



The Dispatch

The Newsletter of the Department of Florida
S.U.V.C.W.

December 2016, Holiday Edition

Elected Department Officers

COMMANDER.... **Charles S. Reeves PDC**

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SENIOR VICE COMMANDER.... **David R. Palmer PCC**

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COUNCIL # 1.... **Harvey Linscott, PDC**

hkl36gov@peoplepc.com

COUNCIL # 2.... **Robert M Jones, PDC**

COUNCIL # 3.... **Ronnie G. McCracken PDC**

Appointed Department Officers

Patriotic Instructor: Roger L. Heiple

Chaplain: David Acheson, CC

Graves Registration: Adam C. Klohr

Civil War Memorials Officer: Adam C. Klohr

Eagle Scout Coordinator: Robert M. Jones PDC

JROTC Coordinator: Richard D. Shaffer, PCC

Counselor: Robert M. Jones PDC

Appointed Chief of Staff, Michael E Urell CC

Signals Officer: Steven A. Williams

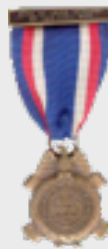
Hello Brothers

It is with great honor that I accept the position of newsletter editor for "The Dispatch". I hope that you will enjoy the newsletters and will forward to me news and information to share with our fellow brothers.

Please forward to me any camp news to share at the following email address.

Doubledaves2@gmail.com

Thank You David Munson



MISSION STATEMENT

*Through Community Education and Service
to our Order
We Honor the Memory of the Grand Army of
the Republic
The men who fought to Preserve the Union
1861 - 1865*

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah
Blessed and safe Holidays to all.

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More info about the Department of Florida can be found in our Department web site.

<http://www.dofsucw.org>



Abraham Lincoln's Favorite Cake



Abraham Lincoln with Mary Todd Lincoln and sons Robert and Tad (Curier & Ives lithograph, 1866)

Dept. of Florida has the following camps

Active Camps

[Winfield Scott Whitehurst Camp 01 - Tampa](#)

[General Thomas J. McKean Camp 03 - Lantana](#)

[Lucius L. Mitchell Camp No. 04 - St. Cloud](#)

[General Eugene A. Carr Camp 05 - Ocala](#)

[Sergeant Frederick R. Jackson Camp 07 - Pembroke Pines](#)

[General John A. Logan Camp 09 - Jacksonville](#)

Department Membership-At-Large

[General William T. Sherman Camp 25](#)

Abraham Lincoln's Favorite Cake

Kathleen Rice Adams (from Petticoats & Pistols)

December 17, 2014

For more info go to; <http://petticoatsandpistols.com/2014/12/17/abraham-lincolns-favorite-cake-with-recipe/>

One of the blessings of this festive time of year is sharing good food with family and friends. During the holidays, mothers and grandmothers everywhere retreat to the kitchen and don't emerge until they've baked a pile of goodies imbued with generation upon generation of family tradition.

In that way, holiday life in contemporary America hasn't changed much from holiday life in the 1800s... including life in the White House during the turbulent years of the American Civil War. Surrounded by carnage, then-President Abraham Lincoln, his wife Mary Todd Lincoln, and their sons probably took comfort in family traditions.

One of the traditions Mrs. Lincoln took to the White House with her was a cake she called simply "white cake." According to Lincoln's Table by Donna D. McCreary, the confection was created in 1825 by a Monsieur Giron to celebrate the Marquis de Lafayette's visit to Lexington, Kentucky—the First Lady's hometown. The dessert proved such a hit that the prominent Todd family somehow convinced Giron to share the recipe, and the cake promptly became a Todd tradition. Mary Todd made the cake for Abraham while they were courting and continued the tradition after their marriage. Reportedly, Mary Todd Lincoln's White Cake was her husband's favorite sweet treat.

The recipe survives to this day.

Recipe for Mary's White Cake

(Instructions in parentheses are modernizations.)
ChristmasBundtCake

Mary Todd Lincoln's White Cake

- Six egg whites
- 3 cups flour
- 3 tsp. baking powder
- 1 cup butter at room temperature
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup blanched almonds, chopped (in a food processor or blender) to resemble coarse flour
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar



(Preheat oven to 350 degrees.)

Grease and flour a (10- to 12-cup Bundt) pan.

In a medium bowl, beat egg whites (with a mixer on medium-high speed) until stiff (about 4 minutes). Set aside.

In a separate medium bowl, sift together flour and baking powder three times. Set aside.

In a large bowl, beat butter and sugar (with mixer on medium speed) until light and fluffy (about 2 minutes). Add flour mixture alternately with the milk, beating well after each addition. Stir in the almonds.

Stir in the vanilla, then fold beaten egg whites into the batter until just combined.

Pour batter into the prepared pan and bake about 1 hour (until a toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean).

Let cake cool in pan about 15 minutes, then remove (to wire rack) and let cool another hour before dusting with confectioners' sugar.

Allow me to be frank: This cake is a lot of trouble to make, but the result is worth every bit of effort. It's now part of my family's tradition, as well.

May your family's traditions bring you peace and joy that follows you through the coming year.

The SUVCW has medals for Military Service

At our recent meeting of Camp #1 members brought up the topic of Military Service Medals. Here is some information. Please have a look in the new Quartermaster web page at;

<http://www.suvcw-qm.org/militaryservicemedal.htm>

Members are encouraged to visit the new Quartermaster Store and see the many items of interest for members. Military Service Medals are available.

Item #361, NOTE : Authorized for any Brother who has served honorably in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States during a period of war or military conflict as defined by of the Armed Forces of the United States during a period of war or military conflict as defined by the Council of Administration, and received one or more Campaign Ribbon/Medal as defined by the Council of Administration. A Form DD214 or a Form DD4, or DD215 must accompany any application for the War Medal. Entitlement is determined by the Brother's Camp at a regular meeting of that Camp. A bronze bar naming the war or conflict in which the Brother served may be attached to the ribbon of the medal. This bar may not be attached to any other Badge of the Order. **Price is \$30.00**

Item #366, NOTE : Authorized for any Brother who has served honorably in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States. If a Brother is qualified for this medal and the War Medal, the Brother may purchase both, but may only wear one or the other at any one time. A Form DD214 or a Form DD4, or DD215 must accompany any application for this Medal. **Price is \$27.50**

Please contact the National QM
for more details at QM@suvcw-qm.org or at (607) 272-7314

Item # 361



Item # 366



Freemasons during the Civil War

There are many stories of Mason's both blue and gray during the war. Here is one from John Howey.

Masonic Burial by the Enemy

On June 11, 1863, the Federal gunboat Albatross, with Lieut. Commander J. E. Hart of St. George's Lodge #6 in New York in command, was anchored on the Mississippi River opposite the town of Bayou Sara (some accounts say St. Francisville) which is 15 miles above the Rebel fortification Port Hudson. The gunboat was part of the ships laying siege to Port Hudson, Louisiana. Commander Hart had been in a delirium for many days and was confined to quarters. A shot rang out and the Ship's executive officer Theodore E. Dubois and the doctor found the commander dead.

The officers of the ship not wanting to bury their commander in the river sent a flag of truce ashore to discover if there was a local Masonic Lodge. William W. Leake, the acting Master of Bayou Sara lodge was approached by Captain Samuel White, who lived near the river, to hold a Masonic Funeral for Commander Hart.

Brother Leake replied, "As a soldier of the Confederate Army, I think it is my duty. As a Mason, I know it is my duty." On June 13th, a few members of the local lodge in Masonic regalia gathered and met the procession of 50 men from the Albatross under a flag of truce at the top of a hill. Brothers Benjamin F. and Samuel F. White of Bayou Sara, the surgeon and the two officers of the gunboat who were Masons were in the procession along with a squad of marines at "trail arms."

Leake and the local Brothers marched in front of the corpse to Grace Episcopal Church Cemetery and buried Brother Hart in the Masonic Section with military and Masonic honors with the service of the Episcopal Church read over him. Brother Leake led the Masonic part of the services. The US Surgeon and officers asked the Brothers to join them on the Albatross for dinner but they declined. The surgeon then offered Brother Leake to supply him with medicines for his family. Brother Leake declined but later the surgeon sent a few medicines to Leake through Brother Samuel White.

Hart's grave was marked with a wooden head plate for many years, and eventually a permanent marker covering the whole grave was dedicated. This marker states: "This monument is dedicated in loving tribute to the universality of Freemasonry."

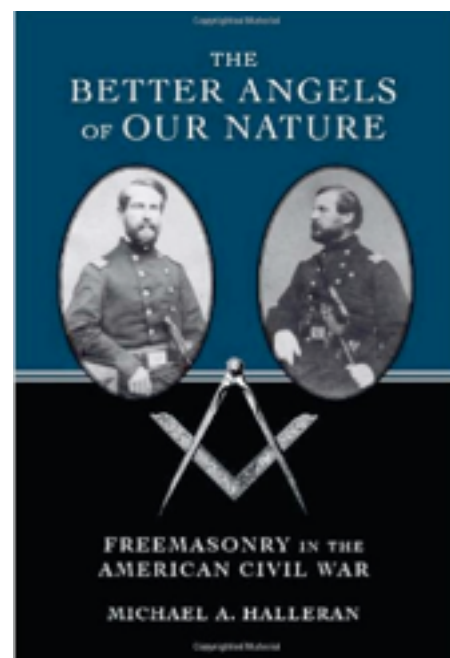
glass and think how small is a single life in the eternal universe. Always have I taught immortality, and even as I raise men from darkness into light, I am a way of life. I Am Freemasonry.

Read the rest of the story at; <http://www.angelfire.com/me/reenact/masons.html>

The Better Angels of Our Nature: Freemasonry in the American Civil War, Hardcover – March 11, 2010
by Michael A. Halleran

The first in-depth study of the Freemasons during the Civil War

One of the enduring yet little examined themes in Civil War lore is the widespread belief that on the field of battle and afterward, members of Masonic lodges would give aid and comfort to wounded or captured enemy Masons, often at great personal sacrifice and danger. This work is a deeply researched examination of the recorded, practical effects of Freemasonry among Civil War participants on both sides.



Winfield Scott Whitehurst, Camp #1, News

Brothers,

We have been fortunate to have some new members join our camp. On Oct 2nd we had our first meeting of the Autumn 2016 season. Commander Munson-Chestnut performed initiation Ceremony for new Brother Krajnyak (see 1st photo). On Nov 6th, an initiation ceremony was also held for new Brothers Walters and Anderson also led by the Commander and assisted by Chaplain Beyer. (see 2nd photo)

Each ceremony was followed by the welcoming of the new Brothers into the camp with presentation of membership certificates and SUVCW badges.

On Dec 11th The Gamble Plantation held its Annual Holiday Open House. Camp #1 met in a corner of the park to hold an election and installation of officers. (see bottom photo) After the installation a holiday party was held at the home of Commander Munson-Chestnut.

It had been mentioned at previous meetings that the camp needed a Flag bag, The Commander located one and ordered it from Amazon. It is handy because it holds both the US Flag and the Camp Banner.

In other news...

We received a report from Brother Kuhn about Greenwood Cemetery. He has contacted The Mary Todd Lincoln Tent DUVCW for assistance in canvassing the cemetery. Their comments and suggestions are very welcome.

He states that he has identified approximately forty-seven Union veterans of the Civil War buried at Greenwood Cemetery in St. Petersburg. A number of these veterans were buried in G.A.R. plots, which hopefully means that they have already been entered into the SUVCW's database. If this is the case, then their files would just need updating, particularly as to the current condition of their markers. As for the others, the SUVCW's data entry form is, alas, daunting - but necessary. The SUVCW's database has been "down" recently. But their website promises it will be back "up" soon.



