

Irish Brigade Camp #4 Patriotic Instruction – March 2017

This week in history had a few great reminders of things to be patriotic about:

On March 9, 1862, the first battle between ironclad ships took place. This has always been dear to me as this was the first serious history paper I wrote in 8th Grade. I have a book entitled CSS Virginia signed by the author that is just a great piece of history on naval ship building. What still amazes me is these two ships of completely different design are still evident in the debate in every navy as to building large capital ships or smaller more nimble combatants. In the US, we are rich enough to build both!

In 1864, this is the week that General Grant became the first Lieutenant General since George Washington as a permanent rank. Henry Halleck held it as a temporary grade but President Lincoln wanted a more permanent arrangement for US Grant.

And speaking of Presidents and future Presidents, the Marine Corps Lessons Learned Website had this on their opening page this week:

11 March 1778: Marines participated in the action when the Continental Navy frigate Boston, enroute to France, sighted, engaged, and captured the British merchant ship Martha. As the drum of the Boston beat to arms, John Adams seized a musket and joined the Marines on deck until the frigate's captain, Samuel Tucker, sent him below for safety.

And last but not least, this is the week in 1876 that Alexander Graham Bell patented the telephone and made his first call to his famous assistant "Mr. Watson". Our lives have never been the same since this famous first call.

In fraternity, charity and loyalty,

Brother Schwalm
IBC #4 Patriotic Instructor