

Michigan's Messenger



The Official Newsletter of the Department of Michigan - Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Volume V Number 1

August 1996

Department Officers
1996 - 1997

Commander

David F. Wallace
7017 Granada Drive
Flint, MI 48532
(810) 635-2602

Senior Vice-Commander

Paul D. Hodges
2300 Heights Avenue
Lansing, MI 48912
(517) 482-4718

Junior Vice-Commander

Kent L. Armstrong
P. O. Box 618
DeWitt, MI 48820
(517) 669-5765

Secretary

Richard F. Lee
1111 Kern Road
Fowlerville, MI 48836
(517) 223-9497

Treasurer

James T. Williams
8032 Ore Knob Drive
Fenton, MI 48430
(810) 629-4603

Council

Gary L. Gibson
Donald H. Workman
James Neal

Chief of Staff

Terrance L. McKinch

Camp Organizer

Kent L. Armstrong

Patriotic Instructor

Edgar Dowd

Chaplain

Gordon F. McAllister

Counselor

James B. Pahl

Historian

Ronald Bellenger

Guide

Howard Streeter

Guard

Laverne Aves

Color Bearer

Patrick D. Wallace

Department Orders No. 1 Series 1996/1997

1. I wish to express my appreciation to the Delegates to the 107th Department Encampment in Lansing, for electing me as Department Commander. With the help of all the Brothers of the Department, we can enjoy a highly productive year.

2. Department Headquarters will be located at 7017 Granada Lane, Flint, MI 48532-3023. Telephone (810) 635-2602 home, (313) 995-9305 fax, JMW120OVI@aol.com e-mail. Please utilize the fax and e-mail numbers for all communications. All changes of address, new member updates, etc., should be directed to the Department Secretary, Richard Lee, 1111 Kern Road, Fowlerville, MI 48836-9257.

3. On behalf of the Brothers of the Department of Michigan, I would like to extend congratulations to the Department President of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Rolene Robinson and the Department President of the Women's Relief Corps, Lucille Streeter, on their election for the upcoming year. The Brothers of the Department of Michigan look forward to working with all our Sister organizations during this term.

4. I was pleased and honored to be able to start my term as Department Commander in the presence of the senior Past Department Commander, Thayne LaBanta. Brother LaBanta, one of our Real Sons, served as Department Commander for the 1946-1947 term and his presence at our Encampment provided a special link with our past and reminded us of the important work we need to carry on.

5. I am pleased to announce that the 107th Department Encampment conferred the title of Department Chaplain Emeritus upon Brother the Reverend Henry Reinewald, U. S. Grant Camp No. 101 of Detroit, in order to recognize his devotion to the position of Department Chaplain over the previous years. All the Delegates to the Encampment were pleased to see Brother Reinewald join us for the 107th Encampment.

6. Standing and Special Department Committee appointments for 1996-1997 have been made and are listed in this issue of *Michigan's Messenger* (see pages 9 and 10, ed.). I am pleased to inform you that the 107th Department Encampment authorized the formation of the Special Department Committee on Communications and Technology. Brother William Morris, Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145 of Flint, has agreed to accept appointment as Chairman of the Committee and as Department Communications and Technology Coordinator. The purpose of this Special Committee will be to maintain and update the Department's home page and links, and to assist Camps within the Department who desire to establish a presence on the Internet. Brother Morris can be reached at: wmorris@genesee.freenet.org.

7. Brother Gary Ralston, Gilluly-Kingsley Camp No. 120 of Howell, has agreed to accept appointment as the Department Eagle Scout Award Certificate Coordinator. In this capacity, Brother Ralston will notify the Scout Councils within the Department about the existence of the program and work directly with the Camps to ensure that all requests for the Eagle Scout Award Certificate are met and distributed on a timely basis.

8. Brother John Mann, Gov. Austin Blair Camp No. 7 of Jackson, has agreed to accept reappointment as the Editor of *Michigan's Messenger* for the 1996-1997 term. All Brothers and Camps are urged to contribute Camp News and articles of interest for review and publication. We have an outstanding publication and it can remain that way with the contributions and interest of all Brothers and Camps. Please forward any information about special projects, special events, Camp activities and announcements to Brother Mann. All Camp Commanders are reminded that they can appoint a Camp Reporter to act as liaison with *Michigan's Messenger*. Deadline dates for submissions are published in each issue.

9. Brother J. Douglas Park, PDC, Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17 of Lansing/Sunfield, has agreed to accept reappointment as Chairman of the M-99/Logan Highway (continued on page 2)

Department Orders

(Continued from page 1)

Special Committee. In this capacity, Brother Park will continue to work with the legislation designating M-99 as the Gen. John A. Logan Memorial Highway.

10. Brother James T. Lyons, PDC, Curtinius Guard Camp No. 17 of Lansing/Sunfield, has agreed to accept appointment as the Chairman of the GAR Records Special Committee. In this capacity, in part, Brother Lyons will begin development of procedures and policies for locating and indexing of known Grand Army of the Republic records and materials within the Department of Michigan.

11. The proposed amendments to the Department Bylaws were adopted by the 107th Department Encampment. The specific changes to the Department Bylaws are presented in this issue of *Michigan's Messenger* and updated copies of the Department Bylaws will be mailed to all Camp Commanders. Brother Paul Hodges, Senior Vice Department Commander and Chairman, Bylaws Committee, is to be commended for a job well done!

12. Department Per Capita Tax will remain the same as last year, \$5.00 per Brother, as no action was taken at the department Encampment.

13. All Camps are reminded that, as approved by the 106th Department, all Real Sons and Life Members are exempted from payment of Department Per Capita Tax.

14. Commander-in-Chief Medert recognized the efforts of Brothers Gordon F. McAllister (Gen. Phil Kearney Camp No. 67), Howard Streeter (Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22) and Donald H. Workman (Wa-bu-no Camp No. 53) for their efforts in perpetuating the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic by awarding Certificates of Merit to these Brothers at the 107th Department Encampment. The Department Commander also adds his commendation to these Brothers for a job well done.

15. The Abraham Lincoln Certificate of Appreciation Award was conferred by Department Commander Brennan on Brother Wayne Barrett (Wa-bu-no Camp No. 53) and on the 24th Michigan Infantry, Inc., in recognition of their outstanding efforts to preserve the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic within the State of Michigan. The Department Commander also adds his commendation and appreciation to Brother Barrett and the 24th Michigan Infantry, Inc.

16. The Gov. Austin Blair Membership Award went to the George W. Anderson Camp No. 58 of DeWitt. The Department Commander also adds his congratulations to the Brothers of the Camp on a job well done.

17. The Orlando LeValley Membership Award went to the Gilluly-Kingsley Camp No. 120 of Howell. The Department Commander also adds his congratulations to the Brothers of the Camp on a job well done.

18. The Third Annual "Ceremony of Remembrance" Program will be conducted at the Michigan Veteran's Facility, Grand Rapids, on Saturday, 3 August, 1996. As there is increasing interest and participation in this program from throughout the state, the Delegates of the 107th Department Encampment voted to have the Department of Michigan take on the responsi-

bilities currently assumed by the Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1 of Grand Rapids, in assisting with this event.

19. Our Order's annual Remembrance Day Program at Gettysburg will be held on Saturday, November 17, 1996. All Brothers are encouraged to attend. At the direction of the Department Encampment, the 30th Michigan Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve, has been requested to place a wreath on behalf of the Department, as part of an appropriate ceremony at the First Michigan Sharpshooters Monument on Little Round Top. As adopted by the Department Encampment, the expenditure on a memorial wreath and the request to place it at a Michigan Gettysburg memorial will become an annual part of the Remembrance Day Weekend. Those Camps and Brothers who are unable to attend the Gettysburg ceremonies are encouraged to organize and conduct appropriate Remembrance Day Ceremonies within their respective communities. Please let your local media know what you are planning.

20. As I outlined to the Brothers attending the Department Encampment, increased recruitment and Camp formation will be the principle objective for this year. I have challenged the Junior Vice Department Commander with the goal of reaching 500 Brothers and 20 Camps by the time of the 108th department Encampment. An additional objective will be to establish an Internet home page presence for as many Camps within our Department as possible. We can achieve these objectives, but only with the determined help of all Brothers within the Department.

By Order of:

David F. Wallace
Department Commander

Attest:

Richard F. Lee
Department Secretary

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The following is excerpted from the Inspector General Charles E. Beach's Report, Forty-ninth National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, Washington, D. C., 1915; from questions asked of all Departments during the preceeding year by the Inspector General:

(Question) 6. Have you State laws regarding flags for the school, and how are they enforced?

Twenty reported having State laws; six reported, no; six made no reports on this subject; one knew of no such law; and one stated that the State made no appropriation for flags. Usually the law is complied with. Alabama reported that not more than one in twenty have flags in schools; Michigan reported that the law was enforced by excluding schools who do not observe it from participating in primary school funds. This, it seems to me, is an example which might be followed by other Departments.

Department Officer Reports

Senior Vice Commander

The 107th Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan has come and gone. In the words of the Big Band classic, though, "The memory lingers on." More than 50 members attended the business sessions, a modern-day record. It truly was a time of comradeship.

The down side was that some Camps did not send delegates. We all lose when that occurs. Those Camps lose the opportunity to present their viewpoints and to hear others. The Department loses by proceeding with policies and plans without the benefits of full participation.

Some Brothers in attendance during the day were unable to stay for the evening banquet. After a day of reports and deliberations, they missed an enjoyable period of dining, program, conversation and just plain friendship. And even fewer members attended the noon luncheon with the ladies of the Allied Orders.

It's time to reconsider the entire format of the Department Encampment. The bylaws merely provide that it shall be held between May 1st and July 1st. It preferably should continue to be held concurrently with the annual meetings of the other Allied Orders. n But, in light of their decreasing attendance, the Ladies also may be ready for some changes. The next Encampment will be held on June 6th at the Holiday Inn West in Lansing, but arrangements beyond 1997 have not been established.

Consider the date. Are there too many conflicts with graduations, weddings and other activities? Has it been too close to Memorial Day and our obligations for it? Might early May or later in June be better?

What about the place? Are we ready for a change of scenery? Would other sites attract members who otherwise don't attend? Should the place be changed from year to year, perhaps alternating with one in mid-Michigan?

What changes to the schedule would be appropriate? Should the business sessions begin and/or end earlier or later? How about having a luncheon speaker or other program? How can we make better use of the time preceding the banquet? Should displays or vendors or both be available?

These and other aspects were considered when the current format was established. Let's explore other options as we plan for the future.

In F., C. and L.,

Paul D. Hodges
Department Senior Vice Commander

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"There is one debt this Nation can never repay — the one it owes to the defenders of the Union."

Abraham Lincoln

Junior Vice Commander

First, let me thank all of you who attended and took part in the proceedings of the Department's 107th Annual Encampment. It is a privilege to serve in this post and I hope to carry out the duties of this office as well as was done by those here before me. I want to thank Brother Don Workman, whose well-maintained files have allowed a smooth transition. Special thanks also go out to Department Commander Wallace and Camp No. 58 Secretary, Mark Pangburn, for services rendered on their computers.

Let's talk MEMBERSHIP! You've heard it before, but let me repeat the thought of each of us making it our personal goal to bring in at least new Member or Associate each year! Let's not forget Juniors, too.

As we recruit those who have a birth-right to be a Member, keep in mind that 1/3 of a Camp's total membership may consist of Associates. Each of us probably knows someone who does not have a Civil War ancestor, but does have a strong interest of that era and would be willing to help us, as Associates, in our efforts to honor those who served and saved the Union. As an example, State Representative Lingg Brewer (68th District) has an on-going policy of presenting a special award to students who successfully memorize and recite President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. I commend Representative Brewer for his actions and interest in our Civil War era heritage, and invited him to join us in our work. I'm pleased to report that Representative Brewer has accepted my invitation to join our Order and will soon become an Associate with Camp No. 17. An added dividend will be his willingness to help with the M-99/Gen. John A. Logan Memorial Highway project in the State Legislature. He is also interested in saving the GAR Hall in Detroit!

I plan to approach other legislators, to join their colleague, Brother Michael E. Nye, in the noble work he has rendered our Order and in the memory of those who served the Union. Do not overlook any opportunity to increase our membership! The more of us working together, the better for all, and the cause we carry.

RECRUITING — Many Camps already have plans to set up a display at a special function near them. If you would like to borrow the Department Recruiting Tent, please contact me so I may reserve it for you and help arrange delivery, if necessary. The Department also has a twelve foot long, red, white and blue banner that you may use as a table covering, a patriotic "attention getter". I've updated a traveling notebook that may be used to let folks know what we're all about. If you or your Camp have photocopies from newspaper coverage of special projects and accomplishments in your locale, please send me a copy (as well as the Department Historian), so it can be added to this recruiting aid.

My compliments to the Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145 for their set-up at the Crossroads Village Civil War event in Flint. I was able to attend briefly and was impressed with their display. Use of their Camp Flag and Parade Banner were excellent "attention getters". I look forward to visiting as many of the various Camp recruiting displays as I can.

(Continued on next page)

Department Officer Reports

Junior Vice Commander (continued)

I encourage all Camps to keep Department Secretary Lee updated on your recruiting results, letting him know who each recruit was recommended by. Secretary Lee can then notify the Office of the Commander-in-Chief when a Brother is deserving of being recognized for bring in three new members. For you who render this service to the Order, the C-in-C will recognize you with a ribbon of the National Organization that may be worn, pinned behind your membership badge. The C-in-C will also issue a certificate to those who recruit five or more new members. So, when you bring in a new man, be sure your name appears on his application where it lists, "Recommended By". (F. I. Y. The reference to "Witness" that appears on the 9/94 version of Form 3, Application, is reserved for the signature of the Camp Secretary, after the candidate is initiated.)

NEW CAMPS — I will continue, as those before me, with the work of establishing new Camps in the areas of: Allegan, Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti, Jonesville/Litchfield, Ionia and Monroe. In addition, I have initiated contact with interested parties in Holland and Ludington. I'm also going to work on establishing a Camp in the Upper Peninsula. It's my pleasure to report that we have a Brother with the same desire near Cadillac. Please stay tuned....

Wouldn't it be something to someday have at least one Camp in each County?! It's no secret that the nucleus for many new Camps is comprised of those who transfer from an existing Camp that may be some distance from their homes. This is sometimes a bit painful for some Camps to see their Brothers leave, but it must be accepted and supported as a healthy occurrence for our "family" if it is to grow. If you would like to be a part of this natural growth, please step forward.

COMMUNICATION — Good communication is the key to success in any venture. Many of you are becoming part of the fast paced network of electronic communicators and though I cannot count myself among you, I have the utmost appreciation for the benefits of e-mail and the presentation of information about our Order, to those who "surf the net". Therefore, I have informed Department Communications and Technology Chair, Brother Bill Morris, of a new "free-Net" in the planning stages to serve Clinton County. I'm sure that Brother Morris will be sharing something in the Department newsletter about how all this works and what's being shared with those in touch with the internet. In the meantime, I ask all Brothers with e-mail capability to communicate this to Brother Morris, so we may form a directory of your addresses. The Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief recently told me over the phone that he has processed over 4,000 inquiries for membership over the past 11 months, mostly generated through e-mail contacts. If you become aware of plans for a "Free-Net" near you, please contact Brother Morris. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Kent L. Armstrong
Department Junior Vice Commander

Secretary

The 107th Annual Department Encampment of the Michigan Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was held on June 8, 1996 at the Holiday Inn West, Lansing, Michigan.

Department Guide, Brother B. Costello, was asked to escort Commander-in-Chief David Medert to sit next to Department Commander Bill Brennan.

The Encampment was opened per ritual by Department Commander Brennan at 10:00 am and secretary R. Lee read the roll of Officers and Staff. All were present except Hon. J. Pahl, Counselor and R. Bellinger, Historian.

The National Officers present were recognized by Department Commander Brennan: C-in-C D. Medert, Past C-in-C Keith Harrison, Secretary David F. Wallace, Banner Editor Gregory Hayes, National Camp and Department Organizer Richard Greene, Council of Administration member J. Douglas Park, National Military Affairs Committee member Terrance McKinch and Membership-at-Large Coordinator L. Dean Lamphere Jr.

The Committee on Credentials Chairman, L. D. Lamphere Jr. reported the following Camps represented and the number of delegates from each:

Camp No.	Delegates
1	3
7	6
17	6
20	7
22	3
53	5
58	3
67	1
101	1
120	5 + 1 Alternate
145	9 + 1 Alternate
462	1

A total of 52 Delegates and Alternates present.

Letters from other Departments were read regarding their candidates for the post of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief to be elected at the National Encampment. Those endorsements for David Turpin and Danny Wheeler did not require official action. It was resolved that consideration of an endorsement for Col. Andrew Johnson's candidacy would be deferred until the National Encampment.

Letters endorsing the candidacy of David F. Wallace for Commander and of Kent Armstrong for Junior Vice Commander of the Michigan Department were received from Camp Nos. 7, 120 and 145.

Brother Paul Hodges, Chairman of the Bylaws Committee, presented four proposed amendments to the Bylaws, as follows:

1. That the Senior Vice Commander be authorized to spend up to \$50.00 for expenses incurred in carrying out his duties.

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Department Officer Reports

Secretary (continued)

2. That the Junior Vice Commander be authorized to spend up to \$50.00 for expenses, etc. (this was amended and approved by the body to read \$100.00).
 3. That Camps be exempt from per capita taxes for Real Sons, Life Members and Juniors.
 4. That the limit of five members for standing committees be deleted.
- All of these were approved by the body.

- The following recommendations/proposals were adopted:
- D. Workman — the need for documentation to certify the SUVCW as legal heir to GAR burial sites.
- D. F. Wallace — The appointment of the Rev. Henry Reinewald as Chaplain Emeritus of the Michigan Department.
- D. F. Wallace — The establishment of the Department Communications and Technology Committee.
- K. Harrison — to authorize the purchase of a wreath for \$75.00 to be placed on Michigan monuments at Gettysburg on Remembrance Day.
- K. Harrison — That the Department work with Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1 to support Remembrance Day at Battle Creek.
- K. Harrison — Proposal regarding the National Patriotic Instructor's Award for flying the National Flag 24 hours a day be brought to the National Encampment.
- G. Gibson — That the Department send \$25.00 to both the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief and National Patriotic Instructor Funds.
- K. Harrison — That the request made by Diane Hager of the DUVCW for Department support for the D. C. memorial for women who served in the military be referred to the incoming administration.

Commander-in-Chief Medert presented Certificates of Merit for dedication and service to Brothers Howard Streeter, Donald Workman and Gordon McAllister. In his remarks, C-in-C Medert spoke of advances made and things accomplished in the SUVCW during his tenure in office and he praised the National Officers from Michigan for their service. He gave special recognition to National Secretary David F. Wallace for his assistance.

Department Commander Brennan made the following presentations:

- The permanent Charter for George W. Anderson Camp No. 58 was accepted by Camp Commander Kent Armstrong.
- The Abraham Lincoln Award to the 24th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment for their many outstanding contributions to "the furtherance of the memory of the GAR within the State of Michigan".
- The Gov. Austin Blair Award to George W. Anderson Camp No. 58 for the largest numerical increase in membership from March 1995 to March 1996.
- The Orlando LeValley Award to Gilluly-Kingsley Camp No. 120 for the largest percentage increase in membership from March 1995 to March 1996.

The following duly elected and appointed Officers for the Michigan Department, SUVCW, were installed by Commander-in-Chief Medert as per ritual:

Elected Officers

Commander	David F. Wallace	Camp 145
Senior Vice Commander	Paul D. Hodges	17
Junior Vice Commander	Kent L. Armstrong	58
Department Council	Donald H. Workman	53
Department Council	Gary L. Gibson, PDC	20
Department Council	James Neal	17
Secretary	Richard F. Lee	120
Treasurer	James T. Williams	120

Appointed Officers

Chief of Staff	Terrance L. McKinch	Camp 145
Patriotic Instructor	Edgar Dowd	145
Chaplain	Gordon McAllister	67
Counselor	Hon. James B. Pahl	17
Camp Organizer	Kent L. Armstrong	58
Historian	Ronald Bellinger	20
Guide	Howard Streeter	22
Guard	LaVerne Aves	17
Color Bearer	Patrick D. Wallace	145
Aide	L. Dean Lamphere Jr.	145
Graves Registration	John Obermeyer	1
Editor	John Mann	7
Camp-at-Large Coordinator	William Morris	462

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Richard F. Lee
Department Secretary

Color Bearer

As part of my responsibility as department Color Bearer, I want to encourage all Camps to obtain and display the American flag at all Camp meetings. You can write your Congressional Representative and request an American flag that has flown over the united States capitol in Washington, D. C. You can also obtain a state of Michigan Flag by writing your State Representative. My Camp obtained both of our flags this way. They came with certificates that tell about their history.

I also want to encourage all Camps to obtain and use ritualistic equipment during Camp meetings. This includes Station Banners and an Altar Cloth. If you look in the ritual and Ceremonials of the SUVCW on pages 4 and 5, there is a description of how Station Banners should look. The National Quartermaster, Elmer F. Atkinson, is also finding a company to produce these items for sale from National Supply. He is also trying to find a company to produce Camp and Department Flags, so watch *The Banner* for updates.

Finally, I want to remind all Camps to keep their flags and ritualistic equipment clean and in good order. I've been to museums and other Camps where they have done a good job at this and their ceremonial equipment dates back a long time. This is an important way for us to "preserve the memory" by showing respect for our ceremonial equipment and our flags.

Respectfully submitted, in F., C. and L.,

Patrick D. Wallace
Department Color Bearer

Department Officer Reports

Treasurer

The following statements have been prepared from the books and records of the Department:

Department of Michigan — SUVCW
Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Fund Balance
At 31 May 1996

Assets	
Checking Account	\$3,005.58
Savings Account	3,670.08
Russell Alger Memorial Fund Savings Account	515.95
Total Assets	\$7,191.61
Liabilities and Fund Balance	
Liabilities	
Due Camp at Large	\$142.25
Due SVR	188.00
Miscellaneous	7.00
Total Liabilities	\$337.25
Fund Balance	
Restricted Funds	\$515.95
Unrestricted Funds	6,338.41
Total Fund Balance	\$6,854.36
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$7,191.61

**Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
For The Year Ended 31 May 1996**

Revenues	\$8,385.08
Expenditures	<u>-6,470.76</u>
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	\$1,914.32
Total Fund Balance Beginning of Year	\$4,940.04
Total Fund Balance End of Year	\$6,854.36

Yours in F., C. and L.,

James J. Williams
Department Treasurer

Legislative Committee

House Bill 5496:

You've read in previous Messengers about House Bill 5496. It was inspired by Kent Armstrong and introduced to the Michigan Legislature on December 14, 1995. The bill was introduced by Representatives Cropsey, Bush, Lowe, DeMars, Ryan, Kaza, Anthony and DeHart. During the course of the year several committee meetings were attended and our position was expressed and supported by the representatives.

The bill was approved and signed into law by Governor Engler at 6:50 P.M. on June 15, 1996 and took immediate effect at that time.

The bill is to amend section 3 of Act 63 of the Public Acts of 1915, section 35.833 of the Michigan compiled laws. It now reads: "Sec. 3. A person who willfully takes down, destroys, defaces, or carries away or possesses a flag holder or other design or memorial flag placed at a grave for memorial purposes without authority from the owner of the cemetery or the person causing the flag holder or other design or memorial flag to be placed in the cemetery or at the grave is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than \$5.00 or more than \$500.00, or both."

The Legislative Committee recommends the Camp Commanders take on the responsibility to have their Camp contact their local prosecutors, cemetery owners and local law enforcement agencies in their area to inform them of this change in the law.

A personal contact from representatives of our organization will go a long way in drawing attention to this change. It is really up to us collectively to make this change known to the proper authorities and to gain support for our cause.

In F., C. and L.,

Dick Williams
Legislative Committee

The Grand Parade of 1915

During the 1915 Grand Parade and Review, held in conjunction with the 49th GAR National Encampment in Washington, D. C., a lone veteran followed one of the Corps of veterans. He was G. G. Burlingame of Cleveland, Ohio. He marched as he did fifty years earlier in the Grand Review, equipped with his blanket and knapsack strapped to his back and shouldering the very same musket he carried throughout the Civil War.

It was estimated that 20,00 veterans of the Civil War participated in the parade, which lasted five hours. These were men who were 70 years of age and older at the time. Contemporary reports had it that the older of the veterans doffed their hats when cheered by the huge crowds. Other veterans, considering themselves much younger, however, skipped around the street just to show how spry and agile they were.

There were many Confederate veterans in the city and everywhere they were warmly greeted by the GAR veterans. One Confederate veteran, clad in gray, joined the parade and locked arms with a veteran in blue. Together, they marched along the route of the parade to great applause from the crowds of spectators.

Department Officer Reports

Patriotic Instructor

In 1883, the bloodiest conflict these United States had seen, the Civil War, was now a recent memory. Veterans groups were beginning to press for benefits to be paid those "old soldiers" who had given so much for their country. The question of how to care for these gallant men needed an answer.

One such answer was the establishment of a National "Old Soldiers' Home" in Washington, D. C., which was funded by a deduction from the pay of all enlisted men in the U. S. Armed Forces. Subsequent homes were established in five states, including Kansas, Maine, Ohio, Virginia and Wisconsin. Another home was planned for California. The major problem with these Homes was that they were far from adequate to handle the rising number of requests for aid and assistance.

The State of Michigan, which had a mid-century population of 750,000, had supplied approximately 93,000 troops to the Union. The state was now beginning to feel the need to supply a place to care for the veterans of "the Great Conflict".

In 1883, at a meeting of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Association of Southeastern Michigan, a resolution was passed urging Congress to establish a Michigan branch of the National Home. Thus, the motions necessary to establishing the Home, now located in Grand Rapids, were started.

At the first ballot of the board appointed to discuss possible sites for the Home, each of the six members had written down six different locations. Four days and 295 ballots later, no agreement had been reached. Finally, on ballot 296, the tally read: "Grand Rapids 4; Owosso, 2." Now the board had to chose from five sites located in Grand Rapids. After much deliberation, they settled on Nelsonwood, which had been the home of local furniture manufacturer James M. Nelson, who had died earlier in 1883.

After receiving bids for the construction of the Home and the reviewing of the same, the contract was awarded to Charles Tiedke of Saginaw. Ground was broken on March 15th and the first stone was laid on April 13, 1883.

The dedication of the Michigan Soldiers' Home took place on December 30, 1886. It was an affair of remarkable public interest and attendance, with over 12,000 attending. The GAR was represented by many members from the various Posts around the state. Unfortunately, just the day before, the "best friend of the veteran", Senator (formerly General) John A. Logan had passed away and was lying in state in the Rotunda of the Capitol in Washington.

Along with the establishment of the Home, was the dedicating of a cemetery on May 31, 1886. The cemetery was constructed in the shape of a Maltese Cross, with 262 graves plotted and room for another 1,048 grave sites. Free burial on the grounds would be provided to those veterans who died at the Home. In his dedication speech, the Honorable N. A. Earle of Grand Rapids said, "this is not built as a charity, but as a fulfillment of a sacred trust, making good a solemn promise of an honest debt."

The John A. Logan Post No. 1, GAR, during its lifetime, used the Home as a meeting place. Currently, the John A. Logan Camp No. 1, SUVCW, is the only Camp now allowed to use the site as its meeting place.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Ed Dowd

Department Patriotic Instructor

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Chaplain

Dear Brothers:

This message is to introduce myself as your new Department Chaplain, having been appointed by our newly elected Department Commander, David F. Wallace in June at our 107th Department Annual Encampment.

I am very proud and honored to be chosen for this position after only joining the Sons two years ago. I promise to you that I will be faithful to the Sons and handle all requirements of the position.

This past January I retired from the Bay City Police Department after 27 years there and 37 years in police work altogether. Those years were not easy, but I am sure being Chaplain will help me get rid of the anger and frustration I gathered in police work in the past few years.

The area of a Chaplain's job I want to pursue the most are the various memorial services that we can attend or present throughout the United States. I have been very fortunate already to attend many very beautiful memorials with the Sons and they definitely make me feel much happier and proud to be an American.

In conclusion, I would like to encourage you to follow me August 3rd to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans (formerly Michigan Soldiers Home) for a 1996 Ceremony of Remembrance Day Festivities which begin at 1:00 pm.

The suggested clothing to wear (if you do not have a Civil War uniform) is as follows:

1. Kepi
2. White Shirt
3. Dark Blazer (dark blue or black) and SUVCW Badge
4. Dark Tie
5. Dark Pants
6. Black Shoes

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Gordon F. McAllister

Department Chaplain

Department Officer Reports

SVR Commander

• **SVR Training.** Michigan's SVR has been very active the past few months. There has been one training session in Michigan and one on May 10, 11 and 12 in Ohio. The Ohio SVR hosted the joint School of Artillery and School of the Soldier session at Camp Sherman in Chillicothe. I am not sure how many attended the artillery school, but Michigan took five instructors down for only a few more soldiers to attend the school. The rain we experienced in Ohio, along with it being Mother's Day weekend, is the most probable cause of the low turnout, but there is always next year. 2nd Lieutenant Graves, 1st Sergeant Lamphere, Brevet Corporals Shaw and Van Inwagen and myself were the instructors from the 30th Michigan. 2nd Lieutenant James Ruley from the 25th Ohio was our sole Ohio instructor. I want to thank all who attended from Michigan and give special thanks to 2nd Lieutenant Ruley for his help with the instruction. I would really like to have a larger school next year and run it like a military camp. Camp Sherman has great possibilities and could become a good large event for the training of the SVR and re-enactors alike. I would also like to thank Captain Medert for his hospitality while we were down there. I have just one question..... Where do you guys keep the sunshine?

• **Memorial Day.** Today is May 27 and I just returned from two Memorial Day ceremonies, one in Corunna and the other in Vassar. Both had a rededication of GAR monuments. Corunna had a parade with a ceremony. The newest Camp in Michigan, Henry Wallace Camp No. 160, conducted by Camp Commander William Washburn, did a fine ceremony in rededicating this monument. Bill, along with Mike McMillan had won the Governor Crapo Award for their efforts in moving the monument to the new location at the Shiawassee Court House lawn. Vassar had a wonderful old time ceremony that the Junior Vice Commander from General Phil Kearney Camp, Gordon McAllister, put together. This is how the original Memorial Days must have looked like. There were Senators and Congressmen from both the State and Nation's Capitals, along with music, bagpipes and many troops. This ceremony took many hours to do and it deserves special recognition for Gordon's superb efforts. In this day and age, when most have forgotten that Memorial Day was to remember those Union soldiers who fought to keep this country of ours together and not just a day off work, it is nice to know that people like Gordon keep alive those memories.

• **School Programs.** It has recently been brought to my attention that a number of SVR members are doing special presentations at the public schools. This is a fine way to remember our ancestors and tell the young folks about those brave Union soldiers who died so long ago. It fulfills part of our oath and I would like to see these presentations happen. BUT, you must obtain written permission from the school superintendent and school lawyer before doing this if any weapons are involved. We use weapons, muskets, swords and bayonets for demonstrations and these are illegal to be brought into school. Members of different re-enacting organizations have been thrown in jail, even with written permission. Have fun and educate, but do it with care.

• **Remembrance Day.** The Michigan Department has for many years attended Remembrance Day at Gettysburg and the interest and participation has grown. We need to rededicate those many monuments that were dedicated to those Michigan men so long ago. I would like to see twice as many men participate this year as last year. You need to make your reservations now for the parade on November 16. It truly is a parade to remember. Your ancestors would appreciate it..

• **Upcoming Events.** August 3rd, Ceremony of Remembrance, Grand Rapids, Michigan. August 10 and 11, SUVCW National Encampment, Columbus, Ohio. August 11, SVR Breakfast, Columbus, Ohio. November 16, Remembrance Day, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Your Most Humble Servant,
In F., C. and L.,

Terrance L. McKinch
30th Michigan Volunteer Infantry

— • — —

SVR Adjutant

Quarterly Report — On May 11 and 12, 1996, Capt. McKinch and staff went to Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio. We went to assist in conducting the first SVR Infantry School to be held in conjunction with the SVR Artillery School. The weather was cold and rainy and the attendance was light, but we considered our efforts a success. Troops from Ohio and West Virginia were among those who participated. I would like to give special thanks to those who went with Capt. McKinch and myself. From the Michigan Military Dept., SVR, 1st Sgt. Dean Lamphere and Pvt. Kim Shaw. From Co. C, 8th Michigan Infantry, Cpl. David Van Inwagen.

Another Department Encampment has passed and I would like to thank those SVR members who participated in the presentation of the Colors. At the Encampment it was decided that the Michigan Department, SUVCW, would fund a wreath to be taken to Gettysburg each November for Remembrance Day. The wreath purchased each year will be used at a service held at a different Michigan Monument each year.

I have one change to report. At the request of Capt. McKinch, Pvt. James Williams has been transferred from Co. A to Co. B.

I recently requested to implement a new policy. all Reservists in the Michigan Military Department receiving an NCO promotion will receive a Certificate of Rank and one pair of Chevrons. 1st Sgt. Lamphere of Co. B has received both his Certificate and Chevrons. All future NCO promotions will receive the same.

I have two reminders. First, August 3, 1996, Ceremony of Remembrance, Michigan Veterans Facility, Grand Rapids, MI, 1:00 pm. Second, November 16, 1996, Remembrance Day, Gettysburg, PA.

I would like to encourage all SUVCW Brothers to consider service in the SVR. It is a great way to honor past and present veterans, as well as a valuable service to our country.

Respectfully Submitted,
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Lt. Daniel V. Graves
30th Michigan Adjutant

Department Officers for 1996/1997

Commander

David F. Wallace
7017 Granada Lane
Flint, MI 48532-3023
(810) 635-2602 (voice)
(313) 995-9305 (fax)
JMW120OVI@aol.com (e-mail)

Secretary

Richard F. Lee
1111 South Kern Road
Fowlerville, MI 48836-9257
(517) 223-9497 (voice)
(313) 995-9305 (fax)

Council Chairman

Gary L. Gibson, PDC
2339 Harmon Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49004-1527
(616) 345-3827 (voice)

Chief of Staff

Captain Terrance L. McKinch
7432 East Potter Road
Davison, MI 48423-9520
(810) 658-3891 (voice)
MICH8COLN@aol.com (e-mail)

Chaplain

Gordon F. McAllister
1810 South Grant Street
Bay City, MI 48708-8164
(517) 892-1978 (voice)

Color Bearer

Patrick D. Wallace
7017 Granada Lane
Flint, MI 48532-3023
(810) 635-2602 (voice)

SVR Adjutant

2nd Lt. Daniel V. Graves
7270 Morrcrest
Flushing, MI 48433-8880
(810) 639-5275 (voice)
76754.1525@compuserve.com (e-mail)

Communications and Technology Coordinator

William R. Morris
10324 West Stanley Road
Flushing, MI 48433-9247
(810) 659-8515 (voice)
wmorris@genecsee.freenet.org (e-mail)

Senior Vice Commander

Paul D. Hodges
2300 Heights Avenue
Lansing, MI 48912-3514
(517) 482-4718 (voice)
(313) 995-9305 (fax)

Treasurer

James T. Williams
8032 Ore Knob Drive
Fenton, MI 48430-9355
(810) 629-4603

Council Vice Chairman

Donald H. Workman
P. O. Box 235
Sanford, MI 48657-0235
(517) 687-7751 (voice)

Aide

L. Dean Lamphere, Jr.
36602 Park Place Drive
Sterling Heights, MI 48310-4223
(810) 939-2058 (voice)
ArtieBuddy@aol.com (e-mail)

Graves Registration Officer

John Obermeyer
2212 College Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507-3106
(616) 452-2453 (voice)
OBER2212@aol.com (e-mail)

Guide

Howard Streeter
782 Girard Road
Sherwood, MI 49089-9705

Editor, Michigan's Messenger

John R. Mann
2495 South Washington Road
Lansing, MI 48911-7216
(517) 694-1440 (voice)

Commander's Group Representative

To be announced.

Junior Vice Commander

Kent L. Armstrong
213 East Madison Street
DeWitt, MI 48820-0618
(517) 669-5765 (voice)
(313) 995-9305 (fax)

Counselor

Hon. James B. Pahl, PDC
445 west Maple Street
Mason, MI 48854-1519
(517) 676-1471 (voice)
JBPAHL@aol.com (e-mail)

Council Secretary

James Neal
1069 Applegate Lane
East Lansing, MI 48823-2117
(517) 332-7366 (voice)

Patriotic Instructor

Edgar Dowd
370 West Newport Avenue
Pontiac, MI 48340-1017
(810) 335-3107 (voice)
MrEdSUV@aol.com (e-mail)

Historian

Ronald Bellinger
1219 62nd Street
Fennville, MI 49408
(616) 236-5565

Guard

Laverne Aves
416 Broadbent Road
Lansing, MI 48917-9648
(517) 627-2777 (voice)

Camp Organizer

Kent L. Armstrong
213 East Madison Street
DeWitt, MI 48820-0618
(517) 669-5765 (voice)
(313) 995-9305 (fax)

Camp-at-Large Coordinator

William R. Morris
10324 West Stanley Road
Flushing, MI 48433-9247
(810) 659-8515 (voice)
wmorris@genecsee.freenet.org (e-mail)

Department Officers for 1996/1997

Standing Committees

Bylaws

Paul D. Hodges, *Chairman*
2300 Heights Avenue
Lansing, MI 48912-3514
(517) 482-4718 (voice)
(313) 995-9305 (fax)

Remaining members to be announced.

Legislative

Richard A. Williams
1917 Teel Avenue
Lansing, MI 48910-3117
(517) 484-2496 (voice)
RAWSUVCW@aol.com (e-mail)

David F. Wallace
7017 Granada Lane
Flint, MI 48532-3023
(810) 635-2602 (voice)
(313) 995-9305 (fax)
JMW120OVI@aol.com (e-mail)

Richard F. Lee
1111 South Kern Road
Fowlerville, MI 48836-9257
(517) 223-9497 (voice)
(313) 995-9305 (fax)

Membership

Kent L. Armstrong, *Chairman*
213 East Madison Street
DeWitt, MI 48820-0618
(517) 669-5765 (voice)
(313) 995-9305 (fax)

All Junior Vice Camp Commanders

Graves Registration and Memorial

John Obermeyer, *Chairman*
2212 College Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507-3106
(616) 452-2453 (voice)
OBER2212@aol.com (e-mail)

Remaining members to be announced.

Special Committees

Communications and Technology

William R. Morris, *Chairman*
10324 West Stanley Road
Flushing, MI 48433-9247
(810) 659-8515 (voice)
wmorris@genesee.freenet.org (e-mail)

Roger Heiple
221 South Liberty
South Lyon, MI 48178

Donald Harvey
126 West Meldrum Circle
St. Clair, MI 48079
(810) 329-5737

GAR Records

James T. Lyons, PDC, *Chairman*
411 Bartlett Street
Lansing, MI 48915-1805
(517) 482-9360

Gary L. Gibson, PDC
2339 Harmon Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49004-1527
(616) 345-3827 (voice)

J. Douglas Park, PDC
404 Kenway Drive
Lansing, MI 48917-3039
(517) 321-6768

M-99/Gen. John A. Logan Memorial
Highway
J. Douglas Park, PDC
404 Kenway Drive
Lansing, MI 48917-3039
(517) 321-6768

Camp News

Camp No. 3 Henry E. Plant

Fruitport — This Spring, Henry E. Plant Camp has been celebrating the 100th anniversary of Mr. Plant receiving his Medal of Honor. He received it for rescuing the 14th Michigan Infantry's Regimental Flag at the Battle of Bentonville (NC). Plant was a member of the 14th.

The Camp placed a display of Civil War artifacts owned by Brother Donald Ogden III in the Grand Haven city showcase. The showcase is located in the lobby of the city's Community Center.

On April 27th (the actual anniversary), the Camp, in conjunction with the Tri-Cities Historical Museum, held a reception and short program at the Grand Haven Community Center. A speech was given by the museum director, Ethram Barhett. His subject was the Medal of Honor, the 14th Michigan Infantry and Henry E. Plant.

Members of the Plant family were present. The museum and the Camp presented them a certificate to mark the occasion and our respect for what he did.

The Camp celebrated Memorial Day by marching in the Fruitport Old Fashion Days Memorial Day Parade. This was our first ever parade. The Camp marched in the second position behind the VFW. Our Past Camp Commander, Max Rieske, marched in the parade with the VFW. He is a Past Commander in that organization, also.

The parade directors conducted judging and our Camp is very proud to announce that we took first place in the category of professional marching. This award was carried by the six participants (five in Civil War uniforms) in the parade.

We hope to add another, morning parade, next year.

On the 30th of May we conducted our Memorial Service at the graveside of Henry E. Plant in Nunica Cemetery. The ceremonies were conducted by our Chaplain, John Bauldus, who spoke on the sacrifices men gave to serve during the Civil War.

The Camp's next meeting is September 9th at 1:30 pm at the Tri-Cities Historical Museum. All are welcome.

Daniel Grable

— . . . —

Camp No. 7 Gov. Austin Blair

Jackson — Our Camp was given the honor of conducting the ceremonies for the rededication of two local cemeteries. Homage was paid in the highest to all Civil War veterans buried in the two cemeteries.

The Month of June and the first week of July was an extremely busy, but fun time for our Camp. Much time was spent verifying and registering the names of Civil War veterans in the two cemeteries in preparation for conducting rededication services. Maple Grove Cemetery, in the village of Concord, is located on the western edge of Jackson county and Oakwood Cemetery is located near Grass Lake, on the eastern edge of the county.

July 3rd found us in the cemetery in Concord setting a new cemetery sign in the front of the cemetery and hanging a large (10' x 14') U. S. Flag between two beautiful oak trees in preparation for the events that evening.

The members of Austin Blair Camp, with the help of many others, welcomed almost 250 people to the rededication. Camp Commander, Todd Holton, welcomed the gathering and introduced participants. Junior Vice Commander, Bill Lowe, gave a brief history of the SUVCW and through his research, read tidbits on many of the veterans buried there.

A thank you goes to "Peaches" Streeter, Department President of the Women's Relief Corps, for her presentation on the history of the WRC and for the ladies of the Corps who read the names of their former members who are buried in the Maple Grove Cemetery. Many people in the crowd felt especially honored, as they were direct descendants of the men and women whose names were mentioned.

The next morning, July 4th, Austin Blair Camp joined many exhibitors and vendors to help Concord celebrate 125 years as an incorporated village. We displayed three Civil War army tents (wall, "A" and dog tent), an antique wagon and a good share of Civil War memorabilia. Later that day we marched in their 4th of July Parade. Our Junior members carried our Camp banner, followed by the honor guard along with many of our Brothers.

Friday was a day of rest, then it was on to the other side of the county, Grass Lake. There, a grand group of Civil War participants gathered at the renovated train depot. The parade was led by Past Department Commander, Jim Pahl, who, with his son, joined Austin Blair Camp members as members of the honor guard.

Other marchers were members of the 1st Michigan Cavalry and Company G of the 27th Virginia Infantry (whom I might add, wore blue for the occasion). Marching to old renditions of Civil War songs played by fife, we proceeded to Oakwood Cemetery, where a short ceremony was conducted by Brothers Bill McAfee, Chaplain and Bill Lowe, JVC. A roll of honor was read, followed by the SUVCW Memorial Service. The guest speaker was General George A. Custer, aka Steve Alexander.

The ceremony concluded with a volley from the 27th Virginia Infantry and a beautiful rendition of Taps by the buglers of the 1st Michigan Cavalry. In attendance and in period dress were Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, U. S. Surgeon General William Hammond along with their wives, children and friends.

Bob Metcalf

Camp News

Camp No. 17 Curtenius Guard

Lansing/Sunfield — The Camp observed Memorial Day with activities which extended over a full week. They began on Friday, May 24, with presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation to a local fourth-grade class. The certificate, issued by Commander-in-Chief Medert on the recommendation of the Camp, commended the class for making Memorial Day wreaths. A highlight of the occasion was a talk by Brother LaVerne Aves who was in full Civil War uniform and had a musket.

On Saturday, following Lansing's parade, the Camp held a ceremony at the GAR monument in Mt. Hope Cemetery. Mayor Hollister gave a brief message. PC-in-C Harrison provided the ceremonial wreath, one which had been on display at Abraham Lincoln's tomb. From My. Hope Cemetery, Camp members went to the nearby Evergreen Cemetery and shared in the city's memorial service at Little Arlington.

In keeping with tradition, several members attended the Sunday program at Sunfield Township Cemetery. Brother Lyons, PDC, spoke forcefully about the Korean War, Camp Commander Hodges served as Master of Ceremonies and Chaplain Calder gave the benediction.

On May 30, the Camp conducted its customary Memorial Day service at the grave of Sgt. Samuel W. Grinnell in Welch Cemetery. The members then retired to the GAR Hall in Sunfield for a regular meeting of the Camp and observed the "Memorial Service for Departed Members". That concluded the Camp's series of Memorial Day events which took place at a school, a GAR Hall and four cemeteries.

Paul Hodges

Camp No. 28 Alexander French

Big Rapids — At the May 7th general membership meeting, members voted to move the July meeting to July 9th because of the closeness of the scheduled meeting date to the Fourth of July holiday. The members also voted to adopt Camp Austin Blair's Bylaws as our own, changing only the necessary wording.

Jearld H. Waldron took the oath of the Order, bringing our total membership to sixteen, fifteen Members and one Associate. Bronze recognition buttons, 1996 Membership Cards and Membership Certificates were passed out to members who had not previously received them. A miniature GAR Membership Badge was presented to Bro. Dave Waldron by the Camp in recognition for his outstanding work for the good of the Camp and Order.

Brother Leo Cohoon of Camp No. 53 of Mt. Pleasant was a guest at our May 7th meeting. It was Leo's 83rd birthday. He was presented a birthday card by JVC Solon Yax which was signed by all members present. It was an honor and privilege to have Bro. Cohoon with us.

On the traditional Memorial Day, May 30th, a service was held by Alexander French Camp at the Civil War Memorial in Highland View Cemetery in Big Rapids. A short talk was given by Commander Walker on the origins of Memorial Day. Chaplain Ted S. Johnson invoked the divine blessing and a wreath (made by Barbara Waldron, wife of Bro. Dave) was set by JVC Solon Yax and Color Bearer Jamie Williams. The service was concluded with an excellent duo electronic rendition of Taps. There were a number of guests and onlookers at the service, among them was Ron Shultz of the Big Rapids American Legion Post 98. Ron expressed his hopes that the SUVCW and American Legion, along with other service organizations, could work together on future Memorial Day services. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who participated in this Memorial Day service. Together, we made it a success.

A special meeting of the Camp was called to order July 9th. At this meeting the long awaited Camp Charter was presented to the Camp by Brother Leo Cohoon of Wa-bu-no Camp No. 53 of Mt. Pleasant. Brother Cohoon made a fine presentation of our Charter to the Camp. Witnessing the presentation were a number of Camp members, wives and family, two prospective members from the Canadian Lakes area and State Senator of the 23rd District, Joan Emmons of Big Rapids. We will honor our Charter as we do our United States Flag that once flew over our Nation's Capitol. We hope that it does not take as long to get the SUVCW Department Seal affixed to our Charter as it did to get it.

Frank J. Curtis Jr. became our newest Member, taking the oath to the Order at this meeting. Brother Curtis' ancestors are: great grandfather Conrad Speidel, Private, later 2nd Lt. of the 14th and 74th Pennsylvania Infantry; great grandfather Frank X. Blessing, Captain, later Major of the 14th and 74th Pennsylvania Infantry; and great, great uncle Adolphus Schultz, Musician with the 9th and 38th Pennsylvania Infantry Regimental Bands. Assisting with Brother Curtis' induction were pro tem Camp Officers: Guide, Jamie Williams; Color Bearer, John Yax; and Guard, Jearld Waldron.

Brother Jearld Waldron was presented with his War Medal. Jearld served with the U. S. Navy during WWII and the Korean Conflict. A special presentation was made to Junior Vice Commander Solon Yax by the Camp, of a Son's Badge for his efforts not only for the good of the Camp, but also for the good of the Order.

Honor to the men who wore the Blue, 1861-1865 and to our National Colors with a salute and the playing of Taps is now a part of our Camp's Closing Ceremonies.

A special thanks to the wives of the members of the Camp for a very nice luncheon that was enjoyed by all after the meeting.

Because of the nearness of our next scheduled meeting, September 3rd, to the Labor Day holiday, the Camp has moved the meeting to September 10th. All members are urged to attend this meeting as there is cemetery work to be done before cold weather set in.

John Walker

Camp News

Camp No. 101 Ulysses S. Grant

Detroit — Camp Junior Vice Commander Chris Yagley led the members of the Camp in setting up a recruiting table at the Civil War Remembrance Days at Greenfield Village in Dearborn on May 26, 1996. Names of over two dozen prospective members were obtained and many applications were passed out.

The Camp held its annual Memorial Day service at historic Elmwood Cemetery, which included a parade march by uniformed members of the Camp, assisted by several reenactors. The new flag of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion was presented by Brother Keith Harrison to MOLLUS member Don Thurber.

U. S. Grant Camp conducted a quarterly meeting on July 13th at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing. The exhibit coordinator, Saralee Howard, provided a room for the Camp meeting, then guided the Camp on a tour of the Regimental Flags exhibit. Other Camps interested in holding a meeting at the museum should contact Mrs. Howard at (517) 335-2715.

Tom Wightman

Camp No. 145 Governor Crapo

Flint — Governor Crapo Camp is proud to have PCC David F. Wallace elected and serving as this year's SUVCW Department Commander. Commander Wallace is very dedicated and I believe he will serve the Department well. We in Camp No. 145 would also like to wish PDC Brennan the very best.

Like all other Camps, we are looking for ways to recruit. We decided to send informational packets to area Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans and American Legion Posts. It is too early to determine what fruit this might bear. We also manned a recruiting tent at Crossroads Village for their annual Civil War Days held June 29th and 30th. At 5:00 pm on the 29th, our Camp held a business meeting in the Village Church. Following the meeting, we held a picnic with Brothers and Sisters from the Sons, Daughters and Auxiliary in attendance. I would like to express Commander Greene's thanks to all who helped at this event.

Our Camp Guard, commanded by Captain Terrance L. McKinch, SVR, has participated in the following events: Memorial Day Parade and service in Corunna; Memorial Day service in Vassar; rededication services at Waterousville; and the Independence Day Parade in Flint. In two of these events we were supporting either H. F. Wallace Camp No. 160 or General Phil Kearney Camp No. 67.

I would like to close by adding a word of encouragement to all Brothers. Remember why we are here. We work not for ourselves, but to honor the veterans we represent. If they could see us today, let them be proud of what they see.

David V. Graves

From the Past

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief

In my visitations to the encampments and meetings of the patriotic orders, I was impressed with the loyalty and zeal displayed by the Sons and Daughters of Veterans organizations in their work and efforts to assist the Grand Army of the Republic. To inculcate loyalty to country, respect for the flag and to keep alive the glory of the deeds of their fathers are some of the purposes of their organizations.

The Grand Army of the Republic will cease to exist when the last survivor of that great fratricidal conflict for the preservation of the Union answers to the last roll call. It can have no successor. Who can more successfully carry on the patriotic work that the Grand Army of the Republic is performing than the sons and daughters of those who imperiled their lives for their country's salvation?

I earnestly recommend that departments and posts encourage and foster the organization of the Sons and Daughters of Veterans, so that when the Grand Army of the Republic is but a memory our children will keep alive the memories of their fathers, the heroic deeds performed by them and the sacrifices made for country and its flag for the perpetuity of the Union.

When the comrades have departed,
When the veterans are no more;
When the bugle call is sounded
On that everlasting shore;
When life's weary march is ended,
When camp fires slumber long,
Who will tell the world the story
When the "boys in blue" are gone?

Sons and daughters of this Nation,
They will tell of triumphs won
When on earth our work is ended
And the veteran claims his own.
They will cherish dear "Old Glory"
And its teachings pass along;
They will tell the world the story
When the "boys in blue" are gone.

They will keep each star unblemished,
And its stripes without a stain;
They will take the veteran's places
And repeat their roll of fame;
They will keep our country's honor,
And the flag above the wrong;
We will trust *them* with the story
When the "boys in blue" are gone.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,
Oscar A. Janes
Junior Vice Commander in Chief

*From the Report of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief,
Forty-ninth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the
Republic, 1915*

Memorial Service

Ancestor Vignette

Memorial Day 1995

West Point, Kentucky — After three days of off and on steady rain, the day dawned clear and ideal an ideal temperature was realized for the Memorial Service at Fort Duffield Cemetery. The program began with a Color Guard consisting of a soldier from Fort Knox and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Camp No. 1, West Point, Kentucky posting the Colors.

After a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem by local talent Jerry Board and the Invocation, by June Fields, Mayor Rube Yelvington introduced the guests. Guest speaker, Army Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Kelly talked on the restoration of the Fort and the men who had built it.

The good Mayor then introduced Lucille (Peaches) Streeter, President of Women's Relief Corps No. 232 of Marshall, Michigan, who represented National Women's Relief Corps President Elsie Gould. Peaches gave the citizens of West Point a commendation from the National Women's Relief Corps. She also placed a wreath, as per instructions from WRC President Gould. The cemetery is now included on the National Register to receive a wreath yearly from the WRC and DUVCW from the Southern Memorial Fund.

At this time it was Brother Howard Streeter's privilege to present to the people of West Point a commendation from the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Keith Harrison. He finished by presenting House and Senate Concurrent Resolution 117 of the State of Michigan. This resolution was, by the way, spearheaded by Brother Michael Nye, of Austin Blair Camp No. 7.

The resolution thanked the people of West Point for all of their efforts to have the Fort placed on the National Register of Historical Sites. And for honoring the 61 soldiers of the 9th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment who rest there.

Peaches and Howard concluded by presenting local Historian Richard Briggs with a copy of the 9th Michigan Regimental Record, a commendation from C. Colgrove No. 232, WRC and a personal copy of Michigan Resolution 117.

As SUVCW Camp No. 1 of West Point presented the Memorial Service and placed another wreath on the memorial, a Color Guard of Union and Confederate re-enactors jointly fired a tribute. As the salute was fired, you could sense the Blue and Gray fade into a brilliant RED, WHITE and BLUE.

At this time a Troop of Cub Scouts placed flags on each of the markers of the 61 Boys in Blue now identified. Taps by the 113th Army Band of Fort Knox concluded the ceremonies.

In F., C. and L.,

Howard Streeter

Chaplain, Colgrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22

Lucille Streeter

National Co-Press Correspondent, WRC

William Henry Gardner
Private Sergeant
1st U. S. Sharpshooters — 10th Michigan Cavalry
Company I Company G

Grandfather
of
John Walker
Alexander French Camp No. 28

William H. Gardner was born January 11, 1843 at East Cleveland, Ohio, the second son of Nelson P. and Nancy Gardner. The Gardner family came to Michigan in the early to mid 1850's, settling on a small farm about a mile north-east of the Ionia County village of Muir. When the War Between the States broke out, grandfather enlisted with Captain A. Milan Willet's Company I of the 1st USSS. In order to qualify for enlistment in Berdan's Sharpshooters, one had to be able to put 10 consecutive shots into a 10" target at 200 yards. The men of the USSS were armed with the Sharps breechloading rifle. Their uniform was of a dark green color with leather leggings and a hair covered leather knapsack. Grandfather Gardner enlisted on November 3, 1861.

The first action for the men of the 1st USSS came during General George McClellan's 1862 Peninsular Campaign. Company I took part in the siege of Yorktown, the battles of Gaines Mills and Big Bethel, the Seven Days battles before Richmond and Malvern Hill.

Because of illness William Gardner was evacuated from Harrison's Landing, Virginia to an Army Hospital in Philadelphia where he was discharged from the sharpshooters by reason of Surgeons certificate on January 15, 1863.

After returning home and regaining his health, grandfather Gardner re-enlisted as Commissary Sergeant in Company G of the 10th Michigan Cavalry on August 28, 1863. This unit joined the Army of the Tennessee and took part in over fifty engagements in Kentucky, Tennessee and western North Carolina. William Gardner was discharged along with the regiment on November 11, 1865 at Memphis, Tennessee. The regiment was disbanded at Jackson, Michigan. Grandfather is listed by the State of Michigan as a Veteran Volunteer.

A partial roster of the survivors of the 1st and 2nd Regiments of Berdan's Sharpshooters has been discovered among William Gardner's papers. From this roster I have been able to learn that in the year 1895 that a reunion for the Company I men was held at the home of former Corporal A. A. Richardson of Montcalm County, near Carson City; and that many of the men of Company I came from the mid-Michigan area. I have been able to find this old reunion site, plus the great-granddaughter of Corporal Richardson, Mrs. Lorna Long, who at the time was living in Vickeryville, MI. With the help of this roster I have found the burial sites of fifteen of the Company I men. Among them was Sergeant Alonzo Woodruff, a Medal of Honor winner. Sergeant Woodruff won his medal for bravery at Petersburg, VA. He is buried in the Valley Cemetery near Luther.

John Walker

Coming Events

Through June 1997

Lansing Michigan's Civil War Flags — Forty selected Michigan Regimental Flags from the State of Michigan's collection will be on display on a rotating basis. The display will have four rotations consisting of 14 flags each. The second rotation, Sept. 26 through Early December, will consist of the following flags: The 2nd (2 flags), 3rd, 5th, 6th, 8th, 22nd, 25th Infantry Regiments; the 3rd, 5th, 6th Cavalry Regiments; the 1st Engineers and Mechanics; Battery E and Battery H, 1st Light Artillery Regiment. In conjunction with the flags display, there will be a period homefront scene, a cemetery setting, a battlefield diorama and some Civil War artwork; along with cannons used by the Loomis Battery of Coldwater, Civil War uniforms, military equipment and rare photographs. A video program will present the entire flag collection to museum visitors. The exhibit will cover 4,600 square feet. At the Michigan Library and Historical Museum, 717 West Allegan Street, Lansing, MI; two blocks East of M-99, the previously named (Gen. John A.) Logan Street.

August 3

Grand Rapids

Remembrance Ceremony — Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1 will be hosting a Ceremony of Remembrance at the Soldiers Home starting at 1:00 pm.

August 9, 10 and 11

Columbus, Ohio

SUVCW National Encampment — Radisson Hotel, 4900 Sinclair Road (exit 116 off I-75 South). Check the "Banner" for details.

August 24 and 25

Jackson

Cascades Park Civil War Re-enactment — Austin Blair Camp No. 7 will host a recruiting tent at this event.

September 7 and 8

Marshall

Historical Home Tour. Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22 will host a Civil War display and SUVCW recruiting tent at their meeting place, the GAR Hall, 402 East Michigan Avenue, Marshall, Michigan.

September 21 and 22

Rochester

Civil War Collectors Show. Buy, sell and trade guns, swords, buttons, images, books, paper, etc. 9 am to 4 pm Saturday and 9 am to 3 pm Sunday. Oakland Center Building, Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan.

September 21 and 22

Novi

Michigan Antique Arms Show. 350 tables of Civil War, Military and Sporting arms at the Novi Expo Center, I-96 and Novi Road. Saturday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

September 28 and 29

Allegan

4th annual Allegan Civil War reenactment. Allegan County Fairgrounds, Allegan, Michigan. Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20 will be hosting a SUVCW a recruiting tent.

October 13

Lansing

Twenty-Fourth Michigan Antiquarian Book and Paper Show. About 10% of the items offered are Civil War era related. Lansing Center, 333 East Michigan Avenue.

November 15

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Remembrance Day — Parade, Ceremonies, Wreath Laying at a Michigan monument by the SVR and a Grand Ball in the evening.

Submissions for Coming Events are welcome. If your Camp is planning a special meeting or event and would like to have Brothers from other Camps attend, or if you know of a Civil War related event in your area, please send in the details, along with the name of the event, date, time and place of the event, so it may be included in the Coming Events calendar.

Michigan's Messenger

is the official newsletter of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and is published quarterly on the first of February, May, August and November.

Michigan's Messenger is mailed to all Members and Associates of Camps within the Department as a service of their Department per capita taxes.

All Department Officers, Camps and Brothers are encourage to submit original articles of news or interest for inclusion in the newsletter.

October 15th

is the deadline for the next issue of the Messenger.

Copy must be received by the editor by this date to ensure its inclusion in the November issue. Earlier submissions are most welcome.

Send submissions to:
John Mann, Editor
Michigan's Messenger
2495 South Washington Road
Lansing, Michigan 48911-7216

The Official Newsletter of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

August 9, 10 and 11, 1996

115th National Encampment

Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic

Will be held at the Radisson Hotel Columbus North
4900 Sinclair Road, Columbus, Ohio
Exit 116 off I-71

Registration 8:00 am Friday

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Michigan's Messenger
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