

# History of the Buffalo Soldiers

**BUFFALO SOLDIERS MOTORCYCLE CLUB SOUTH FLORIDA**  
CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

FEBRUARY 19, 2019, 9 AM TO 10 AM

**BUFFALO SOLDIERS 9<sup>TH</sup> AND 10<sup>TH</sup> CALVARY**



In 1866 and 1867, Congress organized four African-American regiments in the U.S. Cavalry, known as the Ninth, Tenth, Twenty-Fourth, and Twenty-Fifth Infantry Regiments. These regiments saw duty against the Indian Nations. The Native Americans had such great respect for the fighting abilities of black soldiers, they called them **Buffalo Soldiers**. The brave nature of the soldiers reminded the Native Americans of the way buffalo fought.

*Join us and celebrate our rich, fascinating, and empowering Black History.*

**PARKHURST ACADEMY**  
3550 W. EAU GALLIE BLVD, MELBOURNE, FL  
32935  
Narrated by Larry "DC" Watkins, BSMCSFL



By: Larry "DC" Watkins  
BSMCSFL

# Discussion Topics

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- **Introduction** ([Buffalo Soldiers Song](#))
- **Historical Timeline**
  - The American Civil War
  - The 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment
  - The creation of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Calvary
  - Who were the Buffalo Soldiers
  - The accomplishments of the Buffalo Soldiers
  - Their Role in the Indian Wars
  - Challenges – Overcome Obstacles/Racism
  - First African American to Graduate West Point
  - Spanish American War - Roughest Riders ([Jerome Tuccille video](#))
  - WAR HEROS !!!
  - The History of the National Association of Buffalo Soldiers and Troopers Motorcycle Club (NABSTMC)
  - The Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club South Florida (BSMCSFL)
- **Summary**

# American Civil War

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➤ 1861 – 1865 – Civil War



1. Tariffs
2. Centralization vs States Rights
3. Christianity vs Secular Humanism
4. Cultural Differences
5. Control of Western Territories
6. Northern Industrials wanted the South's Resources
7. Slander of the South by Northern Newspapers
8. New Englanders attempted to instigate massive slave rebellions in the south
9. Slavery
10. Northern Aggression Against Southern States

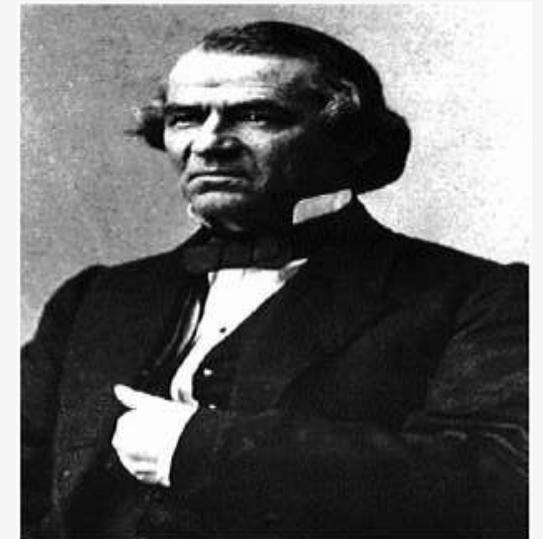


# December 6, 1865 - 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment Ended Slavery



Abraham Lincoln

- July 17, 1862 -Militia Act 1862
- January 1, 1863 - Issued Emancipation Proclamation
- Assassination - April 14, 1865
- President Andrew Johnson -1865-1869
- Used Presidency to prevent Congress from giving aid to 4M Freed Slaves.
- Deep hatred towards black people.
- Enacted the “Black Codes” - Denied Civil Liberties to Freeman
- This is the reason that blacks never received the “forty acres and a mule” that General O.O. Howard proposed for the slaves at the end of the Civil War.

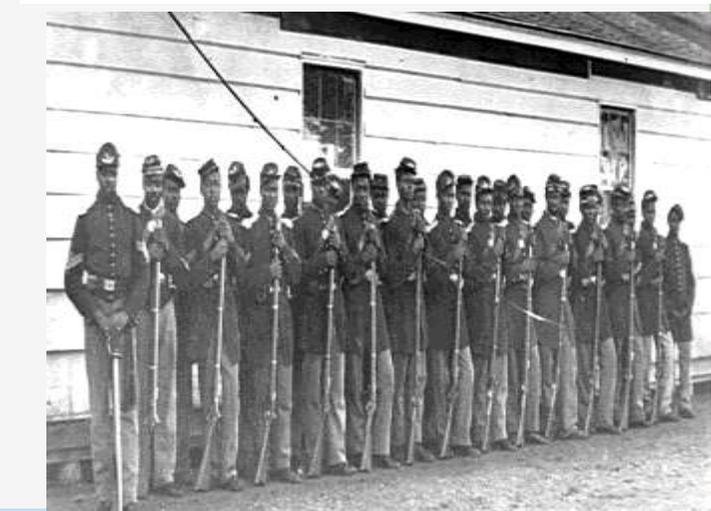


Andrew Johnson

# The creation of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry



- July 17, 1862, Militia Act was established
- Bureau of Colored Troops was established
- May 22, 1863 – General Order 143
- In the West the first Major Battle May 1863 at Port Hudson, LA near Baton Rouge
- In the East at Fort Wagner, SC
- Spring 1864 Major operations in Virginia under General Ulysses S. Grant in the battle at Petersburg, VA.
- Earned 18 medals of Honor
- New Market Heights, VA in September 1864
- Twenty-Fifth Army corps captured capital in Richmond, VA
- July 28, 1866, Six Regiments established in the regular Army
- Four Infantry and Two Cavalry regiments (38<sup>th</sup>, 39<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 41<sup>st</sup>
- -9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>)



# Who were the Buffalo Soldiers

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- The 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Calvary and the 4 Infantry regiments became know as the Buffalo Soldiers
- Where the Name Buffalo Soldier Come From?
- Originated from Native Americans (Cheyenne, others).
- Curly Hair Resembled Fur of the Buffalo and Dark Coats they Wore.
  - Fierce, Tenacious, Fought Valiantly, and the Indians Revered them.
- They guarded the mail
- Escorted/guarded stage coaches, cattle drives, railroad crews and surveyors
- Built roads and telegraph lines
- Mapped and explored the West
- Played a major part in building the West and making safe for Westward expansion

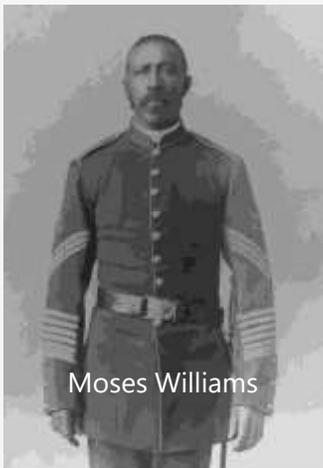


# Accomplishments of the Buffalo Soldiers

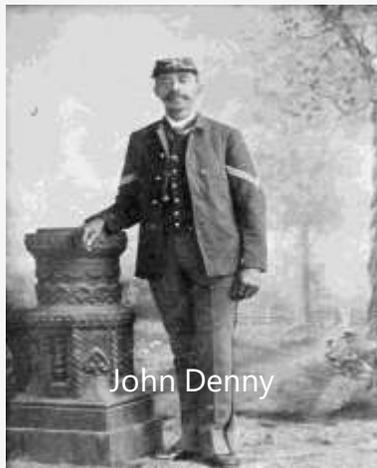
The Medal of Honor is the nation's highest medal for valor in combat that can be awarded to members of the armed forces.

Medals of Honor are awarded sparingly and are bestowed only to the bravest of the brave; and the courage must be well documented.

Eighteen African-Americans earned the Medal of Honor during the Indian War. Fourteen were Buffalo Soldiers; members of the Army's first peacetime black regiments. Twelve of the Buffalo Soldiers were from the 9th and 10th Cavalry. By the end Twenty-Three were awarded the medal of honor



Moses Williams

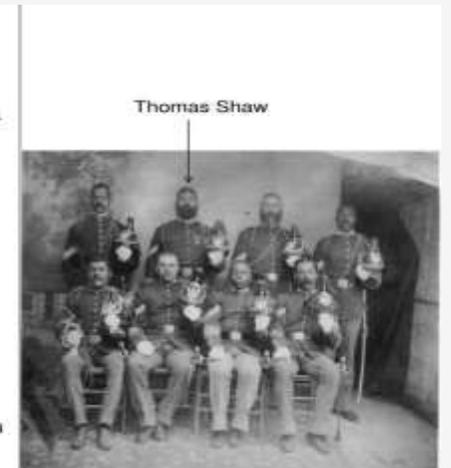


John Denny



Augustus Walley

**Black Medal of Honors  
1866-1890**  
➤ 14 African-American soldiers and 4 Seminole-Negro Indian Scouts received the highest army award during frontier Indian Wars.  
**9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry:** Sgt. Thomas Boyne, Sgt. John Denny, Cpl. Clinton Greaves, Sgt. Henry Johnson, Sgt. George Jordan, Sgt. Thomas Shaw, Sgt. Emanuel Stance, Augustus Walley, Sgt. Moses Williams, Cpl. William Wilson, Sgt. Brent Woods  
**10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry:** Sgt. William McBryar  
**24<sup>th</sup> Infantry:** Sgt. Benjamin Brown, Cpl. Isaiah Mays  
**Indian Scouts:** Pompey Factor, Adam Paine, Issac Payne, Sgt. John Ward



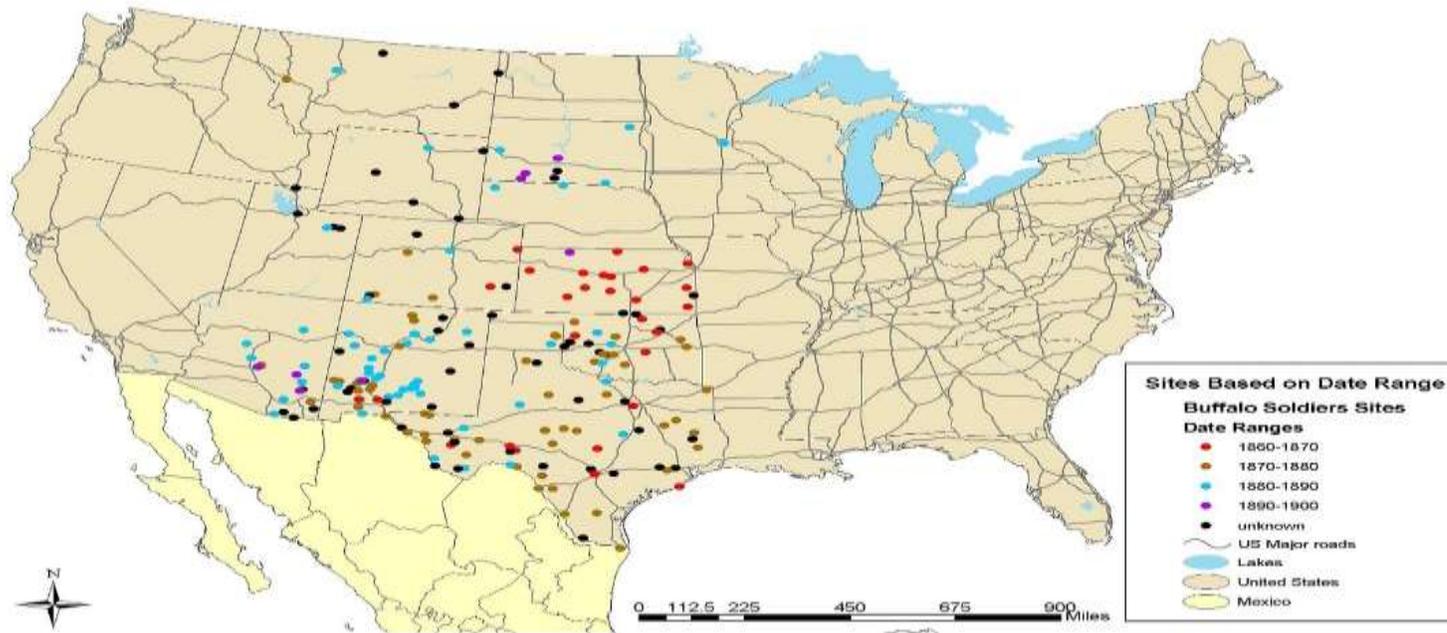
Thomas Shaw

# Their Role in the Indian Wars

- The 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry conducted campaigns against the Native American Tribes on the Western Frontier from Montana to NW Texas, New Mexico, SW Arizona
- During this time approximately 20% of US Cavalry Troopers were African American.
- They fought in over 177 engagements during the Indian Wars

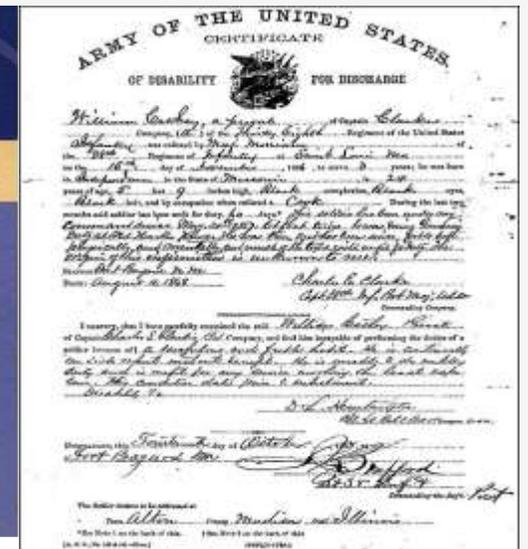
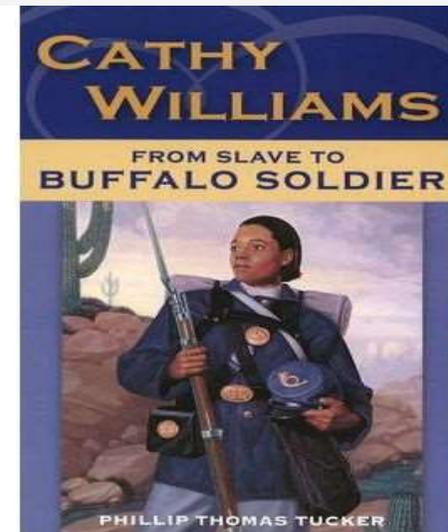


9th Cavalry  
Regiment



# Challenges – Overcome Obstacles/Racism

- Defeat the Enemy with Least Amount of Resources, Given Hand-Me-Down Uniforms, Provided Substandard Equipment / Weapons, Often on Limited Rations / Scarce Food.
- Subject to Harsher Punishments, Under Jurisdiction of Racist Officers, Posted in Worst Parts of the Country in Hostile Environments & Territories, Put First on the Front Lines to “Soften” the Enemy.
- Cathay Williams went on to pose as a man as William Cathay to enlist in the Army, becoming the first black woman to enlist in the military.
- During her service, she was hospitalized at least five times, but no one discovered she was a female. After less than two years of service, Cathay was given a disability discharge but little is known of the exact medical reasons.



# First African American to Graduate West Point

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**2Lt Henry Ossian Flipper  
1877**

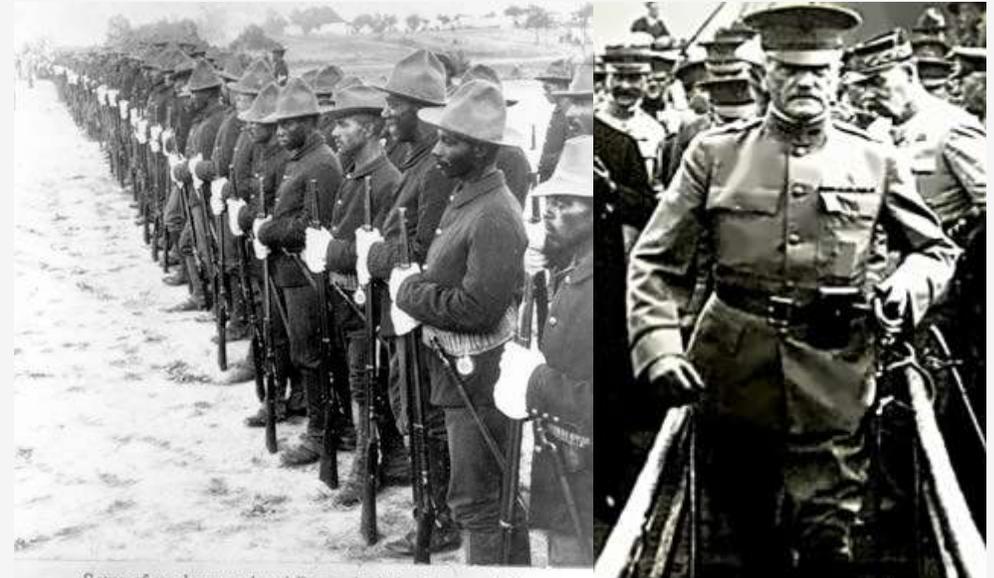
- 2Lt Henry O. Flipper attended West Point Military Academy during for four years as a cadet,
- He was harassed, ignored, insulted, isolated, and threatened.
- But by 1877, Flipper was West Point's first African American graduate as well as the first commissioned black officer of the regular U.S. Army and began his military service in 1878 as a 10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldier at Fort Sill, Indian Territory (now Oklahoma).
- In 1880, after many frontier skirmishes with American Indians, Lt. Flipper and his 10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers headed for service at Fort Davis, Texas. That was where things truly fell apart.
- In 1881, when Colonel William "Pecos Bill" Shafter took command. Pecos Bill *led* African American troops fairly well, he didn't actually *like* them much.



**Henry Ossian Flipper  
1940**

# Spanish American War - Roughest Riders

- Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders charged up San Juan Hill during the Spanish-American War.
- But often what is forgotten is the real story of Roosevelt's success.
- Dedicated corps of black soldiers—the Buffalo Soldiers—who fought by Roosevelt's side during his legendary campaign making Roosevelt's campaign a great success that added to the future president's legend as a great man of words and action.
- But most of all, they demonstrated their own military prowess, often in the face of incredible discrimination from their fellow soldiers and commanders, to secure their own place in American history.
- In 1892, 1Lt John Pershing took command of the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment and played a major role during the Cuban campaign. He led troops, filled in for fallen officers, braved enemy fire, and kept his men well supplied where the 10th Cavalry took much of the brunt of the fighting.



Some of our brave colored Boys who helped to free Cuba.  
Copyright 1999 by J. F. Jarvis.



# WAR HEROS !!!

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- AMERICAN-INDIAN WARS:
  - Sioux Wars (1854 – 1890)
  - Apache Attacks (1861 – 1900)
  - Ute Wars (1865-1879)
- PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN WAR (1899-1902)
- MEXICAN BORDER WAR (1846)
- WORLD WAR I (1914-1918)
- WORLD WAR II (1939-1945)



**DECORATED SOLDIERS WITH MULTIPLE ACHIEVEMENTS:** \* 23 Congressional Medals of Honor \* 13 Campaign Citations in Western Wars \* Philippine Insurrections / Presidential Citation \* World War I Citations \* 5 World War II Unit Citations \* 10 Unit Citations from Korean Conflict \* 3 Presidential Citations \* 2 Republic of Korea Presidential Citations

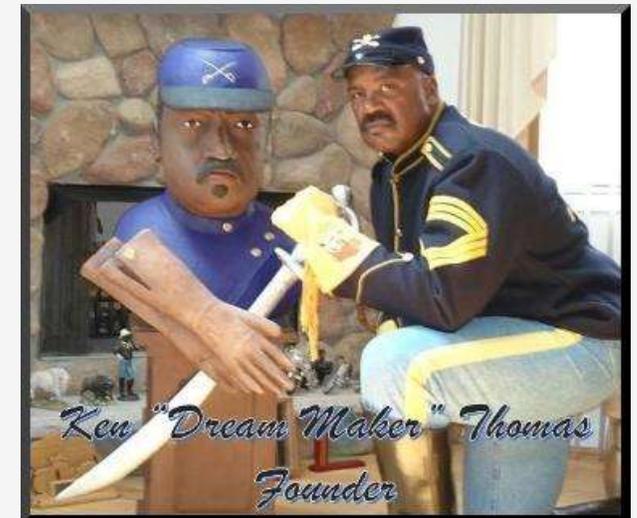
# Buffalo Soldier Motorcycle Club History

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**The Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club (BSMC) was founded in 1993 in Chicago, IL by retired Chicago Police Officer Kenneth “Dream Maker” Thomas.**

- In 1999 the Chapters collectively formed the National Association of Buffalo Soldiers and Troopers Motorcycle Club (NABSTMC).
- Consists of professional men and women dedicated to the sport of motorcycle riding, safety, and educating the general public about the rich history of the 9th and 10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers. Our colors represent a long history and we wear them with pride and respect.
- Our colors pay homage to African Americans of the 9th and 10th Cavalry who sacrificed their lives so that our country could be what it is today.
- Organization has grown from 1 to over 120 Chapters Nationwide and Overseas.



# South Florida Chapter History



- The South Florida Chapter started in April 2003 by now *Ambassador* Robert “Shaft” Hinton and 5 other members and 1 associate member.
- The South Florida Chapter is a Nonprofit organization and participates in several charitable events annually:
  - Donate several \$1000.00 scholarships to High School Seniors
  - Provide gift bags & food to Senior Citizens of local nursing homes
  - Purchase Christmas toys for children of families in need, other events
  - Established Mentorship Programs
  - Love to Ride Motorcycle: Rode to Phoenix, AZ last year for National Convention 5K miles one trip

# Summary

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- The 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Buffalo Soldier History
- The History of the National Association of Buffalo Soldiers and Troopers Motorcycle Club (NABSTMC)
  - The Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club South Florida (BSMCSFL)

Thank you Parkhurst Academy!

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