

MS-14: Grand Army of the Republic, Post 41 Records

Collection Number: MS-14

Title: Grand Army of the Republic, Post 41 Records

Dates: 1881-1930

Creator: Grand Army of the Republic, Kyle Post 41 (Wapakoneta, Ohio)

Summary/Abstract:

Collection consists of minute books, financial records, officer's roll, and miscellaneous loose materials. Post 41 served Wapakoneta in Auglaize County, Ohio.

Quantity/Physical Description: 1.5 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092, library-archives@wright.edu

Restrictions on Access:

There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

Restrictions on Use:

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Preferred Citation:

[Description of item, Date, Box #, Folder #], MS-14, Grand Army of the Republic, Post 41 Records, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition:

The collection was transferred to Special Collections and Archives, Wright State University Libraries, by Leonard Pyles, Veterans Services Officer for Auglaize County, in accordance with a pre-arranged dispersal schedule, in September 1975.

Other Finding Aid:

The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at <https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms14.pdf>. It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at <http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

Processing Information:

Volumes cleaned by Karis Raeburn, and finding aid reformatted, June, 2014.

Revisions:

Finding aid revised by Lisa Rickey, April 2020.

Processed by:

Connie M. Porcher, May 1979.

Arrangement:

Arranged by record type.

Biographical/Historical Note:

Kyle Post 41 of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) served Wapakoneta, Ohio. The post formed prior to 1881, first meeting in Wapakoneta's music hall and later moving to their own hall in the southwest portion of the courthouse early in 1882.

In accordance with the principles of the national organization found in April 1866 at Springfield, Illinois, the local members were bound by oath to uphold the ideals of fraternity, charity, and loyalty. The G.A.R. was primarily a military organization whose ritual and procedures adopted a military flavor.

The national organization's growth peaked in 1890 with 409,489 dues-paying members who represented approximately 40% of the Union veterans. The G.A.R. was influential in securing the Disability Pension Act of 1890 and was responsible for the institution and observance of Memorial Day.

By the 1920s the Kyle Post had begun to experience a decline, primarily due to member deaths. Beginning in 1925, the post regularly invited members of its auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps, 195, to attend its meetings. Only two agreed to donate all G.A.R. property and holdings to the Woman's Relief Corps. Upon the death of Commander Wentz November 5, 1930, Kyle Post 41 ceased operation.

Scope and Content Note:

The records of the Kyle Post 41 of the Grand Army of the Republic consist mostly of eight minute books spanning the years 1881-1930. In addition to accounting meeting proceedings, these volumes trace the growth and then eventually declining ranks of the post until its demise in 1930. Financial records include a cash book (1900-1913), treasury record (1914-1922), an expense ledger (1882-1893) and accounts and expenses (1883-1898).

An officer's roll and quarterly record (1885-1890), miscellaneous loose materials, including bills, reports and correspondence, and the book The Army Canteen (1900) comprise the remainder of the collection.

Subject Terms

Organizations/Corporate Names

Grand Army of the Republic. Kyle Post 41 (Wapakoneta, Ohio) – Archives

Places

Wapakoneta (Ohio) -- History

Subjects (General)

Veterans -- Ohio -- Auglaize County -- Societies, etc.

Material Types

Minute books

Financial records

Collection Inventory

Box	File	Description	Date
1	1	Minute book – new members, officers and committees, Resolutions, treasurer’s report	1881 Mar 3 - 1884 Dec 6
1	2	Minute book	1885 Jan 3 - 1887 Nov 12
1	3	Minute book – newspaper clipping resolution	1887 Nov 23 - 1890 Feb 22
1	4	Minute book – Quartermaster’s Quarterly Report	1927 May 28 - 1930 Feb 1
1	5	Cash Book	1900-1913
1	6	Treasury Record	1914 Oct - 1922 Jan
1	7	Miscellaneous Loose Material- bills from merchants; treasurer’s Report; resolutions; General Orders	undated
2	1	Expense Ledger	1882 Oct 21 - 1893 Dec 29
2	2	Accounts/Expenses	1883 July 7 - 1898 Jan 22
2	3	Roll of Officers and Quarterly Record	1885-1890
2	4	<u>The Army Canteen (book)</u>	1900
3		Minute book	1890 Mar 8 - 1899 June 24
4		Minute book	1899 July 8 - 1907 Dec 28
5		Minute book	1908 Jan 11 - 1916 Dec 29
6		Minute book	1917 Jan 6 - 1927 May 14