

**Department Orders #4
Series 2005- 2006**

Department Headquarters, Mayville, Michigan

1. The 117th Annual Department Encampment is coming soon. We will convene on Saturday, April 29, 2006 in Grand Rapids. All Brothers are encouraged to attend. This is your chance to see the governing mechanism of the Department at work, renew old friendships and lend your voice to discussions and decisions made on your behalf.
2. All Brothers are strongly urged to pre-register for the Encampment prior to April 22. Pre-registration is \$5.00, with "at the door" registration being \$10.00. Pre-registration enables better planning, saves you money and does much to reduce Encampment Day work for the Credentials Committee. Pre-registrations should be sent to: Brother Matt Adair, 409 Bent Oak Street, Fenton, MI. 4848430-2288. Details of the upcoming Encampment and "coupons" for registration may be found elsewhere in this issue of the "Messenger".
3. The Woman's Relief Corp will host, both, a luncheon and an evening dinner at the Department Encampment/ Convention. The luncheon is set for 12:00, noon with the dinner coming at 6:00 PM. Reservations and payment must be made in advance. Again, coupons, for your convenience in making reservations, may be found elsewhere in this issue of the "Messenger". Send checks and meal choices to: Mrs. Lucile Streeter, 782 W. Girard Rd., Sherwood, MI. 49089-9705
4. All Camps are requested to bring their Camp colors to the 117th Annual Department Encampment. All Camp colors will join the Department colors at the front of the room for the duration of the Encampment.
5. Annual reports of all Department Officers and Committees are due and receivable at the start of the Department Encampment. Hard copies of each report should be tendered the Department Secretary and Chief of Staff prior to the opening of the Encampment. Where possible, a labeled electronic copy of the report should be given the Department Secretary, in addition to the printed copy. Chief of Staff, Donald Shaw will be contacting each Department Officer and Committee Chairman to offer guidelines and other assistance needed to generate and present annual reports.
6. Please join me in congratulating "Michigan's Messenger" Editor, Rick Danes on a fine debut at his new post. The December, 2005 issue, Rick's first, looked sharp and come off without a hitch. Well done Rick.
7. The most recent issue of the Messenger was also the inaugural issue of the "all electronic" presentation of our newsletter. By vote of the 116th Annual Encampment, the Department ceased mailing the Messenger, as of the first of this year. With only minor glitches, the transition went well. The new distribution will do much to save Department money in order that it may be used in other endeavors to keep green the memory of the GAR.
8. A Special Committee is formed to assess nominations for the Abraham Lincoln Award and select deserving recipients. The Abraham Lincoln Award may be presented by the Department Commander, in the name of the Department to those who have "done outstanding work to further the memory of the Grand Army". Brothers James T. Lyons, PDC, of Camp #17, John Keith, of Camp #20 and Richard L. Scott, of Camp #3 are appointed to serve on this committee. Brother Lyons will chair.

9. The Charter of the Gen. Phil Kearney Camp #67 (Bay City) was suspended in 2004 when the Camp failed to select Camp officers and pay annual per capita tax. With no reasonable hope of bringing this Camp into compliance, the Charter is hereby revoked, effective December 31, 2005

10. Please join me in congratulating Miss Emily Miller, of Blissfield in the adoption of the battle flag of the First Michigan Engineers & Mechanics. The daughter of "Butch" Miller, PCC of Nash-Hodges Camp #43, Emily, over the past two years has, almost single handedly, raised the funding for the adoption. The adoption ceremony will be held on April 29, 2006 in Blissfield.

11. I have directed that a thorough inventory of all Department property be undertaken. This operation will be carried out in two parts. All materials, records, accouterments, tools and other assets owned by the Department that are associated with the current work of the Department will be inventoried by a work team comprised of Department Secretary Derr, Department Treasurer Shumway and myself. Articles, records, archives and other items that are of a historical nature will be located and inventoried by Department Historian, John Keith and such team help as he shall require. Details of this project can be found, elsewhere in this issue of "Michigan's Messenger".

Submitted in F, C, & L,
March 1, 2006

/s/

Richard Greene, Commander
Department of Michigan, SUVCW

Attest:

/s/

Dennis C, Derr II
Department Secretary