2015

History and Past Commanders of the Grand Army of the Republic Heath Post 6 in Gardiner, Maine

American Legion Post 4, Gardiner, Maine

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G.A.R. HEATH POST 6

Veterans in the Gardiner, Me, area first started meeting after the Civil War as the Grant Army of the Republic Heath Post 6 & got their charter on 11/15/1867. Charter members were: E. D. Haley, Gustavus Moore, James Walker, M. C. Wadsworth, H. E. Merriam, G. S. Palmer, J. M. Larrabee, C. E. Deering, F. H. Cole, George W. Gardiner, James W. McDonald, Oren Richardson, W. H. Moore, G. T. Yeaton, Charles Davis, Benjamin Smith, W. T. Blair, Giles O. Bailey, & T. Hildreth. It was named for Alvan M. C. Heath who was killed in his first battle. He was a local newspaper publisher.

The Post met at many different places until they bought the First Baptist Church on Brunswick Ave. in 1881. It was decided to have a Memorial Window installed. Henry Merriam, Mark L. Rollins, & George W. Cross were made a committee to handle this. Eventually a design by Mr. Rollins was approved. Mr. Rollins was instructed to go to Boston & make a suitable contract for the construction. After completed, it was shipped to Gardiner but was held up by a freight embargo. It finally arrived, put in place, & properly dedicated as a most creditable project from start to finish on 3/25/1920. The new American Legion Post 4 bought the building in 1922 for their headquarters. In the 1970's the building was demolished minus the Memorial Window. It is now at the Smith-Wiley Post 4 in a place of Honor.

This shows the caliber of the men who saw a need to expand the services & assistance not only to the Veterans but also to the Community.
ALVAN M. C. HEATH

Born: 8/15/1828 Windsor, ME      Died: 12/16/1862 Fredericksburg, VA

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, ME

Enlisted: 8/14/1862

Rank: Corporal

Org: Co. B, Maine 16th Inf. Regiment

Mustered Out: 12/16/1862

Notes: Was a newspaper editor & founder of the Gardiner Home Journal. The G.A.R. Post that got their charter on 11/15/1867 was named for him & was known as the Heath Post 6. His children were connected by him to the Revolutionary War General Heath & through their mother to Revolutionary War General Kendall.
PAST COMMANDERS OF THE G.A.R. HEATH POST 6

1868  EBEN DUTTON HALEY
1870  GILES O. BAILEY
1879  MELVIN CUTTS WADSWORTH
1880  FRANKLIN BILLINGS WILLIAMS
1881  WILLIAM WILEY
1882  GEORGE HERBERT HARRINGTON
1883  ALMON JOHN PACKARD
1884  ANDREW J. HOOKER
1885  CHARLES OSGOOD WADSWORTH
1886  GEORGE HERBERT HARRINGTON
1887  EDWIN C. TEAGUE
1888  JAMES WALKER
1889  JAMES ROBINSON PEACOCK
1890  JOHN W. P. JOHNSON
1891 & 92  AUGUST W. MCCAUSSLAND
1893 & 94  GEORGE W. CROSS
1895  BENJAMIN S. SMITH
1896       SANFORD BRANN
1897       JOSEPH C. MORRISON
1898       GEORGE W. GARDINER
1899 & 1900 JOSEPH A. GLAZIER
1901       AUGUST W. MCCAUSSLAND
1902       GEORGE W. HARRINGTON
1903       GUSTAVUS MOORE
1904       DAWSON M. DALE
1905       CALVIN WADE SMITH
1906       GEORGE W. GARDINER
1907       CHARLES OSGOOD KNOX
1908       LEONARD H. MERRILL
1909       JOHN THOMAS GRANT
1910       G. E. JAY
1911       GEORGE A. BOWIE
1912       JOHN WALKER HOWE
1913       DANIEL NOYES JR.
1914       SAMUEL ABBOTT COLLINS
1915 & 16  JOHN THOMAS GRANT
1917  DAWSON M. DALE
1918 & 19  LEONARD H. MERRILL
EBEN DUTTON HALEY


Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 12/1/1861

Rank: Pvt-Sgt.-2\textsuperscript{nd} LT-1\textsuperscript{st} Lt-Captain

Org: Maine 1\textsuperscript{st} Light Artillery Battery, 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion

Mustered Out: 7/15/1865
Dedication of Heath Post No. 6, Memorial Window, Gardiner

Told of the feeling between the North and South previous to the war.

Justice A. M. Spear was the last speaker and devoted his remarks to the boys of the G. A. R. and a patriotic song by the Quartet closed the exercises. It was a good meeting and an impressive affair.

The story of the window dates back several months. Someone suggested that the Post put up a memorial window in one of the local churches, but they denounced and decided they had done it. At least, the proper place was in their own home of many years, fat and lean. And they went at it and raised sufficient funds for the purchase.

Henry Morrian, Mark L. Rollins, and Geo. W. Cross were made a committee to handle the matter. A general design was offered by Mr. Rollins, approved by the committee, and he was instructed to go to Boston and make suitable contracts to secure the window, which Mr. Rollins did. It was after completion started its way to Gardiner, but held up for a long time by freight embargo. Finally it arrived, was put in place, properly dedicated, as a most creditable project from start to finish.

HEATH POST

Heath Post is one of the oldest posts in the State and has always been among the strongest. Organized in 1867, Nov. 15th, 53 years ago, it was for many years the most pushing and influential organization in Gardiner.

Its fairs were famous and successes. Everything it took hold of went with a bang. Its Memorial Day services were for years on a large and creditable scale, and people came from far and near to witness them. They bought their hall and it has always been home since.

From this post ranks have come many of our mayors and members of the State Legislature. It furnished some of our most successful business men.

In its entire history, through all the years, from great strength to its new dwindling membership, it has stood for all that was good, and retained...
GILES O. BAILEY

Born: 1840

Died: 7/3/1915 National Home, Me

Burial: Evergreen Cemetery, Portland, Me

Enlisted: 8/25/1862

Rank: Corporal

Org: Co. K, Maine 19th Inf. Regiment

Mustered Out: 9/14/1862 due to injuries
MELVIN CUTTS WADSWORTH

Born: 2/11/1842 Pittston, Me    Died: 6/16/1924 Gardiner, Me

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 8/14/1862

Rank: Corporal, 1st Sgt. 2/1/1863, 2nd LT 3/26/1863

Org: Co. B, Maine 16th Inf. Regiment

Mustered Out: 6/5/1865
FRANKLIN BILLINGS WILLIAMS

Born: 5/12/1817                       Died: 2/6/1892
Burial: Glenwood Cemetery, Littleton, NH
Enlisted: 9/1864
Rank: Pvt
Org: Co. I, NH 9th Heavy Artillery
Mustered Out: 1/1865
WILLIAM WILEY

Born: 6/9/1834          Died: 12/24/1900

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 11/8/1861

Ranks: Sergeant

Org: Co. B, Maine 11th Inf. Regiment
GEORGE HERBERT HARRINGTON

Born: 2/5/1845 Richmond, Me  Died: 12/8/1908 Gardiner, Me

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 3/11/1864

Rank: Pvt

Org: Co. C, 31st Maine Inf. Regiment

Major Conflict: Battle of the Wilderness 5/5/1864

Captured: 7/1864 at Petersburg, VA & held until just before discharge.

Mustered Out: 7/5/1865
ALMON JOHN PACKARD

Born: 3/1835    Died: 4/22/1904 East Winthrop, Me

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 6/4/1861

Org: Co. C, Maine 3rd Inf. Regiment

Mustered Out: 6/28/1864
ANDREW J. HOOKER

Born: 1837 Lee, MA  Died: 9/1/1909 Gardiner, ME

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, ME

Rank: Sergeant

Org: Maine 24th Inf. Regiment

Served: 9 months (1862-1863)
CHARLES OSGOOD WADSWORTH

Born: 9/8/1839 in Gardiner, Me  Died: 6/19/1914 in Gardiner, Me
Burial: Oak Grove Cemetary, Gardiner, Me
Enlisted: 8/14/1862
Rank: Pvt – Corporal 12/5/1863, acting 1st Sgt. 1/19/1864 to 6/21/1864 when wounded at Petersburg, VA
Org: 16th Regiment, Maine Volunteers Inf., Co. B
Disch. for wounds: 6/9/1865 at Arlington Heights, VA
GEORGE HERBERT HARRINGTON

Born: 2/5/1845 Richmond, Me
Died: 12/8/1908 Gardiner, Me

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 3/11/1864

Rank: Pvt

Org: Co. C, 31st Maine Inf. Regiment

Major Conflict: Battle of the Wilderness 5/5/1864

Captured: 7/1864 at Petersburg, VA & held until just before discharge.

Mustered Out: 7/5/1865
EDWIN C. TEAGUE

Born: 10/24/1839 Damariscotta, Me    Died: 2/19/1909 Newcastle, Me

Enlisted: 11/2/1861

Rank: Pvt – Corporal 1863 (Bugler)

Org: Co. K, 1st Cavalry Regiment

Mustered Out: 11/25/1864
JAMES WALKER

Born: 9/28/1834 Litchfield, Me    Died: 3/17/1907 Gardiner, Me

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me
JAMES ROBINSON PEACOCK

Born: 2or9/27/1843 Gardiner, Me       Died: 3/27/1917 Gardiner, Me

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 4/14/1864

Rank: Pvt, Corporal, Sergeant, Reduced to Pvt.

Org: Co. I, Maine 31st Inf. Regiment

Mustered Out: 7/15/1865
JOHN JOHNSON

Born: 1846  Died: 1/1911 Livermore Falls, Me
AUGUSTUS W. McCASLAND

Born: 4/4/1844 Gardiner, Me  Died: 4/16/1933 Gardiner, Me

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Rank: Pvt, Corporal

Org: Maine 16th Inf. Regiment
GEORGE W. CROSS

Born: 7/27/1845                      Died: 1937

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 12/22/1863

Ranks: Pvt, Corporal 8/11/1865, became a Capt. sometime.

Org: Co. I, Maine 2\textsuperscript{nd} Cavalry Regiment

Mustered Out: 12/6/1865 at Barancas, FL
BENJAMIN S. SMITH

Born: 4/1/1846 Moscow, Me       Died: 1/22/1915 Gardiner, Me

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 2/29/1864

Rank: Pvt

Orgs: 1st Battalion, 5th Light Artillery, Maine Heavy Artillery

          Sharpshooters, Maine Inf.

Mustered Out: 7/6/1865 Augusta, Me
SANFORD BRANN

Born: 2/1/1835  Died: 3/15/1905

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 8/10/1863

Rank: Pvt

Org: Co. H, Maine 19th Inf. Regiment

Mustered Out: 3/21/1865
JOSEPH C. MORRISON

Born: 1839  
Died: 8/8/1909 Gardiner, Me

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 6/4/1861

Rank: Pvt

Org: Co. C, Maine 3rd Inf. Regiment

POW: 5/2/1863 – Paroled 16 days later.

Mustered Out: 6/28/1864
GEORGE W. GARDINER


Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 8/14/1862

Rank: Pvt, Promoted to Sergeant 1865

Orgs: Co. B, Maine 16th Inf. Regiment

   6/15/1864-5th Light Artillery Reg., 1st Battalion

Mustered Out: 7/6/1865 Augusta, Me
JOSEPH A. GLAZIER

Born: 1845  Died: 2/14/1925 Gardiner, Me

Burial: Mount Hope Cemetery, Bangor, Me

Enlisted: 12/12/1863

Rank: Pvt

Org: Co. E, Maine 30th Inf. Regiment

GUSTAVUS MOORE

Born: 7/9/1842 Gardiner, Me    Died: 12/27/1915 Gardiner, Me

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 8/14/1862

Ranks: Pvt, Sergeant in 1863, & 2nd LT 12/9/1864


Mustered Out: 6/5/1865 in Arlington Heights, VA
DAWSON M. DALE


Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 1863

Rank: Pvt

Org: Co. I, Maine Volunteer Inf. Regiment

Engagements: Battle of the Wilderness plus several others

Wounded in action

Mustered Out: 7/15/1865 in Alexandria, VA
CALVIN WADE SMITH

Born: 7/6/1842 Readfield, Me    Died: 2/20/1915 Gardiner, Me

Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 10/1/1862

Rank: Pvt

Org: Co. I, Maine 24th Inf. Regiment

Mustered Out: 8/25/1863 at Augusta, Me

Enlisted: 9/23/1864

Rank: Sergeant

Org: Co. A, Maine 16th Inf. Regiment

Was at Appomattox for the surrender

Mustered Out: 6/5/1865 at Arlington Heights, VA
CHARLES OSGOOD KNOX

Born: 5/24/1837 Gardiner, Me   Died: 1912 Gardiner, Me

Enlisted: 10/20/1861

Rank: Pvt

Org: Co. C, Maine 1st Cavalry Regiment

Mustered Out: 10/23/1862

Enlisted: 12/3/1863

Ranks: Corporal, promoted to Sergeant in 1864

Org: Co. C, Maine 2nd Cavalry Regiment

Mustered Out; 12/6/1865 in Barrancas, FL
LEONARD H. MERRILL

Born: 10/28/1846               Died: 1935
Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Gardiner, Me
Enlisted: 12/3/1863
Rank: Pvt
Org: Co. C, Maine 2nd Cavalry Regiment
Mustered Out; 12/6/1865 in Barrancas, FL
Enlisted: 1866 in the Ordinance Service & served 5 years at the U.S. Arsenal in Augusta, Me
JOHN THOMAS GRANT

Born: 1845 Died: 1923

Burial: Maple Grove Cemetery, Randolph, Me

Enlisted: 12/28/1864

Rank: Pvt

Org: Co. E, Maine Coast Guard Inf.

Mustered Out: 7/7/1865
GEORGE A. BOWIE


Enlisted: 2/29/1864

Rank: Pvt

Org: Maine 5th Light Artillery Battery, 1st Battalion

Mustered Out: 7/6/1865 in Augusta, Me
JOHN WALKER HOWE

Born: 1/20/1822

Burial: Grove Cemetery, Holden, MA

Enlisted: 10/21/1861

Rank: 4th Sgt., later 2nd LT

Org: Co. C, Mass. 25th Inf. Regiment

Mustered Out: 7/13/1865

Died: 1906
DANIEL NOYES JR.

Burial: Ft. Myers Cemetery, FL
Enlisted: 12/3/1863
Rank: Pvt
Org: Co. C, Maine 2\textsuperscript{nd} Cavalry Regiment
Mustered Out: 11/17/1865
SAMUEL ABBOTT COLLINS

Born: 12/12/1845 Houlton, Me   Died: 9/3/1921 Milan, NH

Burial: Hillcrest Cemetery, Milan, FL

Enlisted: 8/29/1864

Rank: Pvt

Org: Co. K, Maine 20th Inf. Regiment

Mustered Out: 6/15/1865
In grateful memory of

Private Albert W. Wiley, A.S.No. 13024203,

who died in the service of his country at

Karachi, India, May 4, 1942.

He stands in the unbroken line of patriots who have dared to die

that freedom might live, and grow, and increase its blessings.

Freedom lives, and through it, he lives—

in a way that humbles the undertakings of most men
ALBERT WALTER WILEY

Born: 8/23/1906 in Gardiner, Me    Died: 5/4/1942 in India

Burial: Barrackpore, India Plot 1, Row 0, Grave 28

Reinterred about 4/13/1949 in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, Hawaii, Lot Q81.

Enlisted: Army Air Corps 3/28/1941 in Baltimore, MD

Rank: Pvt

Engagement: Attached to the Headquarters Squadron, 51st Air Base Group, India

The Gardiner, Me, American Legion Post 4 got their second charter on 8/15/1947. Mr. Wiley was the first Gardiner Vet to die in WWII & the Post name was changed to the Smith-Wiley Post 4. His family received a Citation Of Honor for his Service in the U.S. Air Force signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. It is in a place of Honor in the Post meeting room.