



# 47th Annual POCI Convention - July 16-21, 2019 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

previews by Cary Schuck

**U**lysses S. Grant was the 18th President of the United States, Commanding General of the Army, soldier, international statesman, and author. During the American Civil War Grant led the Union Army to victory over the Confederacy with the supervision of President Abraham Lincoln. During the Reconstruction Era President Grant led the Republicans in their efforts to remove the vestiges of Confederate nationalism, racism, and slavery.

## Lunch With the Grants

Two special guests at the 2019 POCI Convention will be Ulysses S. Grant and his wife, Julia. The famous Civil War General and eighteenth President of the United States is still the correct answer to the classic question of who is buried in Grant's Tomb. However, two impersonators (*who are very much alive!*) will join us at a luncheon on Friday to demonstrate period clothing, etiquette, and even gymnastics performed by women during the era immediately following the Civil War!

The day after Robert E. Lee's defeat at Gettysburg, Union forces in the west under General Grant secured another im-



portant victory by capturing the Confederate stronghold of Vicksburg and gaining control of the Mississippi River. In 1874, Grant was given command of all Union forces; his aggressive tactics are credited with bringing the Civil War to a swift conclusion.

A strong advocate for civil rights, Grant ran for President as a Republican and won the 1868 election in a landslide. He served two terms, presiding over a difficult period of reconstruction and reunification but suffered severe business reversals after returning to private life. Grant was writing his memoirs to support his family when he died in 1885 at the age of 63.

Grant married Julia Dent, sister of a West Point classmate, in 1848. The couple had four children. Julia died in 1902 and is

buried with her husband in, of course, Grant's Tomb.

Because a traditional Ladies Luncheon will not be offered during our 2019 convention, we encourage everyone with an open mind and an interest in history to consider attending this event and be part of the fun.



## Civil War Quilt Raffle

Christine Schuck is an enthusiast who enjoys driving old cars like her favorite 1936 Pontiac Cabriolet. Chris is also skilled at operating a sewing machine and has used her talents to create a quilt not unlike one that could have been made during the Civil War era. We will be displaying this quilt and selling raffle tickets at Keystone State Chapter events throughout the year and at the convention up until the drawing on Chapter Night.

A quilt is a very appropriate souvenir for a Civil War-themed convention. Unlike our modern army, soldiers on both sides of the Civil War were expected to supply some — or even most — of their equipment, including bedding. Many prized family quilts went to war with soldiers to keep them warm and remind them of home. Women in the north and south quickly formed societies to aid the soldiers and one northern group alone delivered



more than 250,000 simple and functional quilts to the Union Army. During the war, primarily in the south, some very elaborate and decorative quilts were created for raffle or sale at auction to raise money for military supplies.

Our raffle quilt employs the iconic "log cabin" design often associated with Abraham Lincoln's humble roots. This pattern first appeared during the Civil War and was extremely popular during the last quarter of the 19th century. The light and dark colored rectangular "logs"

around each center square represent the sunny and shady sides of a cabin. Squares at the center of each cabin were often red, said to represent the welcoming fire in the hearth.

The face of our raffle quilt is made entirely from "reproduction fabric" that is documented to be identical to material used in quilts during the Civil War era. We hope you will take a chance to win this functional and decorative souvenir of your visit to Gettysburg — *The Best Address for 2019!*

(JUST IN: THE HOST HOTELS ARE BOOKED UP - SEE OVERFLOW HOTEL LIST)



## Cary's Goats

It's a safe bet that the 2019 POCI Convention will showcase dozens of the very best GTOs in the world, but we have a special treat lined-up for those in search of even more "Goats."

Perched on a hillside in rural Sabillasville, Maryland is a two-story building housing a restoration shop and small museum owned and operated by enthusiast Gary Cave. As the name suggests, "Gary's Goats" is dedicated to 1964-'74 Pontiac GTOs. About 40 restored vehicles — primarily GTOs, many of which feature unusual options — are displayed on the second floor. The first floor is dedicated to parts and cars



under restoration as well as Gary's office, brimming with GTO memorabilia and related items.

Bus tours to Gary's facility will be offered on Wednesday morning and afternoon, and the half-hour ride from Gettysburg will include a lunch stop at the scenic Mountains Gate restaurant. Oldsmobile owners enjoyed tours to Gary's Goats during their recent Gettysburg convention, so it should prove to be even more appealing to Pontiac performance enthusiasts! *JN*

### 2019 Convention Overflow Hotels

Gettysburg Comfort Suites:  
800-334-6912

Gettysburg Country Inn & Suites:  
717-337-9518

Gettysburg Hampton Inn:  
717-338-9121

Gettysburg Hilton Garden Inn:  
717-334-2040