

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO / WYOMING

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**Sons of Union
Veterans
of the Civil
War**

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OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Eric Dan Richhart
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09 March 2013

Dear Department Members, Brother of the Order.

I would like to take this moment to request that each of you currently and past members to please renew their membership in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

I write this letter to each of you because I feel impressed that this moment in our American Republic we need to stand up and be counted in something that is bigger than each of us. In my youth I remember hearing President John F. Kennedy stating "Ask Not what your Country can do for you, But what we can do for our Country". This statement has always meant something to me and it does not matter what nationality, creed, color or Political party. I am a proud American and proud of my heritage. I have 5 proven ancestors who fought for our liberty in the American Revolution and 3 other I am still working to prove as a member of the Sons of the American Revolution (Utah Society). I am a member also of the General Society of the War of 1812 and I am the Genealogist/Registrar of the Colorado Society. We are when membership grows to have a Utah Society. I am working to assist in the War of 1812 pension record program.

I am proud in my membership in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. My ancestor that I used for membership was a Private Jacob Rubart of the 101 Illinois Infantry. His grandfather was a soldier/fifer in the American Revolution. I have been a member of the SUVCW since 1996 and have held many offices. My great grandfather was in the Spanish American War and father served under Gen George Patton in WWII, and I served in the Vietnam War in the Navy. Why do I tell you all of this? It is because I feel a great need to serve and I do so now with these three organizations. Each organization is committed to teach every American their Heritage.

How can we do this? We do so by SAR Color Guards, SVR in the SUVCW. We can go into schools and teach them the Constitution and true facts about the War of 1812 and Civil War. We honor them by remembrances on Holidays and Memorial Day. We do so by keeping sacred the graves, statues and items of these wars like cannons. We can teach our families.

I would like to develop a re-enactor/Color Guard for our Camp for schools teaching moments and parades. We also need our wives to be able to assist and that mean we need to establish a women auxiliary. We need to have more regular meetings to learn more about our Heritage but have well versed speakers.

These are my goals that I have been working on since becoming your Department Commander.

1. Visit all camps within the Department;
2. 10 percent growth in each Camp and the Department.
3. Finish in the location and list each G.A.R. Post not current know in each State of the Department and where their records are found and locate each grave of the GAR and record same for Department records and digitally list same for all on the web page from copied roster books, post cemetery records and secure photos;
4. Attend Memorial and Veterans Day Parades;
5. Hold Department Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah in June 2013 and Denver, Colorado in June 2014.
6. I would like to have considered as presented before that National SUVCW eliminate the online application and in its place use only Form 3 so the Departments and Camps can get credit for recruitment and empower them to gain much more commitment to these new brothers.
7. It is my goals also to see more signage put up in Colorado and Utah on US 6 for the GAR Highway.
8. Also I would like to see members of the Camps in the Department get into schools more to teach the history of the GAR and the GAR Highway and the truth of the Civil War and not the current meaning that is now taught.
9. It is also my goal that in conjunction with finding all graves possible that we as a Department work with Brother James Davenport PDC our Dept Graves registration Officer to assist him in getting all grave makers and names into the National database and if in disrepair that each Camp will annotate them for replacement through the local VA.
10. I want each camp to become more involved in the Eagle Scout project that has been done by the Department Eagle Scout Officer Jerry Mosley PDC and voted upon at the 2012 Annual Encampment. We can get more Scouts recognized and many might be incline to join and further assist our Order.
11. I would like to see developed a program in the Department a J/ROTC programs for High Schools and Universities in the Camps.
12. It was voted upon and with the assistance of Brother Wally Weart's wife we are planning on setting up a Woman's Auxiliary.
13. We need to have our Camp and Department Patriotic Instructor more active and submit reports of their progress in teaching in each Camps and to submit report to the Department PI and for reports submitted to the Department Secretary and National PI.
14. With the new flyers and press packages from National SUVCW pending, each camp would request a minimum of 10 flyers and enough press packages for each TV station and at least 2 major radio stations or authority to reproduce same for each Camps needs.
15. Finally I desire to get a new camp in either the Boise or Pocatello/Idaho Falls, Idaho area by June 2013

Please help me accomplish these Goals

It has been a great honor to have served a Department Commander the past two years and hope to see each of you at the Department Encampment on June 8th 2013 at 12:00 AM (1200 hours) until 4:00 PM (1600 hours) in Midvale, Utah in the Salt Lake City area, at the Masonic Center at 7689 Center Square Midvale, UT 84047-7329 . Invite everyone and hope to see you here in June.

In Faith, Charity, and Loyalty

Eric Dan Richhart Department Commander

Colorado's only known Confederate attack

By Rob Carrigan rcarrigan@ourcoloradonews.com Colorado Community Media

Reprinted with permission

Confederate guerrillas and the state of Colorado is not a combination that instantly comes to mind when you are putting two and two together. But the Adolph Guirand ranch between Hartsel and Fairplay played prominently in the only known Colorado Confederate guerrilla "attack."

Guirand, unaware that Jim Reynolds and seven other men were in fact raiders planning to rob Colorado mining interests in an effort to help finance the Confederacy, offered the travelers a place to stay and warm meal at dinner and breakfast. The next day, however, the raiders robbed him of his horses and cash and raped his wife, according to Ken Jessen in his 1986 book, "Colorado Gunsmoke."

A bit later they also robbed the McLaughlin stage station after taking a local mining manager hostage and continued on a thieving and violent rampage on toward what is present-day Conifer. Word of their plunderous deeds eventually reached Denver. A cavalry unit, commanded by a Captain Maynard, set out to chase the rebels after some delay. Additionally a posse from the Breckenridge area was raised and pursued the raiders, as well.

Gunfire was exchanged between the Breckenridge posse and guerrillas on the north fork of the South Platte River near what was then known as Kenosha House.

One of the rebel band, Owen Singleterry, was killed in the exchange and the rest were dispersed without most of their equipment.

"Dr. Cooper, a member of the posse, cut off Singleterry's head and took it into Fairplay. This grizzly reminder of the Reynold's gang was preserved in alcohol and remained in Fairplay for a number of years," wrote Jessen.

Reynolds and two other raiders escaped into New Mexico. Five others of the party were captured, tried in Denver and then, enroute to Fort Lyons in the company of Company A, 3rd Regiment of the Colorado Cavalry, were killed under mysterious circumstances near Russeville on Upper Cherry Creek.

But that is not the end to the story. After being shot trying to steal a horse in Taos, N.M., according to Legends of America.com, Jim Reynolds gave a deathbed account of burying treasure from his bands looting spree in South Park to another outlaw, Albert Brown, and drew a map identifying the location of that treasure.

"When they arrived at the site, they were disappointed to find that a forest fire had destroyed many landmarks.

"When they arrived at the site, they were disappointed to find that a forest fire had destroyed many landmarks.

While they found an old white hat that supposedly belonged to the decapitated Singleterry, a headless skeleton, and horse bones in a swamp, they were unable to find the rocked-in prospect hole. Brown and his partners made three more attempts to find the treasure, but finally gave up and returned home. Albert Brown later died in a drunken brawl in Laramie City, Wyoming Territory," says Legends of America. Com.

Brown passed on the map before he died to a Detective David J. Cook, In his 1897 book, Cook, quotes Reynold's conversation with Alfred Brown thusly:

"Jim and me buried the treasure the morning before the posse attack on Geneva Gulch. You go up above there a little ways and find where one of our horses mired down in a swamp. On up at the head of the gulch we turned to the right and followed the mountain around a little farther, and just above the head of Deer Creek, we found an old prospect hole at about timberline. There, we placed \$40,000 in greenbacks, wrapped in silk oil cloth, and three cans of gold dust. We filled the mouth of the hole up with stones, and ten steps below, struck a butcher knife into a tree about four feet from the ground and broke the handle off, and left it pointing toward the mouth of the hole."

I know of no reports of that treasure ever being found.

The National Park Service has chosen to demolish an architecturally significant building on the Gettysburg battlefield.

Written by Craig Layne, Morning Edition Host/
Reporter

The Cyclorama building was designed by famed architect Richard Neutra and once housed a 360-degree painting of Pickett's Charge.

The structure, which closed in 2005, has been the center of a struggle between the park service and modern architecture experts for more than a dozen years.

In an August interview with NPS spokeswoman Katie Lawhon says tearing down the building would allow the agency to restore Cemetery Ridge to the way it would have looked during the three-day Civil War clash in July 1863.

"There were actually some monuments associated with soldiers from the Union Army that had to be moved when they built the building," Lawhon says. "So, the first thing we would do is put the monuments back where the veterans had originally placed them."



Gettysburg National Military Park - Cyclorama Building Background

The park service reviewed the environmental impact of destroying the building before making its decision.

The agency says demolition could begin later this winter.

The Cyclorama painting is now on display at the Gettysburg National Military Park's visitors' center.

In 1999, the National Park Service (NPS) approved a General Management Plan for Gettysburg National Military Park (NMP) that addressed demolition of the Cyclorama building as part of a

long-term plan to rehabilitate the North Cemetery Ridge to its historic 1863 battle and 1864-1938 commemorative-era appearance.

The 1962 Cyclorama building, designed by noted architect Richard Neutra, was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The adverse effect of demolishing the building was addressed in a 1999 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the NPS, the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. All mitigation in the MOA has been completed.

In 2006, the NPS was sued by the Recent Past Preservation Network and two individuals challenging the government's compliance with both the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in making the decision to demolish the Cyclorama building. The U.S. District Court found that the NPS had complied with NHPA but not NEPA and directed the NPS to undertake a "site-specific environmental analysis on the demolition of the Cyclorama Center" and to consider "non-demolition alternatives" to its demolition before "any implementing action is taken on the Center."

Accordingly, the NPS initiated an environmental assessment (EA). The Environmental Assessment planning process - The park prepared the EA with assistance from the regional office and with input from the Northeast Regional Solicitor's Office and the WASO Environmental Quality Division. The

EA evaluated three alternatives: the NPS preferred alternative to demolish the building; another action alternative to allow a third-party to relocate the building outside park boundaries; and the no action alternative to mothball the building in place.

The EA was released for a 30-day public review and comment period that ended on September 21, 2012. Over 1,600 pieces of correspondence were received on the EA. The majority of commenters supported demolition of the building in order to rehabilitate the battle and commemorative landscapes. All substantive comments have been addressed in consultation with the regional office and the Northeast Regional Solicitor's Office.

No changes to the NPS preferred alternative were warranted as a result of public comment.

Next Steps - Gettysburg Foundation has funds for the demolition of the building and for most of the rehabilitation of Ziegler's Grove. The first steps in the project will be several weeks of asbestos remediation.

Once the building is demolished, the battle and commemorative-era landscapes will be rehabilitated according to the treatment recommendations contained in the 2004 cultural landscape report (CLR) for the North Cemetery Ridge area which include returning monuments to their historic locations, rebuilding commemorative pedestrian pathways and rebuilding historic fences.



The 2nd Michigan, CO. E stands fast against Rebel charge and delivers a standing volley to break the assault. Our brave boys rallied on the colors and carried the day.

(This was taken at a "Civil War" weekend at Lowville, New York. Your editor is somewhere in there, doing his part for Uncle Abraham)

The Grand Review of the Armies

By James Barker, Department Senior Vice Commander

One of the proud traditions of the G.A.R. was the Grand Parade. It was the highlight of their National Encampments. As the parade inevitably progressed from stout men marching in rank after rank to the last few gray-haired survivors transported in automobiles, one can't help but wonder if their thoughts returned to those glorious two days in May 1865 when the "boys in blue" filled Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol to the White House. Margaret Leech vividly described the events of those two days in her book "*Reveille In Washington, 1861 -1865*":

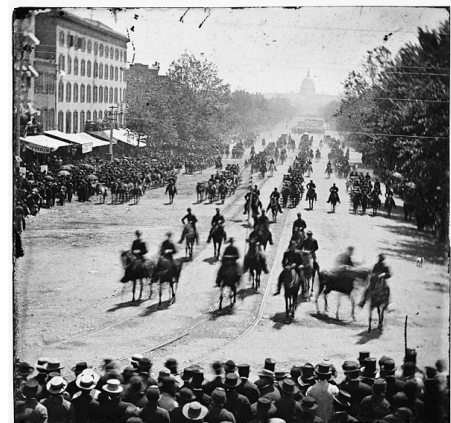
"The spirits of the Capitol had revived, as it made ready for the last and greatest pageant of the war. The emblems of mourning were taken down, and once more the city was bedecked with the national colors. In all the display of celebration, there was but one tragic reminder – the blue regimental flag of the Treasury Guard, which bore, like a battle scar, the tear made by Booth's spur (*this flag draped the center of the Presidential box at Ford's Theater*).

"Before the White House rose a covered pavilion, decorated with flags and flowers and evergreens and surmounted by the names of the great battles of the war. Here the President and General Grant would review the armies, in company with the Cabinet members, the diplomatic corps and other notables. Across the Avenue was a large stand for governors, members of Congress and the Supreme Court judges. Other stands afforded space for officers of the army and navy, the press, invited guests, State delegations and disabled soldiers, and there were ranks of seats extending down both sides of the Avenue.

"After four years of teeming crowds, Washington was staggered by the invasion. Lodgings were all engaged, and a party of young ladies from Boston, one of whom would become Mrs. Henry Adams, gladly occupied a single attic room in a house near Willard's. On the day before the grand review the girls drove out to Georgetown, hailing the passing troops, "What regiment are you?" "Michigan!" the boys would shout, or "Wisconsin!" or "Iowa!"

"At sunrise on May 23, the spectators were gathering. The sky was blue, a soft breeze stirred the roses, and from the Capitol to the White House the Avenue was aflutter with waving flags and handkerchiefs, when at nine o'clock the signal gun was fired, and General Meade rode out on his garlanded horse at the head of the Army of the Potomac."

"Around the corner of the Capitol came the cavalcade of Sheridan's troopers, filling the street for an hour with the racket of hoofs and the clash of sabers and the sharp whine of the bugle call. Before his division of horsemen, scarfed like himself in red, rode the dashing figure of Custer, with long yellow hair and buckskin breeches, "half general and half scout." The crowd near the White House gasped when a thrown wreath frightened Custer's horse, and the young general galloped madly past the reviewing stand, brandishing his saber in salute. There were cheers, as he reined in and wheeled gracefully back to the head of his column.



"After the Provost Marshal General's and the engineer brigades, the first three proud and famous infantry corps went swinging toward the White House – the Ninth Corps, Burnside's former command, with its badge of a shield, with anchor and canon crossed. It was followed by the Fifth, which wore the Maltese Cross, and the Second, whose emblem was the cloverleaf. Brigades and divisions, preceded by generals and their staffs, marched with mechanical precision.



There were mounted artillerymen, with their canon; pioneers hauling pontoons and boats' gaudy Zouaves; Irish regiments, with green sprigs in their hats. These were but variations in the steady lines of blue, sixty men abreast, in tight fitting coats and jaunty kepis, their bayonets shining in slanted rows of steel.

"Massed on the stands and housetops, hanging from windows and balconies, the people had forgotten their disappointments: that Sheridan, sent to the Rio Grande, was not there to ride with his cavalry; the Sixth Corps – the Greek Crosses of grateful memory – had been detained in Virginia. They sang the choruses of the tunes the bands were playing, "Tramp, Tramp, tramp" and "When This Cruel War Is Over" and "When Johnny Comes Marching Home". Showers of bouquets and garlands festooned the officers and their horses, banked the canon, adorned the flags and carpeted the street. The crowds shouted with exultation, which caught, like tears, in their

throats. For this was Washington's own army. The capitol had seen it grow from a muddle of untrained boys. It had built the city's fortifications, and formed a living barrier in the Virginia mud. It had stopped Lee at Antietam and at Gettysburg, had taken the slow and bloody path to Appomattox. People wept as the battle flags went by and many rushed into the street to kiss their shredded folds.

"Through the plaudits and the flowers and the singing, the brigades marched past the Treasury and swung right to pass the reviewing stand in front of the White House. As corps and division commander went by, the President and General Grant and Mr. Stanton and the rest stood up, and swords were lowered in salute and the colors dipped. General Meade had taken his place on the reviewing stand, as did the corps commanders in their turn – Merritt and Parke and Griffin and Humphreys, generals who had won high honors in the Wilderness. All day, Meade's spectacled scholar's face looked down on the pageant of the army he had led to victory, with glory overshadowed by Grant. It was late afternoon, when the hoarse cheers were silent, and the last cloverleaf badges of the Second corps disappeared beyond the reviewing stand.

"Early next day, with enthusiasm increased by vivid curiosity, the crowds burst out to welcome the strangers from the West. Again the sun was bright, as the signal gun boomed and General William Tecumseh Sherman rode on Pennsylvania Avenue. Most onlookers saw for the first time this tall, wiry, nervous soldier, with deeply wrinkled face and grizzled red beard and a smile of unexpected sweetness. His loss of popularity had been transient. That day Sherman was again a hero, wreathed like his horse in flowers, almost fiercely acclaimed while the bands played a jubilant new air, "Marching Through Georgia". His countrymen had forgotten the wrong done to his reputation, but Sherman had not. On the reviewing stand, when Stanton held out his hand, Sherman's face clouded and grew scarlet, and he turned brusquely away (*Upon learning of the original terms of surrender that Sherman had negotiated with General Johnston, Stanton denounced Sherman, persuaded the Cabinet to reject*

them and humiliated Sherman in the press.)

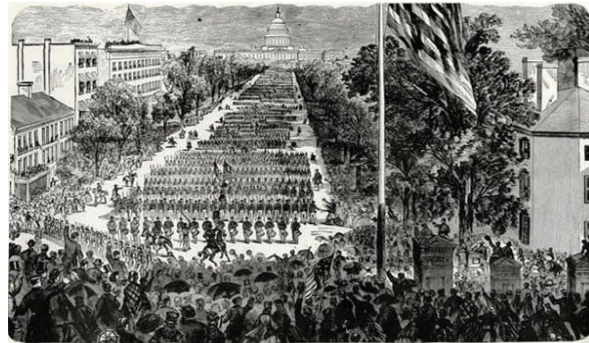
“One-armed General Oliver O. Howard, who rode with Sherman, had once commanded the Eleventh Corps of the Army of the Potomac, and Washington knew him now as commissioner of the freedman’s Bureau. Until recently he had commanded the Army of the Tennessee, and had been succeeded by the former congressman, John A Logan, whom Washington recognized and hailed, as it did Francis P. Blair, Junior, who led the Seventeenth Corps. General H. W. Slocum, commander of the Army of Georgia, had formerly headed the Twelfth Corps of the Army of the Potomac. The few familiar faces were exceptions in a procession of soldiers whose very badges were strange to the capitol – the cartridge box of the Fifteenth Corps, the arrow of the Seventeenth, the five-pointed star of the Twentieth, the acorn of the Fourteenth.

“Taut with pride in his army, Sherman had feared that it might suffer unfavorable comparison with the Eastern troops. As he topped the rise before the Treasury, he had turned in his saddle for one backward glance, then had ridden on, well satisfied. On review as in the field, the soldiers of the West could challenge any army in the world. They wanted the neatness of dress and precision of movement which were McClellan’s legacies to the Army of the Potomac on parade. Most of them wore loose blouses instead of trim jackets, black slouch hats in place of tilted kepis. Some were in rags, some wanted shoes. They had a gaunt, rough look about them, like frontier soldiers, taller and bonier than Eastern men. There was something bold, aggressive and magnificent in their rolling, cadenced stride. It seemed to shrink the length of the Avenue to a step, reminding people of the hundreds of miles those long, strong legs had ranged, through swamps and over mountaintops. For a second day, Washington shouted applause, pelting the Westerners with blossoms. Their torn and dingy battle flags bore the legends of Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Chattanooga, Atlanta, Savannah, the Carolinas – names that told the story of victory for the Union.

“There were cheers, too, for novel spectacles, more entertaining than any provided by the ranks of the Army of the Potomac. Mother Bickerdyke, devoted nurse of the Western troops, rode sidesaddle in a calico dress and sunbonnet. Pioneer corps of huge negroes, with picks, and spades and axes, marched ahead of each division. The Bummers Brigade, preceded by a darky on a tiny donkey, was composed of the foragers of Sherman’s army. They had a train of wagons loaded with pots and pans and kettles, and pack mules

carrying turkeys, geese and chickens. There were cows, sheep, goats, dogs, raccoons, a poodle and a monkey, all flocking along the Avenue with a motley horde of contrabands, who at first tried to preserve their dignity, but were soon grinning with the hilarious spectators.

“Hurrah! Hurrah! We bring the jubilee!” In Georgia and the Carolinas, Sherman’s men were reviled as vandals and marauders. Most of the excesses of the march through the Confederacy had been committed by undisciplined stragglers. Yet among the foragers and the troopers, and among the striding infantrymen, too, were some who had danced in the blaze of the pillared mansions of the South. Now the orgy of war was over, and these few went bravely along the Avenue with the rest, as purged as lynchers whose hysteria has been spent. The bummers had become merry boys with innocent



trophies of war. They did not brandish their silver spoons, or the rings they had torn from women’s fingers.

“The sun slanted in the West, as Sherman’s men dispersed, to get drunk and disturb the peace of Washington, to fight with Eastern soldiers in the saloons, and blast the name of Stanton. The grand review was ended. For two days, Washington had forgotten the demagogues; forgotten dissensions and military tyranny; ceased to remember the prisoners, sweltering in their hoods, while they waited to be condemned (*this last refers to the Lincoln assassination conspirators then undergoing trail by military commission*). Once more, the Cause shone bright, as the blue-clad legions swept up Pennsylvania Avenue. The hard young faces and the flags and the brassy, sentimental tunes had revived, like some tender reminiscence of youth, the faith and the courage that had kept the nation united. One hundred and fifty thousand veterans had marched, but even the unimaginative had seen a greater passing. The

decimated regiments, the youthful appearance of the general officers, the scarcity of the field officers – all had been reminders of the shadowy army of the Union dead, nearly half a million strong. In unsubstantial ranks, they seemed to form behind the ragged flags: nameless boys who had drilled and caroused in Washington; white-haired Mansfield and Edwin Sumner; Kearny, with his empty coat sleeve; Wadsworth, fingering his grandfather's sword. And on the reviewing stand, behind the concrete shapes of Andy Johnson and the beaming notables, another misty figure seemed to rise, and Lincoln's face look kindly down on the pomp of the Union's triumph." It is not hard to imagine the host of these boys in blue looking down with pride on the last of their comrades as

150 years later, Union sailors from USS Monitor to be buried at Arlington

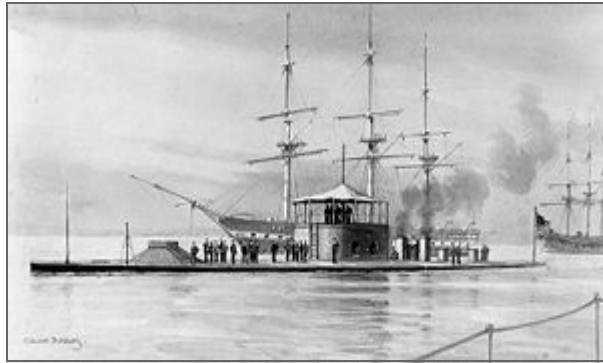
By [Greg Wilson](#) Published March 04, 2013 FoxNews.com

Two Navy sailors slated for heroes' burials at Arlington National Cemetery have waited a century and a half for the honor.

The men were among the crew members who perished aboard the legendary Union battleship the USS Monitor, which fought an epic Civil War battle with Confederate vessel The Merrimack in the first battle between two ironclad ships in the Battle of Hampton Roads, on March 9, 1862.

Nine months later, the Monitor sank in rough seas off of Cape Hatteras, where it was discovered in 1973. Two skeletons and the tattered remains of their uniforms were discovered in the rusted hulk of the Union ironclad in 2002, when its 150-ton turret was brought to the surface.

The Navy spent most of a decade trying to determine the identity of the remains through DNA testing. "It's been interesting to be connected to something so momentous, and we're looking forward to the ceremony."- Diana Rambo, possible descendant of USS Monitor sailor.



"These may very well be the last Navy personnel from the Civil War to be buried at Arlington," Navy Secretary Ray Mabus said. "It's important we honor these brave men and all they represent as we reflect upon the significant role Monitor and her crew had in setting the course of our modern Navy."

Although testing has narrowed the identities of the men down to six, descendants of all 16 soldiers who died when the ship sank are expected at the ceremony. Diana Rambo, of Fresno, Calif., said DNA testing showed a 50 percent chance that one man was Jacob Nicklis, her grandfather's uncle. A ring on his right finger matched one in an old photograph, adding to the likelihood he was her relative. She plans to be at the cemetery when he is buried.


"It's been interesting to be connected to something so momentous, and we're looking forward to the ceremony," Rambo told FoxNews.com.

She said the development has brought several branches of the family together as they sift through old letters and photos and piece together their shared genealogy. One letter in particular made her long-lost relative seem real.

"I've started doing the research, and even read letters he wrote to his father saying he really didn't want to go," said Rambo, who was able to tell her 90-year-old mother of the Navy's revelation a week before her death. "And you think about how many of these kids today are in that situation."

David Alberg, superintendent of the Monitor sanctuary, pressed for the pair to have Arlington burial honors, as did the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Maritime Heritage Program and descendants of the surviving Monitor crewmembers.

Although most schoolkids learn that the Monitor fought the Merrimack to a draw in 1862, the ship that the Monitor took on was actually dubbed the Virginia, and built on the hull of the U.S. Navy frigate USS Merrimack. Some 16 sailors died when the Monitor sank, while about 50 more crewmembers were plucked from the sea by the crew of the Rhode Island.

Although the Monitor sank soon after the battle, it still outlasted the Virginia, which the Confederates were forced to scuttle in early May. The Monitor sailed up the [James River](#)  to support the Army during the [Peninsula Campaign](#), taking part in the [Battle of Drewry's Bluff](#) before sinking while being towed during a storm off the Carolina coast. The ship's gun turret, engine and other relics are on display at the [Mariners' Museum](#) in [Newport News, Virginia](#)

Patriotic Instruction for February 2013

February 2013 The Month We Celebrate our Presidents and its Purpose.



When I was a young boy, the Birthdays of Our First President, George Washington, and our Sixteenth President, Abraham Lincoln were honored as National Holidays. In our time, these two separate days have been replaced as one day honoring all The Presidents. With no disrespect at all for the other occupants of The White House since it was first occupied by President John Adams in 1800, I think we have lost a little of our traditions and History by doing this. Certainly no one could argue, with any real reason, that George Washington and Abraham Lincoln were two of our top Presidents, but then again, I know that many people do.



As time shifts opinions, certain things are forgotten. There was a publication recently put out by a National Magazine (Newsweek I believe) that did not have either of these men in their top Ten! The need for some people to "consolidate" for convenience sake the number of "Holiday Three Day Weekends" has become a matter of life for American Citizens. This is true for Memorial Day (originally Celebrated on May 30th) and other Federal "Holidays throughout the Calendar Year. While we celebrate the ideas that have made us The Nation that we are, let us also remember the Traditions that got us there in the first place. When we honor and remember the work and sacrifice of any issue or person, let us do so appropriately! We celebrate New Years Day, Fourth of July and The anniversary of The Gettysburg address (Nov 19th) on those days, but other days are moved on the calendar for social purposes.

It is my opinion that this detracts from the true meaning of what we honor and remember and allows what I term the "Anonymity of Reason" to overtake us. It is, an unfortunate truth that many Americans do not know or care about the Past of this Great Nation. That is where we in The SUVCW come in to play: WE CAN AND MUST ALWAYS PUT FORTH OUR HISTORY TO THOSE WHO EITHER DO NOT KNOW, AND /OR DO NOT CARE. " Those who forget History are destined to repeat it" was spoken by British Statesman Edmund Burke nearly two Hundred Years ago, and is as important as ever to us today. We must always inform our fellow citizens that it is THEIR HISTORY as well as ours. While we Honor and Remember The Soldiers and Sailors of our Civil War, we also relay what happened before this event as well as what followed down to our own times.

Honor the Boys in Blue, and all our service personnel by telling what you know to those who do not know. Praise and Love our Country and show that we really do care about it, and the people that have made her The great and Honorable Nation that we are. LEST WE FORGET! As President Lincoln said in his first annual message to Congress "The struggle for today is not altogether for today---it is for a vast future also. With a reliance on Providence, all the more firm and earnest, let us proceed in the great task which events have devolved upon us."

Great words from a Truly Great Man.

Patriotic Instruction for December 2012

What does the word *freedom* mean to you? I have taken the opportunity to share with you a glimpse of what it means to different persons. Perhaps this can be a topic of discussion at your Holiday Dinner. I have taken the liberty to voice my own, personal take on this subject at the end of this Instruction.

“There is no more fundamental axiom of American freedom than the familiar statement: In a free country we punish men for the crimes they commit but never for the opinions they have.”

Harry S. Truman
33rd U.S. President

Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same.”

Ronald Reagan
40th U.S. President

The best road to progress is freedom's road.”

John F. Kennedy
35th U.S. President

“Only our individual faith in freedom can keep us free.”

Dwight D. Eisenhower
34th U.S. President

“The cause of freedom is not the cause of a race or a class – it is the cause of humankind, the very birthright of humanity.”

Anna Julia Cooper
American author, educator and speaker

“Just as war is freedom's cost, disagreement is freedom's privilege.”

Bill Clinton
42nd U.S. President

Freedom is the open window through which pours the sunlight of the human spirit and human dignity

Herbert Hoover
31st U.S. President

“Posterity: you will never know how much it has cost my generation to preserve your freedom. I hope you will make good use of it.”

John Quincy Adams
6th U.S. President

“Perfect freedom is as necessary to the health and vigor of commerce as it is to the health and vigor of citizenship.”

Patrick Henry
Founding Father and 1st and 6th Governor of Virginia

“What has made America great have been the opportunities give to everyone in this country. Since our founding, individuals and families have come to America to seek freedom, opportunity and the choice for a better life.”

Cathy McMorris
U.S House of Representatives, Member

“In the truest sense, freedom cannot be bestowed; it must be achieved.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt
32nd U.S. President

“Since the Revolution, eight generations of America's veterans have established an unbroken commitment in freedom.”

Steve Buyer
U.S. House of Representatives, Member

“May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right.”

Peter Marshall
Chaplain of the U.S. Senate

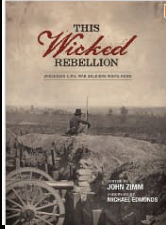
“Freedom is a concept that encompasses all this great country stands for.” The right to participate in a free society and be an example for the world to follow.”

Ben Hawley
Senior Vice Commander
Lincoln-Cushing Camp No. 2
Sons of Union Veterans
Washington, DC



This Wicked Rebellion

Reviewed by James M. Gallen



Members of the Civil War/War Between The States community are always looking for new insights into the struggle and the Wisconsin Historical Society Press has brought us a gem. *This Wicked Rebellion* consists of a collection of letters written to families and local newspapers by Wisconsin soldiers. Editor John Zimm has searched the Society's massive collection for representative samplings that bring the war to life in the words of the men who fought it. From farewells to family, camp life and reports from battlefields, hospitals and prisons we are treated to life as the warriors lived it. We readers are privy to accounts from where Wisconsin's banners faced the foe: Bull Run, Shiloh, Winchester, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Spotsylvania and Atlanta. Some letters provide real time impressions of the issues of the day: slavery, emancipation, the purposes of the war and the wounds it left on the hearts of those who fought it.

Whether or not you have a particular interest in Wisconsin, regardless of whether you favor Blue or Grey, these observations, emotions and letters are certainly typical of those written to other states for they, and we, all share a common humanity. This is a fairly short book that could be read quickly but it should not be. It is a book to be savored, letter by letter and word by word, as we try to understand those men who closed our great national schism.

This Wicked Rebellion, John Zimm, ed, Wisconsin University Press, 2012, ISBN 978-0-87020-504-0

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