

July 2026

DAUGHTERS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR, 1861- 1865

VOLUME #15 ISSUE 7

MARY CHESEBRO LEE DETACHED TENT #23

<https://www.marychesebroleewi23.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/duvcwmaryclee>



Tent 23 will celebrate their annual Christmas in July event at their meeting on the 28th. Sisters are asked to bring a wrapped "white elephant" gift for exchange as we play a once popular Civil War era game.



CAMP UTLEY MARKER DEDICATION

On June 18th, Racine Preservation Commission and the City of Racine installed a commemorative marker that describes Camp Utley. The new marker can be seen at 1805 Wisconsin Avenue, Racine, in the small park area just north of De Koven Avenue.

On hand for the dedication were the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Ladies Auxiliary, who joined the event in costume and performed the presentation of colors, benediction, and wreath laying for the event.

Camp Utley was named for Lt. Col. William L. Utley of the 22nd Wisconsin Infantry (1862-64), known as the "Abolition Colonel." Previously, he ran Racine's first large hotel, was the city's first marshal, was a member of the Wisconsin State Assembly (1851-53), the state's 3rd Adjutant General (1852), a member of the State Senate (1861-63), and Gov. Randall's 7th Adjutant General, recruiting and organizing troops, and influencing the creation of the training camp.



FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY

The next meeting of Tent #23 will held at
The Delavan Community Centre
on Tuesday, July 28, 2017 at 6:30pm

MUSTER TREE CARVING A REALITY

The Delavan community lost the only remaining muster tree in the state of Wisconsin when it was cut down on Oct. 17, 2023. The Civil War Muster Tree stood for more than 270 years before succumbing to disease. Knowing that the tree was at the end of its life, acorns were gathered earlier in that year in hope to have trees that came from this mighty oak tree grow in the future. The Delavan Historical Society wanted to continue to commemorate its historic significance by turning the stump into a commemorative carving of a Civil War soldier and a nurse, specifically Mary Chesebro Lee who was from Delavan. Tent 23 donated \$1,000 to assist with this effort. Carving is done and results are featured!



Acorns were collected from the muster tree and propagated. The "children" will be planted around the city of Delavan as a reminder of our Civil War history!

CELEBRATE AMERICA 250 ALL YEAR!

AMERICA
250



FLAG DAY CELEBRATION

Sister Ashley-Anne Hobbins took part in the Flag Day event at the Madison Elks Lodge where she read proclamations. Along with her father, Ben Hobbins, Ashley-Anne was instrumental in the preparation of the Flag Day event. Also in attendance at the event were Nanci Tibbets, prospective Tent 23 member (L) and Barb Pahlow, Tent 23 Secretary (R). The event was well attended by brothers in SUVCW Camp 2, the Elks, Dane County Historical Society and members of the public. Thank you Ashley-Anne for all that you do!



CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH!

Shorewood is the first municipality in our area, outside of the city of Milwaukee, to have its own observance. The 29th USCT and C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - SUVCW brought the history for the third annual event.

Among those helping tell the story at the event were members of Company F of the 29th U.S. Colored Troops. The reenactment group says its mission goes beyond parades and battlefield events. "More than just parades and battlefield reenactments, education is one of the main focuses of our group," re-enactor Ricky Townsell said. Townsell said many people are unaware that Black soldiers from Wisconsin fought in the Civil War—including himself, before he joined the group. "It's our 4th of July. We celebrate the 4th of July simply because we're Americans and we fought and died in every conflict that this country has ever had, but it gets personal when we start talking about Juneteenth Day and our personal resurrection day when we were legally freed," Townsell said.



135th DUVCW NATIONAL CONVENTION
JULY 22-26, 2026
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS