



LOGAN'S BRIGADE  
MEN'S ASSOCIATE TO THE  
NWRC



# MEMORIAL CHRONICLE

Issue 1 Fiscal Year 2024

Greetings Brigade brothers!

The new year is here. Most of you have paid to renew your dues for this year. It's very encouraging to know that so many of you still believe that we can create an organization dedicated to the good principles that John A. Logan espoused. Thanks to you that have been willing to be part of the foundation of this organization we remain able to step up and work to assist the Woman's Relief Corps.

Included in this inaugural edition of the Memorial Chronicle are some articles published in WRC General Orders and Newsletters. We want to hear from our members and perhaps by seeing what the WRC shares some of you will be encouraged to send in ideas and even your own news articles. Please send these to the National Secretary/Treasurer Tim O'Neal at [lb1826@yahoo.com](mailto:lb1826@yahoo.com)



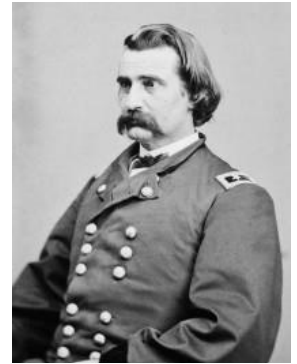
*I have entered the field to die, if need be, for this government, and never expect to return to peaceful pursuits until the object of this war of preservation has become a fact established.*

*John A. Logan*

## Remembering The Ones Left Behind

Logan's Brigade was established as a 501c3 associated with the oldest national women's patriotic organization in America – the Woman's Relief Corps. The Grand Army of the Republic specifically requested these women establish themselves as their one and only auxiliary. As the veterans grew older they more and more relied upon the WRC to take care of the special projects they created and treasured.

A particular concern these men had was for remembrance of those that were left behind. They recalled with great anguish that some were left behind hastily buried in fields and roadsides or lost in rivers or at sea. So many of the veterans that met regularly in GAR meetings found meaning and solace in the company of comrades. There they could speak about the unspeakable things they'd witnessed and experienced in the terrible war. The memory of the men they'd left behind was the most painful. The thought that their bodies may still not be memorialized properly in cemeteries was almost too much to bear.



John A. Logan's General Orders # 11 put their thoughts into understandable words and gave them a purpose. Their mournful thoughts were provided with an order to follow and a way to publicly express their sorrow with dignity. The process of holding public memorial meetings, parades, and placing floral tributes helped to soothe these men and gave them something to hold onto and plan for annually.

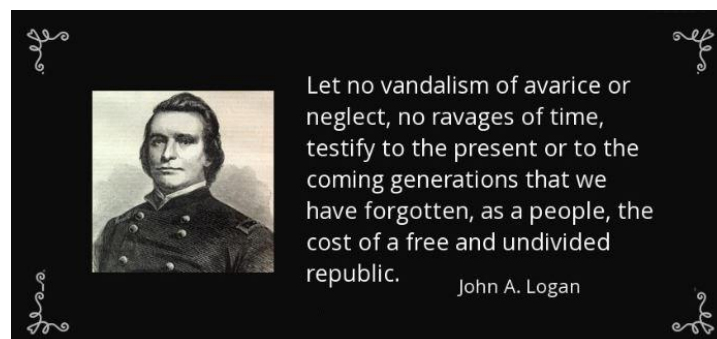
At some point the GAR became particularly concerned that those whose bodies lay in former Confederate land might not be properly memorialized. As the old gentlemen passed on and fewer and fewer were around to remember the fallen they specifically requested that the Woman's Relief Corps honor the men buried in the South. They created a Southern Memorials

program, and annually reported how many Posts supported this effort. The Woman's Relief Corps organized committees that would collect flowers and fashion wreaths and tributes. The women also planned entire events around Memorial Day, eventually leading to Parades and picnics and whole day events. There are accounts in the WRC journals telling about a particularly dry year when drought stricken regions had to call for flowers to be sent by train by ladies who had an abundance of flowers. Gardens were planted each Spring that would produce the finest and most colorful arrangements in May.

The GAR left specific orders for the WRC to carry out an annual remembrance program especially for those buried in the South. They asked the WRC to please ensure that floral tributes be placed throughout the South in honor and memory of the men left behind. This tradition has been carried out every year by the WRC. There exists a list of cemeteries that the WRC recognizes officially as sponsored by the National WRC as mandated to receive a wreath shipped directly to them. Recently a member of MOLLUS in Washington DC advised leaders of the WRC that records reveal that the WRC has consistently provided a wreath to be placed in particular cemeteries even when no other organization did so.



Last Memorial Day Logan's Brigade assisted in the placement of wreaths in Arlington and at Logan's tomb in the Soldier's Cemetery in DC. It is an honor to be a part of this longstanding and honorable tradition. If any Brigade member resides near a National Cemetery – or for that matter any cemetery that has Civil War interred, and would like to be a representative of the Brigade (and by extension the WRC), please contact our National Secretary/Treasurer for information and instructions.



## WE APPRECIATE WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING



NWRC National Presidential Liaison Susan Mertz was accompanied by her son, Logan's Brigade Charter member Alfred Carty at the 2023 Remembrance Day, Gettysburg. Brother Carty wore his Brigade badge!



Clifford Boxley, Charter member of Logan's Brigade, created an annual reenactment event honoring the US Colored Troops that served in the Natchez, Mississippi region and beyond.