



NEWS

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First Minnesota Monument at Gettysburg

MEMBER PROFILE OF THE MONTH

CHARLOTTE SHOVER

By Lana Blumhoefer



Our featured member this month is Charlotte Shover. She has been a member of the TCCWRT since 2010.

Charlotte developed a deep interest in the Civil War when she

discovered years ago that her great grandfather, Augustus Temme, had served in the Union Army in the Civil War. He enlisted in April of 1861 at age 22. He came from Allegheny, PA, but when he joined, he served the Sickles Excelsior Brigade in the 70th NY volunteers Infantry Company E. However, when he reenlisted on 1864, he became part of the 86th NY volunteers, both of which were part of the Army of the Potomac. His final rank was that of Provost Guard.

In 1902 Augustus wrote a list of the various battles that he either fought in or served as reserve troops. This history was passed down through his family. He fought at Second Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Spotsylvania, Petersburg, the Peninsula Campaign, the Overland Campaign, the Wilderness, Fredericksburg,

and Appomattox. Her interest in her great grandfather's experiences was the catalyst to tour each of these battle sites. She is most interested in the Wilderness because of the horrific conditions the men endured.

She very much enjoys reading the Civil War diaries and letters of individual soldiers, learning how they felt and what their daily life was like.

She has published a family book about her great grandfather Augustus Temme. She had also published a second book, *Civil War Letters of Samuel W Croft and William C Wiley*. This book was illustrated by TCCWRT member, Craig MacIntosh. She encourages everyone to look up your own family history, as you may be surprised at the interesting things you may discover.

She shares her interest in the Civil War with her husband, Dick (who is also a TCCWRT member), and children. Charlotte enjoys outdoor activities such as canoeing, biking, and walking. She has been to Europe five times and served on the Burnsville City Council for 10 years.

She also wanted to thank the TCCWRT Board of Directors for the great speakers and the website that has been developed over the years.

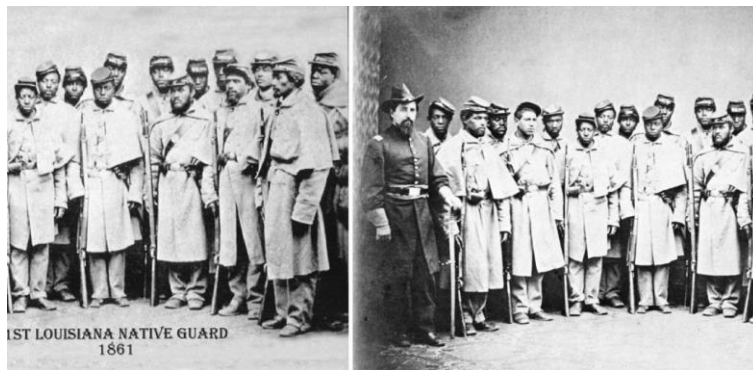
STEVEN SCHIER'S CIVIL WAR TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

What Minnesota unit saw heavy action in the Shiloh battle?

(See the last page for the answer)

OUR JANUARY MEETING – 1/18/2022

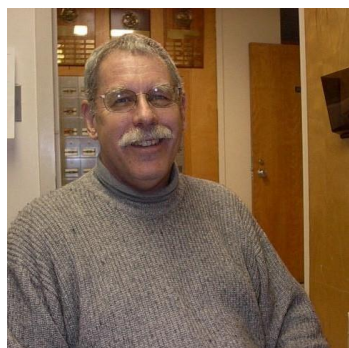
“Black Confederates” – Larry Babits



Today Black Confederates are seen as a VERY controversial topic in politically correct circles. As a veteran who entered the US Army on the 100th anniversary of the Union capture of the CSS *Atlanta*, I am well aware that political correctness has no relationship to unvarnished history as facts. Black Confederate infantrymen and cavalymen existed and were accepted as

members of United Confederate Veteran posts after the war. That one fact should be enough to cope with those who say black men did not serve in the Confederate Army. Documentary sources, especially those from Union soldiers writing during the war, clearly indicate that black soldiers existed, so why deny this as a fact? The real question is how many there were. This

presentation shows some of the documentary and photographic evidence and raises questions about what were black folk in some Southern states.



Lawrence E. Babits, George Washington Distinguished Professor, East Carolina University Professor Emeritus, former Director of Maritime Studies Ph.D., Brown University, BA and MA, University of Maryland-College Park. Babits has extensive experience in military and maritime archaeology. He has excavated battlefields, fortifications, and a World War II POW camp. In addition to his academic side, Babits served three years in the US Army, largely with B Company, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry (Gimlets). He has been a reenactor since 1961, especially as a Revolutionary War and Civil War private soldier. He is currently involved with researching smoothbore musketry accuracy and

shooting Civil War weaponry competitively with the First Maryland Infantry of the North-South Skirmish Association.

His publications include numerous site reports including Fort Dobbs on the Carolina Frontier and Archaeological Investigations at Causton's Bluff, Chatham County, Georgia. He authored chapters and articles in Documentary Archaeology in the New World, Archaeology, Military Collector and Historian, Geoarchaeology, and Maryland Historical Magazine. He was the McCann-Taggart Lecturer for the American Institute of Archaeology in 1995, was named George Washington Distinguished Professor of History by the NC Society of the Cincinnati in 2003, and a Fellow of the Company of Military Historians in 2006. His most recent book, Long, Obstinate and Bloody, deals with the 1781 Battle of Guilford Courthouse. It was co-written with Josh Howard and published by the University of North Carolina Press in 2009.

THIS MONTH IN CIVIL WAR HISTORY – JANUARY

- 2nd 1863 – The Battle of Stones River near Murfreesboro, Tennessee ends.
- 11th 1864 – Rosser's Raid in West Virginia
- 14th 1861 – Fort Taylor at Key West Florida is occupied by Federal troops.
- 15th 1862 – Edwin M. Stanton confirmed as U.S. Secretary of War
- 20th 1861 – Mississippi State troops seize Ship Island off the Gulf Coast.
- 22nd 1863 – U.S.S. Lexington bombards Fort Henry, Tennessee
- 25th 1863 – Major General Joseph Hooker replaces Major General Ambrose Burnside as commander of the Army of Potomac.
- 31st 1865 – The U.S. House passes the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery.

CIVIL WAR BIRTHDAYS – JANUARY

1 st	1818 – Brig General William Gamble U.S.
12 th	1816 – Brig. General Willis A. Gorman U.S.
13 th	1807 – Maj. General Napoleon Bonaparte Buford U.S.
13 th	1815 – Maj. General William H. French U.S.
15 th	1821 – Maj. General John C. Breckenridge C.S.
17 th	1828 – Brig. Gen. Lewis A. Grant U.S.
21 st	1813 – Maj. General John C. Fremont U.S.
27 th	1821 – Col. John Chivington U.S.

2021-2022 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

February 15, 2022

“U.S. Grant in Missouri: The Re-education of a Civil War Legend” Dave Page

March 15, 2022

“Competing Memories of the Civil War” Caroline Janney

May 17, 2022

“Trust in God and Fear in Nothing: Confederate General Lewis Armistead” Wayne Motts

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year to Everyone! By the time this message gets published in the newsletter the status of the visual upgrade at the KOC as I know it now will be old. I will give an update at the January meeting.

I want to go back 158 years to early January 1864 in Nashville, Tennessee and look at General W. T. Sherman - The Theater Critic.

After the Battle of Chattanooga, October and November 1863, Generals Grant, Sherman, Dodge, Rawlins, and Granger were having a boys’ night out in Nashville (winter rest and planning). Old General William Tecumseh Sherman, all of 43 years old and the oldest of the group, convinced

the others to go to the theater to see Hamlet. General Sherman was a performing arts buff and fancied himself as a critic. During the play he became quite vocal in his critique of the performance – maybe the soliloquy skull scene, “Alas, poor Yorick...”

General Dodge told him to quiet down. That didn’t work too well. Imagine that - a junior General of 32 years old telling William Tecumseh to be quiet. The group of generals did leave the theatre and found a restaurant that was still open and had a dinner of oysters. Oysters were one of the first foods to be canned.

In a remembrance of General Grant, two weeks after his death, the *Saturday Review* told of the General Grant saying, “I only know two tunes. One is Yankee Doodle, and the other one isn’t.” This was a teasing rebuff of those with theatrical passions and presumably, Sherman.

Nashville for the remainder of January and unto March suffered from smallpox. The cowpox vaccine was readily available but many had not been vaccinated.



General Sherman
The critic

General Dodge
“Be quiet”

General Grant
“...two tunes”

TCCWRT MEMBERS: JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to all our members with January Birthdays!

- 1-5 Jane Koenig
- 1-5 Yvonne Compact
- 1-7 Larry Grewach
- 1-7 Terri Rand
- 1-13 Leroy Burggraff
- 1-13 Jim Uecker
- 1-28 Joyce Hinderks

One Tough Irishman: A Home Town Combat Officer in His 60s

Serendipity often plays a role in collecting as I discovered years ago at the huge Minneapolis auditorium antique show. When the doors open most eager customers in the long waiting line headed to the far row on the left or on the right before methodically moving from booth to booth.

I was usually no different, but for some reason this time went directly to a row somewhat off the center of the show and quickly moved down the aisle. I stopped short at the booth of a dealer I recognized, and there spotted this large and amazing double cased image. It joined my collection just a few minutes after the show opened and at a very reasonable price.



The standing officer on the right in this quarter plate image is Captain Patrick Buckley, an Irish immigrant born around 1800 who was keeping a store in my parents' home town of Ottawa, Illinois, when the Civil War began. He promptly responded to President Lincoln's April 1861 call for volunteers and joined the Eleventh Illinois Infantry, a new three-month regiment led by well-known Ottawa attorney William H. L. Wallace.

Just a year later Wallace, then a brigadier general and new division commander, was mortally wounded at Shiloh at the same time his young wife was on a steamboat just upriver. The story of their melancholy reunion is quite poignant. Patrick Buckley served as a sergeant in Company I, one of the three LaSalle County companies, as the regiment did garrison duty at Birds Point, Missouri, until mustered out in late July.

Patrick Buckley had married an Irish gal back around 1830 and fathered John, Anna, and Daniel in Pennsylvania and New York. Times were tough in 1837 and so he likely enlisted for five years in Company G of the Second US Infantry though his name has not been located among army enlistments for that year. The Second Regiment served in the Second Seminole War with its nasty jungle fighting reminiscent of Vietnam.



This David Geister painting shows regular infantrymen on patrol in 1830s Florida.

Buckley reenlisted at Fort Mellon, Florida, in 1842, giving his age as only 30 thus anticipating later “mistakes.” Another son, James, was born in 1845 at Mexico, New York, near Fort Ontario where the regiment was stationed after return from Florida. Patrick was widowed around the same time as he and the regiment headed south in 1846 to war in Mexico (the country). During the war, he was placed on “extra duty” in the

Quartermasters Department, possibly as a wagon maker. Now in his late 40s he was discharged at Jalapas, Mexico, on April 11, 1847. Just a week later his company fought in the Battle of Cerro Gordo; he may have still been present.

Soon after his return to the northeast, Buckley married Margaret Doran (born in Ireland, 1825) to help raise those four kids. Two more daughters and a son were soon added at two-year intervals. The family moved to the Illinois River town of Ottawa around 1854 following many Irish immigrant veterans of the Erie Canal who helped dig the Illinois Michigan Canal that opened in 1848. The historical record does not cite his reason for moving west but by 1857 he was operating a rooming house and partnered with his brother-in-law on a small store. A year later, the old veteran was proudly elected first sergeant of the Ottawa City Guard militia company.

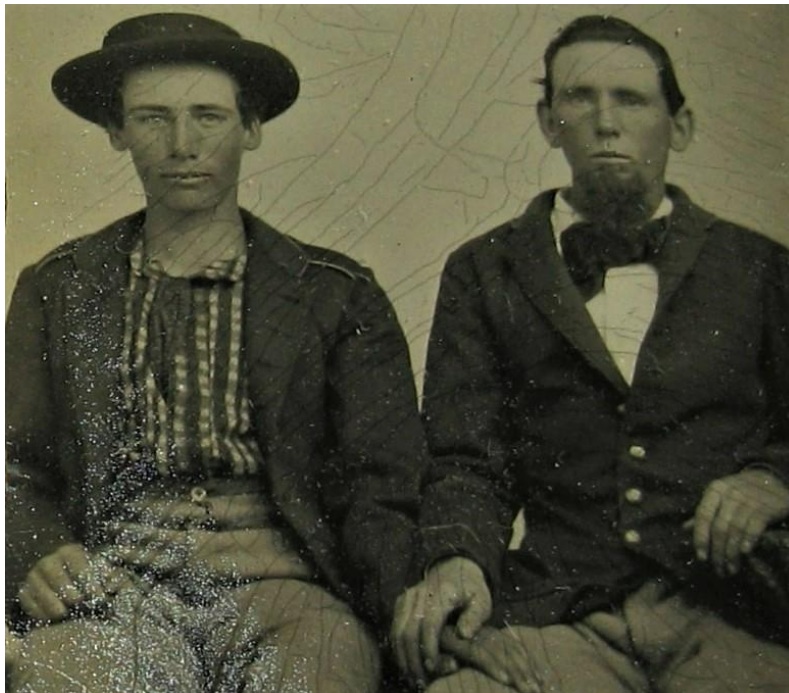
After his three-month service in the Eleventh Illinois, veteran Sergeant Buckley helped raise the mostly Irish Company K of the Fifty-third Illinois Infantry. He was elected their lieutenant, listing his age as 44 even though he had told the 1860 census just two years earlier that he was 60. [My own g-g-grandfather and g-g-uncle started service in that same hometown regiment. Their cavalry company and an artillery battery were briefly attached to the infantry regiment, later to be pulled off for independent service.] The Fifty-third Infantry marched through Tennessee and northern Mississippi in 1862 and 1863 participating in the Siege of Corinth, the Battle of Davis Bridge, and the Siege of Vicksburg. In a disastrous charge at Jackson, Mississippi, on July 12, 1863, the regiment lost 184 of 250 men involved, including Company K’s captain. Buckley consequently moved up to command the company.

Captain Buckley has only a few mentions in the regimental order and letter books preserved at the National Archives in Washington. But one rare anecdote was published in 1910 by a former

member of the company: *One morning the Captain of the company got out suddenly. The company officers had square tents and they had fire places built up in one end of the tent with stick and mud chimneys. The Captain of the company was a little old Irishman. He had been an officer of the War of 1812. His company in the Fifty-third was all Irish, and a good lot of men they were too. Old Captain got blowed out that time. He came out one way and the chimney went out the other. Some of the boys, to have a little fun, threw some powder down the chimney in the fire and it exploded, and so did the fire place, and the Captain exploded after he got his breath. That was all in the good it did, as no one knew who did it.*

The senior citizen captain managed to serve two years with the Fifty-third, but by the fall of 1863 was so sick that he could barely do his duties according to fellow officers. In December he headed back to Ottawa to recruit new men as the regiment, but few thought he would return. His illness worsened and despite the care provided by his wife and a local physician, Patrick Buckley passed from typhoid pneumonia on 2 February 1864. He lies today in a soldier's grave in Ottawa's old Catholic cemetery.

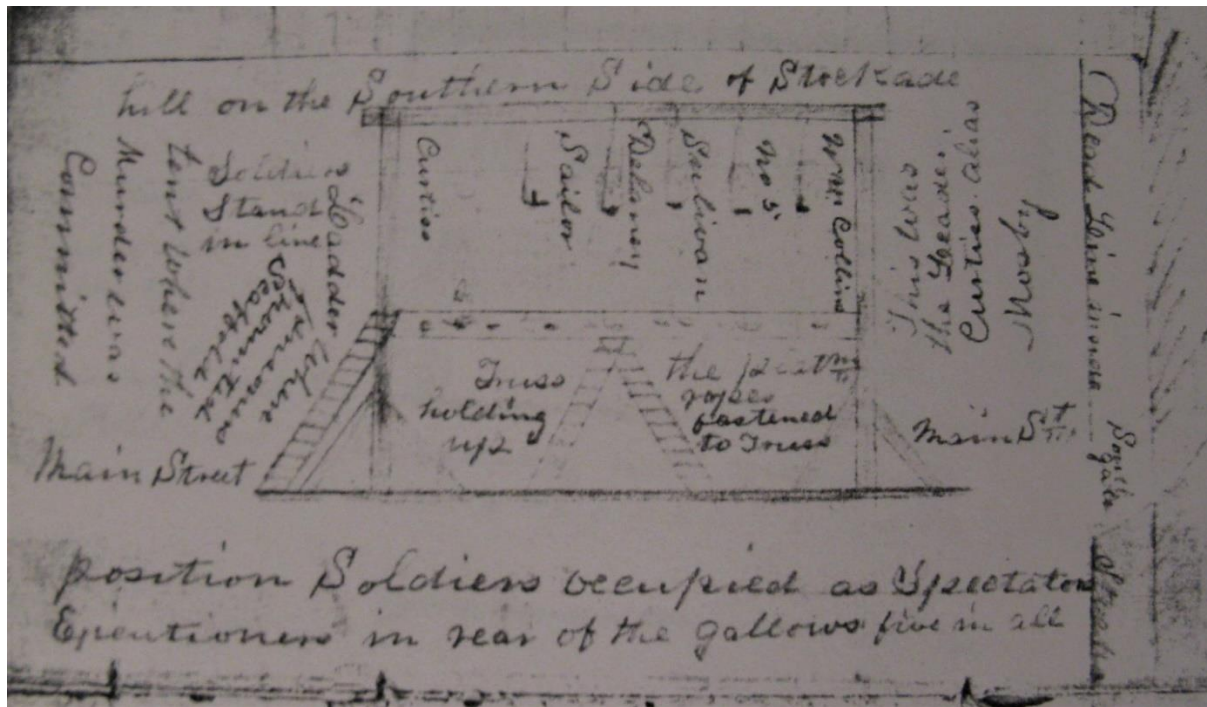
Wife Margaret Buckley received a widow's pension, \$20 monthly. Her 72-page file is among the several thousand Civil War widow's files recently scanned and accessible on line through Fold 3 (a subscription military archives service.) Margaret later was mentioned in the Ottawa newspaper after she accosted the Illinois governor during an 1878 visit and demanded, in rich Irish brogue, to be released from paying property taxes as the widow of a Civil War martyr. A decade later she was admitted to the county asylum as insane and alcoholic and eventually spent the rest of her days with a daughter in Chicago.



The two enlisted men sharing the tintype case are Buckley's son Daniel (on the right) who served in the Twenty-sixth Illinois and his 16-year-old brother James who had just joined his father's Company K of the Fifty-third. The photograph was likely taken in 1861 because James, then a private, is wearing an Illinois state issue jacket. In July 1864 Sergeant James Buckley, age 18, was captured while on picket duty in front of Atlanta and sent

to Andersonville Prison. There he unexpectedly met his older half-brother Daniel, who had been captured twice in 1863, and again in 1864. James wrote: *I felt very glad to see my brother in good health but in prison is a very poor place for relations to meet. He took*

me to his camp and gave me all I could eat of corn bread and bacon, and as I had nothing so sleep on, his two mess mates and himself made room for me.



James kept an excellent diary of his prison experiences now in the Illinois State Archives. He witnessed and described the execution of the infamous raiders and even sketched the gallows.

In the course of researching the Buckley images two decades ago I visited the LaSalle County Illinois Genealogical Society in Ottawa, housed in their own building and with an active volunteer base. There I met and exchanged research with Captain Buckley's g-g-grandson who was an active member and avid genealogist.



He proudly posed at his ancestor's grave in 1998 holding the photographs.

As you can see, he bears a striking resemblance to that tough Irish captain of the Fifty-third Illinois!



HELP WANTED!

TECH HELP NEEDED

No experience necessary.

Help needed for A/V setup, recording, and transferring to YouTube. Inquiries to President Bob Svacina, bob_svacina@msn.com.

Pay: One official Twin Cities Civil War Round Table coffee mug

STEVEN SCHIER'S TRIVIA QUESTION ANSWER:

FIRST BATTERY MINNESOTA LIGHT ARTILLERY

CONTACT US:

Twin Cities Civil War Round Table

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<https://tccwrt.com/>

Can you contribute to a future newsletter? Writers are wanted to submit Civil War related articles to this newsletter.

Please submit your drafts to Bruce Cooper: earlofbuce@hotmail.com