

# Pannebakker Familie Views

A Newsletter for the Pannebakker Family Association

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## Statue Honors Boy General

Reprinted from the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, June 2, 1934

### Fifty Pennypackers Attend Unveiling of Memorial to Famous Kin

#### City and State Orators Praise Hero of Cape Fear River Fight

The youngest general of the Civil War was recalled to the memory of his fellow citizens yesterday.

Brevet Major-General Galusha Pennypacker, native son of Pennsylvania and resident of Philadelphia for 33 years, was honored by the presentation to the city by the State of a heroic bronze statue.

Standing on Logan Circle near Vine st. and facing south, the warrior figure represents those qualities of determination, leadership and indomitable courage that made General Pennypacker a major at 19, and a colonel and a brigadier general before his 23d birthday.

#### Fifty Kinfolk Present.

Yesterday was the 92d anniversary of his birth at Valley Forge. More the 50 members of the Pennypacker family—a group that sent 145 men into the Civil War—were present to see Secretary of the Commonwealth Richard J. Beamish in the name of Governor Pinchot present the statue to Mayor Moore.

Beamish sketched General Pennypacker's career—a quiet, modest lad who had assisted slaves to freedom along the underground railroad, transformed by the threatened disruption of the Union into one of the Northern Army's greatest leaders.

Followed the reconstruction period when the general, in command of the 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry and vested with despotic powers over a large portion of the prostrate South, through his statesmanlike government, his friendly spirit, his open purse, won the esteem of a stricken people.

#### Second Cousin Presides.

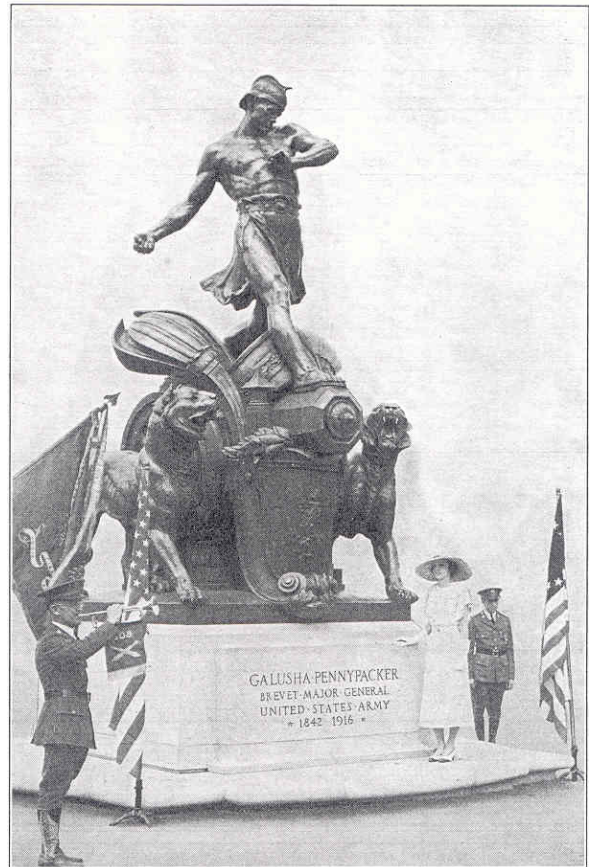
Dr. Isaac R. Pennypacker, second cousin of the general, presided at the ceremonies.

"In this soldier of the Union," he said, "there were combined the glory of the fight, the sacrifice of a half century of suffering from battle wounds and a war whereof the cause and the outcome have the approval of the just. Against that background stands the figure of the happy warrior, fit subject for the tribute of the sculptor's art."

Following the unveiling of the monument by Miss Louise Ramsay Pennypacker, granddaughter of Dr. Pennypacker, a field gun of the 108<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery boomed out 13 shots and a bugler sounded taps. The color guard of the 108<sup>th</sup> and non-commissioned officers and privates flanking the monument stood at attention.

#### Tribute by Mayor.

Mayor Moore then accepted the monument for the city, citing General Pennypacker as "a brave man, a fine citizen, a gal-



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## BOY GENERAL

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lant soldier.”

Major-General William G. Price, Jr., retired, former commander of the Pennsylvania National Guard, in his speech condemned those persons who “in ignorance” of the traditions of our country “dominate our legislative halls to control both government and business.”

He warned of the folly of any attempt to save the country from the economic results of the World War by any other than the historic method-letting the country work out its own salvation.

**Enlisted at 18.**

The man honored yesterday enlisted at 18 in April, 1861, with a company of Pennsylvania volunteers, serving three months in the Shenandoah Valley until his first “hitch” expired. He then re-enlisted in the 97<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Infantry and rose rapidly until at the age of 22 he was brevetted and shortly thereafter formally commissioned a brigadier general.

Repeatedly wounded as he led his men into battle, he received almost a death blow in the storming of Fort Fisher near the mouth of the Cape Fear River, N.C., in 1865. His men thought he was dead, so terribly had his body been torn. But an army physician detected life and he was saved.

At the close of the war he had been brevetted a major general. He was then commissioned colonel of the 34<sup>th</sup> Regulars, later given command of the 16<sup>th</sup> and put in authority over a large portion of the Department of the South.

**Sent Abroad in 1871.**

When the Franco-Prussian War ended in 1871, he was sent abroad to study the tactics and organization of the German army and there received the plaudits of the victorious Bismarck and his field marshal, von Moltke. Returning to America, he finally retired from active service in 1883 because of wounds and came to Philadelphia.

He lived out the remainder of his life at 300 S. 10<sup>th</sup> st., almost unknown to his neighbors. His family recalls that he was never without pain during those years. He died in 1916.

The memorial, authorized by the State Legislature in 1919, is the work of Albert Laessle, the conception being that of the late Charles Grafly. It shows a vigorous warrior, with clenched fists, clad only in helmet and loin cloth, going into battle atop a gun carriage. On either side are tigers. The base bears the words- “Galusha Pennypacker, Brevet Major General, United States Army. 1842-1916.”



MISS PENNYPACKER

**Message From The President**

President Ron Mitchell, and the Officers of the Association would like to thank all those family members who so generously donated additional funds to the Association this year.

It's been ten years since the Pennypacker-Umstat Reunion of 1999. There has been some talk about another reunion in the next year or so. If you would be interested in getting involved with the planning of our next reunion, please send a message to either Ron Mitchell, or to Bruce Pennypacker, at the mailing address or e-mail address listed on the last page of this newsletter.

The Pennybaker DNA Project is proceeding. Several family members have joined since the last newsletter. If you are male and carry the Pennypacker surname, or a different spelling of the name, please consider joining. As an incentive to join, we are offering to help with the cost of the DNA testing by waiving dues for a period of time, depending on how many markers you have tested. If you are interested, please contact Bruce Pennypacker for further details. If you are without internet access, or are unsure how to set up the testing, I would be happy to assist you. All you have to do is contact me by email, phone or regular mail.

Each edition will feature stories about our family members. We'd love to hear about you! Let us know what you've been up to. Articles could be autobiographical or tell us about the kids, grandkids or maybe about that big trip or the book you just had published. Send your story, with pictures if you wish, to the editor.

## GEN. PENNYPACKER

### DIES AT HOSPITAL

#### Aged Veteran Victim of Complication Arising From Civil War Wounds

Brevet Major General Galusha Pennypacker, a veteran of the Civil War and a hero of Fort Fisher, N.C., died at 1:15 o'clock this morning at the Jefferson Hospital, from a complication of diseases, which were the outcome of his wounds.

Although a very young man at the time, he led one of the most desperate battles of the war in the assault at Fort Fisher, N.C., on January 15, 1865. He was twice wounded in that engagement and carried one of the bullets with him until his death.

For his distinguished personal gallantry in that assault, when he was severely and it was thought for a time mortally wounded, and "for gallant and meritorious services during the war," he received six brevets or promotions. The Congressional Medal of Honor was awarded him for "bravery at the battle of Fort Fisher." He was the youngest general of the war and was the youngest man to be commissioned a colonel and brevetted a major general.

General Pennypacker entered the service of the United States in April, 1861. Because of his youth, he declined an appointment as first lieutenant in his company A, of the Ninth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was made a noncommissioned staff officer.

He participated in a number of battles with the Department of the South, and for gallantry in action he was promoted to lieutenant colonel April 3, 1864.

He was wounded six times during the war and had a horse shot under him at the assault upon Fort Harrison. At various times General Pennypacker was in command of the District of Mississippi and the Department of the South. He was placed on the retired list of the army in 1883, on account of wounds.

General Pennypacker was a cousin of the late Governor. He was past seventy years, lived at 300 South Tenth street. When his condition became serious he was removed to the Jefferson Hospital.

Two years ago he suffered an attack of grip, which developed into pneumonia. He recovered, but his wounds began to trouble him recently.

### Electronic Update

Anyone interested in having the *Pannebakker News* sent directly to their e-mail, instead of being sent in the regular mail, should send a message stating their wish to use this option to: [throwcoach@gmail.com](mailto:throwcoach@gmail.com). Using the e-mail option will save our Association time and money, and get the newsletter to you faster. In the coming months, we hope to have our web site up and running, and at that time, the newsletter, and past editions of the newsletter, will be available on the web site.

### Dues Reminder

Dues are due by April 30. If you haven't sent in your dues, please do so. Please make your check payable to PFA (\$10 for an individual, \$17 for a couple) for your annual membership. Dues year begins May 1 and ends April 30.

Send to:

Pannebakker Family Association, Inc.  
N202 County Road B

The Family Association does maintain an extensive genealogical database, compiled over many years by several dedicated family researchers. Since the database includes living individuals, we will not "give away" the entire database, or publish it on the Internet. Your privacy is assured! However, we are willing to help those who have a specific question about their lineage. With each birth and death within the family, our database becomes more out-of-date. For the benefit of future generations, we ask that you send us notification of these events. Please send requests for information, or family updates to the editor of this newsletter.

Remember, when you turn 80, you no longer have to pay dues. So, if you've already turned 80 or are about to, please let us know so that we can make the proper adjustment in our records.

The Pannebakker Family  
Association

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The Pannebakker Family Association is an out-growth of the family reunion held at Pennypacker Mills, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania on July 2-4, 1999. The reunion celebrated the 300th year wedding anniversary of Hendrick Pannebecker and Eve Umstat, in Germantown, Pennsylvania in the year 1699.

In the words of the Steering Committee of the reunion, "We hope that the 1999 Pfannebecker-Umstat Reunion will lead to the growth of a family association, which will provide a forum for conversation, collection and preservation of information, and a sense of lasting community among the heirs of this rich cultural heritage."

Editor, Pannebakker Familie Nieuws  
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