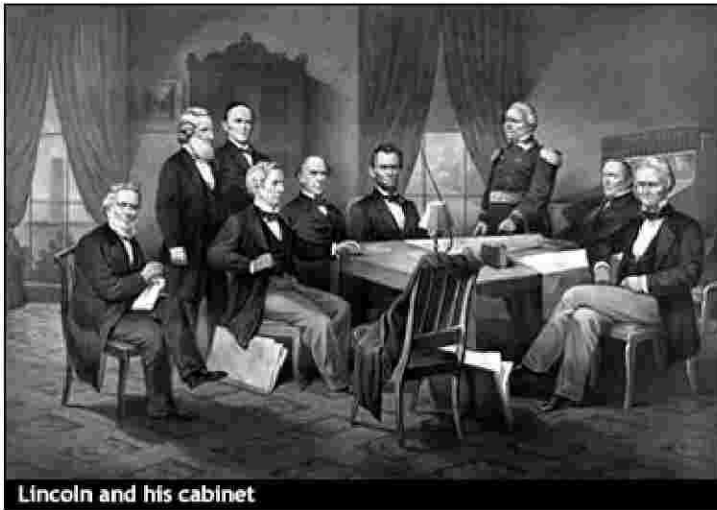


150th Anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War



Lincoln and his cabinet

Cape May County Civil War Round Table October 2010 Newsletter Meetings for 2010

Please contact Pres. Lolli if you would be interested in giving any presentations at meetings in 2010.

Website: www.cmccwrt.com

21 October: Dick Simpson will be making a presentation on *The Forgotten Battle of Franklin, Tennessee, 30 November 1864*

Refreshments: Mike Golla & Eddy O'Malley

18 November: First will be a brief presentation on the history of the Cape May County Civil War Round Table. That will be followed by a presentation on the role of sharpshooters in the Civil War by John P. **Refreshments: Lou Bishop Jr. and John & Judy**

? December: End of Year & Christmas Party – start saving your pennies for this dinner!

If you end up missing a copy of the newsletter, or the post office tears your copy up, digital copies are posted on the Round Table website (cmccwrt.com).

CMCCWRT Officers for 2010

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Minutes for the Business Meeting Cape May County Civil War Round Table 16 September 2010

Meeting was called to order by Treasurer Jim Marshall, as neither President Lolli nor Vice President Gibson were present. We saluted the flag and held a moment of silence for those risking their lives in service to our country.

Treasurer Marshall then gave the Treasurer's report. Motion made to accept the report and file for audit; seconded and approved.

Request made for volunteers to be on the annual nomination committee. The second Vice President will not be able to serve next year; all other officers are willing to serve again. Please contact Pres. Lolli if you are willing to be on the committee, or if you want to volunteer and/or run for one of the officer positions.

Reminder that Dick Simpson will be speaking about the battle of Franklin in the October meeting.

John P. was going to make a presentation this meeting, but it wasn't ready; so instead Treasurer Marshall said he would be leading a discussion of various battlefields members have visited, along with information about what are the best areas of various battlefields to visit, what areas aren't visited as much but are very interesting, and so on.

Treasurer Marshall had some visitors and new members to the Round Table introduce themselves.

There being no other new or old business to discuss, the business part of the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Munson-Siter, Secretary, CMCCWRT



Historic Civil War Events in November

1860

November 6 Lincoln elected

1861

November 6 Davis elected to six-year term as president of Confederacy

1862

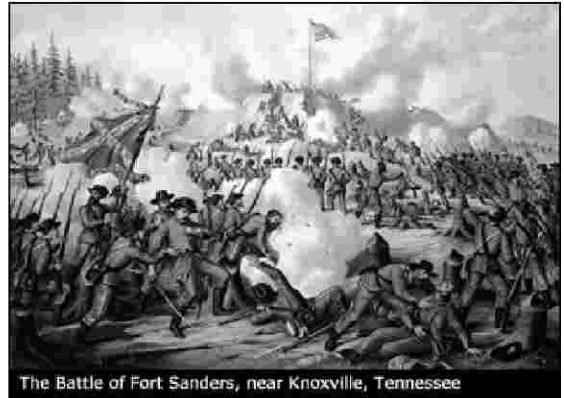
Nothing of note

1863

November 6 Battle of Droop Mountain (WVA)
 19 Lincoln delivers Gettysburg address
 23-25 Battles for Chattanooga (Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge)

1864

November 8 Lincoln elected for second term
 15 Sherman begins "March to the Sea"



Civil War Related Events - November

Most taken from www.civilwartraveler.com; they cover events all over the country. I've included those more or less in our 'local' area

- 3-6 **VA** Tour, "Wounded, Weakened and Dangerous: The Army of Northern Virginia in the Fall of 1863," includes visits to Rappahannock Station and Mine Run. Based in Culpeper. www.blueandgrayeducation.org.
- 3-7 **PA** SCT Pennsylvania Grand Review in Harrisburg. Symposium, lectures, workshops and more commemorating the post-war parade of the United States Colored Troops. Includes Nov. 6 reenactment of the parade (9 am in downtown Harrisburg). Details, schedule: www.palincoln.org/the-historic-gettysburg-railroad-station/usct-grand-review/.
- 5 **PA** Symposium, "An Evening with Ed Bearss," preservation fundraising event (for Monterey Pass) featuring Bearss speaking about the Confederate retreat from Gettysburg, at the Blue Ridge Summit Fire Department, 13063 Monterey Lane. 6-10 pm. \$35/advance, \$45/at door. www.emmitsburg.net/montereypass.
- 5 **VA** Living history, "Our Perilous Condition: Winchester/Frederick County's Road to Secession," at the Old Court House Civil War Museum in Winchester. Pro- and anti-secession groups will parade to the Old Court House (204 Loudoun St.) and deliver speeches followed by balloting. Parades begin 6:30 pm. Free. 540-542-1145 or www.civilwarmuseum.org.
- 5-6 **VA** Public document scanning, free scanning by Library of Virginia personnel of Civil War documents, diaries, photographs and letters at the Hall of Valor Museum, New Market State Historical Park. 9 am-4 pm Friday and 9 am-noon Saturday. Free. More info: www.

- shenandoahatwar.org.
- 6 **VA** "Virginia Remembers: Commemoration of the Civil War from Centennial to the Sesquicentennial," with presentations from both eras, period music and refreshments at the Hall of Valor Museum, New Market State Historical Park. 1-5 pm. Free. www.vmi.edu/newmarket.
- 6 **VA** Luminary, "A Ceremony on Hallowed Ground," 500 candles on the Sailor's Creek Battlefield Historical State Park near Amelia. Tours at 6 and 7 pm. Free. 804-561-7510.
- 6 **VA** Living history tour, "Cavaliers, Courage and Coffee," in Atoka. Lantern tours and tales of Mosby's Confederacy. Tours begin at the Rector House, 1461 Atoka Road (just off Route 50 on Route 713) 7:30 pm. \$5. www.mosbyheritagearea.org or 540-687-6681.
- 6 **MD** Lecture, "Maryland on the Edge of War," at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton. 4 pm. Free. www.surratt.org or 301-868-1121.
- 6-7 **FL** Living history, "Union Garrison," at Fort Clinch State Park near Fernandia. 9 am-5 pm Saturday, 9 am-noon Sunday. \$2. 904-277-7274.
- 6-7 **WV** Living history, tours (including candlelight), lectures and reenactment of 1861 raid during the Guyandotte Civil War Days. www.guyandottcivilwardays.com.
- 6-7 **VA** Reenactment at Locust Grove Farm near Walkerton. Camps, demonstrations and battles at 1:45 pm Saturday and 2 pm Sunday. 10 am-5 pm. \$5/one-day pass. Details, directions: www.peninsulaartillery.com or 804-744-6224.
- 10-12 **DC** Special display of the original Emancipation Proclamation at the National Archives, Constitution Avenue and Ninth Street NW. Part of the "Discovering the Civil War" exhibit. Free. 202-357-5000 or www.archives.gov/calendar.
- 13 **VA** Luminary, memorial candlelight program at Poplar Grove National Cemetery near Petersburg. 5-9 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/pete or 804-732-3531.
- 14 **VA** Walking tour, "Freedman's Farm Tour and Confederate Winter Camp Site," at Montpelier, home of James Madison, near Orange. 2 pm. Site admission applies. 540-672-2728 or www.montpelier.org.
- 17 **VA** Book talk, "Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War," at Hanover Tavern in Hanover Courthouse. 7 pm. Free.

- www.hanovertavern.org or 804-537-5050.
- 19 **PA** Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address at the Soldiers' National Cemetery in Gettysburg. 9:30 am. Free. www.nps.gov/gett.
- 19 **PA** "Stories and Songs of a Civil War Hospital," music and firsthand accounts at Christ Lutheran Church, 44 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 7:30 pm. Free. www.candlelightatchrist.org or 717-334-5212.
- 19 **PA** Ball, Remembrance Day event at the Gettysburg Hotel. 8 pm-midnight. www.CivilWarLady.net.
- 20 **DC** Symposium, "The Civil War: Fresh Perspectives," at the National Archives on Constitution Avenue. More info: 202-357-5000.
- 20 **VA** Lecture, "The War Years in Fairfax, 1861-62, Part II," at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 2 pm. Free. 703-591-0560.
- 20 **VA** Living history, "Reminiscences of Petersburg: A Women's Perspective," at the Centre Hill Museum in Petersburg. 3:30 pm. Free with admission. Details: 804-733-2401.
- 20 **VA** Walking tour of Fort Huger, a James River Confederate fortification near Smithfield (15080 Talcott Terrace, Smithfield). 10 am. Free. 757-357-0115.
- 20 **PA** Remembrance Day Parade and Ceremony and Illumination in Gettysburg. Annual event with living history and speakers plus evening illumination at the Soldiers' National Cemetery. Parade begins 1 pm. Free. 717-259-6156.
- 29 **VA** Lecture, "The Religious Life of Robert E. Lee," at the R.E. Lee Memorial Church, 123 Washington St, Lexington. 7:30 pm. Free. 540-464-1058.



Posted on Mon, Sep. 27, 2010 = Philadelphia Inquirer

Old Baldy returns to Grand Army of the Republic Museum

By Michael Vitez = Inquirer Staff Writer

Old Baldy came home Sunday.

And it was a fine new home, and homecoming, for the preserved head of one of the most famous horses in the land, at the Grand Army of the Republic Museum in the city's Frankford section.

Old Baldy was no thoroughbred, just a handsome, brown horse with four white feet and a white blaze on his face. But he survived a Triple Crown of his own - shrapnel to the nose and flank at the First Battle of Bull Run, a shot through the neck at Antietam, and a musket ball to the belly at Gettysburg that finally ended his combat service.

"He was always able to come forward, despite wounds, despite illness, despite exhaustion. He was always ready to go," said Anthony Waskie, a Civil War historian, author, and Temple University professor who serves on the museum board.

"The men saw something in the horse, something we admire in people that face adversity and prevail. He became an icon."

Old Baldy was ridden by Gen. David Hunter at the first Bull Run, and sent to the Cavalry Depot in Washington to recuperate. There, Gen. George C. Meade bought him for \$150, and Meade rode him faithfully through battle after battle.

"At Antietam," Waskie said, "he was shot, and seemed to be dead on the ground, flat . . . and the next day Meade sent his valet to go and get his saddle. And when the valet went into the field, the horse was up and grazing."

On July 2, 1863, the second day at Gettysburg, Meade, by then commander of all Union troops, was rallying his men on Cemetery Ridge when Old Baldy was shot out from under him.

On July 5, two days after the famous battle had ended, leaving 50,000 casualties, Meade included in a letter home, "Baldy was shot again, and I fear will not get over it."

Three days later he wrote: "I did not think he could live, but the old fellow has such a wonderful tenacity of life that I am in hopes he will."

Baldy survived the war, but saw no more combat.

After the war, Meade returned home to Philadelphia, where, among other duties, he became commissioner of Fairmount Park, and he often rode Old Baldy on the newly constructed trails that the general, trained as an engineer, helped design.

When Meade died on Nov. 11, 1872, Old Baldy marched in his funeral procession to Laurel Hill Cemetery.

Meade was not flashy, Waskie said, but he had earned the respect and affection of his men. "He wouldn't waste their lives unnecessarily, paid them on time, and fed them well," he said. "The horse became associated with the man, and it took on even more importance after Meade died."

Old Baldy lived another decade, to age 30, cared for by a friend of Meade's near Jenkintown.

When the horse could no longer stand, a veterinarian put him down with poison, as Meade had wished. The Public Spirit of Jenkintown reported on Dec. 23, 1882:

"Baldy in life was as trustful as brave, and he swallowed with all confidence the two ounces of cyanide of potash that was poured down his throat . . . A few more struggles and the old warhorse stentorously breathed his gallant life away."

Two men who served with Meade read the news report and went on Christmas Eve to Jenkintown, where they received permission to take the horse's head and have it stuffed and mounted on an ebony shield, inscribed with a record of his service. The men presented it to Post No. 1 of the Grand Army of the Republic, the veterans organization of its time.

That post evolved into the museum in Frankford, but it fell into such disrepair in the 1970s that it closed temporarily, and Old Baldy was transferred to the Civil War Museum on Pine Street in Center City.

When that museum closed in 2008, a legal struggle ensued, and Sunday, to the great joy of members of the Frankford museum, Old Baldy returned to what they consider his rightful home. The museum, at 4278 Griscom St. (www.garmuslib.org), is open Tuesdays from noon to 4 p.m. and the first Sunday of every month from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

The museum prepared a special room just for Old Baldy. After a ribbon cutting, about 50 people walked through, admiringly.

"Wow, what a history!" said Jim Souder of South Jersey. "What a horse!"

Eric Schmincke, museum president, invited everyone up to the second floor for a champagne toast. Meade's favorite drink was champagne, and the general was known to drink it in the saddle.

"To Old Baldy," Schmincke said, "and all who protected the Union."



Battle of Corinth

As our presentation this month is on the battle of Franklin, TN, I thought it was interesting when I got this information in an email from the CWPT....



CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST
SAVING AMERICA'S CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS

Help Save Spring Hill and Franklin

Tremendous Donor Matches Multiply Every Dollar Donated

John Bell Hood's Tennessee Campaign in late 1864 was the last great Confederate strategic offensive of the Civil War. Leaving a burned-out Atlanta to the rear, the veteran remains of Hood's Army of Tennessee gambled that a sudden strike back into Tennessee could change the course of the war. And despite the long odds, Hood's offensive almost succeeded.

CWPT is proud to announce that it is working to save two battlefield parcels intimately tied to this campaign - and to each other. In Spring Hill, Tennessee we are working with General Motors to save and preserve 84 acres of the Spring Hill Battlefield, the very ground where Hood's men almost captured John Schofield's two isolated Union corps along the Columbia Pike.

Spring Hill 2010 Preservation Campaign

- Acres: 84 acres
- CWPT Fundraising Goal: \$100,000
- Match: \$20 to \$1
- Match Sources: To Be Announced

For more: www.civilwar.org/springhill10

New battle maps, historian videos, history articles, and photos online!



HELP SAVE FRANKLIN

Hood's failure to eliminate Schofield at Spring Hill meant that his tired forces were then forced to again confront their Union foe, now entrenched behind the tall earthworks around Franklin, Tennessee. In Franklin, CWPT is working to preserve yet another key stretch of the Union main line this new parcel is closely associated with the intense fighting around the Carter Cotton Gin one of the bloodiest sections of any battlefield of the Civil War.

Franklin 2010 Preservation Campaign

- Acres: ¼ acre
- Total Cost: \$206,000
- CWPT Fundraising Goal: \$103,000
- Match: \$2 to \$1
- Match Sources: Civil War Battlefield Protection Program

For more: www.civilwar.org/cottongin10

New battle maps, historian videos, history articles, and photos online!

Some of you may ask why this quarter-acre at Franklin is so expensive? The answer is that we are buying not only the land, but a residence on this property. Our plan is to remove the residence so that this section of the battlefield can be returned to its 1864 state.

As many of you know, CWPT and its members, have been diligently working on saving these great Civil War battlefields. The 84 acres at Spring Hill will be added to the 110 that we have already saved there. And at Franklin, this new Cotton Gin parcel, will be added to the many individual parcels that are being pieced together around the area of the Breakthrough at Franklin.

Inch by inch, square foot by square foot, you and I are helping to restore two of America's most important forgotten battlefields. Join us as we work to save the Spring Hill and Franklin battlefields.

Posted on Sun, Aug. 8, 2010 = Philadelphia Inquirer
COMMENTARY

Local facts, faces shaped the Civil War

By John Bryer

The nation's sesquicentennial observances of the Civil War, starting next year, will be a good time to separate myth from fact and appreciate how people from our region shaped the conflict.

Contrary to one popular belief, the war was not started to end slavery. It was fought to stop the spread of slavery to new states in the West. Only in late 1862 was the larger issue broached.

President Abraham Lincoln had intentions to free slaves in states not under Union control but proper timing of the Emancipation Proclamation was essential. The militarily dreadful year 1862 was certainly not a propitious time to do so; the Confederacy had rung up a string of impressive victories and was about to invade the North.

Lincoln waited for a decisive Union victory to amass the necessary political capital, and the proclamation was finally presented after the September 1862 victory at Antietam. Once the proclamation was signed on Jan. 1, 1863, the way was cleared to arm Northern blacks for service in the Union forces - a prospect that frightened many Northerners. By the war's end, about 180,000 African Americans had served in the Union Army.

Numerous camps were established to train black soldiers. Of them, only Camp William Penn in La Mott, Pa., trained blacks exclusively. It was established in what is now Cheltenham Township the week before the Battle of Gettysburg.

The choice of location was curious. La Mott was dominated by Quakers, the most outspoken of whom was the diminutive abolitionist and women's-rights pioneer Lucretia Mott. The Quaker residents of La Mott were strong Union supporters. So a military training camp - named for a Quaker - was protected by a community of Quakers who, as a matter of belief, are strict pacifists. Curious indeed.

Let us look at the experiences of two black Chester County veterans trained at Camp William Penn.

Pvt. John Smith was a member of the 43d U.S. Colored Troops. The 43d was organized at Camp William Penn in March 1864, participated in the siege of Richmond, and played a critical role in the Battle of the Crater. After the fall of Richmond, the 43d joined in the pursuit of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Smith was there when Lee surrendered at Appomattox.

Smith went with the 43d to Texas until his regiment was mustered out and discharged in Philadelphia on Nov. 30, 1865. He was a Chester County resident at the time of his death on Nov. 6, 1901.

A copy of the Application for Burial of Deceased Soldier for Smith is at the Old Caln Historical Society

museum in the Old Caln Meeting House near Downingtown. The notarized application indicates that Smith was a laborer at the time of his death.

Three of Smith's acquaintances appeared before the Chester County commissioners to affirm that "this man not being able to work for several years had no means of support except his pension." They asked the county to pay his \$35 interment expense. Smith's clearly marked grave is in the northeast corner of the Old Caln Meeting House cemetery.

Cpl. James C. Boggs served in Company D of the Eighth U.S. Colored Troops. In January 1863 the regiment left Camp William Penn for Florida, where it fought in the Battle of Olustee with calamitous results. The Eighth was later sent to Virginia.

While in the Richmond area, Boggs saw action in September 1864 at Chaffin's Farm as part of the Battle of New Market Heights. The battle was noteworthy because of the manner in which the 3,800 African American troops heroically acquitted themselves. Of the 16 Medals of Honor awarded to "colored" troops during the Civil War, 14 were awarded for their valorous actions at New Market Heights.

Like Smith, Boggs was present at Lee's surrender. After service in Texas, the Eighth was mustered out in November 1865. Boggs died on Aug. 10, 1886, and Chester County was petitioned to cover his burial expenses. Boggs is also buried at Old Caln.

The Civil War nominally ended slavery in the United States, but one wonders whether the Northern black soldiers had additional, more personal, motives for enlisting. And we can only wonder whether these two brave men experienced a greater degree of racial equality after the war. Sadly, my guess is that they did not.

At Camp William Penn these two largely forgotten men developed their war skills under the de facto protection of Quakers. This prepared them to fight with distinction for the Union and paved the way for them to help bring about, and to witness, Lee's surrender. They now lie buried beside each other in the Quaker graveyard at Old Caln.

Civil War re-enactors stage 1910 Grand Army of the Republic reunion in Atlantic City

By MARTIN DeANGELIS Staff Writer | Posted: Sunday, September 26, 2010
(Press of Atlantic City)

Photos by: Anthony Smedile



Dressed in civil war uniforms, various groups of history buffs walk down Vermont Ave in Atlantic City on their way to the Absecon Lighthouse to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 44th Encampment held in Atlantic City in September of 1910.

ATLANTIC CITY — It isn't every day that this town hosts a Civil War parade. In fact, it's about once every century.

And on Saturday, a parade featuring people in Civil War uniforms made its way through the streets of Atlantic City from the Boardwalk to Absecon Lighthouse. The parade recreated a Civil War-related event in Atlantic City 100 years ago this week — the 44th annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, which brought a reported 18,000 former soldiers to the city for almost a week of gatherings, official events and good times. (Although the number of vets was closer to 30,000 by some estimates.)

The GAR — think of it as the American Legion or VFW of its day — also had a parade through the streets of Atlantic City back in 1910. And Dave Hann, a union electrician and major Civil War buff from Mullica Township, wanted to recreate that event as one of the highlights of his plan to remind the Atlantic City area of this piece of its history.

“When you start telling people about it, they don't believe it happened,” says Hann, a member of the Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp No. 7 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and a leader of the committee that put months of meetings into planning this reenactment of the GAR's visit to Atlantic City.

Their plans did run into some logistical problems — with the Boardwalk shut down near Garden Pier and the Revel casino project, they had to change Saturday's brief parade route to avoid the boards. But that was historically accurate too, because the original parade also went around the streets of the city, although many, many more streets than Saturday's reenactors did.

Hann estimated that maybe 50 people, mostly in Union uniforms, joined in the modern parade. And those streets — which obviously look different in a lot of ways — apparently weren't quite as packed with spectators as they were for a parade that one newspaper of the day started describing this way:

“Atlantic City. N. J. Sept. 21. — Once again the ‘boys in blue’ passed in review before their Commander-in-chief. With steps not so sprightly as they once were, but with the same old spirit they marched the broad avenues of this city by the sea today and were acclaimed by great crowds of people who came to see the big feature of the 44th annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. Ideal September weather favored the old soldier ...”

The weather was beautiful again for the 100th anniversary — although with a high temperature that hit 90 on the local mainland, it maybe wasn't ideal for walking around in a woolen uniform buttoned clear up to the collar.

Still, after the parade, the marchers and other history-minded types gamely gathered around Absecon Lighthouse — which was featured prominently on the official 1910 GAR medal — to unveil a plaque that will stand outside the lighthouse and commemorate the event a century ago. They also took time to share and try to spread their knowledge of and reverence for New Jersey's Civil War history.

Fred Minus, 70, from Trenton, was there with his 6th Regiment of the U.S. Colored Troops, talking about the experiences of black soldiers in the Civil War — including two great-great grandfathers. Minus says it can be a tough sell to get young people interested in a war that ended 145 years ago, but his group still manages to have about 30 active Trenton-area cadets, ages 12 to 18, who are part of its reenactments and other activities.

Cindy Mason Purdie, from the Atlantic County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, was proud to point out several pictures at an exhibit inside the lighthouse keeper's residence showing that the 1910 convention was “inclusive of African-American vets.” And Minus, from the Trenton group, proudly named one black Atlantic City GAR chapter, the Martin Delaney Post, that was active in the 1910 encampment.

The lighthouse also featured a concert of Civil War music by Becks Band, a Philadelphia-area brass band that plays in Union uniforms. (You'd probably recognize many of the melodies from the Ken Burns PBS documentary on the war.)

Hann enjoys telling the story of how hard Atlantic City fought to get the GAR to come in 1910, and how popular the city was with vets from around the country. By the figures he's found, it was the biggest encampment in the GAR's history, except for a 50th anniversary reunion on the battlefields at Gettysburg, Pa., a few years later. (Despite that “encampment” name, everyone involved stayed in hotels during the Atlantic City gathering.)

Of course, the 100th anniversary was much smaller, and shorter, than the real thing. An hour or so

after Saturday's parade, people who marched to the lighthouse could be seen leaving the landmark, walking down the streets of 2010 Atlantic City toward their cars — still dressed in their 1860s Civil War uniforms.

