

DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
G.A.R. POST PROJECT FORM



PLEASE:

- Type or print, using a ballpoint pen, when filling out this form. Legibility is critical.
- Do not guess at the information. An answer of "Unknown" is more helpful.
- Include a photograph of each viewable side and label it with name & direction of view.

- Thank You

Post Information

Post Name Post Number
City/Town County State

Brief History of the G.A.R. Post (use separate document if necessary):

The post is named for Simon Curtis (unknown info about him). Many later records report the post was named for the commander of the Union army at the Battle of Pea Ridge in 1862, Samuel R. Curtis, was founded in 1884, shortly after the return of the GAR to Arkansas. While little information exists on the history of the Samuel R. Curtis G.A.R. post, it likely was an active post since the state GAR's Twentieth Annual Encampment was held in Siloam Springs in May 1902, with the Curtis post hosting the event. Also, the minutes from the twentieth and twenty-first encampments indicated that the Siloam Springs post was among the state's top five for those years in terms of dues-paying members. Finally, it is significant that the post had sufficient support to erect a monument in 1928, which definitely was a late date in the movement to erect Civil War commemorative monuments.

Meeting Facility

Structure Still Exist? Yes No Unknown Type of Building: Stand-Alone Shared-Use

Identify Specific Location:

Description of Records

Do the Records Exist? Yes No Unknown The Records are: Originals Copies

What are the conditions of the records?

What do the records consist of?

Location of Records

Repository Name
City/Town County State Zip

Additional Information:

Submitter Information

Submit Date Name
Camp Name Camp # City/Town State Zip
Email

Submit to Current G.A.R. Post Records Officer Listed @
<http://www.suvcwmo.org/garposts.php>

Re: Arkansas GAR information

From: **Rebecca A. Howard** (rahowar@uark.edu)
Sent: Fri 6/08/12 11:30 AM
To: enderlin@sonic.net (enderlin@sonic.net)
Cc: webusch@hotmail.com (webusch@hotmail.com)

Dean,

I've attached two pictures of the correspondence. There are eight pages total, with the last being a list of signatures. I'm not sure how much my email will let me send, so I'm sticking with these two for now! They are writing in regards to Lafayette Mason, certificate number 204539. I haven't had a chance to go through his file extensively (I took almost 10,000 images of documents and I just got back on Wednesday!) But as best I can tell with a quick look, they are writing about his need for a pension, but Mason was in trouble with the Pension Office. When he originally applied he only listed his service with a Missouri unit - which was confusing to me when I saw that in the file because I had him listed with an Arkansas unit. He had been receiving a pension when the Pension Office discovered that he had originally enlisted with an Arkansas unit, deserted, and then re-enlisted with the Missouri unit. Deserters can't get pensions, even if they came back and served later, so they pulled his money. Most of his file revolves around his fight to get his pension back. His GAR buddies are backing him up that he is indeed honorable and in desperate need.

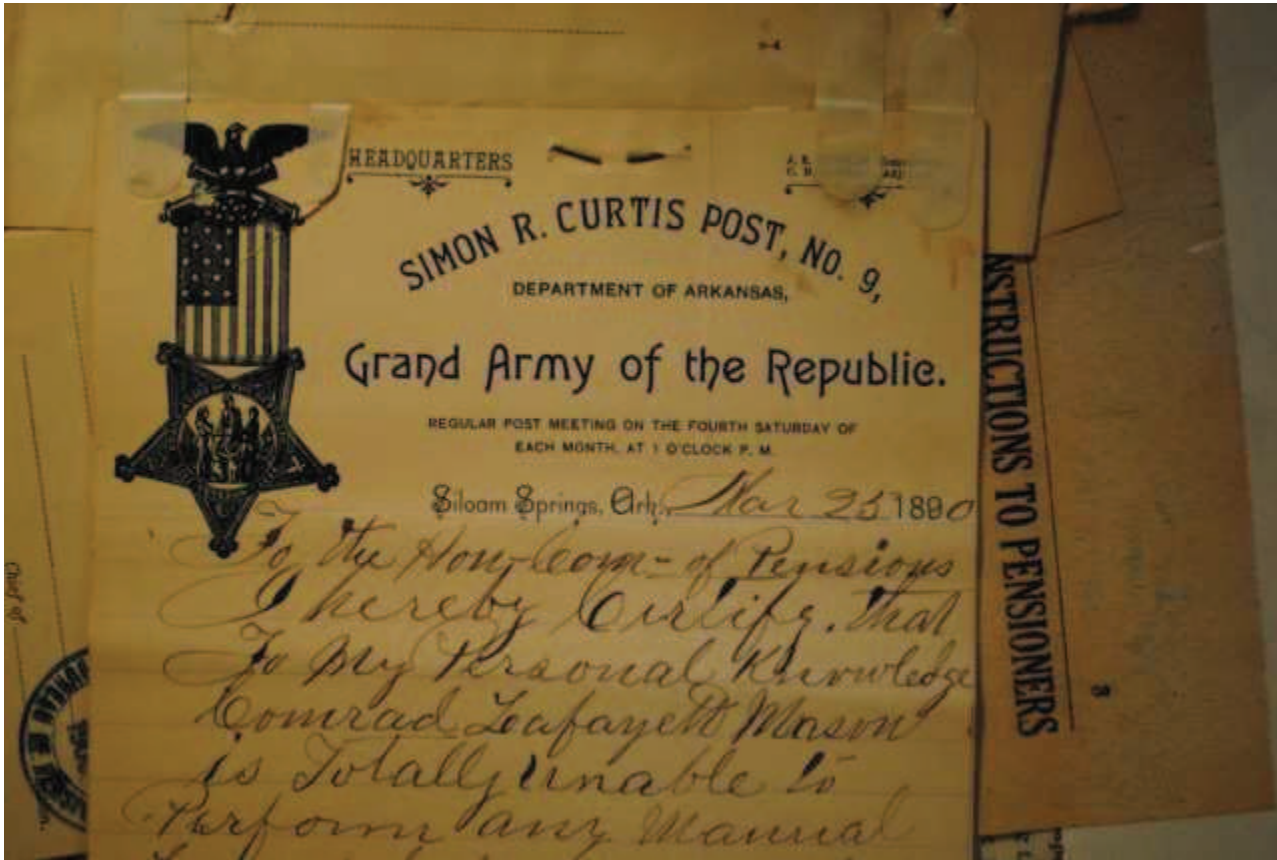
I've also attached a picture of Doctor F. Youngblood, Co. K, 1 Ark Cav. It's not clear if he was indeed a physician, or if Doctor was just his first name! I found it in his pension file. He enlisted with his brothers and lived in Carroll County, Arkansas before the war. I have an article in the review process for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and I'm pushing for Lt. Youngblood to be the cover of the issue!

My dissertation will have a section on GAR posts in the area; its size will depend on what I'll be able to track down. People in northern Arkansas seem to have willfully forgotten their Union veterans - you wouldn't believe how many family genealogists I've shocked by exposing their Unionist roots! My own family included. Both my mother and my father have a g-g-g-great grandfather who lived into the 20th century on his federal pension and no one knew until I found them in my research. I'm worried GAR records may have been destroyed out of a lack of respect. Any direction Walt can give would be helpful, and I'll be sure to share anything I find on my own.

Let me know if there is a place where I could upload all the images of this letter!

Thanks,
Rebecca

I've attached



HEADQUARTERS

SIMON R. CURTIS POST, NO. 9,
DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,

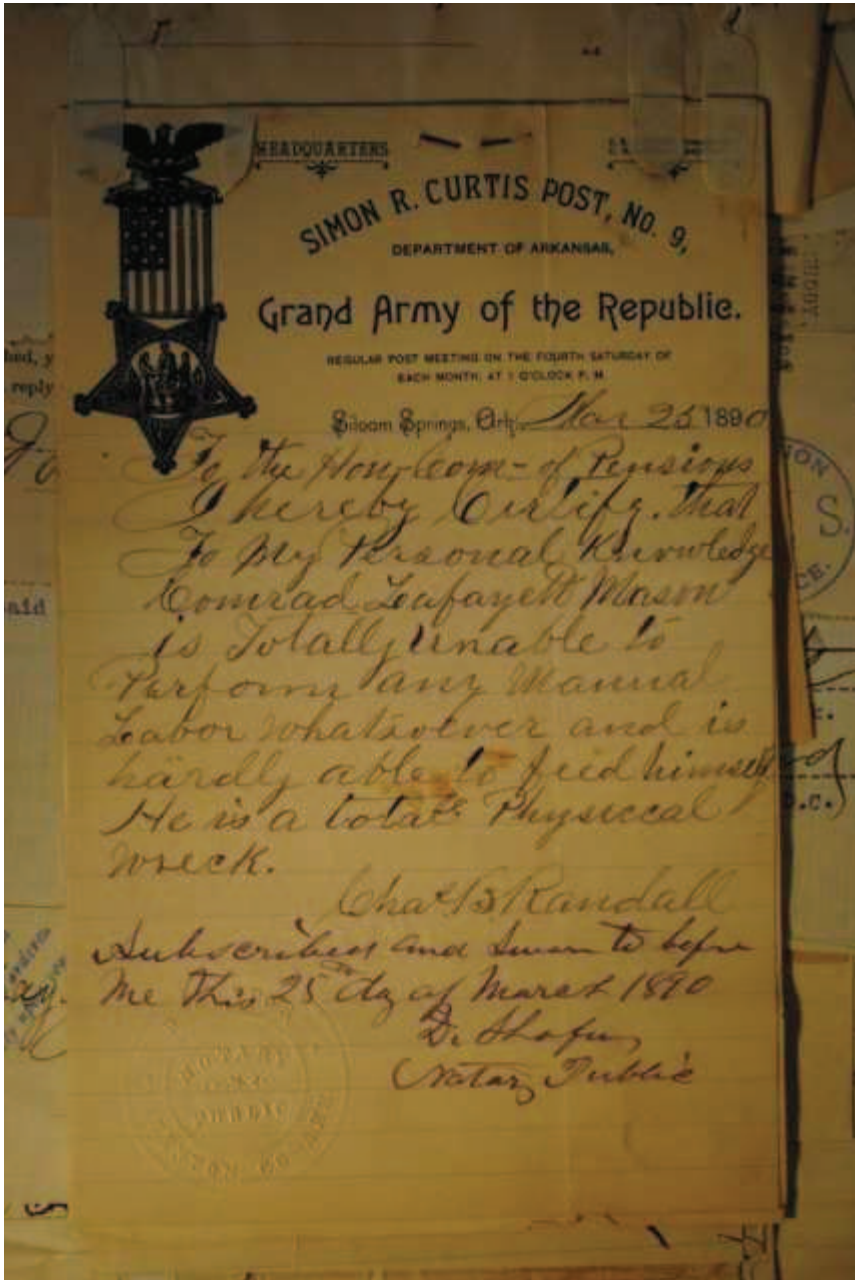
Grand Army of the Republic.

REGULAR POST MEETING ON THE FOURTH SATURDAY OF
EACH MONTH, AT 1 O'CLOCK P. M.

Siloam Springs, Ark., *Mar 25, 1890*

*To the Hon. Com. of Pensions
I hereby certify that
To my Personal Knowledge
Comrad Lafayette Mason
is Totally Unable to
Perform any Manual*

INSTRUCTIONS TO PENSIONERS





On Jun 8, 2012, at 11:41 AM, Becky Howard wrote:

From: Dean Enderlin <enderlin@sonic.net>
Date: June 7, 2012 12:32:47 PM EDT
To: Becky Howard <rahowar@uark.edu>
Cc: "Busch, Walt" <webusch@hotmail.com>
Subject: Re: Arkansas GAR information

Hello Rebecca,

Great find, and thank you for bringing this to our attention! Your dissertation topic sounds fascinating. There are some amazing gems hidden in those pension files, as you've clearly already discovered! I'm assuming the correspondence was from Curtis Post, No. 9, GAR, based in Siloam Springs. Correct?

The primary goal of the Sons of Union Veterans' National GAR Records Programs is to locate repositories of records, inventory them, and provide that information as a directory to researchers and other interested parties. The Deed of Conveyance between the GAR and the SUVCW specifies that, in the event that we come into possession of records, we should use our "best endeavors to return said records to the communities

where Grand Army posts were located." Nationally, we don't have the resources to conserve physical records (or even copies), however, some departments in our organization have very active regional records programs.

Arkansas falls within the service area of the SUVCW Department of Missouri, which hosts one of our most active records programs (including collections of digital images). I'm cc'ing Walt Busch on this, as he is my contact there and I know he will be interested to learn more about this.

I'd like to note this letter in my database, giving you credit for finding it. Could you provide me with the pension file application number and name of the applicant/beneficiary, also the date of the letter and any other pertinent details? I'd also love to see the photos you took! If you come across any other references to the location of records for Arkansas GAR posts, please let me know. I'm woefully lacking in information there.

Again, thank you for this tip. You made my day! Best wishes for continued success with your research.

Sincerely,

Dean Enderlin
National GAR Records Officer
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Becky Howard wrote:

Hi!

I'm a PhD candidate at the University of Arkansas and my dissertation focuses on the experience of Civil War veterans in northwest Arkansas, especially men who lived in the area in 1860 and fought for the Union. In the course of my research, I came across a letter in a pension file, written on the letterhead of the Siloam Springs, Arkansas GAR post, and it appears to include the signatures of most of the membership. I may have done a little dance in the middle of the research room of the National Archives when I saw it because I'm very interested in understanding who, how and where these men connected with each other after the war, so it's a great find for me. However, is the SUVCW collecting records of GAR Posts or just registering where they are located? The letter is, of course, still in the hands of the National Archives which has kept it safe for so long already, but I took pictures of it and would be happy to share those if it would help in any collection projects you may be running.

Thanks!
Rebecca Howard

0-4

HEADQUARTERS

J. E. CURTIS
C. R. [unclear]

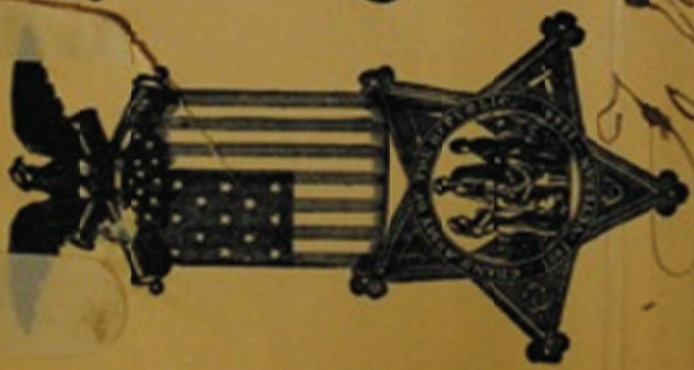
SIMON R. CURTIS POST, No. 9,
DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,

Grand Army of the Republic.

REGULAR POST MEETING ON THE FOURTH SATURDAY OF
EACH MONTH, AT 1 O'CLOCK P. M.

Siloam Springs, Ark., Mar 25 1890

To the Hon-ble Com- of Pensioners
I hereby certify that
to my personal knowledge
Conrad Lafayette Mason
is totally unable to
perform any manual



INSTRUCTIONS TO PENSIONERS

3

Chief of





HEADQUARTERS

SIMON R. CURTIS POST, No. 9,
DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,

Grand Army of the Republic.

REGULAR POST MEETING ON THE FOURTH SATURDAY OF
EACH MONTH, AT 1 O'CLOCK P. M.

Silvoo Springs, Ark. Mar 25 1890

To the Hon-ble Com- of Pensions
I hereby Certify, that
To My Personal Knowledge
Howard Jayant Mason
is totally unable to
perform any manual
labor whatever and is
hardly able to feed himself
He is a total Physical
wreck.

Charles Randall
Subscriber and sworn to before
Me this 25th day of March 1890
Dr. Hooper
Notary Public



VON S. CE

CUDDY,
124
125
126

bed, y
reply

aid

orders
reply

5



Re: Arkansas GAR information

From: **Dean Enderlin** (enderlin@sonic.net)
Sent: Fri 6/08/12 12:51 PM
To: Rebecca A. Howard (rahowar@uark.edu)
Cc: webusch@hotmail.com (webusch@hotmail.com)

Rebecca,

Great stuff! Thank you. See my additional comments below...

-Dean Enderlin

Rebecca A. Howard wrote:

Dean,

I've attached two pictures of the correspondence. There are eight pages total, with the last being a list of signatures. I'm not sure how much my email will let me send, so I'm sticking with these two for now! They are writing in regards to Lafayette Mason, certificate number 204539. I haven't had a chance to go through his file extensively (I took almost 10,000 images of documents and I just got back on Wednesday!) But as best I can tell with a quick look, they are writing about his need for a pension, but Mason was in trouble with the Pension Office. When he originally applied he only listed his service with a Missouri unit - which was confusing to me when I saw that in the file because I had him listed with an Arkansas unit. He had been receiving a pension when the Pension Office discovered that he had originally enlisted with an Arkansas unit, deserted, and then re-enlisted with the Missouri unit. Deserters can't get pensions, even if they came back and served later, so they pulled his money. Most of his file revolves around his fight to get his pension back. His GAR buddies are backing him up that he is indeed honorable and in desperate need.

Looks like the story must have had a happy ending. I see his widow received benefits after he died in 1907. Thank you for the information!

I've also attached a picture of Doctor F. Youngblood, Co. K, 1 Ark Cav. It's not clear if he was indeed a physician, or if Doctor was just his first name! I found it in his pension file. He enlisted with his brothers and lived in Carroll County, Arkansas before the war. I have an article in the review process for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and I'm pushing for Lt. Youngblood to be the cover of the issue!

[From a family page on Ancestry.com, reposted from Find-a-Grave:](#) *"Doc" or Franklin was named Doctor Franklin by his parents because of their hopes he would become a doctor. He spent much of his youth in Mississippi prior to his family moving to the NW part of Arkansas. Doctor Franklin married and started his own farm in Denver Arkansas prior to the Civil War. At that time he and numerous other Youngblood relatives from the area, joined the Federal forces and served with the 1st Arkansas Calvary. He was made a 1st Lt. in Company K in that Regiment. After the war ended, he and his wife moved to Dallas County, Missouri and raised their family on a farm near present day Bennett Springs. He was a great story teller and wrote many historical sketches of his family and was a devoted family man and faithful to his Methodist faith all his life.*

My dissertation will have a section on GAR posts in the area; its size will depend on what I'll be able to track down. People in northern Arkansas seem to have willfully forgotten their Union veterans - you wouldn't believe how many family genealogists I've shocked by exposing their Unionist roots! My own family included.

Both my mother and my father have a g-g-g-great grandfather who lived into the 20th century on his federal pension and no one knew until I found them in my research. I'm worried GAR records may have been destroyed out of a lack of respect. Any direction Walt can give would be helpful, and I'll be sure to share anything I find on my own.

The fate of GAR records varies from state to state. but in general. I continue to be amazed at how many have survived

Many ended up in personal collections, local libraries, museums or archives. Others are in the collections of American Legion or VFW posts. Still others are in county courthouses. Let's hope the Arkansas GAR records will be found.

Interesting about your family's Unionist roots! It just goes to show how personal the war was for so many. I have a similar but opposite twist in my ancestry. My g-g-g-granduncle was born in central Pennsylvania and was living in Iowa a few years before the war. He was kind of a black sheep in the family and a drifter. By April 1861 he was in Arkansas, where he enlisted in Josey's (15th) Arkansas Infantry. When I mention his CS service to folks in Pennsylvania, I get a similar shocked reaction!

Let me know if there is a place where I could upload all the images of this letter!

One possibility is Facebook.

Thanks,
Rebecca

Old State House Museum collection

Requisition, Supply - G.A.R.

Date: October 14, 1901

Dimensions: 8 15/16 x 5 1/2 in. (22.7 x 14 cm)

Medium: paper and ink

Credit Line: Old State House Museum collection

Description: G.A.R. supply requisition from the Curtis Post, No. 9 of Siloam Springs, Arkansas. The order was for six badges and two dozen G.A.R. buttons.

Object Number: 2010.056.18

[Mark in these Blanks.]

REQUISITION.

Headquarters *Curtis* Post No. *9*
P. S. Smith *Siloam Springs Oct 14 1901*
U. S. ARMY.

ADJUTANT QUARTERMASTER GENERAL, U. S. A.
 Please furnish the following supplies for use of this Post during current year:

No.	ARTICLES.	AMOUNT.
	Grand Army Blue Book - - - at \$1.00	
	Set Returns, (Circulars, Reports, Forms) at \$1.00	
	Copy Services, (Association and general) at 32	
	Copies Rules and Regulations - - at 10	
	Descriptive Book - - - at \$1.25	
	Applications - - - - - at 2	
	Transfers - - - - - at 5	
	Discharges - - - - - at 5	
	Leaves of absence - - - at 5	
<i>6</i>	Badges, complete, - - - at 50	<i>3 00</i>
	Badge Ribbons, extra, - - - at 10	
	Sets Rank Straps - - - - - at \$4.75	
	Single Rank Straps - - - at 50	
<i>2 doz</i>	Buttons, rock - - - - - at 10	<i>2 00</i>
		<i>5 00</i>

DIRECTIONS:

Sent by *Mail*

To *Siloam Springs Ark.*

Signed *D. J. Murphy*

Use this form with accuracy and care in every instance.

Order filled Oct 16th 1901