

MAY 2026

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

VOLUME #15 ISSUE #5

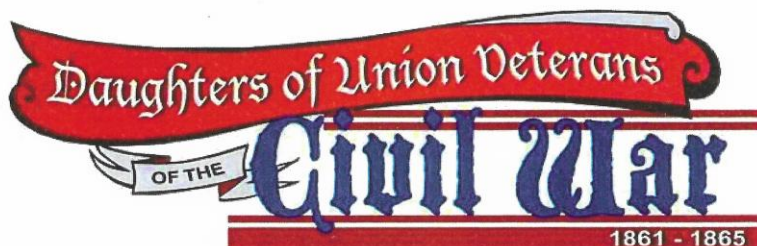
MARY CHESEBRO LEE DETACHED TENT #23

<https://www.marychesebroleewi23.org>

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



Please join us on Memorial Day, May 25th for the parade in Delavan at 9:00 a.m. and the ceremony to follow at 10:00 at the Civil War monument in Spring Grove Cemetery where Tent 23 will lay a wreath to honor our fallen ancestors. A car will be provided by the Delavan American Legion so we do not have to walk the parade route. Featured above are Co-Presidents, Pat Blackmer and Linda Tanner-Freitag. Linda purchased the banner which will be displayed on Memorial Day.



GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, MAY 16

11:00 – 4:00

Walworth County Historical Society

9 S. Broad Street, Elkhorn, WI

Open to the public free of charge.

The workshop will address all skill levels from beginning genealogy to advanced with an additional emphasis on those wishing to join lineal societies.

FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY

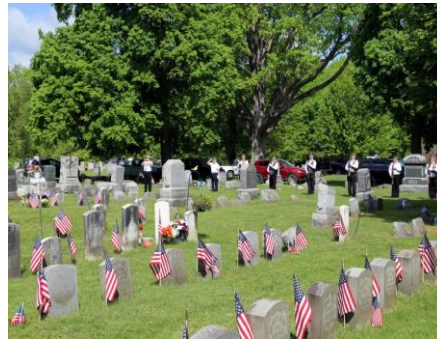
The next meeting of Tent #23 will held at The Walworth County Historical Society on Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

The History and Origin of Memorial Day in Waterloo, New York

The story of Memorial Day begins in the summer of 1865, when a prominent local druggist, Henry C. Welles, mentioned to some of his friends at a social gathering that while praising the living veterans of the Civil War it would be well to remember the patriotic dead by placing flowers on their graves. Nothing resulted from this suggestion until he advanced the idea again the following spring to General John B. Murray. Murray, a Civil War hero and intensely patriotic, supported the idea wholeheartedly and marshaled veterans' support. Plans were developed for a more complete celebration by a local citizens' committee headed by Welles and Murray.

On May 5, 1866, the Village was decorated with flags at half mast, draped with evergreens and mourning black. Veterans, civic societies and residents, led by General Murray, marched to the strains of martial music to the three village cemeteries. There impressive ceremonies were held and soldiers' graves decorated. One year later, on May 5, 1867, the ceremonies were repeated. In 1868, Waterloo joined with other communities in holding their observance on May 30th, in accordance with General Logan's orders. It has been held annually ever since.

Waterloo held the first formal, village wide, annual observance of a day dedicated to honoring the war dead. On March 7, 1966, the State of New York recognized Waterloo by a proclamation signed by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller. This was followed by recognition from Congress of the United States when the House of Representatives and the Senate unanimously passed House Concurrent Resolution 587 on May 17th and May 19th, 1966 respectively. This reads in part as follows: **"Resolved that the Congress of the United States, in recognition of the patriotic tradition set in motion one hundred years ago in the Village of Waterloo, NY, does hereby officially recognize Waterloo, New York as the birthplace of Memorial Day..."** (excerpt from the Waterloo, NY website) Our DUVCW Past President, Caren Cleveland was instrumental in the development of the Waterloo Monument Memorial site commemorating Memorial Day.



**Left: Past National DUVCW President, Caren Cleveland who is instrumental in the care of the monument Center: The cemetery at the monument
Right: Waterloo Memorial Day Museum**

**KEEP OUR ANCESTORS' MEMORIES GREEN BY CELEBRATING
MEMORIAL DAY, May 25, 2026**

Delavan Parade: 9:00 am Spring Grove Cemetery Service and Wreath Laying: 10:00 am



A huge thank you to Pamela Howard-Grahg for donating items for our veterans. They will bring smiles to those vets who are at the William S. Middleton Memorial Hospital in Madison. Donations of needed items, holiday and thank you cards are always appreciated!

Tent 23 member, Beth Stadler of Sheboygan Falls provided an update on Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and their grand opening of the new art center on June 6th. Beth has a piece of art from Pine Ridge.



CIVIL WAR CAMP UTLEY, RACINE, WISCONSIN

In the summer of 1861, during the first weeks of the Civil War, a camp was established in Racine where the Fourth Wisconsin Regiment mustered before it left the state for active service in the Union Army. This place of rendezvous was named "Camp Utley" in honor of William L. Utley, the state senator from Racine who was then acting as Adjutant General for Wisconsin and later became the commanding officer of the Twenty-Second Regiment.

According to Eugene W. Leach, Racine's most accomplished early historian, the camp was located "south of the city on the lake shore, on the farm of Truman G. Wright, and occupied 75+ acres, extending south from Sixteenth street to the grounds of Racine college—then a little south of the present location of DeKoven avenue—and reaching back one-fourth mile or more west from the lake."

Camp Utley served as the place of rendezvous for five Wisconsin regiments—the Fourth, Nineteenth, Twenty-Second, Thirty-First, and Thirty-Third. It was the camp of instruction for ten of Wisconsin's batteries of light artillery, and during the last year of the war, it was used by the Seventh Wisconsin—part of the "Iron Brigade"—and the Thirteenth Wisconsin Regiments. "Here they are to rest for a time," the Advocate explained, "from the march, and away from the sound of battle, recruit their decimated ranks, and prepare to again take their place where 'the front of battle lowers.'" Preservation Racine Newsletter Summer 1986, Don Rintz

DEDICATION CEREMONY: CAMP UTLEY MARKER

Thursday, June 18, 2026 — 4:30-5:00 p.m.

Outdoor park area
1805 Wisconsin Avenue
Racine, WI 53403

Join Preservation Racine and the City of Racine as we unveil and formally dedicate a marker that describes Camp Utley. Active during the Civil War (1861-1865), Camp Utley was the training grounds for Racine County soldiers before they were sent to active duty in the Union Army.

This is an outdoor event and will be held rain or shine. Please prepare that day for any weather (heat, sun, rain), for limited seating, and for parking on the street on adjacent blocks.

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