

# GRAPEVINE



*THE TERM GRAPEVINE CAN BE TRACED TO CIVIL WAR DAYS WHEN VINE LIKE TELEGRAPH WIRES WERE STRUNG FROM TREES AND POLES ACROSS FIELDS AND USED BY ARMY INTELLIGENCE.*

*ALSO.....*



NATIONAL ARCHIVES

*THE TERM "I HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE" HAD ITS ORIGINS FROM SLAVES EVES DROPPING AROUND A POST OFFICE OR TELEGRAPH OFFICE, PICKING UP NEWS THEN SPREADING IT AROUND TO OTHER SLAVES.*

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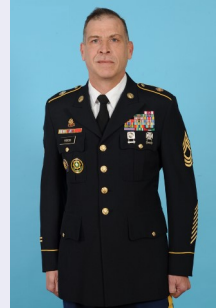
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***Photo: <http://www.pbs.org/wab/amex/cable/index.html>***

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Memorials Officer Report, page 6
- Civil War Ancestor of Clay Murphy pages 7-9

## D C M E S S A G E



Greetings Brothers,

Camps have been doing great things, and we need to let National know. We have had two certificates from National for Camp 7. I wish to keep this going. So if you have done something special (everything is!), Please put it in your reports. As you probably know we have two reports due each year; Due is the report for the Counsel of Administration and the next comes June -July next year to National. Here is where we can be recognized. Either individuals in your camp or a business that helps you. For example a Library that allows you to hold Camp meetings, or Cemetery that need us for an event or dedications and such.

Congratulations to Camp 2, Camp Calhoun (or soon to be). They have enough members to form a camp and paperwork to grant them true membership will be going out to Department Secretary then off to National within 2 weeks! Keep up the GREAT WORK! We are all Proud of what we do! Lets shout it out!

I remain yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Bruce Fortin  
Commander, Dept. of Kentucky

Commander, Department of Kentucky

[502-333-8638](tel:502-333-8638)

## S V C M E S S A G E

Brothers,

Veterans Day approaches, and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will be marching with other patriotic groups in the Veterans Day parade through downtown Louisville. Participation is open to members of all camps. See page 4 for meeting time and place. Following the parade, Camp No. 1 will hold a short memorial ceremony at the Rostrum in Cave Hill National Cemetery at 2:00. We hope that you can join in this act of remembrance.

The Department was prominently displayed in the last issue of the Banner. The Camp 5 and Camp 7 events which were reported in the last issue of Grapevine were covered in the Department News section for the national audience. Excellent exposure to the great work our Kentucky brothers are doing!

I also want to make sure that brothers are aware of the specially-arranged visit to the Filson Historical Society on Saturday, Nov. 18 to see some of the Civil War-related artifacts in the Filson's extensive collection. The Filson's address is 1310 South Third St., Louisville. The tour is from 10:00 to 12:00. See page 4 for more information. The number of participants is limited to a maximum of 20, so if you are interested and haven't done so already, please let me know asap at [4thUSCav@gmail.com](mailto:4thUSCav@gmail.com).

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Robert Jones, SVC  
Department of Kentucky  
[4thUSCav@gmail.com](mailto:4thUSCav@gmail.com)

**Upcoming Events:**

**Veterans Day Parade, Louisville.** Saturday, Nov. 11. Members of the 9th Michigan and the SUVCW are welcome to march. Meet up at Third and Main before 10:00. The parade sets off at 11:00. If you do not have a uniform, blue blazer and grey slacks will do.

**Commemoration Ceremony,** Saturday, Nov. 11. Cave Hill National Cemetery Rostrum, Louisville. 2:00-2:30 p.m. All SUVCW members are welcome.

**Grave Marker Dedication,** Sunday, Nov. 12. Lancaster, Ky., cemetery, 2:30 p.m. (see page 5).

**Visit to the Filson Historical Society, Nov. 18**

Louisville. Saturday, November 18, 10:00—12:00. Members of the department are invited to see some of the Civil War collection at the Filson. Collections curator Jim Holmberg will guide us through the archives to see up to ten extra-special Union-specific artifacts to show and talk about, relating particular stories associated with each piece; afterwards he will give a talk about the Civil War collection in general. One item that Jim has mentioned to show and talk about is the presentation sword of Major Robert Anderson, commander of Fort Sumter. If there are other particular pieces that the group would like to see, we can make a request. A donation is expected and greatly appreciated. Please add your name to the list as soon as possible, as the maximum group size is 20. Email organizer Bob Jones, [4thUSCav@gmail.com](mailto:4thUSCav@gmail.com).

## CAMP MESSAGES

**Fort Duffield Camp #1.** Usually meets bi-monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of odd months, 1000 hrs at the History Museum, West Point, KY. CC Brother Robert Jones— 4thUSCav@gmail.com. All members are welcome. Secretary Bruce Fortin—bfortin59@gmail.com, 502-333-8638.

Camp 1 will hold a short memorial ceremony at the Rostrum in Cave Hill National Cemetery in Louisville at 2:00 on Saturday, Nov. 11. All members are welcome to attend.



**Nelson-Garfield Memorial Camp #3.** For more information call CC James Kiger (859) 341-6235. We generally meet every 4th Sunday bi-monthly, at Reality Tuesday Restaurant, Park Hills, Ky.



**Sgt Elijah P. Marrs Camp #5.** Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Meeting Bi-monthly, 6:30 p.m., second Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Eastside Branch, Lexington Library, 3000 Blake James Dr., Lexington. Questions: Please call Br Phil Seyfrit 859-623-8979. Or email CC David Jones: david.jones136@gmail.com.

**New Civil War Grave Marker Dedication Ceremony scheduled for Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>**

A Civil War grave marker dedication ceremony will be conducted at 2:30 P.M. Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, for Sgt. Samuel D. Rothwell, a member of Company H, 7<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Cavalry. The ceremony will be held in the Lancaster, Ky., Cemetery. The main gate to the cemetery is located off Crab Orchard Street on Lancaster.

Samuel Rothwell was born on October 17, 1841, in Paint Lick community of Garrard County Kentucky. He mustered into the 7<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Cavalry on August 16, 1862, in Paris, Kentucky, and earned the rank of Sgt. By the end of the war. He was mustered out of the service in Louisville in June of 1865. After his military service, Rothwell returned to Garrard County, where he was a real estate developer and businessman. He served as Garrard County Jailor and was Chief of Police in Lancaster for a time. He married Eliza Henry in 1868, and they had several children. Samuel Rothwell died on February 20, 1920, in Garrard County, Kentucky. Sgt. Elijah P. Marrs Camp No. 5, Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, and members of Rothwell's descendants are conducting the service. For more information, contact Philip Seyfrit 859-624-0013 or 859-893-6151.



**James H Bridgewater Camp #7.** CC Br. Workman at chris\_workman21@yahoo.com. Quarterly meetings at Garrard County Public Library, Lancaster, Ky.

Camp #7 has a few possible monument dedications coming up in Garrard and Lincoln Counties. The camp has had a couple of meetings so far this year and members participated in various Memorial Day activities throughout Central and Eastern Kentucky. Contact CC Chris Workman for details.

## REPORT FROM MEMORIALS OFFICER

ROBERT JONES

Here's an update on what's going on. As I wrote in the September Grapevine, at the National Encampment on Aug. 11, Resolution 2.1 was passed which opposed the "defacement or destruction of any Civil War monument or tablet, whether Union or Confederate." (See page 6). It did not address removal or relocation.

**Rostrum, Cave Hill National Cemetery, Louisville**

As reported, the project to replace the pergola roof on the Rostrum in Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville had been approved and we are awaiting word as to funding and commencement of the work. Once we are informed of that, I hope that brothers in the Louisville area would be willing to help out in any way that you can. We also received permission to hold commemorative ceremonies at the Rostrum and we are planning one for the afternoon of Nov. 11, Veterans Day.

**G.A.R. Monument, Maysville, Kentucky (photo right)**

As last reported, the Maysville G.A.R. monument in the Maysville Cemetery was not on the National Register of Historic Places for Kentucky. The application for its inclusion on the list was submitted to the Kentucky Heritage Commission at the end of September. Final approval will be made at the Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board meeting on December 19 in Frankfort, and I will be giving a short presentation to support the monument's inclusion on the NRHP list.

In discussions with the mayor David Cartmell and other interested citizens of Maysville, there seems to be much support for this project. The mayor agreed to coordinate with the SUVCW for a dedicatory event to be held sometime early next year, which may include visits to various Civil War and other related sites in town, including the home of William "Bull" Nelson, the National Underground Railroad Museum, Kentucky Gateway Museum and the Union monument across the Ohio River in Ripley, Ohio. Local press will be invited to the event.

**Confederate Statues in Lexington**

The city of Lexington removed the two downtown statues of John Hunt Morgan and John C. Breckinridge on October 18, 2017, following Kentucky Attorney General Andy Beasher's determination that the statues did not fall under the jurisdiction of the Kentucky Military Heritage Commission. The statues will be removed temporarily to a storage facility before being transferred and erected in the Lexington Cemetery, about 1.5 miles away. The Lexington City Council had previously voted unanimously in favor of moving them. (Courier-Journal, Oct. 18, 2017, p. 3A).



Maysville, Ky, G.A.R. monument.  
(Photo by Bob Jones)

**Private Charles Francis Thompson (1840-1902)**  
**Company G of the 25th Regiment of Kentucky Volunteer Infantry**  
**Ancestor of Clay Murphy**

My qualifying ancestor for membership in the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War is my great-grandfather Charles Francis Thompson.

Charles Francis Thompson was born January 4, 1840, in Nelson County, Kentucky. He was the son of Leo Thompson and Priscilla Johnson. He moved with his parents to Daviess County, Kentucky, in March 1840. Charles Francis was reared on a farm and walked four or five miles to a subscription school. See "History of Daviess County, Kentucky," 1883, pp. 586-587.

His parents are buried in the Saint Alphonsus Cemetery, Saint Joseph, Kentucky. His father, Leo Thompson, was the son of Charles Thompson and Jane Nevitt Hayden, both of whom died in 1836 in Nelson County, Kentucky, and are buried at Holy Cross. His mother, Priscilla Johnson, was the daughter of John Johnson and his second wife, Henrietta Hill, also of Nelson County. His ancestors were early settlers of Kentucky who came from Maryland, and were in turn descended from immigrants who arrived in Maryland on board The Ark and The Dove in 1634.

Charles Francis Thompson served in the Union Army during the Civil War in Company G of the 25th Regiment of Kentucky Volunteer Infantry from January 1, 1862, for a period of three years. The 25th was organized at Calhoun, Kentucky. Notably, the 25<sup>th</sup> was involved in the capture of Fort Donelson, Tennessee, and fought in the Battle of Shiloh. The 25th was so decimated that it was consolidated with the 17th Kentucky Infantry. The 17<sup>th</sup> saw active service at the Siege of Corinth, Chickamauga, and other battles in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Georgia. He was mustered out on January 23, 1865, at Louisville, Kentucky. According to my father, he suffered a bullet wound in his neck during his service in the Civil War.

After he was discharged, he returned to his home in Saint Joseph, Daviess County, Kentucky, and returned to farming. He wed Mary Ellen Drury on April 5, 1869, in Daviess County, Kentucky. Mary Ellen Drury was born in Hardin County to Benjamin Drury and his wife Julia Ann Vowels on January 26, 1847, and baptized at Saint Patrick's, Stithon. She died July 26, 1934, and is buried at Mater Dolorosa Cemetery in Owensboro, Kentucky.

In 1902, Charles Francis died of "stomach trouble." Although buried in the Saint Raphael Cemetery, West Louisville, Daviess County, Kentucky, his tombstone has not been located. See obituary from the "Owensboro Messenger" dated August 22, 1902, p. 7.

Charles Francis had several children, the following of whom reached adulthood: George M. (Oma J. Coomes); Charles Wm. (Camilla Fulkerson); Catherine I. (Thomas Thornberry); Ellenora (Morris Dean); Emanuel (Edith F. Werne); Emma (Felix L. Murphy); and Charles Leo (Bertha Genevieve Wimsted).

Also of note is that fact that Charles Francis's first cousin, Charles William Thompson, was one of the 50 or so Confederate Martyrs executed by General Stephen Gano Burbridge. In 1864, Burbridge issued Order No. 59 which established a policy of retaliation requiring that

**Pvt. Charles Francis Thompson (1840-1902)**  
**Company G, 25th Regiment of Kentucky Volunteer Infantry**  
**Ancestor of Clay Murphy**

four prisoners of war be shot for each unarmed Union citizen that was killed. Charles William Thompson and John Pierman Powell were Confederate soldiers, and were captured on July 12, 1864, when they became separated from their own troops. They were held as prisoners in Louisville. They were taken to Henderson, and on July 22, 1864, where these two young men were shot in retaliation for a crime committed by a band of guerillas. At the time these executions occurred, "The Owensboro Monitor" reported that they were executed in retaliation for the Henderson raid in which prominent citizen James E. Rankin was wounded. Rankin did not die until after the retaliatory executions. The injured Rankin even wrote a note to try to spare the lives of the young men once the sentence was announced. The two soldiers were taken to the bank of the Ohio River, placed in chairs, blindfolded, and bound to a fence. They were shot by a firing squad of twelve Union soldiers. After their execution, their bodies were returned to his family in Saint Joseph, Daviess County. Charles W. Thompson and his co-martyr are buried at Saint Alphonsus beneath the Confederate Memorial in the churchyard cemetery. The ages of Powell and Thompson were given as 25 and 18, respectively. Charles William Thompson is one of my qualifying ancestors in the Sons of Confederate Veterans. (See "Louisville and the Civil War," 2008, by Bryan S. Bush.)



**Regimental History of the 25th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry**

**OVERVIEW:** Organized at Calhoun, Ky., January 1, 1862. Attached to 13th Brigade, Army of the Ohio, to December, 1861. 13th Brigade, 5th Division, Army of the Ohio, to February, 1862. 1st Brigade, 3rd Division, Army of the Tennessee, to March, 1862. 3rd Brigade, 4th Division, Army of the Tennessee, to April, 1862.

**SERVICE:** Duty at Calhoun, Ky., till February, 1862. Moved to Fort Donelson, Tenn., February 11-13. Investment and capture of Fort Donelson, Tenn., February 13-16. Expedition to Crump's Landing, Tenn., March 14-17. Battle of Shiloh, Tenn., April 6-7. Consolidated with 17th Kentucky Infantry April 13, 1862.

**Regimental History of the 17th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry**

**OVERVIEW:** Organized at Hartford and Calhoun, Ky., September to December, 1861. Attached to 13th Brigade, Army of Ohio, to December, 1861. 13th Brigade, 5th Division, Army of Ohio, to February, 1862. 1st Brigade, 3rd Division, Army of the Tennessee, to March, 1862. 3rd Brigade, 4th Division, Army of the Tennessee, to April, 1862. 10th Brigade, 4th Division, Army of the Ohio, to July, 1862. 9th Brigade, 3rd Division, Army of Ohio, to September, 1862. District of Western Kentucky, Dept. of Ohio, to November, 1862. Post of Clarksville, Tenn., Dept. of the Cumberland, to March, 1863. 1st Brigade, 3rd Division, 21st Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland, to October, 1863. 3rd Brigade, 3rd Division, 4th Army Corps, to January, 1865.



**SERVICE:** Duty at Calhoun, Ky., till February, 1862. Action at Woodbury, Ky., October 29, 1861. Morgantown October 31. Moved to Fort Donelson, Tenn., February 11-13. Investment and capture of Fort Donelson, Tenn., February 13-16. Expedition to Crump's Landing, Tenn., March 14-17. Battle of Shiloh, Tenn., April 6-7. Advance on and siege of Corinth, Miss., April 29-May 30. Bridge Creek before Corinth May 28. Pursuit to Booneville May 31-June 12. Buell's Campaign in Northern Alabama and Middle Tennessee June to August. March to Nashville, Tenn., thence to Louisville, Ky., in pursuit of Bragg August 21-September 26. Moved to Bowling Green, Ky., thence to Russellville, Ky., and duty there till December.

Ordered to Clarksville, Tenn., and duty there till March, 1863. Moved to Nashville, Tenn., thence to Murfreesboro, Tenn., and duty there till June. Middle Tennessee (or Tullahoma) Campaign June 23-July 7. At McMinnville till August 16. Passage of Cumberland Mountains and Tennessee River and Chickamauga (Ga.) Campaign August 16-September 22. Battle of Chickamauga September 19-20. Siege of Chattanooga, Tenn., September 24-November 23. Chattanooga-Ringgold Campaign November 23-27. Orchard Knob November 23-24. Mission Ridge November 25. March to relief of Knoxville November 28-December 8.

Operations in East Tennessee December, 1863, to April, 1864. Moved to Cleveland, Tenn. Atlanta (Ga.) Campaign May to September. Demonstration on Rocky Faced Ridge May 8-11. Battle of Resaca May 14-15. Adairsville May 17. Near Kingston May 18-19. Near Cassville May 19. Advance on Dallas May 22-25. Operations on Pumpkin Vine Creek and battles about Dallas, New Hope Church and Allatoona Hills May 25-June 5. Pickett's Mills May 27. Ackworth June 6. Operations about Marietta and against Kenesaw Mountain June 10-July 2. Pine Hill June 11-14. Lost Mountain June 15-17. Assault on Kenesaw June 26. Ruff's Station July 4. Chattahoochie River July 5-17. Peach Tree Creek July 19-20. Siege of Atlanta July 22-August 25. Flank movement on Jonesboro August 25-30. Battle of Jonesboro August 31-September 1. Lovejoy Station September 2-6. Operations against Hood in North Georgia and North Alabama September 29-November 3. Moved to Nashville and Pulaski, Tenn. Columbia, Duck River, November 24-27. Battle of Franklin November 30. Ordered to Louisville, Ky., December, and mustered out January 23, 1865.

Regiment lost during service 7 Officers and 128 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and 5 Officers and 158 Enlisted men by disease. Total 298.



Thank you, Brother Murphy, for the information on your ancestor Charles Francis Thompson. I hope that other brothers will submit the stories of their ancestors for future issues. —Bob Jones, SVC

(Regimental details from: National Park Service Soldiers and Sailors Database. <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>)



**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**  
**Office of the Commander-in-Chief**  
**Mark R. Day**  
**104 Mullbury Place**  
**Lynchburg, VA 24502**



[cinc@suvcw.org](mailto:cinc@suvcw.org)

General Order #1: 18 Aug. 2017. Change of Command  
<http://www.suvcw.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/General-Order-No.-1-1.pdf>

General Order #2: 21 August 2017. Pursuant to Media Inquiries and Brothers' Obligations  
<http://www.suvcw.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/General-Order-No.-2.pdf>

General Order #3: 23 August 2017. Hyphenated Camp-Names  
<http://www.suvcw.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/General-Order-No.-3.pdf>

General Order #4: 31 August 2017. Additional Special Committee Appointments and Tasks  
<http://www.suvcw.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/General-Order-No.-4.pdf>

*I'm a success today because I had a friend who believed in me  
and I didn't have the heart to let him down. ~ Abraham Lincoln*

DATE (no later than)	FORM	TO	NOTES
15 January	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING DECEMBER
15 February	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING FEBRUARY
15 February	22	DEPT SECRETARY	INSTALLING OFFICER REPORT
15 March	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING FEBRUARY
31 March	10	NAT TREASURER	LIFE MEMBER REIMBURSEMENT
15 April	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING MARCH
30 April	27	DEPT SECRETARY	CAMP ANNUAL REPORT
30 April		DEPT SECRETARY	CAMP ROSTER
30 April		DEPT SECRETARY	ANNUAL PER CAPITA DUES
15 May	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING APRIL
15 May	990N	IRS	ANNUAL TAX RETURN IF FISCAL YEAR ENDS 31 DECEMBER
15 June	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING MAY
15 July	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING JUNE
15 August	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING JULY
15 September	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING AUGUST
15 October	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING SEPTEMBER
15 November	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING OCTOBER
15 November	990N	IRS	ANNUAL TAX RETURN IF FISCAL YEAR ENDS 30 JUNE
15 December	30	DEPT SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS DURING NOVEMBER



## *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

We are the legal heirs of the Grand Army of the Republic, organized in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1954. We are charged with protecting and preserving the memories of the soldiers and sailors who fought for the Union in the U.S. Civil War (1861-1865). <http://www.suvcw.org>

### Our New Roster of Department Officers are:

**Department Commander:** Bruce Fortin, Camp #1, email: bfortin59@gmail.com 502-333-8638

**Senior Vice Commander:** Robert Jones, CC, Camp #1, email: 4thUSCav@gmail.com 502-299-7455

**Junior Vice Commander:** Chris Workman CC, Camp #7, email: chris\_workman21@yahoo.com

**Department Council:** Timothy H. Downey, PDC, Camp #7, email: downeytimothy@hotmail.com

Keith Karcher, Camp #1, email: key4k@aol.com

Bruce Loveall, Camp #1, email: brucel\_us@yahoo.com

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Bernard B. O'Bryan III, PDC, Camp #3, email: SPAMCW@aol.com, 859-322-8838

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**Historian:** John "Jack" A. Mills, PDC, Camp #5, email: Suitman.80@twc.com, 859-276-1970

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