon Arsenal and the remaining by Tredegar Iron Works. Of these 18 Tredegar, only three are in private hands (ours is listed in the registry), the rest are in museums. The book *Field Artillery Weapons of the Civil War* indicates 80 may have been manufactured.

On July 4th, we fire only one of the original cannon, because it is a bronze barrel –

we don't want to take the chance of damaging a potentially fragile cast iron barrel. We use a charge made with black powder and flour. We fire our Union 1838 bronze Heavy 12-pdr smooth bore Garrison Cannon. This 12-pounder bronze field gun, Model of 1835, was manufactured by Cyrus Alger & Co., Boston. At least twelve are known to have been manufactured by the Alger and Ames foundries, together, and eight are known to survive.



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Next we have a Union 1863 Bronze 12-pdr Mountain Howitzer. It is a 12-pounder Bronze Mountain Howitzer - Model of 1835, manufactured by the Ames Manufacturing Co. It is unknown how many of these were made by Ames, but from the survivors, at least 162 were made to the year 1856 and another 112 were made from 1861 until 1863. There is a total of 56 known surviving Ames mountain howitzers. The foundry number for this is No 113 and is the highest surviving foundry number. I personally find this a fascinating weapon, as it was manufactured with weight and portability in mind so it could be quickly disassembled and transported on the backs of horses or mules.

And the last of the original cannon is a Union 1862 Bronze 12-pdr Napoleon. It is a 12 Pounder Field Gun, Light - Model of 1857, manufactured by Cyrus Alger & Co., Boston. Alger was contracted to manufacture 170 Napoleons from 1861 through 1863 and 95 are known to survive.

And finally, we have our c. 1975 3-inch Mortar, based on an 8-inch Coehorn Mortar, though not to actual scale. The barrel is composed of many different sized pipes, with the innermost pipes filled with lead and the outside pipes filled with concrete. There is a 2" thick plate welded on the back. The reproduction carriage is to scale. It has been used in reenactments. For a small barrel, it makes a big boom!



We are hoping at some point to host a special event for our history-loving friends on our farm, and my husband has promised to bring the cannon out for us. I look forward to that day!

Cyndi Messick
Midland, VA



Olive Howard, Harriet Knapp, Eva Merwin, Frank Merwin and Bertha Martin organized on May 30, 1885 and held the first meeting on June 3, 1885 at the home of Eva Merwin, 419 First Street, SE Massillon, Ohio.

Incorporated as "The National Alliance of the Daughters of Veterans of the United States of America" on December 12, 1885, in Massillon, Ohio. Signers of the Original Articles of Incorporation: Minnie F. King, Bertha M. Martin, Olive F. Howald, Eva Merwin, and Amy Merrill.

They were endorsed by The Grand Army of the Republic at the 34th Annual Encampment held in Chicago, Illinois, 1900.

Name changed to Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War at the 35th National Convention held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1925.

Name changed to Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861 - 1865 at the 54th National Convention held in Des Moines, Iowa 1944.

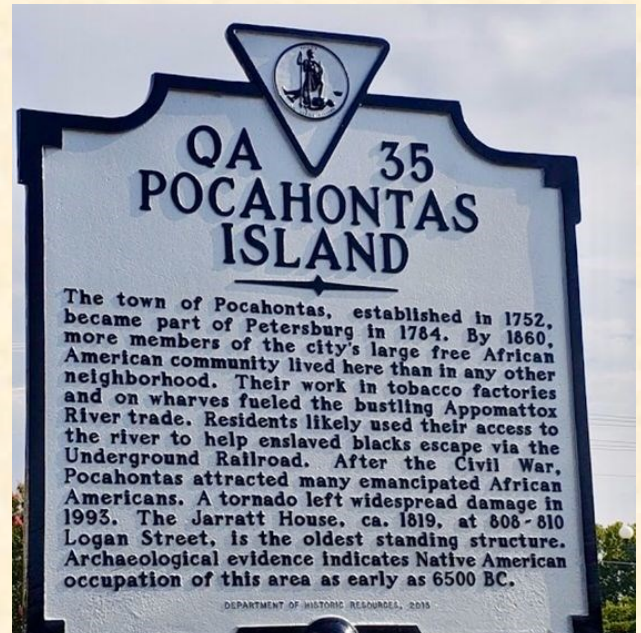
Federal Charter granted by Public Law 99-172 on December 9, 1985.

From <https://www.duvcw.org/index.php/about-us>

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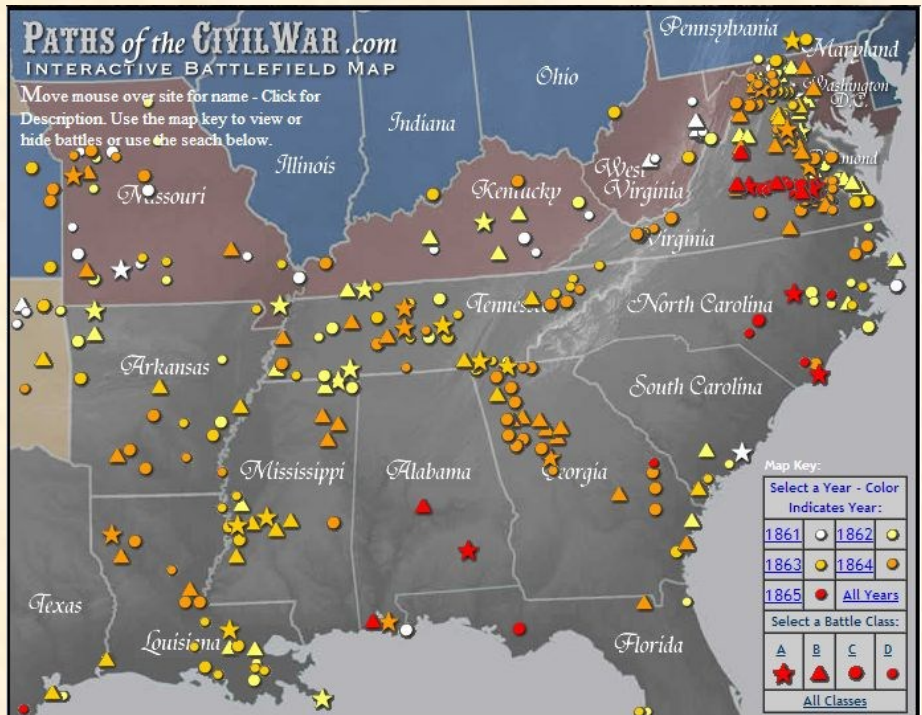
Virginia Facts

1. Hampton, originally settled in 1610, is the oldest continuously-inhabited settlement in North America,
2. Virginia's early judicial system influenced the Supreme Court. The system of superior courts created in 1779 became a model for the emerging U.S. Supreme Court.
3. Virginia has been on the forefront of eco-friendly travel for years.
4. Petersburg's Pocahontas Island is the oldest free black community in the nation, and is listed on the National Historic Register of Historic Places.
5. America's first woman-run bank was established in Richmond, by a black woman in the era of the south's Jim Crow Laws. Maggie Lena Walker chartered the St. Luke Penny Savings Bank in 1903, breaking incredible barriers and creating a safe place for black bank patrons to do business.
6. Virginia is the largest seafood producer on the East Coast and third largest in the country.



7. Although Virginia was originally planned by settlers to be a silk colony, a fungus cut that dream short and instead, tobacco reigned.
8. Bourbon, also known as American Whiskey, is usually associated with Kentucky, but its roots are actually in Virginia. Fayette County was in southwest Virginia, but county lines were redrawn in 1792 and it became part of the new state of Kentucky.

9. Almost half of all Civil War Battles were fought on Virginia Soil.
10. Both the American Revolution and the Civil War ended in Virginia. Yorktown is the site of the ending of the Revolution and Appomattox is where Generals Grant and Lee signed the surrender papers.



Credit: https://blog.virginia.org/2020/05/but-did-you-know-va-fun-facts/?_ga=2.201570385.1939872050.1594122934-304975392.1594122934&_gac=1.91027816.1594122934.Cj0KCQjwupD4BRD4ARIsABJMmZ_KBA3gbMr1o7Hu1KcmpMRaZj_roOOpST8cpRIIJGkOIBIbq7U_hMuoaAmACEALw_wcB

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Elizabeth Van Lew

Fun Facts

- ~She was nicknamed "Crazy Bet."
- ~She declined being an abolitionist.
- ~She never got married.
- ~She never had any kids.
- ~She went to a Quaker school in Philadelphia.
- ~Her father thought she was stubborn.
- ~She was given protection by General Ulysses Grant.

- ~Edgar Allen Poe and John Marshall visited Elizabeth a lot.
- ~She was known for being a crazy person about slavery.
- ~She declined to join the ladies of Richmond.
- ~Her father thought she was stubborn.
- ~She hid a secret diary in her backyard.
- ~She was buried at Shockoe Hill Cemetery in Virginia.
- ~Her tombstone was donated.



Elizabeth Van Lew when she was young.



Elizabeth Van Lew when she was old.



YouTube video on Elizabeth Van Lew

Elizabeth Van Lew-
Virginia's most hated
woman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KE5PfaWuWow>

Visit

<https://www.facebook.com/cityofmanassasleisure>

or

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ManassasCityVA/feed>

for a variety of Spotlight Talks, Book Talks, Tours, and Hands-On History sessions.

<http://elizabethlew.weebly.com/fun-facts.html>

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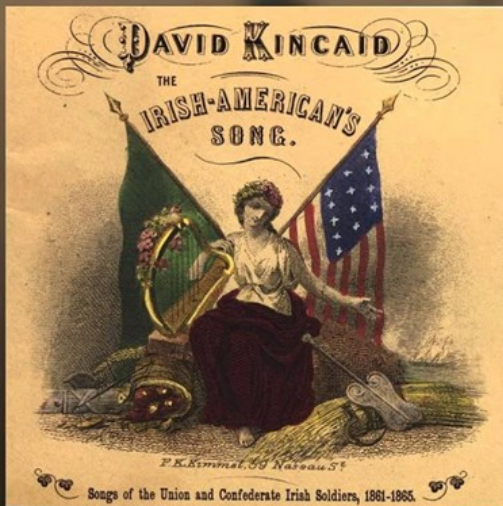


Sister Susan Trunzo shares photos of her great grandparents, Melancthon Snedeker and wife Charity Lorana (Denton) Snedeker. If any of these last names ring a bell, contact her as you might be related! She has a wonderful family tree that may be of interest.

Civil War Roundtable Lecture Series

The CWRT Congress proudly presents a new series of Civil War lectures called Historian Thursdays. These lectures are both entertaining and inspiring. To register for a virtual seat, click the event link at <https://www.cwrtcongress.org/lectures.html> for which you would like to attend.

We will see you in the zoom lecture hall!!



The President's Ball

David Kincaid

The Irish-American's Song

Here's a You Tube video of a favorite Civil War song about the President's Ball - a vivid tale told by an Irishman-president Lincoln gets carried home on a stretcher!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=soBOa4jto6M>

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Here's what your President is up to this summer...

While I work away at a Retirement Community, donning face mask, face shield, scrub cap, and yes, plastic gloves, I determinedly set personal goals.

You all know me by now-I work hard, play hard, and have the greatest passion for being your president. I refuse to stay sad because of the many cancelled Civil War events that normally have my attendance. In this light, I commissioned, finally, a black dress with my dressmaker, Kay Gnagey, who is world renown for her expertise. You see, I've combined my need to create, lack of time/energy, and support of a professional, for an accurate creation of the Civil War time. In doing so, SURELY I WILL WEAR MY DRESS THIS YEAR! Ha! That's my rationalization, and I'm stickin' to it.

For years, Kay Gnagey and I have blended my ideas with her expertise in coming up with a (blushing here) full wardrobe of custom clothing from late 1850s to the mid-late 1860s. You should see my tiny closet (and under my bed). Minimal space is allotted for modern clothing, and then, tah dah! Civil War era clothing rules! Hat boxes take up the upper shelf, shoe/boot boxes and assorted carpet bags take up the floor...petticoats, outer garments, and the current season's dresses fill out every nook and cranny. STILL I purchase more... I am addicted! But very happy!

I began "reenacting" when moving back to Virginia from Arizona, after a life that just didn't work out. My brother took me to a burial ceremony for a special confederate flag-bearer who'd

not had one. When I saw those ladies in mourning clothing (oh how those full dresses swayed with each step), the uniformed gentlemen firing cannon, and feeling the vibrations through the ground, it hit me. THIS WAS FOR ME! This was the feeling I had in my bones in Arizona, that pushed me homeward! Turns out, the ancestor I joined our tent with, did exactly that-he fired cannon, and in Virginia.

I was a field nurse (reenacting) for a few years, and met a mentress, who introduced me to Kay Gnagey. My great joy was in marrying a childhood friend, who, guess what, turned out to know far more about the Civil War times that I'd ever imagined! We found and joined the Victorian Dance Ensemble. It was time to reassess-personal time had to balance work and so, I became a "Piece of Fluff." No working over a campfire, no grubby clothing for me! No more reenacting-Living Historian, here I come! I was tired of people asking me who I was portraying. I am not an actress. I represent my family. All four of my great-great grandfathers fought for the Union, so why would I become someone else other than myself?

Back to the black dress. Ever since seeing those ladies in mourning, and in receiving ever-increasing invitations to memorial/ceremonial events, I've wanted a black dress. Not all black dresses were for mourning-it has to be elegant yet showy, appropriate for top-level events, and not so doggone hot that I melt in taking more than one step in the Virginia "sultry" weather. So, Kay is working away on a



"Meet" Nane Trice Payne.
Of all I've seen, this dress calls to me.
Dated 1863-1866, by the sleeves.



Here's glimpse of the bodice...
It's coming along....how exciting!

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silk/cotton black dress that is the result of coming across a portrait of a lady in a dress that called to me. Kay *only* works from original photographs and extant dresses saved from the past. My goal is to represent authenticity, showing rare elements as possible.

Now, we are having a bit of fun with the dress, in adding tapes to pull up the hem to reveal the pretty petticoat beneath. It is called the "Balmoral Style." I admit that I purchased a beautiful wool over-the-hoop petticoat that started this whole Balmoral style off-in the description, Kay said that it was so pretty that it begged to be shown under a pulled-up dress. So I am blaming her. Ha! Then Kay educated me. Queen Victoria hiked up her dresses for practicality when at Balmoral Castle, so created the style. Here's a link for more on this style:

<http://www.victoriana.com/balmoral-castle-and-fashion/>

The biggest challenge in deciding on a dress is in knowing what I want! I see things and think: "Now, why didn't I see/think of that before? It's GREAT!" Much harder to add than to incorporate in the beginning...

Now you know what I am up to, and why. Each day is truly a creation, and when you and I communicate, often I think the very same thing: "Now, why didn't I think of that before? It's GREAT!" That is why YOU are so important. You see, in serving you as president, your own creativity, thoughts, and expertise in so many areas adds great health to our Tent. When you see me in my new black dress, I hope that you'll understand how much of yourself contributed. HUZAZH! —Karen



Illustration of the "Balmoral Style" of dress.
Credit: Victoriana.com

Another Crazy Bet?!

Nicole, the maker of the patriotic eyeglass cases...

Our little Crazy Bett brings us such joy, we enjoy all her adventures, expressions, and giggles. My mom stays with us right now since I didn't want her to be alone during these times and she had some medical issues before.

Anyways, She says Elizabeth keeps us sane... and doesn't know what we would do without her. Jack and I both love the bond they have. It is perfect for both of them. Here is a picture of our little Crazy Bett. This was from her Birthday Party the end of Feb... right before everything started to close down here. Her Party was Peter Pan "Never Grow up" and of course she was Tinkerbell... Lol

If you need anything... just let us know...

I am eager to hear of the success of your complete boutique-Take care, Nicole



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