



From the Fort

Volume 1, Issue 1

Spring 2006 Update

Rebecca Otis Tent #54
Daughters of Union
Veterans of the Civil War
1861-1865

Fort Wayne, Indiana

Meetings Held

2006

March 4th

New Haven Library
1 pm

April 1st

Grabill Library
1 pm

May 6th

Woodburn Library
10:30 am

Dedication of grave marker: Jacob Baker

Article from the East Allen Courier—

May 16, 2006

By Loretta McCann

Rebecca Otis Tent #54, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, will conduct a ceremony to mark the grave of a Civil War soldier, Jacob Baker, Jr., in the Gar Creek Union Cemetery.

Loretta McCann of Woodburn who is patriotic instructor of Tent #54, discovered that Jacob Baker, Jr., had no military headstone to indicate his service to our country in the Union Army during the Civil War. As a project of her office in the tent, she researched the life and Civil War record of Pvt. Baker, and working with the county veterans service office, she ordered a bronze military plaque to be placed on the grave.



Gar Creek Cemetery

Tent #54 has previously marked the graves of two other Civil War soldiers buried in this cemetery, holding a service for them in November, 2004.

The ceremony for Pvt. Baker will take place, Sunday, May 21, at 3:00 pm. Also participating in the service will be members of the 44th Indiana Infantry and a representative from Col. William Link Camp #12, Sons of Union Veterans of the

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New Member Spotlight:

Linda Livingstone

Sister Linda has been accepted into our tent 01 April 2006.

She is the Great, Great Grand-daughter of Pvt. Isaac M. Ricketts of G Company 153rd Indiana Volunteers (11 Feb 1865—4 Sept 1865)

Vickie Day speaks at Genealogy Meetings

Sister Vickie Day spoke at two genealogy meetings over the winter: DeKalb County and Noble County.

At one she also gave some information on the SUVCW, and at the other she brought Sister Joleene Kaiser & Brother Tim Kaiser of the SUVCW.

Several Applications were passed out to prospective members. And Sister

Vickie received an Honorarium for her efforts which she used to purchase items for Easter goody-bags to take to the Fort Wayne VA hospital.

Sister LaVerne Amstutz made sure the treats got to the VA in time, and brought the thank-you note to the May meeting.

Jacob Baker Grave Marker at Gar Creek—continued from pg 1

Civil War.

Two descendants of Pvt. Baker live in the Woodburn area, grandson, Jay Baker, and great-grandson, Stanley Hostetler.

The cemetery is located on Gar Creek Road, three miles east of Berthaud Road.

The public is invited.



President Vicki Layman
At Gar Creek Cemetery

Note: Gar Creek attendees Sisters: Vicki Layman, Loretta McCann, Vickie Day, Elaine Sweet, & Patricia Frederick

Pvt. Jacob Baker, Jr. Ceremony Agenda May 21, 2006

Presentation of the Colors
44th Indiana

Pledge of Allegiance
Led by Patriotic Instructor, Loretta McCann, DUVCW Tent #54

Welcome
Vicki Layman, President of DUVCW Tent #54, PDP of IN Department

Tribute from the SUVCW
Dennis McCann, Sr. Vice Commander SUVCW Col. Wm. Link Camp #12

Information on the life of Pvt. Jacob Baker Jr
Loretta McCann

Poem "When the Boys in Blue Are Gone"
Vicki Layman

Singing of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic"

Military Salute
44th Indiana

Prayer
Vickie Day, Council Member/Membership Chair of DUVCW Tent #54

Tent's Annual Contributions for 2006

National Donations:

GAR Living Memorial Fund—\$40
VAVS—\$40
Southern Wreath Memorial Fund—\$25
National Service Academies—\$25
National DUVCW President's Project—\$20
Gallaudet University—\$10

Department of Indiana:

GAR scholarship fund—\$10
VAVS—\$40
Knightstown Home—\$25

Total Donations—\$235



PDP "Ozzie" Thompson's project: Ribbon Magnets

2005 Tent Membership Report

Amstutz, Laverne	Grabill, IN (new)	Kaiser, Joleene	Butler, IN
Armstrong, Tammy	Fort Wayne, IN	Layman, Vicki	Fort Wayne, IN
Brindle, Marveta	Fort Wayne, IN	Mahuren Rebecca	Fort Wayne, IN (transfer)
Champeau, Mildred	Clinton, TN	McBath, Margot	Columbus, GA (new)
Cromer, Elizabeth	Fort Wayne, IN	McCann, Loretta	Woodburn, IN
Day, Melissa	Auburn, IN	McClellan, Margaret	Muncie, IN
Day, Vickie	Avilla, IN	Puskas, Carolyn	Oakdale, PA
Diehm, Phyllis	Fort Wayne, IN	Stark, Ann	Ossian, IN
Evans, Catherine	Gallatin, TN	Stirlin, Nina	Freemont, IN (new)
Farber, Nora	Fort Wayne, IN	Sweet, Elaine	Woodburn, IN (new)
Frederick, Patricia	Fort Wayne, IN (new)	Tatro, Karen	Northampton, MA
Hallinan, Maxine	New Haven, IN	Wallace, Ivyl	Knox, IN (new)

Fort Wayne Civil War Monument Rededication—May 30, 2006

Article in the News-Sentinel—

By Cindy Larson

Dave Winship kept his promise not to forget the 489 soldiers from Allen County who died in the Civil War. On one of last winter's coldest days, he talked about his plans to fix up the 112-yr-old Civil War statue in Lawton Park. In Tuesday's sweltering heat, about 50 people gathered to see Winship's promise come to fruition.

Time & weather had virtually obliterated the words carved in the stone base of the statue. Winship had the monument re-carved this spring, and now visitors can clearly read its message: "A tribute from patriotic citizens to the heroic sons of Allen County who fell in defense of the Union 1861-1865."

The bronze statue depicts a standing figure of Columbia holding a laurel wreath of victory just above the head of a kneeling Union soldier. Columbia is a female figure symbolizing freedom.



Re-enactors dressed in wool uniforms stoically withstood the heat. A group called the Company Singers belted out "Rally Round the Flag" before toning down their enthusiasm for the somber "Tenting Tonight." The 44th Indiana Civil War Historical Association fired three rounds in unison from their black powder muzzleloaders. Winship said the guns were fired to make sure "the boys on the other side of eternity are going to hear us."

One of the members of the 44th, Todd Johnson, had drained one canteen and was working on a second by the end of the ceremony. He said the group dons the wool uniforms all summer long for re-enactments. "I'm dripping," he said. When asked why he endures such discomfort, he said, "We do it to honor the troops. The uniforms are as authentic as we can get them."

Winship could have planned the rededication for Memorial Day, when most people were off work and school for the holiday, but chose instead to schedule it for Tuesday, which was the traditional Decoration Day before it was changed to Memorial Day on the last Monday in May. Winship told the crowd at the end of the ceremony, "May this day have mattered to you as it has to me."

Note: Ceremony attendees Sisters Vicki Layman, Loretta McCann, Elaine Sweet, Joleene Kaiser and Patricia Frederick

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Fort Wayne Civil War Days at Shoaff Park—April 28-30, 2006

The Rebecca Otis Tent #54 participated in the 4th Biennial Civil War Days Event at Shoaff Park hosting a coffee/hot chocolate booth in the Conklin Pavilion.

Friday day the event coordinators: the 30th Indiana Reenactors set up stations for thousands of school kids to tour the grounds and learn about the Civil War time period. That evening the Daughters set up their coffee so that incoming re-enactor groups would have a hot beverage to ward off the evening chill.



Friday Night at Civil War Days 2006

Saturday and Sunday were open Free to the public.

The weather was cool and Tent #54 made numerous sales. Sisters Vicki Layman, Vickie Day, Elaine Sweet, Loretta McCann, Joleene Kaiser, and Patricia Frederick all took turns at staffing the booth throughout the weekend.

With some of the materials donated and only a few needs purchased—we even borrowed the Parks Dept. Coffee urn, we profited a total of \$225.