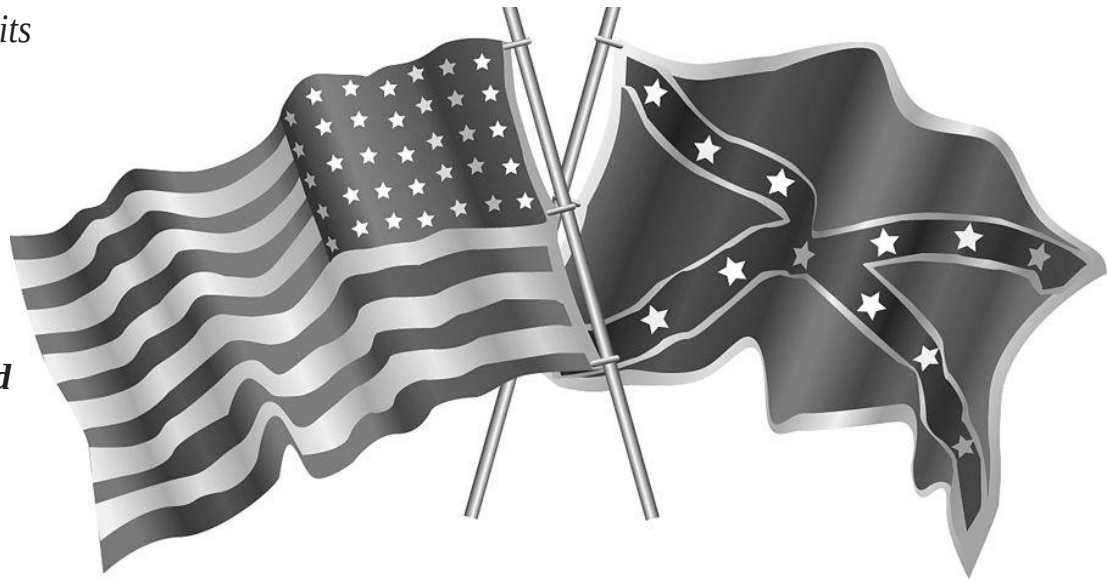


CIVIL WAR TRIVIA OF SOME LESSER-KNOWN FACTS

Submitted by Village of Richfield Springs Historian Harriett Geywits



- 1. What year did the U. S. Civil War begin and why?***
 - 2. Where was the first shot of the Civil War fired?***
 - 3. What Virginia city was the capital of the Confederacy during the War?***
 - 4. Which General were sideburns named for?***
 - 5. During the War, who was President of the South?***
 - 6. What were the names of the first two ironclads that battled during the War?***
 - 7. What were Pook Turtles in the War?***
 - 8. What was ‘cush’ in the Civil War?***
 - 9. Who were the ‘Goober Grabbers in the Civil War?***
 - 10. Who was the only woman to receive the Medal of Honor in the Civil War?***
 - 11. What did Confederate soldiers call their sewing kits for uniform repair?***
 - 12. What was a Butternut during the War?***
 - 13. What was the first state to secede from the Union during the War?***
 - 14. How many future United States Presidents fought in the Civil War?***
 - 15. What was Lee’s Lost Order in the Civil War?***
 - 16. What was the Dictator during the Civil War?***
 - 17. What Union city was planned to burn in retaliation for burning Atlanta?***
 - 18. What were Fireballs in the War?***
 - 19. Who was a famous Confederate General during the War?***
 - 20. What battle marked the turning point in the War?***
 - 21. In what state were the most major battles of the War fought?***
 - 22. What state’s buttons had the Palmetto tree on them?***
 - 23. How did women from New Orleans get even with Union General Butler for the harsh treatment they received?***
 - 24. What appeared as a gift to those at Andersonville Prison?***
 - 25. Who were Blazer’s Scouts?***
- War began in April 1861, a result of tensions between the Northern and Southern states over issues such as slavery, states’ rights, and economic differences. The election of Abraham Lincoln triggered the secession of the Southern States.
 - The first shot of the Civil War was fired at Fort Sumter, SC, located in Charleston Harbor.
 - The city of Richmond, Virginia, served as the capital of the Confederacy. It was strategically located and was an important political and industrial center for the Confederate.
 - General Ambrose Burnside was a Union general who was known for his distinctive facial hair style that connected his mustache to his sideburns. This style became popular and eventually became known as ‘burnsides’ which later evolved into ‘sideburns’.
 - Jefferson Davis served as President of the Confederate State, elected to serve from 1861-1865.
 - The first two ironclads to do battle were the Monitor and the Merrimac, facing off in the Battle of Hampton Roads in 1862, marking a significant turning point in naval warfare. The Monitor was commissioned by the Union and the Merrimac by the Confederate.
 - Pook Turtles were boats designed by Samuel Pook. They were specifically designed to be used in riverine warfare because of their low profile and armored plating against enemy fire. This design allowed them to navigate shallow waters and engage in close combat.
 - During the war, ‘cush’ was a type of stew that was commonly eaten by Confederate soldiers. It consisted of whatever ingredients were available at the time such as salted pork, vegetables and seasonings, a simple, hearty meal.
 - The Goober Grabbers were troops from Georgia, the nickname likely originating from the fact that Georgia was known for peanut production- Goober being a slang term for peanuts.
 - Mary Walker made remarkable contributions as a surgeon despite discrimination and challenges on the battlefield, providing medical care to wounded soldiers.
 - Their small, portable kits that could be carried in their pockets or

- knapsacks were called ‘housewives’. The kits contained the needles, thread, buttons and scissors necessary for emergency mending tasks.
- This was a nickname given to Southern soldiers towards the end of the war. It was used to describe the Confederate soldiers who often wore uniforms dyed with butternut shells due to shortages of proper clothing materials.
 - South Carolina was the first state to secede from the Union, it being one of the strongest proponents of states’ rights and believing in the right to secede if it felt its rights were infringed upon. This secession set off a chain reaction of other Southern states leading to the formation of the Confederate States of America.
 - During the Civil War, six future United States Presidents served in the military. They were: Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, and Chester A. Arthur.
 - A special order wrapped around three cigars, a confidential communication issued by Confederate General Robert E. Lee to his subordinate General D. H. Hill detailed Lee’s plan for the invasion of Maryland. It was lost by Hill’s troops and fell into Union hands, allowing Union General George McClellan to anticipate Lee’s movements and bring victory to the Union at the Battle of Antietam.
 - The Dictator was a large mortar mounted on a flat car used by the Union during the siege of Petersburg in 1864-65. Known for its ability to launch large explosive shells at high angles, making it effective in breaking through defenses and fortifications. Its mobility on a flat car allowed it to be easily moved to different locations on the battlefield.
 - Southerners planned to burn New York City in retaliation for the burning of Atlanta as it was a symbol of Northern economic and military power.
 - Fireballs were used as a coal substitute in the South. Due to blockades and shortages of resources, they had to find alternative sources of fuel. Fireballs were balls of cotton soaked in turpentine or resin which were then set on fire to provide heat and light.
 - Robert E. Lee, well known for his leadership and military strategies, had a reputation as a skilled tactician.
 - Pickett’s Charge occurred during the Battle of Gettysburg that took place July 1-3, 1863. The Confederate assault on Union lines resulted in heavy casualties for the Confederacy and led to the end of their hopes of victory in the war.
 - Virginia was strategically important because of its proximity to the Confederate capital of Richmond and its transportation networks. Battles occurring within the state were: Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and the final surrender at Appomattox Court House.
 - South Carolina’s buttons featured the Palmetto tree as a symbol of the state. The tree had been long associated with the state, dating back to the Revolutionary War when soldiers built a fort out of Palmetto logs to successfully defend against British attacks.
 - They had his picture painted on their chamber pots as a form of protest and defiance, expressing their contempt and disgust toward General Butler and the Union Army.
 - A freshwater spring that miraculously appeared at the Andersonville Prison was named Providence Spring, reflecting the belief that the spring’s sudden appearance was a gift from a higher power, providing much needed relief to the prisoners who were suffering from dehydration and unsanitary conditions.
 - Blazer’s Scouts were a group of Union soldiers who were tasked with tracking down and capturing Confederate guerrilla fighters. They were known for their ability to navigate difficult terrain and gather intelligence on Confederate movements.