

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Lt. Commander Edward Lea U.S.N. – Camp No. 2

Harriet Lane

Jun 2018

Volume 24

No. 2 – Part 2 of 2

From the Editor

Brothers,

The following pages complete the 2nd quarter 2018 issue of the *Harriet Lane*. These additional pages were necessary due, in part, to the amazing number of *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* JROTC/ROTC Award presentations made by our Camp again this year! A special tip of the kepi goes to Camp Cmdr. William Pollard for his extraordinary efforts in organizing, implementing, and managing this awards program. *Job well done, sir!*



Special recognition for a job well done is also in order for the large number of Brothers who volunteered their time and energy to make the JROTC Award presentations this year. Worthy Cadets at many area high schools and colleges will likely treasure this special citation from our *Order* for years to come. The presenting Brothers included: William Pollard, Thor Chester, Michael Lance, Gary White, Justin Martin, John Wade, Michael Heller (*Camp 18*), Edward Caballero, Ford Kinsley, William Haenn, Thomas Coughlin, Melvin Myers, Keith Porter, Michael Rappe, Willie Blackmon, Stephen Schulze, Robert Anderson, Thomas Jackson, James Hackett, Dale Leach, Stephen Duncan, Michael Bierman, Samuel Packer, William Martin, and Sanford Reed. My sincerest apology to any presenting Brother that I inadvertently missed on this list. *Thank you, gentlemen!*

Since the hot summer months are now upon us, outdoor *SUVCW* activities and events will be few and far between. However, except for August, the monthly Camp business meetings are still a great place to gather for comradeship and the sharing of ideas. In addition, nearly every business meeting is immediately followed by an interesting presentation by a guest speaker. Which leads me to mention: if you have an interest in or special knowledge of any topic relating to the Civil War, please consider becoming a guest speaker at one of our meetings. A projector, laptop computer, and projection screen can be made available for your use. *Hope to see you soon!*

In F. C. & L,

Michael Lance - Editor

Greenbacks

Before the Civil War, the only money issued by the U.S. was gold and silver coins (*specie*). And only such coins were legal tender - meaning that payment in that form had to be accepted. At the same time, paper currency in the form of banknotes were being issued by private banks. These notes were redeemable for specie at the bank's office. However, they were *not legal tender*. These private banknotes had value only if the bank could redeem them. If a bank failed, its notes became worthless.

When President Abraham Lincoln assumed office, he understood the importance of money for sustaining the war effort. Within a few months, it was clear that the costs of the war would be higher than the government's current meager income generated from tariffs and excise taxes. Initially, the Lincoln Administration sought loans from major banks. But the banks demanded very high interest rates – anywhere from 24% to 36%. Lincoln refused to borrow on such unfavorable terms and called for other solutions.

In July 1861, Congress authorized the printing of \$50 million in *U.S. Demand Notes* - to be printed in denominations of \$5, \$10, and \$20. They began to be issued the following month. This was the first new measure used to finance the war.

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Monday, May 28, 2018 – Houston National Cemetery, Houston, Texas

The Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea USN Camp #2 of Houston once again participated in the Memorial Day ceremonies at the Houston National Cemetery. The Camp joined members of Co. A, 13th U.S. Infantry to form an impressive Honor Guard and Color Guard.



Left: The Federal Honor Guard, with Thomas Whitesides of Co. A, 13th U.S. Regiment commanding (on the left with back turned), begins to fall in for weapons inspections.

In addition, the Lea Camp supplied a 4-man crew to man and fire one of the two cannons supplied by the Ike Turner Camp SCVCW. Cannon volleys opened and closed the ceremonies.



Right: Brother Stephen Schulze in artillery uniform.

Participating from Co. A, 13th U.S. Infantry were: Michael Lance, Michael Rappe (both also SUVCW Brothers), Thomas Whitesides, Howard Rose, Rion Braddock, Steve Cory, Lanny Low, Kerry Manning, John Miles, and 1st Sgt. Doug Davis. Glenn Camp, an ever-present independent re-enactor, also volunteered for service.



Left: Brothers Michael Rappe (foreground) and Stephen Schulze in position beside the cannon.

Right: Lea Camp cannon crew at their positions, L-R: Michael Rappe (prick), William Pollard (sponge), Stephen Schulze (lanyard), and Thomas Coughlin (screw).



Left: A cannon volley began the ceremony – both cannons fired in perfect unison.

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After being announced, the fourteen-man Federal Color guard marched into the hemicycle in 2 ranks during the *Parade of Remembrance*. The first rank consisted of 2 men with muskets on either side of 2 men carrying the Colors - National and Regimental. The second rank included 3 more men with muskets and the 4-man cannon crew. The unit marched forward, halted before reviewing stand, presented arms, shouldered arms, and then wheeled smartly to the right to exit.

Right: Honor Guard forms up in 2 ranks for the *Parade of Remembrance*.

The Houston Highlander Pipe Band performed *Amazing Grace* on bagpipes. Then, all eyes looked upward as a U.S. Coast Guard Rescue Helicopter made several low fly-over passes. Several guest speakers then took their turns at the podium to give speeches.

Meanwhile, the Federal Honor guard waited in the shade of a large oak tree just outside the hemicycle. Before long, this 10-man unit, commanded by Thomas Whitesides, re-entered the Hemicycle to offer musket salutes to all



U.S. veterans. The 7 muskets fired the first volley in perfect unison, then reloaded during the firing of the 2nd salute by the 15th Texas Infantry (Confederate), and finally fired the 3rd volley.

Kerry Manning, supporting the National Colors, and Lanny Low, supporting the Regimental Colors (both of the 13th U.S.), were positioned 2 paces behind the musket-men.



Left: Salute volley by the 7 muskets of the Federal Honor Guard – with the Commander on the far left of the line and the Colors behind.

Shortly after the Honor Guard fired the 3rd salute volley inside the Hemicycle,



taps was sounded by a bugler. Then the closing volley was sounded by the 2 cannons outside the hemicycle. Afterwards, numerous spectators and participants requested to have photos taken with the Federal troops. A great time was had by all!

Left: WWII Veterans

Right: Decorated graves



.... submitted by Brother Michael Lance, with photos donated by Christina Miles – Additional photo on back page

Tuesday, June 19, 2018 – Ashton Villa, Galveston, Texas

As in previous years, Brother Rev. Stephen Duncan portrayed Maj. General Gordon Grainger at the 39th Annual Al Edwards Emancipation Proclamation Reading and Prayer Breakfast at Ashton Villa in Galveston on June 19, 2018. He was joined by Brothers Zane Hooper and SVC Michael Lance.

JROTC Cadet Brendon Edwards from Ball High School in Galveston also participated in the event. Cadet Major Edwards received the 2018 SUVCW JROTC award this year. He will serve as JROTC Battalion Commander for the next term.

L-R: Michael Lance, Brendon Edwards, Rev. Stephen Duncan, and Zane Hooper

Brother Duncan (as Grainger) welcomed the guests after he descended from the second floor and took his position between the guarding infantrymen at the bottom of the staircase in the dining hall.

After several entertaining speeches and remarks by featured guests, the guest of honor, State Representative Al Edwards, rose to address the packed house with well-received remarks and comments.



A highlight of the event, which captured the attention of all guests, occurred near the end of the program – as Brother Duncan (as Maj. General Grainger) dramatically read *General Order No. 3* - the proclamation from the President stating that all slaves were free.

Left: This Galveston Daily News newspaper article featured Brother Duncan reading General Order No. 3 while his guards stand at Present Arms.

....submitted by Michael Lance

Newspaper article written by Jennifer Reynolds of The Daily News

Saturday, June 23, 2018 – Waco, Texas

The 24th Annual Department Encampment of the *Department of Texas* was held in Waco, Texas on June 23, 2018. The venue was a meeting room at the *Texas Rangers Hall of Fame & Museum*. The morning session began at 10:00 a.m. and was conducted by Dept. Cmdr. Beau Moore. The other officers in attendance included Dept. SVC Thomas Coughlin, Dept. Secr./Treas. Donald Gates, and Dept. Chaplain Stephen Schulze. Honored guest and special friend of the Department, National Chaplain Jerry Kowalski was also present.

On arrival, each attendees' credentials were confirmed by Brothers Craig Reves and David Appleton at the registration table. The meeting was soon called to order by Cmdr. Moore.

Right: Brothers Craig Reves and David Appleton at the registration table



Dept. Chaplain Schulze invoked the Divine blessing, followed by the *Pledge of Allegiance*, and the singing of the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*. Brothers Brian Glass, Stevenson Holmes, and Charles Sprague were promptly appointed to serve on the Credentials committee to report the attendance from each of the Texas Camps. The Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp #18 (Dallas) supplied 5 men, the Gen. James Byrne Camp #1 (Ft. Worth) supplied 6 men, and the Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp #2 (Houston) supplied 9 men. The Brothers that attended from *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp 2* include:



Steven Coons



Michael Rappe



Stephen Schulze & William Pollard



Stevenson Holmes



Ben Bonnett



Thomas Coughlin



Michael Lance



Thor Chester

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2018 Department Encampment (continued)

The Brothers who attended from *Gen. James Byrne Camp #1* include:



Brian Glass



Beau Moore



David Appleton



Craig Reves



Donald Woodworth



Michael Belcher



Robert Hites

The Brothers who attended from *Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp #18* include:



Charles Sprague



Blair Rudy



David Rediger



Donald Gates



William Swafford



Left: National Chaplain Jerry Kowalski pins a Past Department Cmdr. badge on Beau Moore

Right: Mrs. Coughlin pins a Department Cmdr. badge on newly-elected Department Cmdr. Thomas Coughlin

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2018 Department Encampment (continued)



The Brothers applauded PDC Brother Moore for his service as Department Cmdr. for the 2017-2018 term.

Left: PDC Beau Moore received a gift from Camp #1 which was presented to him by Brother Brian Glass.



Right: PDC Beau Moore received a gift from Camp #2 which was presented to him by Camp Cmdr. William Pollard.



Left: With left hands on the Bible, the newly-elected Dept. officers for the 2018-2019 term are sworn-in.



Right: National Chaplain Jerry Kowalski passes the gavel to newly-installed Dept. Cmdr. Thomas Coughlin.



Front row L-R: David Rediger, Blair Rudy, Thomas Coughlin, and Brian Glass

Middle row L-R: Stephen Schulze, Jerry Kowalski, Michael Rappe, Steven Coons, Donald Gates, Ben Bonnett, and Stevenson Holmes

Back row L-R: Beau Moore, Don Woodworth, Thor Chester, Michael Lance, Michael Belcher, William Pollard, David Appleton, Charles Sprague, William Swafford, and Craig Reves

...Submitted by Brother Michael Lance

Sunday, June 24, 2018 – Mims Baptist Church, Conroe, Texas

At 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 24th, 2018, Brother Michael Lance, several members of *Co. A, 13th U.S. Infantry*, and a volunteer from the *1st Texas Partisan Rangers* assembled at Mims Baptist Church in Conroe. We had been invited to attend the Annual Patriotic Celebration at the church. The event was held to honor the Armed Forces, the Veterans, Peace Officers, and First Responders.

Inside the large church were a number of memorabilia displays and exhibits set up on and around tables in the hallways. We stacked our muskets near one of the tables just inside the entrance and chatted with members of the church – enjoying the comfort of the air-conditioning. Refreshments and a light breakfast was served in an adjacent room.

A four-person Confederate contingent soon arrived with a cannon and limber. They were all dressed in Union Blue – which boosted our number to 11 men (actually 10 men and 1 woman). The cannon crew positioned the tube on the walkway just outside the church entrance – facing away, of course! The four blue-clad Confederates worked the cannon and the *1st Texas Partisan Ranger* joined our Honor Guard with a musket.

After a lengthy wait, it was finally time for our Honor Guard to fall in outside. We lined up just outside the front doors and prepared to fire a salute volley. The church-goers remained in the sanctuary and, due to a camera set-up, were able to watch the volley from their air-conditioned vantage point on a big screen. The cannon fired a volley a split second after the muskets fired. It was an impressive and coordinated action. Numerous car alarms were activated in the adjacent parking lot!

As patriotic songs were sung at the conclusion of the church services, the Honor Guard and cannon crew reassembled to repeat with another outstanding volley to close the event.



The men of the Federal Honor Guard in line include: R-L - Michael Lance, Rion Braddock, Kerry Manning, John Miles, Lanny Low, Howard Rose, and 3 members of the 1st Texas Partisan Rangers (Confederates in Union uniforms).

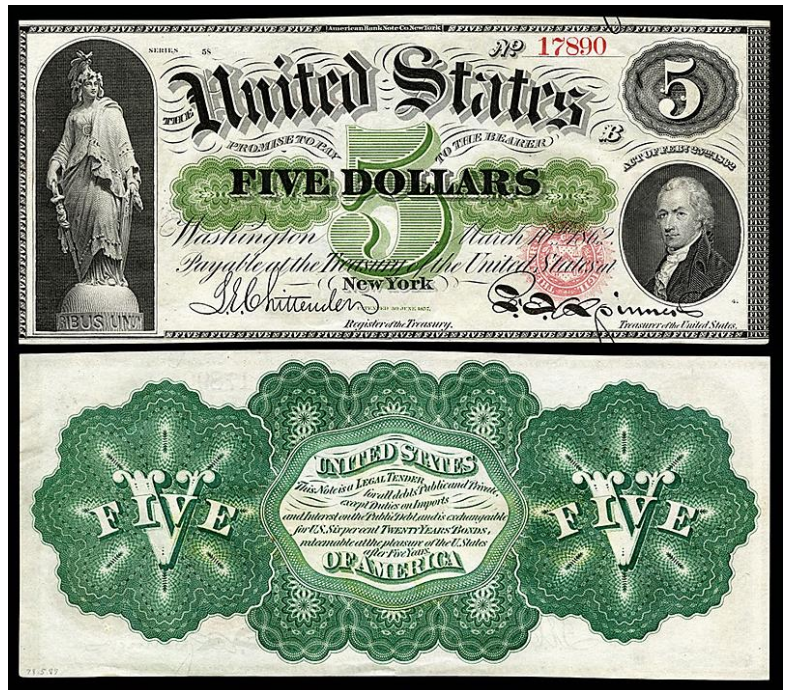
....Respectfully submitted by Michael Lance

The *U.S. Demand Notes* bore no interest, but they could be redeemed for specie "on demand". However, they were not legal tender until March 1862.

Unlike private and state banknotes, *U.S. Demand Notes* were printed on both sides. The reverse side was printed with green ink, and so the Notes were dubbed "greenbacks". Since *U.S. Demand Notes* were also used to pay duties, they were often taken out of the country - and therefore out of circulation. By mid-1863, about 95% of them were gone. In addition, the amount of *Demand Notes* issued was far insufficient to meet the war expenses of the government. So another solution was needed.

Colonel "Dick" Taylor, an Illinois businessman serving as a volunteer officer, had an idea. He met with Lincoln in January 1862, and suggested issuing *unbacked* paper money. Taylor said *"Just get Congress to pass a bill authorizing the printing of full legal tender treasury notes... and pay your soldiers with them and go ahead and win your war with them also. If you make them full legal tender... they will have the full sanction of the government and be just as good as any money; as Congress is given the express right by the Constitution."*

Issuing *unbacked* paper money was not an idea President Lincoln favored. But mounting pressure in Congress soon required him to do something. The government could either print its own money or go into deep debt to foreign creditors. The President chose to endorse Taylor's proposal. On February 25, 1862, Congress passed the first Legal Tender Act, which authorized the issuance of \$150 million in *U.S. Notes*.



United States Note

The reverse of these *U.S. Notes* were also printed with green ink. Thus, they were also called "greenbacks" by the public - being considered equivalent to the *Demand Notes* already known as such. In 1864, Secretary Chase had the slogan, *"In God We Trust"* engraved on 2 cent U.S. coins. During a cabinet meeting, there was some discussion of adding the same slogan to the *U.S. Notes* as well. President Lincoln, however, humorously remarked, *"If you are going to put a legend on the greenbacks, I would suggest that of Peter and Paul, 'Silver and gold I have none, but such as I have I give to thee.'"*

The face value of the *U.S. Notes* was discounted compared to the value of gold. Since gold was more available on the West Coast, the merchants there did not want to accept greenbacks at par value with gold. They blacklisted people who tried to use them at face value. California banks would not accept greenbacks for deposit and the state would not accept them for payment of taxes. Both states ruled that greenbacks were a violation of their state constitutions.

Hundreds of millions in greenbacks were eventually issued by the government. President Lincoln maintained his concern over the nation's finances until his death. *"We must look to you, Mr. Secretary, for the money to pay off the soldiers,"* the President reportedly told Treasury Secretary McCulloch on April 14, 1865, the day he was assassinated.

....Submitted by Michael Lance

The *Medal of Honor* is the USA's highest military honor, awarded for personal acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty. It was first awarded during the Civil War after President Lincoln signed a bill containing a provision for the medal for the Navy on December 21, 1861. It was "*to be bestowed upon such petty officers, seamen, landsmen, and Marines as shall most distinguish themselves by their gallantry and other seamanlike qualities during the present war.*"



Left: Navy Version of the original Medal of Honor (1862)

With this issue of the Harriet Lane, in honor of Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea USN - the namesake of our Camp, I am continuing to present a review of the recipients of the Medal of Honor who served in the U.S. Navy during the Civil War....editor

- **Richard Dennis** – Boatswain's Mate. Richard Dennis was born in 1826 in Charlestown, Massachusetts. He joined the Navy from Boston in March 1864. He served as a boatswain's mate on the *USS Brooklyn*. At the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 5, 1864, he operated the ship's torpedo catcher (an early naval minesweeping device) and helped fire the bow chase gun despite heavy fire. For this action, he was awarded the Medal of Honor 4 months later, on December 31, 1864. He was discharged from the Navy in February 1866. His Medal of Honor citation reads:

"On board the U.S.S. Brooklyn during successful attacks against Fort Morgan, rebel gunboats and the ram Tennessee in Mobile Bay, on 5 August 1864. Despite severe damage to his ship and the loss of several men on board as enemy fire raked her decks from stem to stern, Dennis displayed outstanding skill and courage in operating the torpedo catcher and in assisting in working the bow chasers throughout the furious battle which resulted in the surrender of the prize rebel ram Tennessee and in the damaging and destruction of batteries at Fort Morgan."

[Editor's note - The rating of Boatswain's Mate dates from the American Revolutionary War and is one of the oldest U.S. Navy ratings in continuous existence from 1775 to present. The duties of Boatswain's Mates include: training, directing, and supervising personnel in the ship's maintenance duties in all activities relating to deck, boat seamanship, painting, and upkeep of ship's external structure and deck equipment. Boatswain's mates take charge of working parties; perform seamanship tasks; and act as petty officer-in-charge of picket boats. They also serve in, or take charge of damage control parties in addition to operating and maintaining equipment used in loading and unloading cargo, ammunition, fuel, and general stores.]



Rating Insignia

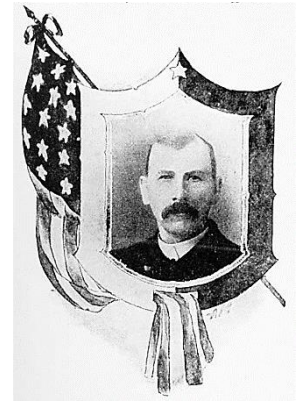
- **William Densmore** – Chief Boatswain's Mate. William Densmore was born in 1833 in New York. He was still living there when he joined the U.S. Navy. He served during the Civil War as a chief boatswain's mate and gun captain on the *USS Richmond*. At the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 5, 1864, he "fought his gun with skill and courage" despite heavy fire. For this action, he was awarded the Medal of Honor 4 months later, on December 31, 1864. His Medal of Honor citation reads:

"As captain of a gun on board the U.S.S. Richmond during action against rebel forts and gunboats and with the ram Tennessee in Mobile Bay, 5 August 1864. Despite damage to his ship and the loss of several men on board as enemy fire raked her decks, Densmore fought his gun with skill and courage throughout a furious 2-hour battle which resulted in the surrender of the rebel ram Tennessee and in the damaging and destruction of batteries at Fort Morgan

William Densmore died June 17, 1865 of pneumonia at age 20. He was buried in the Bishop's Burial Ground / Saint Joseph's Cemetery in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, which was closed in August 1893 and the property sold in 1905. The remains of William Densmore, his widow Margaret, and other family members were removed from Saint Joseph's Cemetery and reburied at New Cathedral Cemetery in Philadelphia on April 26, 1901.

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- **Bartholomew Diggins** – Ordinary Seaman. Bartholomew Diggins was born in County Kerry, Ireland. He entered the U.S. Navy from Maryland and served as an Ordinary Seaman on Rear Admiral David Farragut's flagship *USS Hartford*. Despite heavy gun fire at the Battle of Mobile Bay, Alabama on August 5, 1864, Diggins continually loaded a gun during the 2-hour battle which damaged batteries at Fort Morgan and ended with the surrender of *CSS Tennessee*. He was awarded the Medal of Honor in recognition of his conduct during this action. Bartholomew Diggins died in Washington, D.C. and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. His Medal of Honor citation reads:



“On board the flagship, U.S.S. Hartford, during action against rebel forts and gunboats and with the ram Tennessee in Mobile Bay, 5 August 1864. Despite damage to his ship and the loss of several men on board as enemy fire raked her decks, Diggins, as loader of a gun, remained steadfast as his post throughout the furious 2-hour battle which resulted in the surrender of the rebel ram Tennessee and in the damaging and destruction of batteries at Fort Morgan.”

- **John Ditzenback** – Quartermaster. John Ditzenback was born in New York, New York in 1828. He enlisted into the U.S. Navy and fought during the Civil War. He received the country's highest award for bravery during combat for his action aboard the *USS Neosho* on 6 December 1864. His Medal of Honor citation reads:

“Served on board the U.S. Monitor Neosho during the engagement with enemy batteries at Bells Mills, Cumberland River, near Nashville, Tenn., 6 December 1864. Carrying out his duties courageously during the engagement, Ditzenback gallantly left the pilot house after the flag and signal staffs of that vessel had been shot away and, taking the flag which was drooping over the wheelhouse, made it fast to the stump of the highest mast remaining, although the ship was still under a heavy fire from the enemy.”

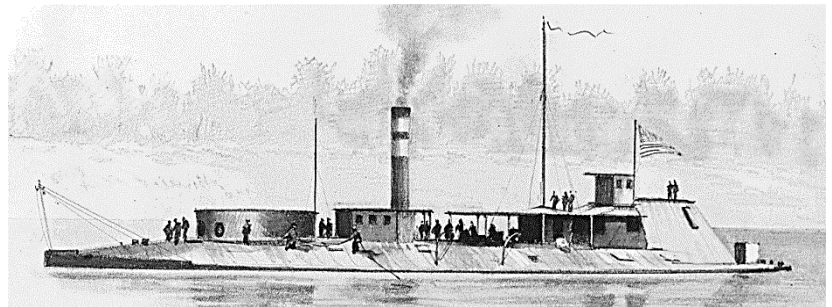


Illustration of the USS Neosho

- **John Donnelly** – Ordinary Seaman. John Donnelly was born in 1839 in England. He immigrated to the United States and was living in New York when he joined the U.S. Navy. He served during the Civil War as an ordinary seaman on the *USS Metacomet*. At the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 5, 1864, he was among the crew of a small boat sent from *Metacomet* to rescue survivors of the *USS Tecumseh*, which had been sunk by a naval mine (then known as a "torpedo"). Despite intense fire, the boat crew was able to pull ten *Tecumseh* men from the water. For this action, Donnelly was awarded the Medal of Honor a year and a half later, on January 15, 1866. Five other members of the boat crew also received the medal. Donnelly died in 1895 at age 55 or 56. His Medal of Honor citation reads:

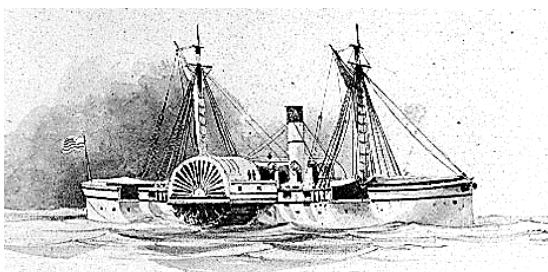


Illustration of the USS Metacomet

“Served on board the U.S.S. Metacomet. As a member of the boat's crew which went to the rescue of the U.S. Monitor Tecumseh when that vessel was struck by a torpedo in passing the enemy forts in Mobile Bay, 5 August 1864, Donnelly braved the enemy fire which was said by the admiral [David Farragut] to be "one of the most galling" he had ever seen and aided in rescuing from death 10 of the crew of the Tecumseh, eliciting the admiration of both friend and foe.”

.....To be continued next issue



Numerous spectators and participants at the Memorial Day Ceremonies at the Houston National Cemetery took turns posing for a photo with the Federal Color Guard

L-R behind the National Colors: Stephen Schulze, Michael Rappe*, Doug Davis, John Miles, Michael Lance*, Lanny Low (back row), Rion Braddock, Glenn Camp, Kerry Manning (back row), Steve Cory, Howard Rose, and Thomas Whitesides*

**Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp Member*

*“I hate newspapermen. They come into camp
And pick up their
Camp rumors and print them as facts.
I regard them as spies, which, in truth, they are.”*

William Tecumseh Sherman

(b. 1820 Lancaster, OH - d. 1891 New York, NY)

American Soldier, Businessman, Educator, Author

Major General of the United States Army during the Civil War