



Military Society of the Mexican War  
**Founded 13 October 1847**  
**Mexico City**

The Aztec Club of 1847 is among the oldest patriotic hereditary societies, founded in Mexico City in 1847 at the time Winfield Scott's U. S. Army occupied that capital during the Mexican War.



Six of the Club's members have been the standard bearers of their respective parties for President of the United States: Zachary Taylor, Franklin Pierce, Ulysses Simpson Grant, Winfield Scott, George Brinton McClellan and Winfield Scott Hancock. Of these, three were elected to and have administered that great office.

Following his Presidency, during which time the Aztec Club dined at the White House, in 1881 Ulysses S. Grant was elected Vice President of the Club and announced his intention to become its President. It is the only military society to

which Robert E. Lee belonged.

Two of the Club's members have been candidates for Vice President of the United States, John A. Logan and Simon Bolivar Buckner, and a long line of its distinguished members have held high place in Congress, in the professions and other prominent fields of civic authority and in the Army, Navy and Marine Corps.

The Club has held many functions in New York City since first meeting there in 1867.

Membership has been hereditary for the past 100 years.

# AZTEC CLUB OF 1847



## COMMEMORATIVE WREATH LAYING HONORING ULYSSES S. GRANT

**GRANT NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
1 MAY 2002 -- NEW YORK CITY**

**MAY 1, 2002**

# ULYSSES S. GRANT

(04-27-1822 - 07-23-1885)

Vice President, Aztec Club of 1847: 1881 - 1885

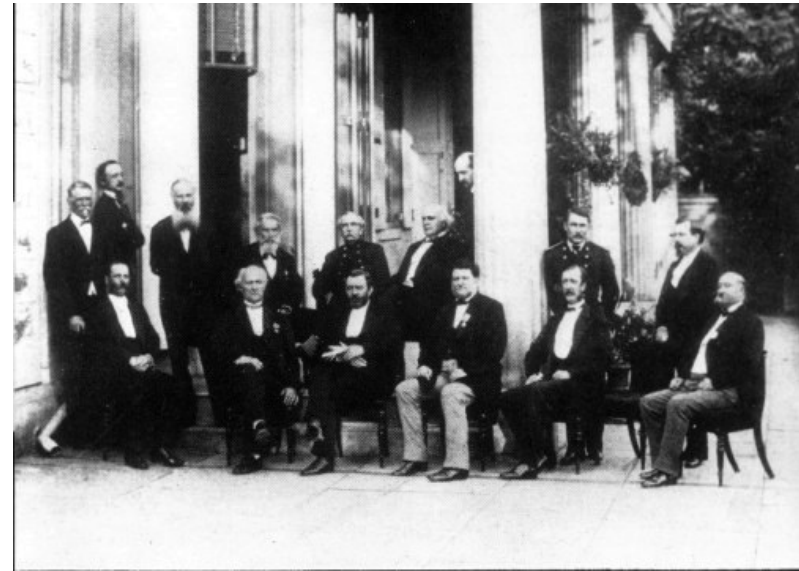
Born in the Ohio hamlet of Point Pleasant, Grant rose to become the ranking General of the Armies of the United States and eighteenth President of the United States. At West Point he was outstanding only in horsemanship, a talent he had honed on his father's farm where at the age of seven he had begun hauling wood with a team. "Sam" graduated 21st in his class of 39 on July 1, 1843 but stood notably higher in some branches of the school: 10th in mathematics; 15th in philosophy and 16th in engineering. He received a brevet to 2nd Lieutenant, 4th Infantry, there being no opening in any of the Army's cavalry regiments for the finest horseman at West Point. He received a promotion to 2nd Lieutenant, 4th Infantry, on September 30, 1845.

Serving in the Military occupation of Texas, 1845-1846, Grant was ordered to join General Taylor's army, about to invade Mexico from the Rio Grande base of operations. He was engaged in the Battle of Palo Alto, May 8, 1846 and Battle of Resaca-de-la-Palma, May 9, 1846. Though a Regimental Quartermaster in Charge of the Train, Grant took an active part in the Storming of Monterey, September 21-23, 1846. He was thereafter transferred to General Scott's Army and participated in the Siege of Vera Cruz, March 9-29, 1847; Battle of Cerro Gordo, April 17-18, 1847; Capture of San Antonio, August 20, 1847; Battle of Churubusco, August 20, 1847; and Battle of Molino del Rey, September 8, 1847, for which he received a brevet to 1st Lieutenant for gallant and meritorious conduct. He was engaged in the Storming of Chapultepec, September 13, 1847 and the Assault and Capture of Mexico City, September 13-14, 1847. He received a brevet to Captain, September 13, 1847, for gallant conduct at the Storming of Chapultepec.

Lincoln met the 41 year old Grant for the first time at a White House reception on March 8, 1864. The five-foot eight general seemed quite nervous.. As introductions were made, someone in the crowd cried out, "Stand up, so we can all have a look at you." Grant obliged by standing on a sofa where he remained, receiving the adulation of the crowd for nearly an hour. One journalist writing: "The little, scare- looking man who stood on the crimson-colored sofa was the idol of the hour."

Grant went to Cincinnati to confer with General Sherman, whom he

had named his replacement in command of the western army. Later, Sherman characterized the grand strategy they devised in that meeting: "He was to go for Lee and I was to go for Joe Johnston. That was the plan." Like Grant and Sherman, both Lee and Johnston were members of the Aztec Club.



While serving as 18<sup>th</sup> President of the United States (1868-1876), Grant attended the 1873 Annual Meeting of the Aztec Club, hosted in Philadelphia at Gen. Robert Patterson's home, and hosted the 1874 meeting at the White House. Following his retirement from the Presidency in 1876, Grant traveled abroad for two years and in 1880 was a leading contender for the Presidency once again but a coalition of Grant's opponents agreed upon James A. Garfield.

In 1881 Grant was among those who attended the Aztec Club's historic meeting in Philadelphia. He was elected Vice President of the Club, announcing his intention to become its President in 1885. Attending the meeting was a galaxy of stars from the Civil War, both Union and Confederate, brothers in arms during the Mexican War, many of whom as fate would have it were on opposite sides of the War of the Rebellion. As a nation divided sought a path toward post-war reconciliation, these former military leaders led by their personal example. The connection between them even stronger than before, they came together again to perpetuate the unique bond they shared. The Aztec Club grew and thrived as it evolved from a military society into the hereditary one that exists today.