Veteran's Information

Veteran's Name: Matthew R. VONTANA

Birth Date: 31 October 1841 Location: Switzerland Year of Immigration: 1855

Death Date: 19 May 1933

Location: Orange County, California Buried at (Cemetery): Santa Ana Cemetery Plot Location: Unknown GPS Coordinates: N33° 46' 08.88106" W117° 50' 25.31030" (DMS) Datum: NAD83. Coordinates are +/- 1.00 feet of the grave location

Side Served: Union

Rank: Private Company: A Unit: 8th Cavalry Regiment State: New York

Occupation: Farmer, Postal Clerk, Postmaster

Family Information

Parents -

Father: Martin Vontana

Birth Date/Location: 1797, Switzerland Burial Date/Location: 17 April 1870, Rochester, Monroe County, New York Mother: Medore

Birth Date/Location: 1803, Switzerland Death Date/Location: 20 July 1866, Rochester, Monroe County, New York

Spouse: Phoebe Lachance (Lippe)

Birth Date / Location: August 1844, Canada Death Date/Location: 24 June1931, Orange County, California Marriage Date / Location: 4 August 1891, Lake County, Florida

Children -

Name: Leon Vontana

Birth Date / Location: 1899, New York Death Date / Location: After 1910, Unknown



Additional Information

Member of Sedgwick Post No 17, GAR

Matthew R. Vontana was the son of Martin and Medore Vontana, and had a brother John R. Vontana, and a sister Margaret Vontana (Proudhomme, Moulton). He immigrated in 1855 and was naturalized in 1868 according to the 1920 Census.

His brother John R. Vontana also served with him in the 8th New York Cavalry. John died from injuries in battle on 5 July 1864. His sister, Margaret, married first to Louis Proudhomme, and second to Francis A. Moulton.

Matthew Vontana enlisted on 19 September 1861 with Company A of the 8th New York Cavalry Regiment. During the war, Matthew Vontana was wounded at Front Royal on 21 September 1864,, and was captured as a POW at Harper's Ferry. He discharged on 6 April 1865 when he mustered out at Cyler General Hospital in Philadelphia.

On 2 March 1880 M.R. Vontana was named as the Postmaster in Fincastle, Henderson County, Texas. Matthew Vontana married Phoebe Lachance in Lake County, Florida on 4 August 1891. They had one son, Leon, who was living with them in the 1910 Census.

Photograph of tombstone for, Matthew R. Vontana, Santa Ana, Cemetery, Orange County, California taken by Charles Lewis Beal, 3/05/2007. Retrieved 19 March 2013, from Findagrave.com. Used with the permission of Charles Beal.

Sources

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Historical Data Systems, comp. *U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2009

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National Archives and Records Administration. *Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-193* [database on-line]. Accessed 18 March 2013. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2000. Original data: *General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. T288, 546 rolls, John R. Vantana, roll 487

California, Death Index, 1905-1939. California Department of Health and Welfare. California Vital Records

- Record for Martin Vontana
- Record for Pheobe Vontana

"Florida, Marriages, 1837-1974," index, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/FW7N-ZYX : accessed 17 Mar 2013), Matthew R. Vontana and Thebe Proudhamme, 04 Aug 1891.

1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

• Rochester Ward 10, Monroe County, New York; Roll M653_784, Page 128, Family 2701, Record for Matthaeus Fontana

1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

 Lewisburg South Ward, Union County, Pennsylvania; Roll M593_1458, Record for Mathew Vontana

Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

 Webster, Woodward County, Oklahoma; Roll T623_1344, Page 15B, ED: 0250, Family 356, Record for Mathew Vontana

Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

• Santa Ana Ward 2, Orange County, California; Roll T624_90, Page 2A, ED: 0056, Family 37, Record for M Vontana

Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C

• Santa Ana Ward 2, Orange County, California; Roll T625_124, Page 8A, ED: 81, Family 215, Record for Matthew R Vontana

United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*. Washington, D.C: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls.

• Santa Ana, Orange County, California; Roll T626_182, Page 10A, ED: 0074, Family 282, Record for Matthew Fontana

"United States, National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938," index and images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/V8MS-JTS : accessed 14 Mar 2013), Matthew Vontana, 1932.

"G.A.R. Veteran Is Called by Death, Matthew R. Vontana," May 19, 1933, Obituary section of Orange County, California Newspaper.

Findagrave.com, searchable data base of cemeteries with tombstone inscriptions, memorials and photographs

- Memorial 8722157, Created by Shiver, Record for Matthew R. Vontana
- Memorial 10286589, Created by Eldora Sasser, Record for Phoebe Lachance Vontana
- Memorial 34121570, Created by daryl verstreate, jr, Record for Martin Vontana
- Memorial 34121254, Created by daryl verstreate, jr, Record for Medora Vontana