



From the Fort

Volume 1, Issue 2

Summer 2006 Update

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

Fort Wayne, Indiana

Meeting Schedule

June 10th

Home of Loretta
McCann 1 pm
Speaker: Dennis McCann
SUVCW on "Gen. Milroy"

July 1st

Lunch: Mandarin Inn on SR 37
Georgetown Library
1 pm Speaker: Marshall
Brinkman

August 5th

Dupont Library 1 pm
Program: Vicki Layman/
Phyllis Diehm on "Rebecca
Otis"

September 9th

New Haven Library
1 pm
Program: Our Civil War
Veterans by Phyllis, Vickie,
Elaine, Loretta, & Maxine

Department of Indiana: 91st Convention — June 2-3, 2006

Rebecca Otis Tent #54 's attendees
to the 2006 Department Convention:
Tent President **Vicki Layman**
Tent Sr. Vice **Patricia Frederick**
Tent Treasurer **Phyllis Diehm**
Tent Council Member #2
Vickie Day
Tent Council Member #3
Tammy Armstrong
Tent Member **Margaret McClellan**



Patricia Frederick, Barbara Stone,
& Beverly Massey

The 91st Department Convention was once again held at the I.U. Campus in Kokomo, IN on Saturday June 3rd. Following the lengthy reading of last years minutes, two corrections were needed. The Treasurer reported we have 100 members in the Indiana Department. Secretary Barbara received Communications from National Department President Leslie Dean, Senior Vice Pat Mullenix, and a lovely Thank-you card from the graduates of Knightstown—signed by all 17.

Since it is customary to give each of Knightstown's graduates a card and \$10 from the Department—but the number of graduates varies each year—a motion was made by Joan Davis that *the Treasurer can dispense the total amount needed for graduation at \$10/per grad. until otherwise changed.* (seconded by Vickie Day— motion passed)

Those sisters with numerous years of membership were recognized and a milestone ceremony was performed by President Beverly for Ester Cook (50 years) and Barbara Moore (25 years). In attendance were 6 Past Department Presidents and each was pinned with an orchid at the alter.

Rather lengthy discussions were had on two issues that came up:

1. With the change over of the treasurer's system from paper to computer how was the GAR scholarship monies being currently handled since it was unclear in the treasurer's report?
2. The secretary's report listed 17 new members to the Department when it was felt it should be 18 since some paperwork was back dated.

In the end the reports were deemed

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correct as written.

Department Chaplin Tammy Armstrong performed a Memorial Service which included draping the Charter and flowers on the Bible.

Officers elected from Rebecca Otis #54 to the Indiana Department include:

Dept. Junior Vice President—Patricia Frederick

Dept. Chaplin—Vicki Layman

Dept. Registrar—Vickie Day

Dept. GAR Scholarship Comm.—Margaret McClellan



Tent Members Patricia Frederick and Tammy Armstrong following the Chaplin's Memorial Ceremony



Sister Karen Pinkerton Tatro giving the history of Pvt. Joseph Sweet—her ancestor

Article in the Wabash Plain Dealer

Wed. August 9, 2006

Pvt. Joseph Sweet was remembered and honored at a service commemorating his new headstone, on Aug. 6 at Mississinewa Memorial Cemetery.

The Service was conducted by the Rebecca Otis Tent No. 54, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865, Fort Wayne. Patriotic Instructor Loretta McCann led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by President Vicki Layman who read a tribute from "The Daughters" and the poem, "When the Boys in Blue are Gone" by John Hendricks, a former member of Co. H, 89th Indiana Vol. Inf.

Karen Pinkerton Tatro, Tent member and great-great-great-granddaughter of Joseph Sweet gave the welcome and presented a brief biography of Sweet.

Sweet was born in Ohio and moved to Wabash County in the 1840s. He married Anna Huddleston and they had six children. Sweet served with Co. G, 130th Regiment, Indiana Vol. Infantry. He died in 1864 in a field hospital in Nashville, TN.

Wabash American Legion Post # provided a color guard, comprised of Kent Mullett, Willie Davis and Burt Myers, who performed the presentation of the colors and the military salute.



The old broken/worn stone was attached to the back of the new grave marker for Pvt. Joseph Sweet in the Mississinewa Cemetery in Wabash County, Indiana.

**Pvt. Joseph Sweet
Ceremony Agenda
August 6, 2006**

Presentation of the Colors

American Legion Post #188, Wabash, IN

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Patriotic Instructor, Loretta
McCann, DUVCW Tent #54

Welcome

Karen Pinkerton Tatro,
great-great granddaughter of Pvt. Sweet

Tribute from the DUVCW Tent #54 President

Vicki Layman

Information on the life of Pvt. Sweet

Karen Pinkerton Tatro

Poem "When the Boys in Blue Are Gone"

Vicki Layman

Singing of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic"

Prayer

Loretta McCann of DUVCW Tent #54

Retiring of the Colors

American Legion Post #188



Sister Loretta McCann leading the Pledge of Allegiance.



President Vicki Layman giving her speech and reading the poem, "The Boys in Blue"



The Frederick Family: Suzanne, and Tent member Patricia (in yellow) are wearing Civil War day dresses, and Francis from SUVCW Col. Link Camp #12 is representing the Indiana Department of SUVCW.

Members attending from the Fort Wayne Tent were: Vickie Day, Vicki Layman, Loretta and Wayne McCann. Francis Frederick, representing the Department of Indiana Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Suzanne and Patricia Frederick were dressed in period costumes.

Attending from Wabash/Wabash County were: Jan and Linda Arrick, Todd and Melissa Eltzroth, Berniece Grover, Sue Mitting, Cheryl Pinkerton Petro, Chester Pinkerton, Bruce and Rita Penn, and sons Jeremy, Matt and Andrew, Patty Sweet, Rick Sweet, Ron Woodward and Jerry and Bernie Younce.

Also attending were: Norma Krile Kitt, Andrews and Karen Pinkerton Tatro, of Northampton, Mass.

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Sister Vickie Day,
Our "Tent Photographer"

Civil War descendants meet at Brookside Park

RENSELAER - Descendants of Shelby Grant, a well known local Civil War veteran, met recently at Brookside Park for a Grant cousins' reunion.

The highlight of the reunion was placing a Grand Army of the Republic marker and flag on Shelby Grant's grave site in Weston Cemetery.

Vickie Day, Grant's great-great-granddaughter, and Margaret McClellan, Grant's great granddaughter, members of Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1965, Tent 54 Fort Wayne, conducted the DUVCW Union Veteran Memorial service

in his honor. A bugle used during the war was also placed on the grave during the service.

At the age of 18, Grant enlisted for three years on August 9, 1862 with Company A, 87th Regiment Indiana Volunteers. He was mustered in on August 31, 1862 and given a disability discharge on April 21, 1864. Despite his injuries, Grant enlisted again on March 6, 1865 with Company H 155th Regiment Indiana Volunteers at Michigan City. He was mustered out as a Sergeant August 4, 1865. On March 24, 1926, Grant died in Jasper County at the age of 82.

Shelby Grant and his brother, Thomas Grant's names are both inscribed on the Milroy Monument located in this city.

Local Grant descendants attending the reunion were Katie Shearer Elijah, David Shearer and Jason Elijah. Other descendants attending were Linda Hughes from Carmel, Jack Shearer from Valparaiso, Nancy (Shearer) Myers from Troy, Mich. and Lois (McCellan) Fox from Bedford.

Article from the newspaper