

THE SAME RAIN FALLS ON BOTH FRIEND AND FOE

THE CYCLORAMA

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GENERAL JOHN A. LOGAN CAMP #4
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



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Bennett Place Union Occupation in the Carolinas Event

By Brother Dan Hopping

The Logan Camp joined living historians portraying Union soldiers at The Bennett Place Historical Site as they interpreted the period of 1865 to 1868 after the surrender. This is the period of Reconstruction in the South. The living historians demonstrated life of the Northern soldiers who served under General Sherman at the close of the American Civil War.



Looking North up the original Hillsborough Road that runs past the Bennett Farm. Sherman and Johnston met on this road and came to the farm for the surrender meetings. The Unity Monument is on the left. <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bennett/bennett.htm>



Union re-enactors were encamped around the Bennett Farm throughout the weekend. Passes were issued to visitors as they were during reconstruction and pickets were posted to examine the passes to allow civilians to visit the Bennett farm and the soldier's encampment. Visitors could walk through the buildings on the Bennett Farm including the room where the surrender took place.

On the right, Stuart Brandt, A living historian is seen interpreting life in the Union Camp. On the left Robert Johnston, also a living historian is interpreting a Confederate parolee in the Union Camp.





The Logan Camp set up a SUVCW recruiting station and Civil War Exhibit on the grounds which drew the interest of the almost five hundred visitors to the two day event.

On Saturday the 18th, and Sunday the 19th Brothers Bob Farrell, Dennis St. Andrew, Larry Jones and Dan Hopping talked to the visitors explaining the SUVCW and life in the Union Army. The camp had a display of SUV Medals and memorabilia brought by Dennis, a display of Civil War firearms and accessories brought by Larry, and a display of food that the average soldier would have carried with them on the march was brought by Dan. There was a great deal of interest in the displays. Few visitors were able to just walk past. People were able to touch the displays and the children were very excited to be able to hold a pistol or musket of the type used in the Civil War. The camp received interest from several people on joining the SUV.

It was a pleasure for me to be there with my Brothers who believe as much as I do in what we are doing for the memories of our ancestors and those who fought and died for us so long ago. I remember reading that the veterans had written that it was ok that they had suffered the hardships that they did. All they wanted was to be remembered by future generations. To that end we worked together this weekend.

Brother Larry Jones

A New Supporter of the SUV

By Brother Bob Farrell

One of the rewards of the time we spent in the Camp booth at Bennett Place recently was the gratitude expressed by a Durham resident when I was able to confirm his Civil War ancestry.

In a conversation with a gentleman at our display on Saturday, he inquired as to how he could confirm that his ancestor had served from the State of New Jersey. As the gentleman did not have a computer of his own I volunteered to see what I could do for him

With the information he gave, the ancestors name and the county in New Jersey, I was able to determine that indeed his relative had enlisted in a nine-month Regiment, Co. C., 28th New Jersey.

It was a quick, easy and routine lookup in my mind; however, when I called him he was ecstatic. You would think that I had delivered the crown jewels. He was extremely grateful that I had confirmed what had previously been family lore. He requested my phone number and I offered if he had further questions to contact me.

For those of us in the Sons of Union Veterans it is an event not worth mentioning, on the other hand, to others it is exciting to learn about their ancestors,

For me, this is one of the rewards for spending two days at Bennett Place in 85 degree weather. It was well worth the effort!!

The Farragut Family: Three Generations of Service to America

By Brother John R. Harman, Jr.



Jorge (George) Antonio Magin Farragut was born at Ciudadella, Minorca on September 29, 1755. A merchant mariner, he came to the colonies in 1776 and accepted a commission in the South Carolina Navy. Captured at the fall of Charleston in 1780, he was exchanged and granted a commission as a Captain in the North Carolina State Legion, a personal bodyguard to the Governor. After the Revolution, he married and moved the frontier in Tennessee near present-day Knoxville where his five children were born before he relocated to Louisiana per request of the Governor W.C.C. Claiborne. He was commissioned a Sailing Master in the US Navy on March 2, 1807 while living in Louisiana territory, commanding a gun-boat on this swampy frontier.

While fishing on Lake Pontchartrain in 1808, George Farragut came across a boat in which an elderly man lay prostrated, overwhelmed by the heat of the sun. The old man, David Porter, was taken to Farragut's home and given care until his strength completely failed him and he succumbed to death. Farragut's wife, Elizabeth Shine Farragut also succumbed to yellow fever within days, and the funerals for the two fell on the same day. David Porter, Jr., son of the elderly David Porter and a Captain in the Navy, extended the offer to the widower Farragut to adopt one of his sons and give him an education in the Navy in return for the kindness shown to his father. The eldest son William already holding a commission in the Navy, the offer fell to the second son, James Glasgow Farragut. After his son's departure, George served with Andrew Jackson in campaigns against the Creek Indians, remaining at his plantation at Pascagoula (present-day Mississippi) where he died in 1817.

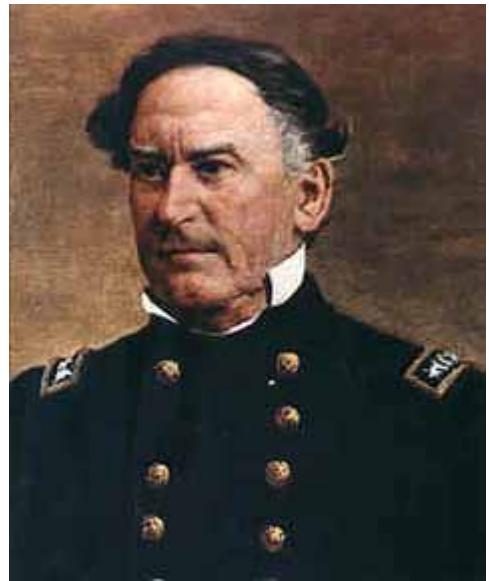


James Farragut, a boy of 7 years of age, went to live with Captain Porter in New Orleans and

adopted his name, David, as his own. (His new foster brother and lifelong friend was David Dixon Porter, who would follow Farragut as the second Admiral in the history of the US Navy.) When Captain Porter had a chance to visit Washington, he took the young Farragut there to be schooled. When the rumblings of the next war with England were heard on the horizon and Captain Porter was ordered to return to Washington, he presented his young apprentice to the Secretary of the Navy. Farragut was given a warrant as a midshipman when he was not quite ten years old. He served throughout the War of 1812 aboard the USS *Essex*, commanded by his adoptive father David Porter. Farragut was given the command of a captured vessel when he was 12. After being surprised by HMS *Phoebe* under the command of a friend of Captain Porter's and following a prolonged dramatic stalemate between the two, the *Essex* attempted escape and was overcome outside Valparaiso Bay, Chile on March 28, 1814. The young Farragut was wounded in the bloody battle, held a prisoner for several months, and commended by his superiors for his courage.

He had a long career in the peacetime Navy following the War of 1812, serving in the Mediterranean, studying at Tunisia, and attaining the rank of Commander. In 1823 he married to Susan C. Marchant, but she fell very ill and remained an invalid for the remainder of their marriage until her death in 1840. In 1843 he married Virginia D. Loyall of Norfolk, VA, and they had one son, Loyall Farragut, born in 1844.

During the Mexican War, Farragut commanded the Sloop *Saratoga* at Vera Cruz, and began the efforts in establishing the Mare Island Navy Yard at San Francisco during the 1850s. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he left his adopted home city of Norfolk, VA for New York. His well-known service during the Civil War including New Orleans, Port Hudson, and Mobile Bay saw him raised to the newly created ranks of Rear Admiral and Vice Admiral. He served as a pall-bearer at Abraham Lincoln's funeral and, in 1866, was the first to hold the rank of Admiral of the US Navy. Remaining on active duty for life, he died at Portsmouth, NH on August 14, 1870.



Farragut's only son, Loyall, frequently served at the side of his father during the Civil War. He graduated from West Point in 1868 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the 21st US Infantry and the 5th US Artillery, serving until 1872. Following his Army service, he was an officer with the Central Railroad of New Jersey. He was his father's biographer and donated many of his father's belongings to museums. Loyall died October 1, 1916 in Ashfield, MA.

The author is a Farragut descendant and the hereditary representative of David Glasgow Farragut in the Aztec Club of 1847: Military Society of the Mexican War

“Extreme Makeover” Comes to Raleigh national Cemetery

By Brother Bob Farrell

Everyone is aware of the television program “Extreme Makeover.” In this show the producers take a modest home and turn it into a luxury dwelling much to the excitement of the owners.



Well the same thing is happening here in Raleigh but few are aware of the results. The final resting place of veterans from each hostility since the Civil War are receiving the attention day so richly deserve



Upon a recent visit to Raleigh National Cemetery I quickly discovered that some extreme changes had been made. When you approached the entrance you are quick to notice the green well-kept grass and the addition of both shrubs and flowers. Hopefully that” barely” cared for appearance has gone forever.

As you walk about the cemetery you see other tasteful improvements such as paving blocks surrounding the trees and within that circle tasteful cedar mulch encompassing the base of the tree. This is the same treatment used to enhance the front entrance in addition to the signage and even the trash receptacles.

What is less obvious are the other improvements. The white marble stones standing erect and geometrically perfect lines surrounded by lush green grass. This is what we have come to expect in our National Cemeteries. However this has been lacking here in Raleigh for a number of years. Well, no longer.

In order to achieve the tranquil environment each stone was removed, the existing sod taken up, the ground smoothed and leveled, the stones reset with laser precision and finally the area resodded.

The workers anticipate being there until late fall when the work will be done. It is quite apparent that a visit to Raleigh National Cemetery will be truly rewarding.

Those who are veterans and those who are not will immediately appreciate the improvements to this the final resting place of North Carolina Veterans.



**Witness to Lincoln Assassination died in 1956
Was at Ford's Theater as 5-year-old boy**

By John Lockwood SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON TIMES | Thursday, August 13, 2009

The recent passing of Elizabeth Gladys Dean, last survivor of the Titanic, brings to mind the last eyewitness of the Lincoln assassination. Both disasters occurred on the night of April 14-15 - the Titanic in 1912, in the North Atlantic, and the assassination in 1865, in Washington.



As the Lincoln shooting receded further into the past, newspapers began writing up the accounts of those who were actually there. By the 1920s and '30s, the press shifted its emphasis to the last-survivor angle. Last witnesses began cropping up all over.

For example, The Washington Post of Feb. 26, 1930, reported the death of a Union veteran named Henry C. Harris, "believed to have been the last surviving witness of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln."

Another last witness died two years later, also a Union veteran, Capt. J. Hoofstittler. The Dec. 15, 1932, New York Times wrote that he was "said to be the last surviving witness of the assassination of President Lincoln."

The Times had apparently forgotten its earlier Dec. 20, 1924, issue, describing the still-living Hickson W. Field and W.J. Ferguson as the last "two survivors."

Not even close. Not until the 1950s was the matter settled.

The true last witness was Samuel J. Seymour, a Washingtonian living in Arlington.

Seymour was only 5 when he accompanied his father on a business trip to Washington from their home 150 miles away in Talbot County, Md. The elder Seymour was overseer of an estate owned by a family named Goldsboro, and Mrs. Goldsboro had suggested that the young

Seymour, his father, and his nurse, Sarah Cook, come along with her and her husband.

Upon arriving in Washington, Mrs. Goldsboro told the young boy: "Sammy, you and I and Sarah are going to a play - a real play. And President Abraham Lincoln will be there."

Once inside Ford's Theatre, Mrs. Goldsboro lifted Seymour out of his chair to get a better look at the president.

He thought Lincoln "looked stern because of his whiskers."

When John Wilkes Booth leaped from the Presidential Box onto the stage after shooting Lincoln and broke a leg bone, in childish innocence Seymour wanted to help the man who had fallen down.

On Feb. 8, 1956, four days before Lincoln's birthday, the now elderly Seymour appeared on the hit television show "I've Got a Secret," which had an audience of millions. The show included a host and a panel of four. The panel used yes-no questions to try and learn their guest's secret. They did, in fact, guess Seymour's.

Seymour died shortly after, on April 12, 1956, just two days short of the April 14-15 assassination anniversary. His death may have been hastened by falling down in his New York hotel while waiting to appear on the show.

Ironically, by appearing on a TV show, Seymour was not only onstage himself, but was in front of a far larger audience than all the people who ever saw Booth perform.

- John Lockwood is a Washington writer.

Civil War Preservation Trust Honor Roll

By Brother Bob Farrell

When I became aware of the opportunity to leverage one dollar into \$112 for the preservation of valuable ground at Trevilian Station Battleground, Virginia, I felt that the 18 members of the John A. Logan Camp could stand up and do their part and make a two dollar donation. The camp could parlay their \$36 into \$4032 and it was an opportunity to involve our full membership in an inexpensive project.

The good news is that your Brothers met the \$36 goal and then some. Eleven members contributed \$110 dollars to the Preservation Trust and as a result they are \$12,320 closer to success. We all can be proud.

This time we had 61% member participation and hope we can all participate on the next project.

Our Civil War Preservation Trust Honor Roll

Thomas Bennett
 Robert Farrell
 John France
 John Harman
 Paul Hesse
 Dan Hopping
 Larry Jones
 William Kraul
 Roscoe Reeve
 Dennis St Andrew
 Russell Wunker

John Paul Strain's Visit

By Brother Bob Farrell

Saturday, August 29 saw the return to Ashley's Art Gallery in Fuquay Varina of the renowned Civil War Artist John Paul Strain. It was a perfectly beautiful day in the gallery remained full throughout the event.

As I walked through the door I met with our friend, Fred Burt, who was far more comfortable attired in his Confederate uniform. When we last saw him he was adorned in Union blue. During our discussion he indicated a desire to conduct another Staff walk for the camp.

I then moved into the main gallery where to my delight John Paul Strain was highlighting his newest print "Cavalier of the Sea." This is an extremely detailed painting of a Confederate blockade runner tied up at a Charleston wharf as the sun drops over the horizon. That very painting now resides in the home of our Senior Vice Commander.

One of the surprise this is that day was General Jeb Stewart attired in a neatly fitted greatcoat resplendent in gold braid and buttons. The General had his photo taken with Mr. Strain and his paintings.



Bear in mind that October will bring to Ashley's the noted Mort Kuntsler.

We are looking for SOB's

By Brother Bob Farrell



That's right we are eagerly recruiting SOB's. In addition to decedents of Yankees, we want and need SOB's.

SOB's - better known as Sons of Both, are people with the need to preserve the heritage of their Civil War ancestors on both side of the conflict. Here in North Carolina there are a large number of men who have traced their ancestors only to find they have ancestors on both sides. We in the Sons of Union Veterans welcome anyone who has relative that fought with the Union while another sided with the Confederacy. We respect and honor the heritage of both sides

Therefore I encourage each of us to speak to our native North Carolina friends and invite them join our organization and pay tribute to all who so loved their country that they were willing to fight brother against brother

BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG HALF DOLLAR

By Brother Bob Farrell



On June 16, 1936 Congress authorized a coinage of Half Dollar pieces in commemoration of the 1863 Battle of Gettysburg. The models were prepared by Frank Vittor.

Though he used different models for his Union and Confederate soldiers, somehow designer Frank Vittor managed to make them lookalikes, seemingly brothers with remarkably similar facial expressions.

Whatever he may have intended to convey by this concept, what he managed to communicate was a reminder that the Civil War did in fact pit father against son and brother against brother. This duality theme continues on reverse, where the fasces (for the power of life and death, i.e., sovereignty of the State) divide the Union and Confederate arms. Oak and olive branches, supposedly for war and peace, tend more to connote authority and victory:

We are not allowed to forget that the Reconstruction with its brutal exploitation followed on the heels of the War Between the States. Inscriptions here are self-explanatory except for BLUE AND GRAY REUNION, which alludes to the event mentioned below under Opportunity. The dates 1863-1938 define the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, generally considered to be the turning point of the Civil War, but the date 1936, for a coin struck in 1937, demands explanation.

The Act of June 16, 1936, which authorized this coinage, seems to provide that explanation, but use of the 1936 date produced exactly the same kind of confusion as with the Delaware Swedish Tercentenary coins. The Blue and Gray Reunion, scheduled for July 1-3, 1938 (i.e., the exact anniversary dates of the battle), brought together on the battlefield site numerous surviving members of the G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic) and the U.C.V (United Confederate Veterans), ostensibly "to affirm the unity of the United States in the turbulent modern world", but in actuality to renew the shared experience in what seemed a desperate heroic enterprise. This gathering appeared important enough at the time that President Roosevelt showed up and dedicated the Eternal Light Peace Memorial, with its perpetual flame. Promoters of this Reunion had pressured Congress into authorizing the coinage, June 16, 1936.

The Commission did not even hire a designer until 1937, Frank Vittor completed his initial sketch models in mid-March of that year; Mint Director Nellie Tayloe "Ma" Ross submitted photographs of them to the Federal Commission of Fine Arts, March 15, and they were approved subject to very minor corrections (removal of the insignia from the Confederate soldier's collar, removal of the stars from the Union arms). During June 1937, the Philadelphia Mint coined the legal maximum, 50,000 pieces, plus 28 reserved for assay.

These coins were sold at \$1.65 each by the Pennsylvania State Commission, both before and during the Reunion. Those remaining unsold were turned over to the American Legion, and those \$23,100 that the Legionnaires could not dispose of at \$2.65 each went back to the mint for re-melting. No proofs are reported, though specimens may have been made for John R. Sinnock, Engraver of the Mint.

Many survivors show bag marks, nicks or scratches-signs of mishandling that appear most noticeably on soldiers or shields. True gem quality gem quality specimens are very rare and are an excellent investment when available.

(Editors Note...One site stated the value between \$230 and \$810. Check your pockets)

Enhanced Web Page

By Brother Bob Farrell

In the last month your Webmaster, Brother Hopping, has made a number of changes and additions to our website. The changes are intended to make the information more relevant to the members and as importantly to the numerous visitors we get each month.

Additionally, we are adding a service that hopefully will bring us many additional visitors. Anyone seeking information on their Civil War ancestor buried in Raleigh National Cemetery may contact us to receive pertinent information in addition to a photograph of the gravestone.

The information for this listing is being compiled by two friends, one from the Sons of Union Veterans and one from the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

A recent report showed that our Web site averages over 200 visits a month or in 5 months we had 1138 visitors and 40% of our visitors came to us via search engines such as Google. Also it was gratifying to note that after our recruitment efforts at Bennett Place and July 4 at Capitol Park we received a dramatic increase in visits. This is further proof of the effectiveness of both the website and our informational efforts.

Not only do we have a good site but we have a webmaster who sees that the Logan Camp is well represented on the internet. You might well want to visit it for yourself.

suvwcamplogan.org

"...If other eyes grow dull and other hands slack, and other hearts cold in the solemn trust, ours shall keep it well as long as the light and warmth of life remain in us..."

John A. Logan

The Cyclorama

The **Cyclorama** is the official Newsletter of the SUVCW North Carolina John A Logan Camp #4 and is published before the monthly meetings.

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Readers are encouraged to submit articles, photographs and events for publication