

DID YOUR ANCESTOR
SERVE WITH THE UNION

in the Civil War of 1861-1865?



Daughters of Union Veterans of
the Civil War, 1861-1865

Organized Memorial Day,
May 30, 1885

Mary Whitney Phelps Tent No. 22 Springfield, Missouri

Mary Whitney Phelps Tent No. 22 was chartered on October 3, 1999, in Springfield, Missouri, with 32 members. Our membership has more than doubled since then and continues to grow.

The Tent was named for Mary Whitney Phelps, who was born in Portland, Maine. She married John S. Phelps in 1837, and the couple moved to Missouri and settled in Springfield. John became a circuit-riding lawyer, which left Mary at home for months at a time. In 1840,

John was elected to the Missouri legislature. In 1844, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and served there for 19 years.



When the Civil War broke out, John returned to Springfield to raise a Union regiment. Mary continued running their farm of 1,050 acres. She also nursed wounded and dying men and collected and transported supplies to Union armies at the battles of Wilson's Creek and Pea Ridge.

On August 10, 1861, General Nathaniel Lyon was killed in battle at Wilson's Creek. His body was left behind when the Union army made hasty preparations to evacuate Springfield and retreat to Rolla. When Mrs. Phelps learned that General Lyon's body lay neglected at his headquarters on College Street, she and four other women kept vigil over his body. She made arrangements for a coffin and the disposition of Lyon's body. She then accompanied the body to her farm where it was temporarily buried until relatives from Connecticut could claim it.

In July 1866, Mary Whitney Phelps (who would later become first lady of Missouri when her husband, John, was elected governor) was recognized by the United States Congress for her bravery during the Civil War. She was awarded \$20,000, which she used to start a school for war orphans in Springfield. The school eventually served over 250 orphaned children of both Union and Confederate supporters.



OUR MISSION:

To perpetuate the memories and aspirations of our Civil War ancestors through genealogical, patriotic, and community-service projects.

OUR GOALS:

1. Genealogical
 - Record Civil War ancestors' burial sites at gravesite registries
 - Help others locate their Civil War ancestors
2. Historical
 - Raise funds for Civil War monuments and memorials
 - Attend memorial services to honor Civil War veterans
 - Maintain membership in the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation
3. Patriotic
 - Attend Civil War reenactments and living history events
 - Provide U.S. flag porch kits to new Habitat for Humanity homeowners
 - Perform patriotic instruction in area schools
4. Service and Community
 - Support the veterans at the Mt. Vernon Veterans' Home
 - Participate in events at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield
5. Good of the Order
 - Increase Tent membership
 - Attend Department and National conventions
 - Maintain a website to promote Mary Whitney Phelps Tent No. 22 (<http://duvmissouritent22.org>)

ELIGIBILITY:

You are eligible for membership in the Daughters of Union Veterans if you are at least eight years of age and your ancestor (grandfather, great-grandfather, etc.):

- Served in the Union Army or Navy during the Rebellion of 1861-1865
- Was an honorably-discharged soldier, sailor, or marine
- Died or was killed during his term of service

Eligibility for membership is through lineal descent only.

Interested? Need help locating your Civil War ancestor?
Our Tent meets at 10:00 a.m. on the third Saturday of every month at:

Trinity Lutheran Church
1415 South Holland Street
Springfield, Missouri

For more information: Visit our website at
<http://duvmissouritent22.org>

"THE BIVOUAC OF THE DEAD"

by Theodore O'Hara, 1847

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat
The soldier's last Tattoo;
No more on life's parade shall meet
That brave and fallen few.
On Fame's eternal camping ground
Their silent tents are spread,
And glory guards, with solemn round
The bivouac of the dead.