

DISPATCHES FROM GRANT

The Newsletter of the Ulysses S. Grant Association's Ulysses S. Grant
Presidential Library at Mississippi State University • Winter 2015 •
Volume 3, Issue 1

Letter from the Executive Director

I want to take the opportunity in our newsletter to report about some of our doings. To start, Mississippi State University's plans for our fourth floor addition on top of the Mitchell Memorial Library are progressing well. President Frank Williams, one of our editors David Nolen, our archivist Ryan Semmes, MSU Libraries Dean and USGA board member Frances Coleman, and I are members of the planning committee. Construction will begin in May of this year, with completion to be accomplished within eighteen months. Total floor space will be 22,000 square feet and will include a gallery to display our growing number of artifacts (and another gallery for future collections), a theater for an introductory film, a large reading room for researchers, a large preparation room for the processing of our collection, a conference room for staff meetings, and a large stack area for storage of all our materials. This latter area will be kept at appropriate coolness and humidity for the preservation of our materials.

Within the past several months, we have received many donations, telephone calls, and emails on a variety of topics. We are clearly the place to go for research, donations, or questions concerning Ulysses S. Grant. We are always happy to receive inquiries, and we have a great record of answering each one in short order. Try us.

I also want to make sure that every one of our members knows that we readily accept donations of materials concerning Grant and his family. Ulysses Grant Dietz recently donated a variety of Grant materials, and, out of the blue, a lady in Minnesota sent us Grant materials saved by her deceased mother. Dr. Joe and Anne Prezio, long-time USGA members, continue to regularly send Grant monographs. They also sent us a video tape of the 100th anniversary celebration in 1997 at Grant's Tomb, and some of our prominent members, like our president, Frank Williams, are on this tape – though looking much younger!

USGA does not normally purchase artifacts or documents, but we provide our donors with a legal letter acknowledging all donations. This letter, along with an independent appraisal, can then be used with the Internal Revenue Service on an individual's tax return.

Our finance drive has provided us with a number of generous donors and some much needed funds for the good of our organization. We welcome all artifacts and financial donations.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter, so ably organized by our own Meg Henderson, and I look forward to seeing you in Chattanooga this May.

John F. Marszalek

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**Did Appomattox End the Civil War?
by Frank Williams**

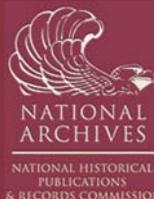
April 9, 2015 will be the 150th anniversary of the surrender of the Confederate General Robert E. Lee to Union General Ulysses S. Grant. That was the event "effectively ending the Civil War," a Virginia newspaper reminds us.

Will anyone at Appomattox in April 2015 point out that the Civil War did not end there? Almost a year passed after the Lee surrender before President Andrew Johnson declared a cessation of hostilities in Virginia and all of the other states of the former Confederacy beside Texas (Texas would have to wait until August 20 of that year). Congress did not accept representatives from Virginia until 1870. Can we really say that the war was over before such events had taken place?

In the official opinion of the U.S. War Department in the decades following the Civil War, the war most certainly did not end on April 9, 1865. It ended in all states but Texas on April 2, 1866 (the date of Johnson's first "cessation of hostilities" proclamation), and it ended in Texas in August 20, 1866 (the date of Johnson's last "cessation of hostilities" proclamation). But even if officials had not gotten involved in the dating of the war, Americans needed such dates as part of the process of coming to terms with a dreadful conflict. That was true in 1865, and it is just as true today.

To make sense of war, human beings, whether military officials, civilian leaders, academic experts, or just ordinary people envision wars as having identifiable moments. Wars have a beginning. They last for a brief or long time. And they end.

Like any good story, the war had a clear beginning and ending. It began on April 12, 1861, when Confederate forces fired on Ft. Sumter in Charleston Harbor. It ended on April 9, 1865, at Appomattox. The objectives for each side were neat and obvious: for the United States, union; for the Confederacy, independence. The Union's war aim of emancipation shifted that side's objectives, of course, but that makes the war no less perfect in terms of a fulfilling narrative.



• Continued from page 2 •

Press on any piece of this idealized narrative of the Civil War, however, and the story falls apart. Was the war over at Appomattox? Hardly. A Confederate army larger than Lee's, under the command of Gen. Joseph Johnston, continued to elude Union forces in the Southeast. The day after Appomattox, Lincoln ordered that the Union blockade of southern ports be kept in place. Was the Union restored? No. Nearly a month would go by before all the capitals of the southern states would surrender. Was slavery abolished? No again: the Constitutional amendment abolishing slavery had received only a handful of votes for ratification, and opposition against the measure was coming not only from Kentucky and Delaware, Union states where slavery was still legal, but from other northern states as well.

Most Americans simply hold onto Appomattox. Appomattox has become a phenomenon worshiped in itself. In turn, it has produced an Appomattox effect: Americans want, if not expect, their wars to end neatly – so that history can move on.

As the Civil War drew to some sort of close, Americans began to confront the fact that the war would be followed not by peace but by a state of things as yet unnamed and perhaps unnamable. In the North, whites spoke of a condition of open hostilities without actual fighting. In the South, they spoke of surrender without submission. African Americans throughout the country mocked those who claimed that the land was at peace. The "riots" of New Orleans and Memphis, the terrorism of the Ku Klux Klan – did this look like peace? Certain groups of Native Americans remained as much at war with the United States as they had before Appomattox.

What did peace mean, after all, and what has it ever meant? At best, it is a state of affairs defined differently by different people.

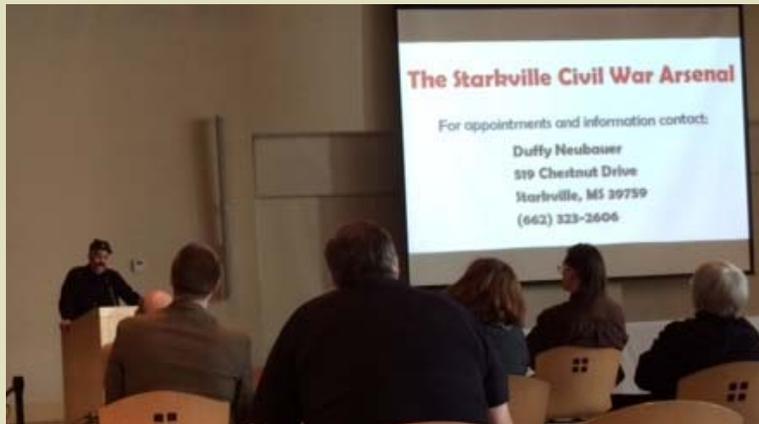
Americans have unlearned the lesson of the Civil War's messy ending. The Appomattox myth has helped solidify in American consciousness the notion that wars end and peace follows.

The recent crisis over Syria, though, suggests that Americans have learned something about how wars end. They are more likely than before to question whether any war can be limited either in scope or in time. Such is the legacy of Iraq and Afghanistan – and of Vietnam.

Yet, the political scientist Feargal Cochrane received little hearing when he argued that "most modern wars are hydra-headed creatures with multiple causes, triggers, actors, and victims," that "a war ending is not a precise moment in time, but a process," and that outright victory is "much less common than other outcomes, such as partial victories, wars that fizzle out then re-emerge periodically, or violence which ends following prolonged processes of dialogue, negotiation and the faltering implementation of peace agreements.

Finally, getting back to the question of timing: Just when did the Civil War end? No study of the war can offer an answer. When the war ended depends on what the war was about. The same can be said for any war. If the Civil War was about the formal restoration of the Union, then maybe the official date of August 20, 1866 is correct, though July 15, 1870, the date of the last Confederate state being authorized to send representatives to Congress, probably makes more sense. If the Civil War was about the end of chattel slavery, then December 18, 1865, the date when the Thirteenth Amendment was declared ratified, might be the end date. Then again, slavery in the form of racialized peonage continued beyond the amendment, so that date might not work as well.

Is it any wonder that so many choose the safe haven of Appomattox?



Starkville Civil War Artillery Museum director Duffy Neubauer speaks about using historic sites to teach history.

Grant Library Co-hosts Teachers' Workshop by Meg Henderson

Saturday, February 28, the Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library co-hosted a five-hour workshop for middle school history teachers, "Teaching the Civil War to the 21st Century Student" with the Mississippi Museum of Art.

Earlier in the year, Daniel Johnson, Director of Engagement and Learning and Artist in Residence at the Mississippi Museum of Art approached U.S. Grant Library executive director Dr. John F. Marszalek about putting together a program that would complement the "Civil War Drawings from the Becker Collection" exhibit at the MMA. This collection of over 85 first-hand drawings explores the roles artists played as reporters and documentarians of the war, many drawings depicting battlefields and barracks.

Dr. Marszalek and assistant archivist Ryan Semmes reached out to the MSU history and education departments for assistance, and their efforts resulted in a one-day program offering teachers ideas and resources for teaching about the Civil War and continuing education units for attending this free event. Marszalek opened the workshop with a welcome and introductions of the presenters.

Grant Library assistant editor David Nolen presented a session on finding historical resources online. Starkville Civil War Artillery Museum director Duffy Neubauer and director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History's Historic Preservation Division Jim Woodrick followed with a discussion of the cultural resources and field trip opportunities available in Mississippi. MSU history professor Dr. Anne Marshall presented a lecture "Memory in the Formation of Civil War History." After a working lunch, MSU education professor Keri Tawater spoke on assessing the information and creating lesson plan guidelines.

The presentations were received enthusiastically, and the teachers said that they had gained a great deal from attending. One participant wrote on her evaluation form, "Thank you for sharing this wealth of knowledge. I wish your information was available outside this venue."

Marszalek added, "The presentations were excellent and well received by the teachers who attended. Many thanks to everyone who made this program a success."

The "Civil War Drawings from the Becker Collection" exhibit will be on display at the Mississippi Museum of Art through April 19. For more information, visit www.msmuseumart.org.

Graduate Student Interns Assist Staff at Grant Library by Bailey Powell

The Congressional and Political Research Center and Grant Presidential Library have a cooperative agreement with the Mississippi State University Department of History in which graduate students may apply for a two-semester internship. The students spend one semester working on documentary editing skills and the other on archival skills. These students participate in several projects alongside the staff.

Lucas Wilder is a first year Ph.D. student from Ewing, Virginia. He studies Appalachian Civil War military history. At this time, Lucas is assisting David Nolen and Louis Gallo Jr. with the creation of a scholarly edition of the Grant Memoirs. He is assigned about half of the chapters of the seventy chapter (plus preface and conclusion) book and verifies the information of previously stated annotations. Lucas finds this research process detailed, yet enthralling. He states, "During my research, I find an increasing number of connections between the high ranking military men of this time. It is fascinating to me to watch stories unfold into a continuous connecting timeline."

Hannah Berman, a first year master's student, is also in the process of creating annotations for the Grant Memoirs. She is from Purvis, Mississippi and studies U.S. history with a minor in East Asian history; her concentration is on diplomatic and military history in these areas. Mirroring Lucas, Hannah goes through the other half of the Memoirs to verify the sources used in Grant's writing. She explains that this will assist scholars and general readers to better understand and visualize the obscure places and people General Grant mentions. Hannah enjoys researching and verifying the sources to fill in the missing links of Grant's story. Even though formatting is her least favorite part of her work, she also notes that both formatting and verification help her perceive and appreciate how scholarly books are put together using primary and secondary sources. Hannah's

work in the Grant Library allows her to "be part of a larger project to help people understand culture and history," which she finds invaluable.

Kristen Theriot is from Houma, Louisiana, and she is a second year master's student who studies European and Asian history. At this time, Kristen is composing a metadata spreadsheet for the Ulysses S. Grant family correspondence. In addition to the personal letters, this collection also contains official documents and letters such as communication between General Grant and General Sheridan and Napoleon the Third. Kristen finds this correspondence interesting because it reveals rarely known details of Grant's life before his time in office, and also because of the intersection with European History. Once this detailed spreadsheet is complete, the collection, with the metadata, will be published on the internet for the use of researchers.

Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library executive director, John F. Marszalek, said, "We have been fortunate in the graduate students who have worked for us. They learn a great deal, and we benefit from teaching them."

CPRC Coordinator Ryan Semmes, who helps coordinate the students' internships, added, "The graduate students have become an integral part of the work we do at MSU Libraries. Their professionalism can be seen through their work on our projects. We're happy to provide them with this important public history experience."



Left to right: Lucas Wilder, Kristen Theriot, Hannah Berman. Photo courtesy of Mississippi State University Libraries.

**Board Member Profile: Harold Holzer
by Meg Henderson**

Harold Holzer is not only a leading authority on Civil War studies, particularly Abraham Lincoln, but he is also a prolific writer and lecturer. He has spent his life pursuing what he loves: history, learning, and writing. Holzer has authored, co-authored, or edited 46 books and has written over 500 articles and book reviews in scholarly and popular publications. He will soon retire from his position as Senior Vice President for Public Affairs at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, where he has worked since 1992. The latest achievement in Holzer's impressive resume is being named the winner of the 2015 Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize for his book *Lincoln and the Power of the Press: The War for Public Opinion*.

Q: When/how did your interest in Lincoln begin? Do you have a moment or experience that sparked that desire to learn about the president?

A: It was definitely a moment. An epiphany took place when I was in fifth grade. A teacher brought in a hat filled with folded up names of famous people and asked if we would pick a name, find a biography at the school library, and write a composition on that person. I drew Lincoln and chose Richard N. Current's *The Lincoln Nobody Knows*. It was the good fortune of finding a book that inspired me. This was also around the time of the Civil War Centennial in 1960, and that triggered my interest as well.

Q: What do you personally find most fascinating about Lincoln?

It's been a while since I've pondered this, paused to consider what got me here in the first place. Lincoln is always the unknowable: his relationship with his father, his religious beliefs, where he learned to write the way he did without education or training, how he dealt with the press. What we know is fascinating, but what we don't know is always more fascinating.



Photo by Don Pollard and sculpture by Frank Porcu.

Q: How do you feel about winning the Lincoln Prize this year? Did you have an idea that you might win, or did it come as a complete surprise?

A: People would be lying if they said they weren't thinking about winning an award. It's like being an Oscar nominee. I don't know how I'd describe my emotions. Excited, hopeful, not daring to think about it. When I was traveling in Florida, I got a missed phone call and didn't recognize the number. I then said to my wife, "I think I got the Lincoln prize."

Q: That's incredible. You are an accomplished writer, certainly deserving of the Lincoln Prize for your latest book and your body of scholarship. Have you ever received criticism from individuals or the media?

A: Sure. I remember when I published a version of the Lincoln-Douglas debates presenting the Democratic version of Lincoln's speeches and the Republican version of Douglas's. I got a lot of criticism from one scholar who later adopted the idea for a book of his own. There's also been a great deal of helpful criticism. Pointing out errors makes one more conscious of working harder to make sure that errors are expunged in future editions.

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However, criticism can be dubious sometimes. Mark Neely [USGA editorial board] and once I wrote in *The Confederate Image* that the *Southern Illustrated News* faded away in 1864, and one of the reviewers of the book said that we were wrong, that there was another edition published in 1865, available at the New York Historical Society. We went over there to look at it and waited all day for the staff to find it, and – it turned out to be only a card catalogue entry. It didn't exist!

Q: Why do you think that Lincoln is a relevant historical figure in today's world?

A: First, the unknowable quotient will always keep Lincoln interesting. But I think he's relevant for three other main reasons. One, it is helpful to the future to understand this great moment when one person kept democracy alive and ended the horrors of slavery. Two, he is the greatest philosopher of American democracy and such a brilliant writer that he's worth reading as literature. Three, as he said himself in 1864, "I'm living proof that any one of your children can come to live in this big White House..." Today, "Log cabin to White House" sounds like a cliché, but it is the true American story: someone who comes from nothing and manages to win the office by his talent.

Q: That sounds a lot like Grant's story too. Being a Lincoln scholar, your interest in Grant seems a given. But I'm interested to learn when and how you got involved in the Grant Association.

A: It was the importuning of the great John Y. Simon, whom I met along the Lincoln Civil War trail many years ago. He told me that he had a board of directors, and board members Frank Williams and Sheldon Cohen were great friends of mine. The Association supported excellent scholarship and had a collection of material. Simon was one of the great documentary editors.

Q: Do you have any favorite memories of being in the Grant Association that you'd like to share?

A: I organized the Grant Association meeting in New York a number of years ago. We went to Grant's tomb and the "Let Us Have Peace" sign in City Hall. Visiting Grant's cottage at Mt. McGregor was also a memorable moment. Unlike a restored place, it's frozen in time. Even the flowers that were put on his coffin in the parlor – instead of being thrown away, they were left and petrified. It's so eerie and moving. The same furniture is there, the chair with the neck brace: all these things are still right there.

One modern story that means the most to me was, with the untimely passing of John Y., Frank Williams and I were talking about what might happen with the Grant Association, which had been run by Simon. Frank talked to me about it in confidence, and we made a decision that what was most important was not the place but the person. It was not where the Grant Association would be located, whether Galena or Carbondale or cities that mean a lot in the world of Grant; in the end it was who could be the captain of the ship and do the editing, and there was nobody better than John Marszalek. Then we said, "Starkville, Mississippi? Sure, what difference does it make? It's the scholar who matters." And it turned out to be an excellent decision.



Top Ten Ways that Canada Fought the American Civil War by John Boyko

The American Civil War was America's third civil war. The first occurred within the Revolutionary War. The second began in 1812. Because so many of those dying in Canadian border towns were the same un-American Americans who had fled the Revolution, the War of 1812 was really a cousin's war.

We are as wrong to consider the 1861-1865 American Civil War the country's first and only civil war as we are to consider it only an American war. France, Britain, Russia and what was becoming Germany were all active participants. More than any other country, however, Canada fought the American Civil War. At the time, Canada was not yet a country but a group of British colonies lying on America's porous border. America had invaded Canada in the Revolution and again in 1812. The new civil war had Canadians steeling themselves to fight again.

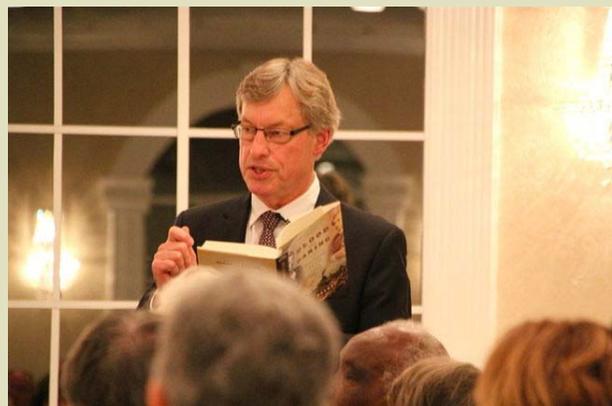
Canada was involved in the Civil War's cause, course, and consequences. Here are the top ten ways that Canada fought the American Civil War:

1. Slavery – Canada abolished slavery in 1833. About 30,000 refugees followed the North Star to forge lives of dignified freedom. Southerners were enraged because ex-slaves living happy, productive lives challenged everything they were saying about black people's desires and potential and the foundation upon which their society rested. Canadian examples inspired Northern abolitionists. The Underground Railroad grew along with animosities between North and South. Harriet Beecher Stowe based Uncle Tom's Cabin on an escaped slave living in Canada.

2. Self-Defence – With war on the horizon, Lincoln's newly appointed Secretary of State William H. Seward secretly advocated reuniting

America by instigating a war with Britain by capturing Canada. The attack, he said, would lead Southerners to rally around the flag and forget secession and Britain would negotiate an end to the war by ceding Canada to America. Lincoln considered the idea but said no – for now. British and Canadian officials took Seward's public threats seriously. Canadians helping the South through arms sales and other means led many American newspapers, politicians, and generals to call for invasion. Over eleven thousand British soldiers were dispatched to the border. The Royal Navy was redeployed. Canadian militia were trained and armed. Border fortifications were enhanced and artillery stood ready.

3. Soldiers – About 40,000 Canadians donned the blue and gray. Nearly all fought in Northern regiments. Most volunteered, some were tricked, and others, even children, were kidnapped and forced into uniform. Canadians fought in every major battle and 29 earned the Congressional Medal of Honor. Canadians swept down from Gettysburg's Little Round Top and stood with Grant at Lee's surrender, and a Canadian led the troops that captured Lincoln's assassin.



Boyko reads from his latest book, *Blood and Daring*.

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4. Spies – When the war began turning south for the South, Jefferson Davis created a spy network in Canada. Spy leader Jacob Thompson organized Confederates and their Canadian sympathisers to run communications for and weapons to the South. In Halifax, money was made selling supplies and information to Southern blockade runners and then to the Northern ships pursuing them.

5. Sorties – Jacob Thompson disturbed and distracted Northern military operations with raids to free Confederate prisoners. He had yellow-fever infected clothing distributed in northern cities. He organized the plot that saw theatres and hotels simultaneously burst into flame along Manhattan's Broadway. The raid on St. Albans, Vermont led to deaths, an incursion of American troops into Canada and Congressional reprisals designed to punish Canada.

6. Separation – The Copperheads were Northerners who wanted the war stopped with slavery and the Confederacy preserved and, failing that, the formation of a new country comprised of several mid-west states. Lincoln called this movement "the fire in the rear" and said that he feared its power as much as the Southern armies. Chief spokesman Clement Vallandigham inspired Copperheads and campaigned to be governor of Ohio from his headquarters in Windsor, Canada West.

7. Salvation – Joining Canada with the Maritime colonies in a new political arrangement had been discussed since the 1850s. When it appeared that Lincoln would win the war and then possibly turn his massive army northward, the notion became a necessity. Canada needed to be bigger, stronger, richer and more efficient – now rather than some dreamy someday. Canada had to create itself to save itself. The talks began in the fall of 1864 in the shadow of war and led to the birth of a nation forged in war.

8. Suspicion – Days after the guns fell silent, there was a shot in Ford's Theatre. Even while Lincoln lay dying in a boarding house across the street, investigators turned to Canada's involvement in the president's shooting and the attempted assassination of Seward. The border was shut. Agents were dispatched to Montreal. It was proven that John Wilkes Booth had spent time planning the assassination while with Jacob Thompson's Confederate conspirators in Montreal.

9. Sanctuary – With the war over, many Confederate leaders faced either prosecution or life under the military occupation of their enemy. Many fled to Canada. Among them was General Pickett, who led Gettysburg's tragic final charge. President Jefferson Davis's family had been in Quebec for some time, and after his release from prison, he joined them, living peacefully in Canada until an amnesty allowed him and his compatriots to return home.

10. Self-Preservation – Britain had helped the Confederacy by allowing British built ships to be sold to the small Southern navy. One of the most deadly was the *Alabama* that roamed the seas sinking Northern supply ships and even a military vessel. After the war, President Johnson and then President Grant demanded an inordinate sum from Britain as reparation, called the *Alabama* Claim. American and British officials discussed erasing the debt in exchange for Britain ceding Canada to the United States. In 1871, Prime Minister Macdonald ventured to Washington to negotiate Canada's survival.

John Boyko is the author of five books including "Blood and Daring: How Canada Fought the American Civil War and Forged a Nation" (Penguin-Random House). Follow John at www.johnboyko.com.

Galena to Commemorate Sesquicentennial of Surrender at Appomattox in April 2015

Submitted by Nancy Breed, Executive
Director, Galena-Jo Daviess County
Historical Society

This small town in northwest Illinois is pulling out all the stops to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender to Gen. U.S. Grant, marking the beginning of the end of the American Civil War on April 9, 1865, with a crescendo of special events in April 2015.

Why Galena? Gen. Ulysses S. Grant lived in Galena both before and after the Civil War; his post-war home, the U.S. Grant Home State Historic Site, is open to the public, as is his first presidential campaign headquarters at The DeSoto House Hotel, and the Washburne House State Historic Site, where he was notified by telegram of his first election to the presidency. Thomas Nast's "Peace in Union," a 12' x 9' oil painting portraying Lee's surrender to Grant at Appomattox, is on permanent display at the Galena & U.S. Grant Museum. Grant is Galena's favorite son, and reminders of his life and times are around every corner: the church he attended; the building which housed his family's leather store; the hotel where he met and dined with friends; the train depot from which he left for Washington as president-elect. And the list goes on.

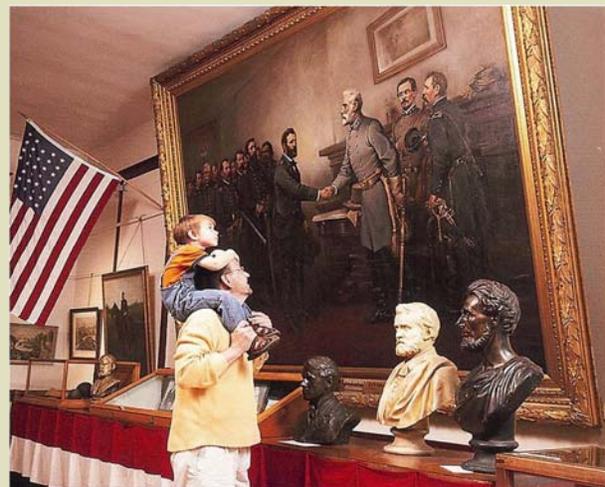
The sesquicentennial theme "Peace in Union" originated both with the Nast painting and the fact that Grant made the unprecedented decision to allow the Confederate soldiers to return home with their horses and weapons, in the spirit of "malice toward none and charity for all."

Plans for the events celebrating the surrender will run through April, beginning on the 9th with a dinner theater performance in the DeSoto House

Hotel and a Civil War-era musical performance by the Galena United Methodist Church Bell Choir. Other events include a lamplight tour of the U.S. Grant Home State Historic Site, several theatrical and musical performances, a Civil War fashion show, an art exhibit, the unveiling of the new Civil War postage stamp series, a walking tour, and more.

In addition, Main Street walking tours with General Grant will be held every Saturday between 10 a.m. and 12 noon from May through October. The tours include stops at Grant-related historic sites and stories of Grant's life in Galena.

Many of the Sesquicentennial events are free, but some require reservations. For a complete listing of events and details, visit www.GalenaHistory.org or call 815-777-9129.



A father and son view Nast's "Peace in Union." Photo courtesy of Galena-Jo Daviess County Historical Society.

USGA 2015 Set for Chattanooga by Meg Henderson

All Grant Association members are invited to the 53rd annual meeting of the Ulysses S. Grant Association, which will be held in Chattanooga, Tennessee May 15-17, 2015. We are looking forward to an exciting weekend of programs, tours, and speakers. The meeting will take place in the area where General Grant won one of the victories that ensured Federal control of the Western Theater and propelled him into the commanding generalship over the entire Union Army.

A major highlight of the meeting is a tour of "Grant in Chattanooga," led by Jim Ogden, one of the best known National Park Service historians in the nation. Recipient of the 2014 Dr. James W. Livingood Historian of the Year Award, Ogden began his career with the Park Service in 1982 and became the Historian at the Chickamauga Chattanooga National Military Park in 1988. One of the leading experts on the military history of the Chattanooga region, he has led countless walking tours covering the history and the stories of the Civil War and has spoken to numerous groups around the country about Civil War history.

Other activities include a U.S. Grant living history performance by regular annual meeting attendee Dr. E.C. Fields of Collierville, Tennessee, a panel of USGA board members speaking on the history of USGA, and a presentation on the activities at the Grant Library by David Nolen and Meg Henderson.

We also will have two outstanding keynote speakers, who will present as we dine in scenic downtown Chattanooga.



Photo courtesy of Chattanooga Convention & Visitors Bureau

Sam Elliot, Chattanooga attorney and historian, will speak about Confederate views of Grant, and Dr. Timothy Smith, who teaches in the history department at the University of Tennessee – Martin, will speak about Grant as a leader. And we are bringing back the post-tour lunch discussion, which was a favorite of those who attended last year's meeting.

Our hotel headquarters will be the famous Chattanooga Choo Choo Hotel downtown, and we have reserved a block of rooms at a discounted rate.

For more information on the meeting and hotel, and to register, visit <http://www.usgrantlibrary.org/usga/annualmeeting/2015.asp>.

Meeting registration is open through May 1.

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Donate your books and artifacts. The Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library accepts books on the subjects of U.S. Grant's life and the Grant family, Grant's Presidency, and the Civil War. We also accept artifacts and memorabilia on the subjects of U.S. Grant and family. For inquiries, please email mhenderson@library.msstate.edu or call 662-325-4552.

Make a financial contribution to the Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library. You may contribute to the Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library Fund by sending a payment directly to the Grant Library at P.O. Box 5408, Mississippi State, MS 39762.



The Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library's Exhibit Room is completely furnished with artifacts given by generous donors. Exhibits are changed regularly to display the growing collection.

Send us your news!

Do you have any news, such as an event, publication, or book review, related to Ulysses S. Grant or the Civil War? If you'd like to share your news in an upcoming issue of the USGA newsletter, please email with a photograph, if available, to mhenderson@library.msstate.edu.

• Updating our Records •

If you have moved or changed your contact information recently, please send us your updated mailing address, phone number, and email. There are also a number of members who have outdated mailing addresses, and we are not able to get in touch with them. If you know anyone listed below, or someone who is a member and is not receiving communications from the Grant Association, please encourage him or her to call Meg Henderson at 662-325-4552 or email mhenderson@library.msstate.edu. Thank you!

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