



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>
February 2021



MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT—KAREN LYDDANE

Dear Sisters,

As our ancestors of differing cultures, faith, and blood unified our country, Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1 similarly holds a rich diversity of sisters. We reach beyond our beloved Old Dominion, to other states and across the waters, to souls rich in their own culture, faith, blood. How wonderful, actually *precious*, that we all belong to each other! Truly, today we are doing *egg-zactly* what Elizabeth Van Lew did for the Union. We stride forward past boundaries of “home” (physical and mental), engaging the enemies of our time, Coronavirus and dearth of knowledge. The goal? *Read on...*

Imagine our ancestors, who came from the only place they’d known, who *had to trust others without question*, from differing cultures, faith, and blood. They had no luxury of time, for death lapped at their heels as surely as they stepped along. They went home with a different set of eyes, influencing and educating their home-place. At this critical moment in time, dear sisters, I ask for you to bring forth your own “set of eyes” in like spirit, as we *keep green the memory of all* who fought and supported unification.

In this wonderful newsletter so painstakingly created by Karen Misiano, you’ll find a definite Irish influence, not forced by the upcoming St. Patrick’s Day, but embraced in welcoming spirit. Let us resolve to *act in responsibility to our own set of eyes*-will you influence our next issue? In this action, you represent yourself, your parents, and all past relatives. Now, the very thought of this is egg-citing, don’t you think?

Karen “Keep Green the Memory”



Photo taken at the Georgetown Visitor Center of the C&O Canal, where my husband and I demonstrated dances at the George Washington Ball.

Life Members

Deborah Cupp

Diana Perrussel

Sandi Esty

Jan Spear

Karen Lyddane

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

Tent email address: elizabethvanlewtentVA@gmail.com

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

**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

August 3, 2021 -
August 8, 2021

Make plans now to attend!
[http://www.duvcw.org/
national-convention.html](http://www.duvcw.org/national-convention.html)

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

MOTTO

**Fraternity,
Charity and
Loyalty**



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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January

Patricia Everts, Suzanne Pezick, Nancy Saul,
Nicki Shackelford-Bush, Sheila Vitiello, Laura White

February

Cathy Burcham, Deborah Cupp, Norma Fields, Alexandra Haggerty, Gail Itschner,
Karen Misiano, Connie Schroeder, Dorothy Vigano, Andrea Walter

March

Peggy Burroughs, Janet Machey, Amanda Morris, Elizabeth Quinn, Mary Quinn,
Ruthe Robbins, Cat Schwetke, Susan Trunzo, Barbara Welch

Retreat with a Recipe (Civil War style) Beef or Mutton Soup

For those cold winter days when soup warms you to your core....

- Boil four quarts of water gently over a low fire with three pounds of beef or mutton
- Cut into small pieces, potatoes, carrots, onions, turnips, season with salt and pepper and
- Let simmer for four hours.



[https://vocal.media/feast/
authentic-civil-war-recipes](https://vocal.media/feast/authentic-civil-war-recipes)



Are you saving your loose change for our PICKLE JAR?

For those who don't remember or didn't see the pickle jar news....

In case you have never heard of a pickle jar (besides the ones you buy in the store, and, you know, have pickles in them), a pickle jar at a Tent meeting can be used to collect loose change (or dollar bills, if you'd like) for either the Tent's General Fund or a specific project/budget item.

So.... Be on the lookout for when we can have a Tent meeting in person. You might just see a pickle jar on the table!



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The Irish Brigade at Gettysburg

by Jay Misiano, Associate Member, Irish Brigade Camp No. 4, SUVCW

On a hot and humid July afternoon, 530 men, aligned in two rows, stepped on a dirt farm lane; a group of men carrying the National Flag and a large green silk flag stepped forward and led the men into the growing maelstrom of Gettysburg's Wheatfield. In less than ninety minutes, 222 of these men would be killed, wounded, or missing. The Irish Brigade was about to write another chapter in their storied history.

The Irish Brigade was formed in 1862 when the War Department grouped the 63rd, 69th, and 88th New York Regiments, the 28th Massachusetts Regiment, and the 116th Pennsylvania Regiment into a new brigade. The regiments contained Americans of Irish decent or immigrant Irish, with immigrant Francis Meagher commanding the brigade. The War Department assigned the Brigade to the 1st Division of the Army of the Potomac's (AoTP) II Corps. The Brigade served with the AoTP from 1862 to its disbanding in 1864 and sustained heavy casualties in each engagement. After the Battle of Chancellorsville, Brigadier General Meagher requested to recruit new members to replace losses. The War Department refused his request, and he resigned his commission in protest. The commanding officer of the 88th NY—Col Patrick Kelly—assumed command of the Irish Brigade. The Brigade numbered around 530 men out of an authorized strength of 5,000 men. Colonel Kelly consolidated the three NY regiments into one battalion under the commander of the 88th NY. After weeks of hard marching from Virginia, the Irish Brigade arrived in the early morning of July 2nd, 1863, and assumed a position on the Union left along Cemetery Ridge's crest.



Monument to the 63rd, 69th and 88th NY Regiments at Gettysburg
Courtesy of the Gettysburg NMP

Around 4 pm, Confederate General Longstreet launched his attack against the Union positions along the Peach Orchard and Little Round Top. The Irish Brigade heard the noise and quickly fell into battle formation, knowing that they would soon be engaged. Father Corby, the Regimental Chaplain of the 88th NY, asked and received permission of the brigade commander to confer Rite of General Absolution to the Brigade's Catholics. After doing so, the men shouldered their weapons, and the Brigade moved toward the fighting. The Brigade marched through the woodlot of Farmer Trostle's farm and emerged onto a farm lane, now known as the Wheatfield Road in the Gettysburg National Military Park. Across the road was Farmer Rose's wheatfield, which was a triangular field, approximately forty acres in size. Houck's Ridge and Little Round Top were on the left side, heavy woods to the front, and a hill called Stoney Hill on the right side of the field. By the time the Irish Brigade entered the field, it had already changed hands at least once. The ground was covered with dead, dying, and wounded Union and Confederate soldiers.



Monument of Father Corby giving Absolution to the Irish Brigade before heading in battle.
Courtesy of the Gettysburg NMP



Monument to the 28th Mass Regiment at Gettysburg
Courtesy of the Gettysburg NMP

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Monument to the 116th PA at Gettysburg
Courtesy of the Gettysburg NMP

The Irish Brigade crossed the road and saw General Kershaw's South Carolina Brigade engaging troops from Samuel Zook's Union Brigade. To help Zook, Kelly ordered the 116th PA and the 28th MA to open fire. The firing momentary stopped the southern advance and relieved pressure on Zook's Brigade. However, Confederate General Anderson's Georgia Brigade opened fire on the Irish Brigade, and casualties mounted on the Union side. Kelly and the Irishmen fought resoundingly; however, the battle was one of numbers, and the Confederates had the larger units. The three NY regiments only had 240 men, and the Confederates began to push the Irish Brigade slowly to the rear. On the Stoney Hill, General Zook was killed, and his brigade retreated off of Stoney Hill. The retreat of Zook's Brigade opened the right end of the Irish to flanking fire from the South Carolina regiments. With no support readily available, the Irish retreated out of the Wheatfield and back into Trostle's woodlot. The Brigade suffered 42% casualties, many of which ended up in the brigade hospital located at the schoolhouse

on Granite Schoolhouse Road near the Spangler Farm.

After the battle, the Irish Brigade participated in the fighting from October 1863 to the Summer of 1864. The War Department disbanded the regiments in the Summer of 1864 due to low numbers and the inability to recruit replacements. The replacement policy for the Union regiments was non-existent. The Federal government preferred to raise new regiments instead of replacing losses in established units. In 1906, the 69th was reorganized again within the NY State militia system, later renamed the NY National Guard. The Regiment served in World War I, where the Regiment was known as the Fighting 69th. The Regiment also served in WW II, Iraq, and Afghanistan. The 69th Infantry Regiment still displays the Regimental Flag that its predecessors carried during the Civil War in its armory in NY City. Father Corby went on to become the two-time President of the University of Notre Dame. The university honored the Chaplain from the 88th NY by naming the school's sports teams the Fighting Irish.

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Jay Misiano earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1989 in U.S. History, with an emphasis on the American Civil War.

He completed his Master of Arts degree in 2013 in African Insurgencies and Counterinsurgencies.

He is currently studying to take the Gettysburg Licensed Battlefield Guide test when it is next offered.

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I will NEVER solicit our dear sisters to send money, gift cards, or otherwise, to some apparently worthy cause. NEVER, NEVER, NEVER. Believe me, it can look extremely official.

Apparently someone is trying to scam members by soliciting donations for Veterans using what appears to be official letterhead or through an email address from the commanding officer. As with most scams, there was great urgency to send, and emotions are exactly what the scammers use to get action or rather, reaction. This happened recently within the ranks of the SUVCW, to me last October, and also to Donetta when she was president. The email I received was *supposedly* from our National President!

I STRONGLY CAUTION against downloading or opening any attachment that accompanies such a communication as there might be some harmful program built in.

If there is ANY doubt, please call or email me FIRST.

Karen Lyddane



S: Sender—Check the sender address closely for small deceptive changes and verify this request is something this person would normally ask from you. Under NO circumstances should you respond to the scammer. This lets them know the email address is valid, putting you at greater risk.

L: Links—Hover over links without clicking on them to verify where the link is directing you.

A: Attachments—Be wary of attachments and be sure not to open an attachment unless you're confident it is safe.

M: Lastly, check the message for anything that seems off to you. Watch out for a sense of urgency, an unusual request like a gift card purchase or other monetary request, and misspellings throughout the email.

A Special Thanks to Crystal Geller for the tips!

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ANCESTOR MINUTE



Henry Speare was born Melchior Spori in Baerenthal, Bade-Wurtemberg, Germany in 1835. He told his family that he did not want to become the family priest, and he ran away to the United States. In New York, the officials asked him his name and they wrote down Henry Speare. He made his way to Wheeling, in western Virginia, and became the town shoemaker. He told people that he had no interest in that 'argument' between the states, he was a German.

One night he and the (black) freeman who was working for him were asked to help pull a wagon out of a ditch. When they got there to help, other men jumped out and jumped on the two of them with the idea that they were going to capture the freeman 'to sell him down river,' even though he had his papers! Henry and the freeman fought them off and they ran away.

Henry was terribly upset. He went to town and in his (Protestant) church he told everyone he was not going to live in a country that allowed something like that to happen and he hoped all of his friends and neighbors felt the same way. It was time to stand up and fight!

He led the way to creating the new 12th Regiment, and as you may notice, his enlistment precedes its creation by three days. Henry was assigned to duty in the Shenandoah Valley where he fought at New Market and several other towns. Occasionally he was sent back to the Wheeling area to recruit soldiers. A few days before the end of the war he was captured and sent to Andersonville Prison Camp where he was released after 6 days.

He married happily, had one son, bought a farm, and lived to 1910.

—Jan Spear

Have you seen this before?

Your answer should be, "YES!!"

Wanted: Ancestor Minutes for Meetings and the Website!

In case you forgot what an Ancestor Minute entails....

It is a short (or not so short) description or biography about the member's ancestor.

It can include stories, details, photos, etc.

It is primarily a way for the Tent to honor and remember our ancestors.

YOURS does NOT have to include a photo and can only be a few sentences long, if that is all the information you have.

Let us remember HOW and WHY we are in this organization!

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Tent Meeting Dates: 2021

(Virtual until further notice)

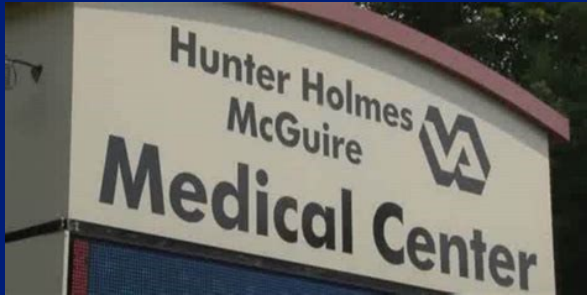
2021: March 27, May 22, October 23

10:00am—ORFATS (Officers or Responsible For A Task Sister)

11:00—General Meeting

"We meet the fourth Saturday in January, March, May and October."

Email elizabethvanlewtentVA@gmail.com for more information regarding meetings.



Please send donation in supporting McGuire VAMC General Fund! No amount is too small, however, having said that, *NO support would be too small!* They really need our help with monies for expenses related to the current Covid-19 situation.

Make your check out to Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1 and note that it is for the McGuire VAMC.

General Fund: March 1st deadline.
Send to: Crystal Geller

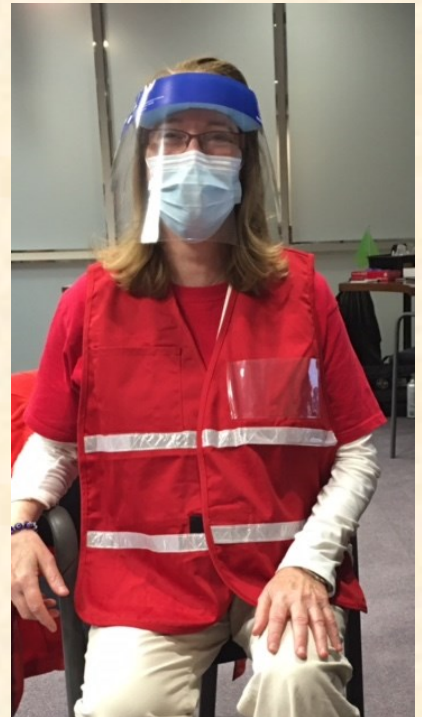


Sister Luann Whittenburg is a CoVID-19 vaccinator with the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and the Fairfax County Health Department and has administered dozens of vaccinations.

About the MRC:

The Virginia Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a force of dedicated volunteers who stand ready to support the community in the event of a public health emergency. Each of the 22 local MRC units across Virginia are comprised of teams of medical and public health professionals who, along with interested non-medical community members, volunteer their skills, expertise and time to support ongoing public health initiatives and health emergencies throughout Virginia. In the wake of the September 11, 2001 attacks, thousands of Americans volunteered their skills and talents to assist the community. Many more asked, "What can I do to help?" The MRC was established in 2002 as a national network of volunteers, organized locally to improve the health and safety of their communities.

For more information, go to <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/mrc/>.

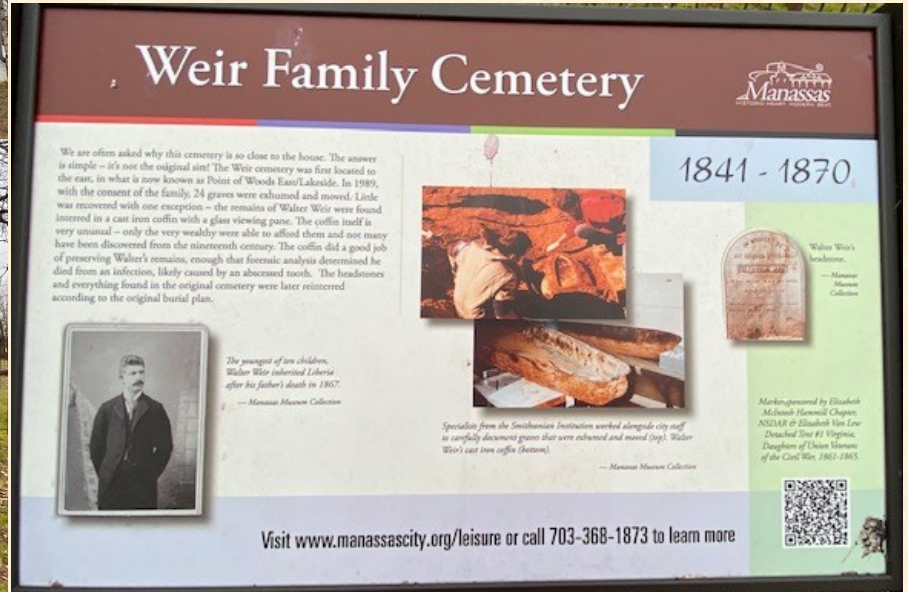


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Weir Family Cemetery Marker

The Weir Family Cemetery Marker which we helped fund at the Liberia House in Manassas has been installed and we will dedicate it when the weather warms.



Reminder to Officers and Chairmen:

The deadline for 2020 reports is 2/15.

Copies to National and Karen Lyddane

Door prize winners!

Thank you for attending our January Zoom meeting!

1. Diane Kuebert
2. Betty Halstead
3. Suzanne Fichter
4. Dorothy Viano

“Going to the Winery” basket

Donated by Cyndi Messick

STAY TUNED!!!



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THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

Tickets are on sale now for ACWM's 2021 Symposium "The Most Pivotal Decisions of the War."

When the American Civil War started, no one could anticipate how long it would last or what the outcomes would be. Both unexpected events and deliberate choices altered the course of the war throughout its four years. From enslaved people seeking freedom, to the actions of military commanders on the field, and the choices of politicians on the home front, explore significant decisions that changed the course of history.

*Students & educators, please email rharper@acwm.org for a discount code.

THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR MUSEUM PRESENTS THE 2021 VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

**THE MOST
PIVOTAL DECISIONS
OF THE WAR**

FEB 20 @ 11 AM - 3:30 PM
FEB 21 @ 12:30 PM - 4:15 PM

FEATURING HISTORIANS
Rachel Shelden
Cassandra Newby-Alexander
Gary Gallagher
Terry Winschel
Jonathan White
Megan Kate Nelson

\$40/\$30*
ONE DAY PASS: \$25/\$15*
TICKETS AVAILABLE SOON.

* MEMBERS, STUDENTS & EDUCATORS

PHOTO: THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PRINTS & PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISION

For more upcoming events: <https://acwm.org/events/>

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Member Moments

Gratitude for a Fearless Lady

by Jan Speare, new member

Last fall I joined the Elizabeth Van Lew Tent to honor my Great Grandfather, Sgt. Henry Speare.

Out of curiosity I googled Miss Van Lew, then read a biography, Southern Lady, Yankee Spy, which included many of her exploits. Having only moved to Virginia two years ago, I had not yet visited Richmond, which had sprung to the top of my list as the hometown of Miss Van Lew.

The weather forecast for Richmond on January 2, 2021 was 61° F and sunny, and only a 1.5 hour drive from my new house, so my husband and I set our gps for Richmond. First we visited the 'White House of the Confederacy.' Elizabeth had placed her former servant there, Mary Bowser, who was a wonderful spy for the Union.



White House of the Confederacy



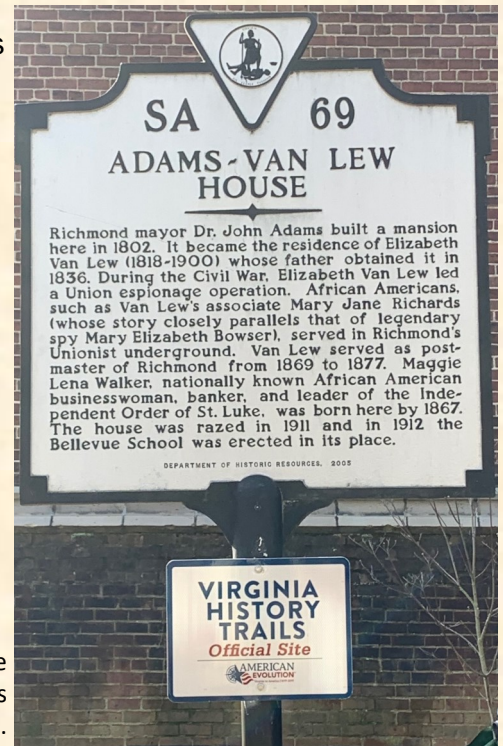
Mary Bowser, Union Spy



The guide told us that four of Jefferson's (black) butlers escaped to freedom during his four years there. One wonders if some of them were helped by Elizabeth Van Lew, who hid and helped many run-aways! (By the way, we have enjoyed several private historic tours during the pandemic.)

Featured in the basement was this poster.

Next we went to the former site of her house where she had hidden so many runaway slaves and Union soldiers.

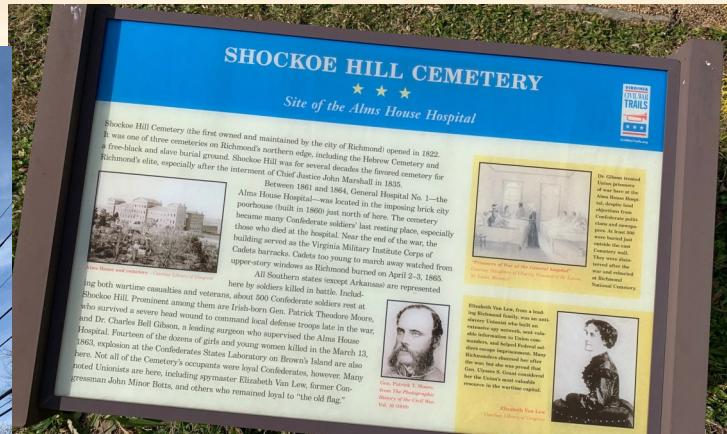
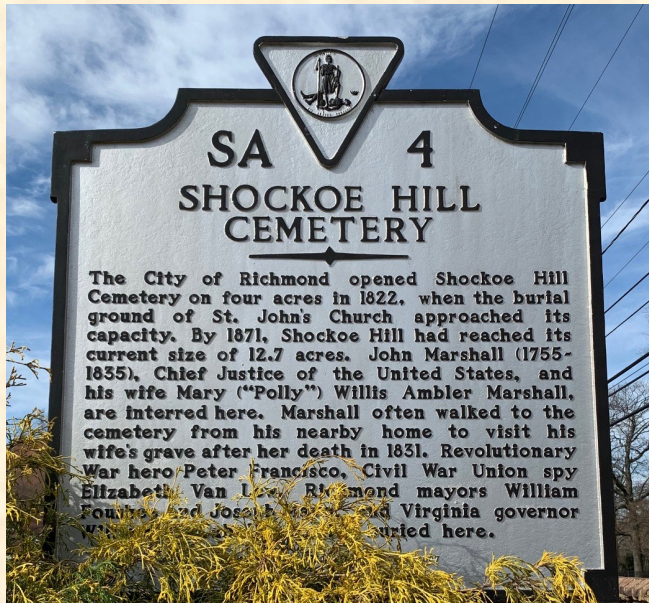


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Catty-cornered across the street is the graveyard below where she is known to have hidden messages for General Grant.



Finally, we went to the Shockoe Cemetery to view her final resting place and that of many Union soldiers who died in Libby Prison or the nearby hospital.



Somehow, the Boston rock of her headstone seems especially appropriate for a woman who was so defiantly different and courageous.

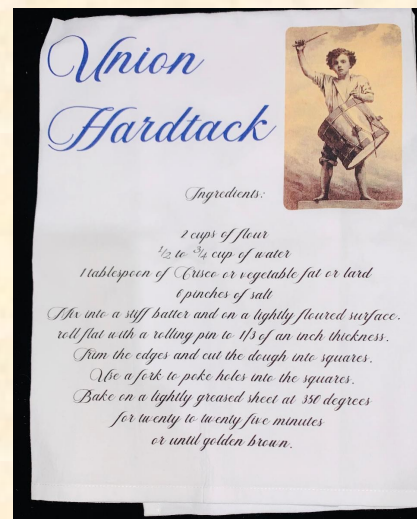
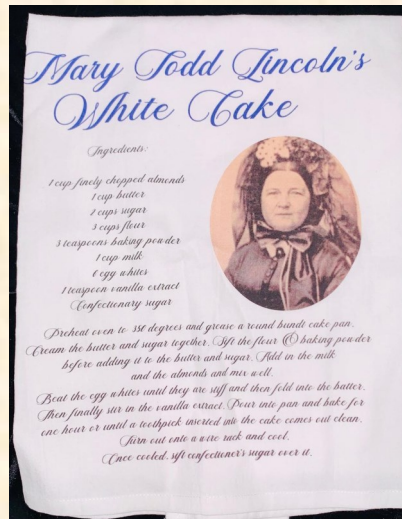
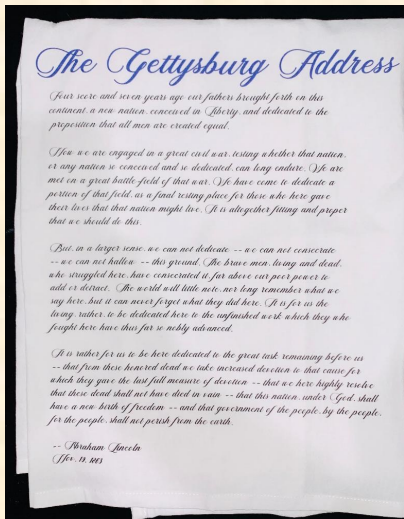
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Jan MacQueston's mother, Mildred Lindblad, lived on this earth for 101 years. She moved to Heaven on January 24, 2021. Many of us met and grew quite fond of Mildred, who often came to meetings. Jan is a Past President of our tent, and kindly included us in her mother's obituary: <https://www.nordgrenmemorialchapel.com/Obituaries.html>



In having the opportunity to look at her obituary, I couldn't help but notice that the memorial chapel is on Lincoln Street. We send Jan our sincere condolences, and also, congratulations on her retirement. She has so very much to do and we are here for her. Her address is in the yearbook and can be obtained from any officer, if you do not have it readily available.

by Karen Lyddane



Go Crazy at Bett's Boutique!



Patriotic Eyeglass Case
(glasses not included)

\$10.00

Tea Towels \$12/each

Mug \$14

Laser engraved wine tumbler \$17

**Proceeds go toward the
National Service Academy
Awards Fund**

**Email orders to
crystalgeller@gmail.com.**

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Membership Anniversaries in 2021

10 years

Patricia Everts*
Jane Shackelford*
Nicole Shackelford-Bush*

15 years

Diana Perrusse1*

25 years

Karen Misiano*

40 years

Mary Ann Cowherd

*Continuous years

*The Elizabeth Van
Lew Detached
Tent 1 sent 21
greeting cards
and postage for
the three (known)
Real Daughters of
Union Veterans of
the Civil War. The*

*cards included were assorted, including ones for
Valentine's Day for each of the Real Daughters.*



The Scots, Irish, and Formation of West Virginia

By Larry Turner, Board of Directors
Kernstown Battlefield Association

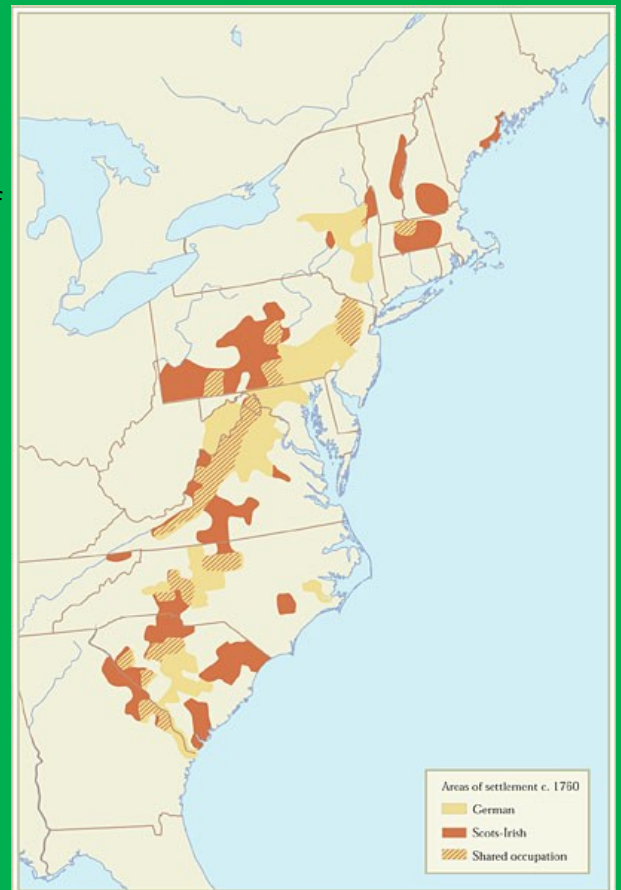
I read the book *The History of the Scotch Irish*, which began with a description of the Scots in 1500. Their total education consisted of reading the Bible. They lived in communes and rotated occupancy of houses every two years.

In the 1600s, they “discovered” Ireland, moved there, and became farmers. The Scots began to marry into the Irish and were now called Scots-Irish. Due to English oppression, by the late 1600s, they began to sail across the ocean to get away from this oppression and found this HUGE America.

In the early 1700s, hundreds of ships carried these Scots-Irish frontiersmen to America, and they sought out valleys and kept walking until they could not see their neighbors anymore. They, then, claimed that land. They became fiercely independent (hence the problems in the Rebellion in 1793 against the Whisky Act - designed to pay for the Revolutionary War). You can find them still in the mountains of West Virginia and Virginia. Therefore, West Virginia broke away from the flatlander, planter-class people who really ran Virginia in the early years of our nation.

This is also why Wheeling, Virginia, was so pro-Union. It is situated remarkably close to Ohio and Pennsylvania. With the dislike of their marginalization from the Virginia government, they took 51 counties of Virginia and created West Virginia in June 1863. However, 11 of those counties down near Blacksburg tended to be more Confederate than Union.

The WV Appalachian country, along with Kentucky's and Tennessee's similar eastern regions, were quite pro-Union, which is why President Lincoln fought so hard to take care of those states and get them into the Union (e.g. VP Johnson of Tennessee - a Democrat to Lincoln's own Republican Party).



<http://adamsfamilydna.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/4ScotsIrish-German1760.jpg>

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Sittin' in the Civil War

The Forgotten Soldier Project

This is for soldiers were uncles, friends, step fathers, etc. Although they cannot qualify for our blood lineage, they do qualify for deserved recognition!

Sisters are invited to add to this Project in remembrance of those noble forgotten soldiers.

Look at the National website and you'll find yourself quite immersed in the names and personal information of those already listed.

<http://www.dvvcw.org/images/pdf/ForgottenSoldier.pdf>

The Forgotten Soldier



September 2020

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