

**Roanoke Public Libraries
Virginia Room
Joshua L Chamberlain Camp 20,
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Collection**

Collection Description:

Repository: Roanoke Public Libraries, Virginia Room

Accession Number: 2016.07.21

Title: Physical Characteristics: 2 document storage cases

Donated by: Richard Raymond III

Arrangement: Chamberlain Camp documents generally chronologically, followed by other Civil War history and memorialization information.

Creator: Members of Joshua L Chamberlain Camp 20, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Reproduction Restrictions: No known restrictions on publication. Virginia Room copy fees apply.

Processor: Angela Stiefbold, November 2024

Historical Note:

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain Camp 20, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, was organized in 1995 under the leadership of Robert Eck. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a national organization dedicated to preserving the history of Union Veterans of the American Civil War. Hereditary members are male descendants of veterans of the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy who served in that conflict; associate members are men who have a demonstrated interest in the Civil War. Chamberlain Camp members have worked to identify the graves of Union Veterans in and around Roanoke, and participate in ceremonies that honor their service. Its namesake, Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, was a Colonel (later Brevet Major General) who commanded the 20th Maine Volunteers at the Battle of Gettysburg.

Scope and Content:

The collection is focused on the founding of the Camp and its activities in the 1990s. Organizational documents, newsletters from 1993-1999, and photographs of ceremonies and events from 1994 to 1999 form the core of the collection. Other documents in the collection cover Civil War commemorations of the 1990s, activities of the Chesapeake District of Sons of Union Veterans in the 2000s and 2010s, and awards presented by the Chamberlain Camp in 2014.

Container List:

Box 1

Folder 1: Organization Documents and By-Laws

Folder 2: Administrative Documents – Correspondence, meeting minutes (not comprehensive), information on Robert J. Eck Memorial Scholarship Award, membership lists

- Folder 3: Newsletter Originals (1993-1995) – Removed from plastic sleeves in a binder. Original mock-ups of newsletters, Winter 1993 to Summer 1995. They include inserted articles, documents, and photographs that were then then photocopied as part of newsletter distributed to membership. Digital copy created.
- Folder 4: Newsletters (1993-1996) – Winter 1993 to Nov.. 1996
- Folder 5: Newsletters (1997-1999) – Feb. 1997 to Sept. 1999
- Folder 6: 1993-95 Scrapbook, part 1 – See full description under digital files.
Items and photographs from 1993-94, including Charter Presentation
- Folder 7: 1993-95 Scrapbook, Memorial Day Ceremony, 1994
- Folder 8: 1993-95 Scrapbook, Annual Christmas Dinner, Fincastle Rifles, 1994
- Folder 9: 1993-95 Scrapbook, Presentation of Camp Colors, 1995
- Folder 10: 1993-95 Scrapbook, Massing of the Colors, 1995
- Folder 11: 1993-95 Scrapbook, Presentation of Charter, 1995
- Folder 12: 1993-95 Scrapbook, part 2 – Items and photographs from 1994-95
- Folder 13: Binder Cover Pages – Removed from binders that contained Newsletter Originals and 1993-95 Scrapbook

Box 2

- Folder 1: Camp Activities – Christmas Party (1994), Presentation of Permanent Charter (1995), Institution of Auxiliary group (1996), Battle of South Salem Reenactment (1994, 1997), Massing of the Colors (1997), Eck Scholarship Awards to Brittany Cornett (n.d.), Morgan Myers (2007), color guard ceremony guidelines (n.d.)
- Folder 2: Meeting Packet: Battle of Plymouth – Information presented at January 16, 1995, meeting.
- Folder 3: Meeting Packet: Camp Sumpter / Andersonville Prison – Information presented at June 20, 1995, meeting
- Folder 4: Treasurer– Correspondence and reports related to office of the camp treasurer. Includes lists of members. Much of the correspondence is undated; dated items range 1996-2004
- Folder 5: Photo Pages – Unidentified photos of Civil War monuments removed from loose plastic album pages.
- Folder 6: Photographs – Loose photographs of Camp events. Ceremony for Al Linton’s ancestors (2013); presentation of awards to high school students (2014); unidentified events.
- Folder 7: Battle of South Salem – 1997 flyer for Roanoke County Parks & Recreation Department event
- Folder 8: Chesapeake Department – Summer 2011 Department Newsletter, programs of 2014 and 2015 Department Encampments, correspondence received
- Folder 9: Civil War Commemorations – Program of “Hunter’s Raid and the Battle for Lynchburg, Commemorating the 129th Anniversary Living History & Battle Reenactment”; information on 150th Anniversary of Civil War activities; Sharpsburg Heritage Festival / Battle of Antietam (1996);

24th Virginia Infantry 1996 Schedule of Civil War Reenactments; Craig Mountain Boys Va. 28th Gettysburg (1996);

Folder 10: Articles – Excerpts and clippings from journals and newspapers about Civil War history, reenacting, memorials, obituary of Gen. William B. Rosson

Folder 11: Songs – Sheet music for Civil War era songs.

Folder 12: *Valley News Echo* – Modern reprints of articles from Civil War years. Includes Vol. 5 No. 9-12 and Vol. 6 No. 1-4.

Digital Files

Newsletter Originals Binder – Removed from plastic sleeves in a binder. Original mock-ups of newsletters, Winter 1993-Summer 1995. They include inserted articles, documents, and photographs that were then then photocopied as part of newsletter distributed to membership. Originals located in Box 1, Folder 3.

1993-95 Scrapbook – Documents and photographs inserted into plastic sleeves and placed in a binder. Primarily photos of Camp events, largely unidentified. Documents include information on the founding of the Camp; information on the national organization of The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain's biography. Also programs of: the Camp's Charter Presentation (1994); Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony, Fairview Cemetery (1994); Annual Christmas Dinner of the Fincastle Rifles Camp SCV (nd); Presentation of Camp Colors (1995); Massing of the Colors (1995); Presentation of Permanent Charter Ceremony (1995); Confederate Heritage Preservation Society Event (1995). Originals located in Box 1, Folders 6-12.