

# GRANT

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Plus special insert:

**Invitations to the Grant Birthday Ceremony**  
and the second annual  
**Memorial Day Walk**



### GRANT

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## NEW MANAGEMENT IN THE NPS

The Manhattan Sites Unit of the National Park Service (NPS), which administers Grant's Tomb as the General Grant National Memorial, has new management. After serving two years as superintendent, James Pepper announced his retirement from the NPS. The new superintendent is Maria Burks, Commissioner of the National Parks of New York Harbor—a collection of ten national parks with 23 destinations that include the Manhattan Sites Unit. Shirley



Manhattan Sites Superintendent Maria Burks

McKinney is now acting as the unit's deputy superintendent pending a permanent designation.

Superintendent Burks remarked,

"It's an honor and privilege to be the new superintendent of Manhattan Sites and to have the opportunity to work with the dedicated park rangers at Grant's Tomb and our partners in the accomplishment of our mission. One of the issues I want to move as quickly as possible on is the restoration of the Overlook Pavilion. Because of the

pavilion's enormous potential in enhancing the visitor experience, we will work closely with the City of New York and other partners on exploring options for its eventual revival."

Members of the executive committee of the GMA plan to meet with the new Manhattan Sites administrators in the near future to discuss the issues facing Grant's Tomb.

In response to these changes, GMA President Edward Hochman made the following remarks:

"As friends and members of the GMA are aware, since the refurbishment of Grant's Tomb in the late 1990's, the NPS and GMA have enjoyed increasingly cordial relations. The GMA thus extends its gratitude to retiring Superintendent Jim Pepper for his determined efforts and looks forward to working with his replacement, the well respected Maria Burks.

"This is not to say that either party can rest on its laurels or that all necessary work at the Tomb is done. The National Park Service in general, and the Manhattan Sites Unit in particular, remain understaffed and underfunded. The GMA therefore asks its members and friends to continue to urge their representatives in Congress to provide the NPS with assets sufficient to insure that our national heritage—be it a jewel such as Yellowstone, which President Ulysses Grant established as our nation's first national park, or the internationally renowned mausoleum which holds President and Mrs. Grant's remains—will be preserved for the enjoyment and education of generations to come."

## GMA Donations to Historical Causes

In January, following up its annual board meeting in October, the Grant Monument Association made donations to two historical causes: \$250 to the Museum of the Confederacy and \$100 to the Friends of Grant Cottage. The first donation was made in honor of the 200th birthday of Robert E. Lee on January 19.

The museum, currently located in Richmond, Virginia, has the world's largest collection of Civil War artifacts beyond the federal government, but it has financially struggled in recent times. The Civil War Preservation Trust lists the museum as one of 2007's "History under Siege" sites. The museum plans to relocate and will likely change its name to reflect its status as a "modern education institution," according to Waite Rawls, its president and CEO. Grant Cottage, located in Mt. McGregor, New York, is the site of Grant's death in 1885.



The Museum of the Confederacy



Grant Cottage

### The GMA Mission:

- To commemorate and perpetuate the accomplishments of Ulysses S. Grant and Julia Dent Grant and their memory.
- To undertake educational activities and ceremonies as they pertain to President Grant's service to his country.
- To cooperate with public and private parties to insure the repair, maintenance, and upgrading of Grant's Tomb in New York City.
- To raise funds to accomplish the foregoing purposes.

2006 MARKED THE PASSING OF FRANK AND JEANNE JONES, TWO FORMER OFFICERS OF THE FRIENDS OF GRANT COTTAGE. BOTH GAVE GENEROUSLY OF THEIR TIME TO VOLUNTEER AT THE COTTAGE AND NEVER LOST A MOMENT TO REACH OUT TO THE GMA. THEY WILL BE MISSED.

## The Three Meetings of Grant and Lee

Since January marked the 200th birthday of General Robert E. Lee, the GMA is pleased to recount the three recorded meetings of the legendary Civil War adversaries. It is unclear whether Grant and Lee had met formally during their pre-Civil War army days, but we do know about their famous surrender meeting at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865. The best known firsthand account of the meeting comes from Grant's memoirs, but fewer people are aware of this earlier account from an interview with Grant during his 1877-79 world tour:

"I had to ride quite a distance through a muddy country. I remember now that I was concerned about my personal appearance. I had an old suit on, without my sword, and without any distinguishing mark of rank except the shoulder-straps of a lieutenant-general

on a woolen blouse. I was splashed with mud in my long ride. I was afraid Lee might think I meant to show him studied discourtesy by so coming—at least I thought so. But I had no other clothes within reach, as Lee's letter found me away from my base of supplies. . . . I went up to the house where Lee was waiting. I found him in a fine, new, splendid uniform, which only recalled my anxiety as to my own clothes while on my way to meet him. I expressed my regret that I was compelled to meet him in so unceremonious a manner, and he replied that the only suit he had available was one which had been sent him by some admirers in Baltimore, and which he then wore for the first time. We spoke of old friends in the army. I remembered having seen Lee in Mexico. He was so much higher in rank than myself at the time that I supposed he had no recollection of me. But he said he remembered me

very well. We talked of old times and exchanged inquiries about friends. Lee then broached the subject of our meeting. I told him my terms, and Lee, listening attentively, asked me to write them down. I took out my "manifold" order-book and pencil and wrote them down. General Lee put on his glasses and read them over. The conditions gave the officers their side-arms, private horses, and personal baggage. I said to Lee that I hoped and believed this would be the close of the war; that it was most important that the men should go home and go to work, and the government would not throw any obstacles in the way. Lee answered that it would have a most happy effect, and accepted the terms. I handed over my penciled memorandum to an aide

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**"We are bound together by the most powerful of all ties, our fervent love for freedom and independence, which knows no homeland but the human heart."**



To make a gift to the Gerald R. Ford Memorial Fund, please send your donation to:  
 Gerald R. Ford Foundation, 303 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353.

**GRANT AND LEE: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2**

to put into ink, and we resumed our conversation about old times and friends in the armies. . . . Lee no doubt expected me to ask for his sword, but I did not want his sword. It would only have gone to the Patent Office to be worshiped by the Washington rebels. There was a pause, when General Lee said that most of the animals in his cavalry and artillery were owned by the privates, and he would like to know, under the terms, whether they would be

regarded as private property or the property of the government. I said that under the terms of surrender they belonged to the government. General Lee read over the letter and said that was so. I then said to the general that I believed and hoped this was the last battle of the war; that I saw the wisdom of these men getting home and to work as soon as possible, and that I would give orders to allow any soldier or officer claiming a horse or a mule to

take it. General Lee showed some emotion at this—a feeling which I also shared—and said it would have a most happy effect. The interview ended, and I gave orders for rationing his troops."

The generals met again the following day on horseback, where Grant recalled, "I asked him to use his influence with the people of the South—an influence that was

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**GRANT MONUMENT ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP**

The life and extraordinary public service of General and President Ulysses S. Grant is reflected in the grand monument in New York City that serves as his final resting place — popularly known as Grant's Tomb. The Grant Monument Association (GMA), the successor to the organization of the same name that built and administered Grant's Tomb until it was transferred to the National Park Service in 1959, was formed to ensure that this important part of our heritage would be preserved. To become a member of the GMA or renew your membership for 2007, fill out the form below. Contributors of \$50 or more will receive a signed copy of Frank Scaturro's *President Grant Reconsidered*.

**Membership Enrollment Form**

You can join the GMA with an annual gift of \$25 or more (\$10 for students and senior citizens). Please indicate your gift below:

\_\_\_ \$10 (senior citizens and students) \_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ \$50  
 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_ Other - Indicate Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* Membership gifts are charitable donations and are tax deductible.

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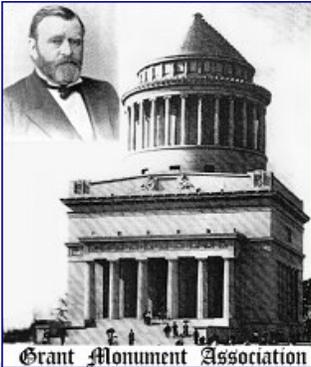
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THE GMA THANKS THE NEW YORK COMMANDERY OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION (MOLLUS) FOR ITS GENEROUS SUPPORT IN BRINGING THIS NEWSLETTER TO YOU. SINCE 1865, UNION OFFICERS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS HAVE WORKED THROUGH MOLLUS TO PERPETUATE THE MEMORY OF THE STRUGGLE FOR THE UNION.

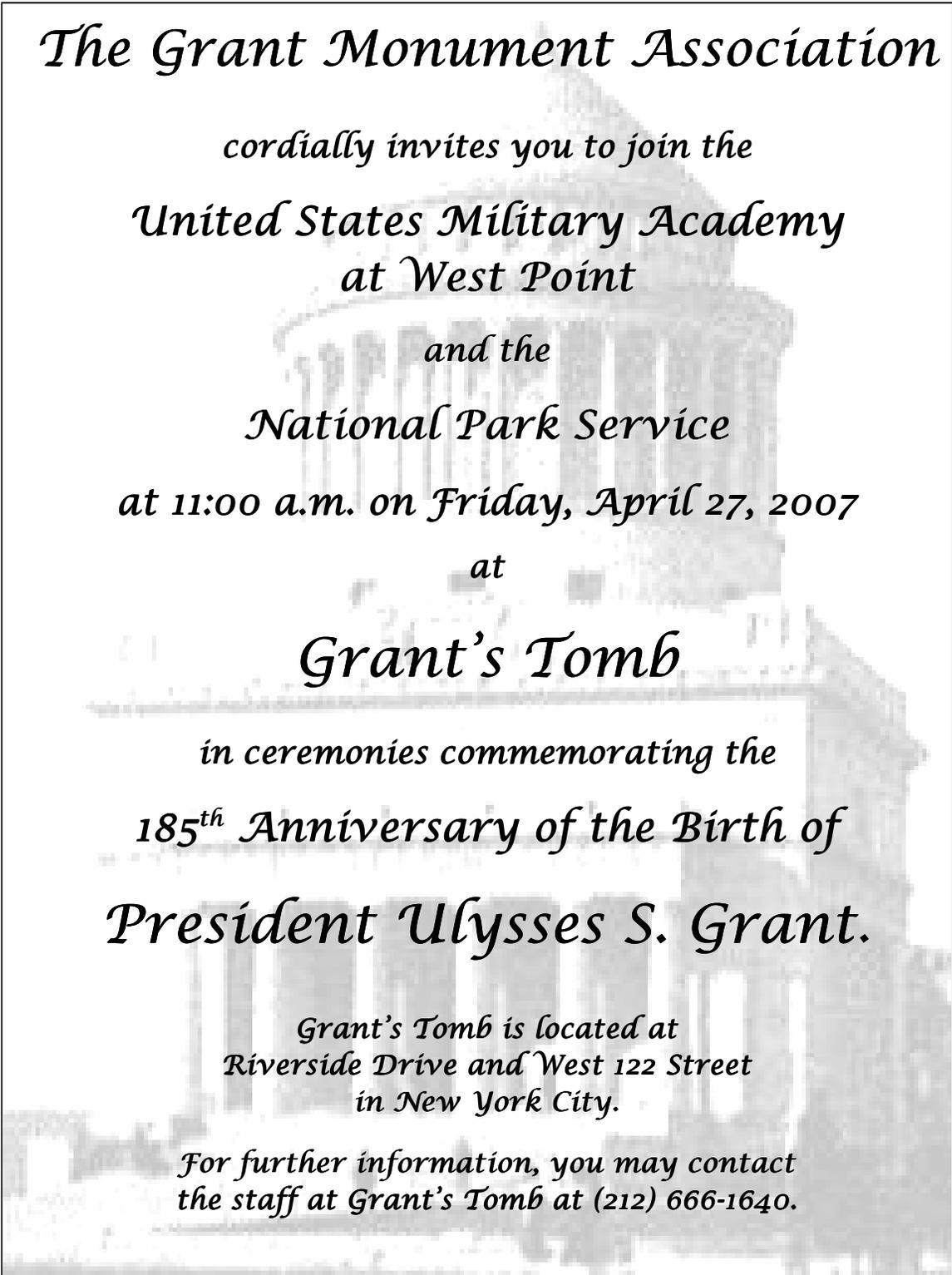
## GRANT AND LEE: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

supreme—to bring the war to an end.” Lee replied that other than “isolated commands here and there . . . there was no longer any army which could make a stand.” To Grant’s regret, however, Lee would not “go among the Southern people and use his influence to have all men under arms surrender on the same terms given to the army of Northern Virginia” without “consultation with President [Jefferson] Davis.” Davis was in flight at the time.

The final meeting of the generals was a courtesy call in the White House on May 1, 1869. There are few reliable accounts of the encounter, but an aide to Grant

recalled, “The interview was short, and all that Grant could remember afterward was that they spoke of building railroads, and he said playfully to Lee, ‘You and I, General, have had more to do with destroying railroads than building them.’ But Lee refused to smile, or to recognize the raillery. He went on gravely with the conversation, and no other reference was made to the past. Lee soon arose, and the soldiers parted . . . .”

Sources: John Russell Young, *Around the World with General Grant*, vol. 2, pp. 455-58 (1879); Adam Badeau, *Grant in Peace*, pp. 26-27 (1887).



*The Grant Monument Association*

*cordially invites you to join the*

*United States Military Academy  
at West Point*

*and the*

*National Park Service*

*at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, April 27, 2007*

*at*

*Grant's Tomb*

*in ceremonies commemorating the*

*185<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Birth of*

*President Ulysses S. Grant.*

*Grant's Tomb is located at  
Riverside Drive and West 122 Street  
in New York City.*

*For further information, you may contact  
the staff at Grant's Tomb at (212) 666-1640.*

*On Memorial Day,  
Monday, May 28, 2007,*

*The Grant Monument Association*

*will join the*

*Soldiers and Sailors Memorial  
Association*

*for a Memorial Day walk from the*

*Soldiers and Sailors Monument*

*(Riverside Drive and West 89 Street)*

*to*

*Grant's Tomb*

*(Riverside Drive and West 122 Street)*

*Please assemble at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument  
on Riverside Drive and West 89 Street at 10:00 a.m.  
on Memorial Day, May 28. Ceremonies begin  
promptly at 10:30. All are encouraged to attend.*

*For further information, please contact Dr. George Chall  
, Chairman of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial  
Association, at (212) 580-0745 or email  
[geochall@msn.com](mailto:geochall@msn.com).*