

Guide to the Grand Army of the Republic Eagle Post No. 52 Records, 1886-1944

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Overview of the Collection

Repository:

Special Collections & Archives
McIntyre Library
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
P.O. Box 4004
105 Garfield Ave.
Eau Claire, WI 54702 – 4004
(715) 836-2739
<https://library.uwec.edu/archives/>

Reference Code: USGZE UHC285**Accession Number:** 06-125**Collection Number:** University Historical Collection 285**Creators:** Grand Army of the Republic. Eagle Post No. 52 (Eau Claire, Wis.)**Title:** Grand Army of the Republic. Eagle Post No. 52 (Eau Claire, Wis.) Records**Dates:** 1886-1944, bulk 1920-1944**Quantity:** 1.2 linear feet (3 archives boxes, and one oversize folder)**Location of Collection:** A10/2h, Drawer 26**Languages:** Collection materials are in English.**Summary:** Membership records and encampment journals and programs of the Eau Claire chapter of the nation's largest Civil War veterans' organization.

Historical Note

The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was the largest Civil War veteran organization. Founded in 1866, the GAR was open veterans of all ranks who had served in the Union Army. The GAR was both a political and fraternal organization, active in lobbying for veterans' pension, promoting goodwill

among veterans, and assisting disabled veterans. It reached its peak membership in 1890, counting 409,000 members nationwide.

The GAR was organized into departments at the state level, and posts at the local level. The Wisconsin Department reached its highest membership in 1899, with 164 posts and nearly 14,000 members. The Eau Claire post was founded on November 8, 1882 with 23 members. It counted 438 members among its ranks between 1882 and 1926.

Content Description

The richest sources of documentation in these records are the membership records. They provide directory and biographical information about each member, including details of Civil War military service. Membership applications include applications of both accepted and denied members. Some members submitted detailed autobiographies for retention in the Eagle Post's archives. The encampment journals and programs provide information about the annual meetings held by the GAR Wisconsin Department. Photographs, ephemera, and fragmentary correspondence and reports round out the collection.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information: Donated to the Special Collections & Archives, University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire prior to March 2006.

Access Restrictions: Collection is open to the public.

Use Restrictions: Researchers are responsible for using in accordance with 17 U.S.C. Copyright not owned by the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire.

Preferred Citation: Grand Army of the Republic. Eagle Post No. 52 (Eau Claire, Wis.) Records, 1886-1944. UHC 285. Special Collections & Archives. McIntyre Library. University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire. Eau Claire, WI.

Processing Note: Processed by Colleen McFarland and Jolene Arnold in May 2006

Arrangement: Flat arrangement; alphabetical order

Subjects

Corporate Names: Grand Army of the Republic. Eagle Post No. 52 (Eau Claire, Wis.) -- Archives

Subject Terms: United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865—Veterans - Wisconsin

Detailed List of Contents

Container	Contents	Dates
Box/Folder 2/1	Adjuster's Reports	1886-1889
Box/Folder 2/2	Encampment Journals	1892, 1894
Box/Folder 2/3	Encampment Journals	1922, 1929
Box/Folder 2/4	Encampment Journals	1943-1944
Box/Folder 2/5	Encampment Programs	1926, 1929, 1930, 1932
Box/Folder 2/6	Encampment Programs	1933, 1934, 1937, 1940
Box 1	Membership Applications	undated
Box/Folder 3/1-6	Members' Autobiographies	1908?
Box/Folder 3/7-8	Membership Cards	undated
Box/Folder 3/9	Membership Rosters	1897, 1912, 1925, 1926
Box/Folder 3/10-11	Miscellaneous	1909-1943

Box/Folder 3/12	Photograph	undated
Box/Folder 3/13	Photographs	1934, 1943, undated
Oversize folder	Photograph	1923
