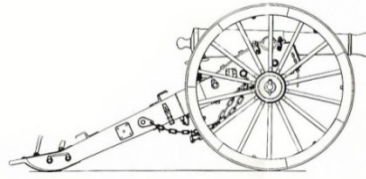
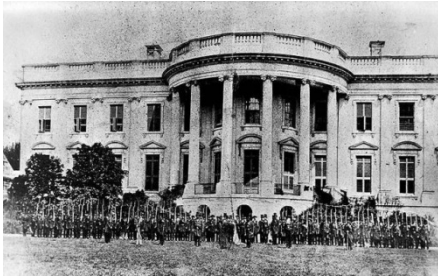


FEBRUARY 2016

SOUTH SUBURBAN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Established 1953

NEWSLETTER



President

Dennis R. Doyle
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Vice President / Quizmaster

Steve LaBarre

Treasurer

Gordon Ramsey

Secretary / Newsletter

Donna M. Tarvid

LOCATION: SMOKEY BARQUE
20 KANSAS STREET
FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS

Time: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2016 AT 7:00 PM

Join us for dinner beginning at 5:30 p.m.
Stay for the meeting at 7:00 p.m.!



Join the Smokey Barque Club
by texting "Smokey"
to 411669
and receive 10% off
your meal

Many thanks to our January speaker Leslie Goddard who discussed the history of the movie, Gone with the Wind, as well as the overall accuracy of its portrayal of the Civil War.



On Thursday, February 25 our speaker will be Jeff Kannel and his presentation will be on the 29th U.S. Colored Troops. Jeff is a semi-retired pediatric physical therapist and technical college instructor from Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. He is the son of a social studies teacher, from whom he inherited his interest in history and the Civil War. He has been researching the 29th Regiment U.S. Colored Troops for the past five years, after meeting Milwaukee-based re-enactors for Company F. He works part-time as an academic advisor, and is a volunteer at the Civil War Museum in Kenosha, Wisconsin. In his spare time, he plays trombone in a swing band and writes short stories.



IN THE NEWS

Kankakee police are searching for the thief that stole a plaster sculpture of Lincoln's hand from the Kankakee County Museum on or about December 11, 2015. There was no sensor on the piece and no security video associated with the theft. The hand was the work of George Grey Barnard, a sculptor who spent part of his boyhood in Kankakee around the time that Lincoln was assassinated.

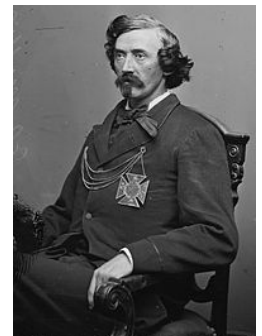


THIS JUST IN ...

The Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation has an opportunity to obtain seven original documents relating to Colonel James A. Mulligan, Commander of Camp Douglas from February 1862 until June 1862. Documents range from original letters to original orders. The Foundation is seeking financial support for this acquisition. If you'd like to make a donation, please send your check to:

Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation
Mulligan Fund
1368 N. Mohawk - 2S
Chicago, IL 60610

Or donate online at www.campdouglas.org. No donation is too small!



Colonel James Adelbert Mulligan



**YOU DON'T SAY?**

Did you know the **National Park Service** has virtual museum exhibits online? You can take a virtual tour of **Arlington House** in Virginia, **Lincoln's home** in Springfield, view **Civil War flags** in the National Park Service's possession--from Fort Sumter to such battles as the Battles of Gettysburg and Manassas--or see personal items that belonged to **Clara Barton**. See the entire collection by visiting [www.nps.gov/museum/exhibits](http://www.nps.gov/museum/exhibits).

**\*\* The National Park Service turns 100 this year! \*\***



On April 14 1861, men of the 18<sup>th</sup> South Carolina regiment raised this Palmetto flag over the captured fort.

**SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW**

This little girl pictured right is **Henrietta Huldah Franks**. Mrs. Franks was from Iowa and worked as an educator for 44 years. Mrs. Franks, together with her two sisters, purchased the **Clara Barton house** in Glen Echo, Maryland from the Hubbell nieces. They owned it for 22 years. The sisters used the home as a 10-bedroom boarding house. Developers were interested in destroying the house in order to build an apartment high-rise building. In 1942, the sisters launched an effort to preserve the house. They founded the **Friends of Clara Barton Inc.** In 1965, an act of Congress declared the house a National Historic Landmark.



Henrietta Huldah Franks  
June 17, 1884-March 9, 1987  
(102 years old)

**SPECIAL EVENT**

**NEW:** The **Chicago History Museum** located at 1601 North Clark Street in Chicago will celebrate **Presidents' Day** on Monday, **February 15** from 10:00 am to 3:00 p.m. Snap a selfie with President Lincoln and Mary Todd Lincoln as they mingle with visitors throughout the Museum. Or listen to the Chicago Vintage Brass Ensemble give a concert at 11:30 am. This is a free event with Museum admission.





On **February 11, 1861**, President-elect Abraham Lincoln leaves Springfield, Illinois and embarks on his journey to Washington, D.C.

### ATLAS OBSCURA

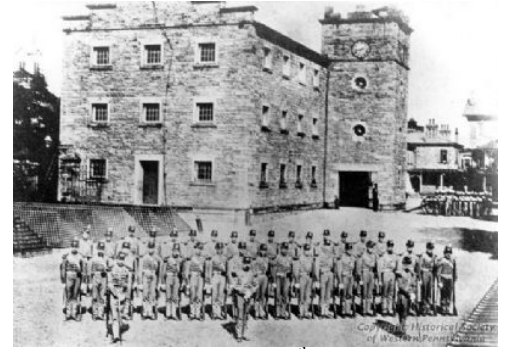
On the warm afternoon of September 17, 1862, as the Civil War's single bloodiest day of fighting raged on at the Battle of Antietam near Sharpsburg, Maryland, 156 women and girls, plus some men and boys, were at work rolling .54 and .71 caliber cartridges and filling cannon shells at the **U.S. Allegheny Arsenal** to make ammunition for Union troops. On this date, 78 young women and girls were killed in an explosion at the Allegheny Arsenal in the Lawrenceville section of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It was the worst civilian disaster of the Civil War. The *Daily Post* reported:

*Of the main building, nothing remained but a heap of smoking debris. The ground about was strewn with fragments of charred wood, torn clothing, balls, caps, grape shot, exploded shells, hoes, fragments of dinner baskets belonging to the inmates, steel springs from the girls' hoop skirts, cartridge paper, sheet iron, and melted lead. Two hundred feet from the laboratory was the body of one young girl, terribly mangled; another body was seen to fly in the air and separate into two parts; an arm was thrown over the wall; a foot was picked up near the gate; a piece of skull was found a hundred yards away, and pieces of intestines were scattered about the grounds. Some fled out of the ruins covered with flame, or blackened and lacerated with effects of the explosion, and either fell and expired or lingered in agony until removed. Several were conveyed to houses in the borough and to their homes in the city. Of these, four or five subsequently died.*

Read the complete story about this tragedy at:

<http://civilwarwomenblog.com/allegheny-arsenal-explosion/>

**SIDEBAR:** A coroner's inquest determined that a spark from the combustion of either an iron horseshoe or iron-rimmed wagon wheel was ignited when the metal contacted black powder dust swept onto the macadamized road in front of the Arsenal. Those roads contained a material called churt which in certain combinations contains flint. The spark spread to the 100 pound barrels of black powder stacked all around the Arsenal premises and an inferno ensued.



The Duquesne Greys, 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Capt. J. B. Moore commanding, in formation at Allegheny Arsenal on Butler Street in the Lawrenceville section of Pittsburgh.



Winslow Homer engraving of women and girls rolling cartridges at the U.S. Arsenal in Watertown, Massachusetts, published July 1861, *Harper's Weekly*

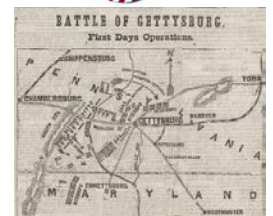


### 🚗 🚗 AROUND TOWN 🚗 🚗

The **Civil War Museum** located at 5400 First Avenue in Kenosha, Wisconsin presents *Civil War Medical Weekend* on Saturday, **February 20** from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm and Sunday, **February 21** from noon until 4:00 pm. This annual event is a weekend full of living history, programs and exhibits commemorating the role of physicians, nurses and caregivers during the Civil War. Surgeons and nurses of the 17<sup>th</sup> Corps Medical Staff will set up camp inside the Museum. For information call (262) 653-4141.



**NEW:** Also at the Civil War Museum, Steve Acker will give a presentation on *Gettysburg: The First Day's Fighting* on Sunday, **March 13** from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. On July 1, 1863 thousands fought and died at Willoughby Run, Oak Hill, McPherson Ridge, Blocher's Knoll, Seminary Ridge and The Diamond. This workshop takes a detailed look at the events of July 1 by using detailed maps, troop movements, leadership analysis and how the roads of Gettysburg decided the battle. The cost is \$25 for non-members and registration is required. For information call (262) 653-4141.





**NEW:** The **Newberry Library** located at 60 West Walton Street in Chicago has a new exhibit entitled *Civil War to Civil Rights: African-American Chicago in the Newberry Collection*. Black Chicagoans confronted painful aspects of America's past as they forged a place for themselves in the city. **Ernest A. Griffin**, for example, whose grandfather, **Charles H. Griffin**, had joined the Union Army at **Camp Douglas** in 1864 and served in Company B 29<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the U.S. Colored Infantry, kept the memory of the Civil War alive through displays of artifacts and flags at the family funeral home he ran in Bronzeville and through parades that he marched in wearing full Union Army attire. Griffin's funeral home was located on the site of **Camp Douglas**, one of the prisoner-of-war camps maintained by the Union Army during the Civil War. The exhibit includes reports, correspondence, diaries, newspaper articles, legal documents and photographs encompassing the experiences of a few of Chicago earliest black residents. This exhibit is on display through April 2, 2016. *Free.*

**SIDEBAR:** You may recall on April 9, 2015 the Chicago History Museum commemorated the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Civil War by having descendants of Camp Douglas ring the chapel bell. **Dawn Griffin-O'Neal** who is the granddaughter of **Charles H. Griffin**, an African American soldier who registered with the 29th U.S. Colored Troops during the Civil War, rings a bell that hung in the chapel of Camp Douglas.



The **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum** located at 212 N. Sixth Street in Springfield presents its latest exhibit entitled "*Undying Words: Lincoln 1858-1865*" which runs through **February 28, 2016**. The exhibit explores Lincoln's changing views through five key speeches. Highlights include two dozen items that have never before been displayed publicly; of the five centerpiece speeches and two documents, six will be displayed in their original form, whether handwritten or first printing. *The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum has never shown all six together, and might never do so again.* The bed where Lincoln died and the carriage he and Mrs. Lincoln used are among the artifacts on display. Other items include slave shackles, the pen Lincoln used to sign copies of the Emancipation Proclamation and the gloves Lincoln carried on the night of his assassination. For information call (217) 558-8934.



**NEW:** The **McCord Gallery** located at 9602 West Creek Road in Palos Park presents a special exhibit entitled *The Civil War and American Indian Wars* on **March 16-18** from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This exhibit will take you back to the days of slavery, the Civil War and the notorious General George Armstrong Custer. How does the Battle of Little Big Horn relate to the Civil War? Shackles, bills of sale, surgical kits, uniforms and letters from observers are just a few of the artifacts that will bring history to life. The cost is \$12.00 per person. For information call (708) 671-0648 or [office@mccordgallery.org](mailto:office@mccordgallery.org).

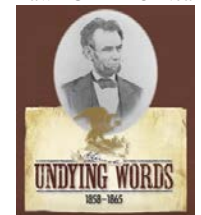
On **May 22, 1863** the War Department established a Bureau of Colored Troops to handle the recruitment, organization and service of the newly organized black regiments commanded by white officers. The 29th Infantry Regiment U.S.C.T was formed in Quincy, Illinois on April 24, 1864. Seventy-four black men from Milwaukee County were recruited in Company F, 29th Infantry Regiment U.S. Colored Troops of the 2nd Brigade, 4th Division, 9th Corps of the Army of the Potomac. Company F was the Wisconsin Contingent of volunteers of the 29th. The men of Company F served with distinction and valor on behalf of Wisconsin, seeing action in the Battle of the Crater, the Petersburg Campaign, the Bermuda Hundred Campaign, The Richmond Campaign, the Appomattox Campaign and the Rio Grande Campaign. A small number of surviving members of Company F returned without fanfare to live and work the remainder of their lives in Wisconsin. On April 20, 2003, approximately 140 years after the organization of the original 29th Regiment, a group of African American men and women formed Company F 29th Infantry Regiment United States Colored Troops. In Civil War times, Company F was made up of free black men from Wisconsin and those who had escaped from enslavement. Pictured right is **Abram Garvin**, who was born in Kentucky. In 1864, with the consent of his master, he enlisted in the 108<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry. He served as a guard at the Confederate prison camp at Rock Island, Illinois.



Ernst A. Griffin



Dawn Griffin-O'Neal

Abram Garvin  
Prison Guard  
Rock Island, Illinois