

# Michigan's Messenger



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN ~ SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Volume VII Number 4

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April 1999

## *S.U.V.C.W. CONTRIBUTES \$1500 TO MICHIGAN HISTORICAL CENTER FOUNDATION*

Our Constitution in stating our Purpose and Objects lists second “ ... to assist in every practicable way in the preservation and making available for research of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic and it’s members ...”.

There are approximately 1,300 original and copy print images of individual Michigan Civil War Soldiers in the State Archives of Michigan’s Biography Collection. All are identified and many include other information about the soldier. Most of the images are from 1860 to 1867, but some show individuals as members of the postwar veterans group, The Grand Army of the Republic.

On Union Defenders Day, February 12, (the 190th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln) representatives of our Order participated in a presentation ceremony at the State Archives. James T. Lyons, PDC, Chairman of the GAR Records Committee presented a check for \$500 on behalf of the Department of Michigan and James B. Pahl, PDC, National Treasurer, presented a check for \$1,000 on behalf of the National Organization.

*(Continued on page 10)*

### *IN THIS ISSUE*

CAMP NEWS	14
CEMETERY TOUR	17
CHAPLAIN	9
CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS	8
COMING EVENTS	17
COMMUNICATIONS & TECH.	11
COUNCIL	7
CYBERSPACE NEWS	11
DEPARTMENT ORDERS	3
ENCAMPMENT BANQUET	19
ENCAMPMENT SITE MAP	10
ENCAMPMENT REGISTRATION	20
ENCAMPMENT SPEAKER	16
GAR TREE	12
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER	7
MERCHANDISE FOR SALE	18
ORIGINAL GRAVES PROJECT	13
SECRETARY	9
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER	5
SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE	8



Pictured above, from left to right, are: Sandra S. Clark, *Director of the Michigan Historical Center*; presenting the Michigan Department’s donation is Jim Lyons, *Dept. G.A.R. Records Officer*; Francis R. Spaniola, *Michigan Historical Center Board of Directors*; presenting the National’s donation is Jim Pahl, *S.U.V.C.W. National Treasurer*; and Kent Armstrong, *Michigan Dept. Commander*.

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## In Memoriam

Jack W. Patch, PCC, Austin Blair Camp 7  
 January 8, 1927 ~ February 5, 1996

Help build the Michigan Department's Memorial Fund and honor someone dear to you at the same time. For a contribution of \$10.00 or more, you may have a two line "In Memoriam" insertion for any one person printed in an issue of Michigan's Messenger.

Please make your check payable to the Department of Michigan, SUVCW and mail it to:

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## *DEPARTMENT ORDERS No. 4*

### *SERIES 1998-99*

1. Again, it is my sad duty to report the passing of a Brother of our Department. Since my last report, we have lost two.

Brother **Warren E. Carden**, grandson of Corporal Edward O'Brien, Company A, 9<sup>th</sup> Michigan Volunteer Cavalry Regiment (Civil War), 7<sup>th</sup> U.S. Cavalry ("Indian Wars"). Brother Carden was a veteran of World War II and one of three generations of Cardens who helped Charter *Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp No. 427*, serving as a member of the Camp Council.

Brother **Howard Nunemaker** belonged to *Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20*. At the time of this writing, I have not received any further information to share.

All Camps are directed to have their Charters draped-in-mourning for thirty days.

2. It has become evident that materials sent to some Camp Officers are not being passed along to their successors. I urge ALL Camp Officers to maintain a special notebook, file, or folder with everything related to their position, kept therein. This then, can help maintain a continuity of effort and service to the organization when positions change. Thank you.

3. PC-In-C Richard C. Schlenker (who was hospitalized in December, 1998, following a major heart attack) continues to improve in health at home now, and has sent his thanks for the "Get Well Wishes" expressed by our Department.

4. Our thoughts and Best Wishes to Get Well, continue to go out to Brothers Kniss, McAllister, and Streeter.

5. At the November 22, 1998 SUVCW National Council of Administration Meeting, \$1,000 was approved for donation to the *Michigan Historical Center Foundation*. The money will help Michigan's State Archives to catalog and digitally scan over 1,300 photo-images of Michigan Civil War soldiers and sailors. The scanned images will then be incorporated into an electronic database, available via the Internet.

Our Department Council approved an additional \$500 to go toward this project and I suggested that President Lincoln's Birthday be the occasion to present-the-checks. Brother Jim Lyons, Dept. G.A.R. Records Officer, will provide information on how interested members/associates may donate more to the *Civil War Photo Imaging Project*.

6. Our Department Mid-Winter Conference (February 13<sup>th</sup>) was attended by 52 Brothers from across Michigan. Thank you, for your attendance and participation, gentlemen. Special Thanks goes out to Camp Auxiliary Presidents Dorothy Lowe, Nancy Finley, and the ladies who accompanied them.

Per approval by those attending this year's Conference, I have

reserved the same facility for next year. I am already looking forward to a very special day for us. We will meet on President Lincoln's Birthday in 2000. This being *Union Defenders' Day*, the program portion of the conference will focus attention on Memorials that honor the memory of those who defended – and saved the Union. Dr. Weldon Petz has accepted my invitation to present his talk, on Michigan's Civil War Memorials. He has shared this presentation on the Civil War Roundtable Circuit and has a book on the subject (with photos) that's about to be published.

Next year, it will be the SUVCW's turn to host the "Washington – Lincoln Dinner" (that we share with the *Sons of the Revolution*). As many of you know, Dr. Petz is also one of our country's leading *Lincoln Scholars*. I am happy to share that he has also agreed to speak at our Dinner, about President Lincoln – on the President's Birthday.

7. As some of you already know, I have been trying to find out a couple of things related to the organization's status with the IRS. Please be advised that the SUVCW is recognized as a **501 C-4 non-profit organization** and that National Treasurer Pahl has provided us with documentation that contributions made to the SUVCW, "are deductible by donors in computing their taxable income."

The other matter being investigated was whether or not our Camps and the Department is exempt from having to pay State of Michigan Sales Tax on items purchased for the business of the organization. The answer is YES. My thanks to Dept. Chief of Staff Mark Pangburn who works for the state and found exactly what needs to be provided, for us to enjoy this benefit.

Each Camp will soon receive a small supply of the necessary form (to present to a cashier) and a helpful instruction sheet for completing the document. This *Certificate of Exemption* has a few blanks to fill-in, on one side, with a copy of the SUVCW's "Federal exemption letter" on the other. This "exemption letter" is what Bro. Pahl gave me, and can also be used for our various fundraising projects, to substantiate to a potential donor, that his or her donation to the SUVCW is "tax deductible."

8. With the return of Spring and Summer weather, our *Graves Registration* and *Civil War Memorial Assessment Projects* will offer members and associates an opportunity to take part in some of the most important work of our Order.

For more information about the Grave Registration Program, please contact Brother **John Obermeyer**, 2212 College Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507-3106. You can telephone him at (616) 241-1969. His e-mail address is OBER2212@aol.com We may eventually see a computer database made available to each Camp for entry of the information found by cemetery

*(Continued on page 4)*

## DEPARTMENT ORDERS

(Continued from page 3)

surveys. For now, please send your completed forms for "Definite" Civil War veterans to Bro. Obermeyer. Some Camps have completed a great deal of research but the information has not yet found its way to our Department database. Camp Commanders are respectfully ordered to rectify this situation as soon as possible.

After entry into our Department files, Bro. Obermeyer can then share these records with the National Grave Registration Officer. Many descendants of Civil War soldiers and sailors have already learned the location of their ancestor's resting-place from our files. With your input, we can help many more.

Please be advised that with his new duties as Michigan SVR Adjutant, Brother Bill Morris has relinquished the position of Civil War Memorials Officer for our Department. As Brother **Douglas Armstrong** is familiar with the responsibilities of this post, having worked with me in my role as the National SUVCW Civil War Memorials Officer, I have tapped him to step into this position, in Michigan. Therefore, inquiries and completed forms (CWM#61) should be sent to Doug, at 236 E. Frederick Ave., Lansing, MI 48906-3226. You may telephone him at (517) 482-8962. His e-mail address is DOUG24MICH@aol.com

9. Congratulations to Brothers Keith Harrison, PC-In-C and Dick Williams who were awarded the Order's *Meritorious Service Citation* and "Gold Star" by the National SUVCW Council of Administration at their meeting on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Quoting Commander-In-Chief Johnson, both Brothers are recognized for "their long and outstanding service to the Order."

10. Department Officers, Committee Chairmen, and others who may have receipts for reimbursement are hereby respectfully reminded to submit such, to Brother Richard A. Williams (Dept. Council Chair), by April 15<sup>th</sup> for processing. Thank you.

11. Nominations for 1999-2000 Elected Department Officers should be sent by Camp Secretaries, ASAP, to Brother Mark Pangburn (Dept. Nominating Committee Chair) at 921 Westover Circle, Lansing, MI 48917-4025.

12. Our 110<sup>th</sup> Annual Department Encampment will take place on Saturday, May 1, at the **Best Western Midway Hotel**, 7711 W. Saginaw, Lansing. The "Midway" is located on the South side of Saginaw Hwy., with access off of Canal Road. Take the East-bound Saginaw Highway Exit (93-B) off of I-96, and you'll easily see the facility.

Registration will take place in the front lobby from 8:00 am to 9:15 am. You may pre-register for \$5 (see form elsewhere) or pay \$8 on site. For the benefit of first-time delegates, you need to report to the registration desk and present your *Credential*

*Card* (issued to you by your Camp Secretary) whether you pre-registered or not. You will then be recorded as a qualified voter and receive your name-tag and Encampment Ribbon.

Delegates are respectfully reminded that, per the National Constitution & Regulations (C&R), "A Camp which fails to pay its per capita tax or other indebtedness or fails to make reports, shall not be entitled to representation in Department Encampments."

We'll be meeting in the "Eaton Room," which is to the left of the reception desk, as you enter the front lobby. The Opening Ceremony will start at 9:30 am. I look forward to your company and assistance with moving our Department forward.

For those who will not be able to attend the National Encampment, this will be an opportunity to meet and discuss issues with our Commander-In-Chief, Andrew M. Johnson.

13. National Encampment Delegates/Alternates from our Department will be elected at the Annual Department Encampment. I hope that we will be able to fill our maximum number of seats, as this year's National Encampment will observe the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Last Encampment of the G.A.R. Please consult the info-packet that I sent home with each Camp that was represented at the Mid-Winter Conference.

14. I have been informed that members and associates of the SUVCW are welcome to attend the combined fundraising activities of our Allied Orders at "The Midway" on Friday evening, April 30<sup>th</sup>. Beginning at 7:00 pm, the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War (DUVCW) will conduct an auction of craft items, followed by Bingo, hosted by the Woman's Relief Corps (WRC) at 8:00 pm. These activities will occur in the Senate Suites A & B, to the right of the front desk, down the corridor past the indoor pool.

15. Camp delegations are encouraged to bring their Camp Flag (and stand) for honorable display of Camp Colors during the Encampment and the Dinner that follows.

16. All Brothers (and guests) are encouraged to attend the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic Dinner, following the Encampment. A combined G.A.R. Memorial Service begins in the Banquet Room at 6:00 pm, with the meal served immediately thereafter.

As the Encampment and Dinner are hosted by the SUVCW this year, I have invited Civil War Historian & Author Lance J. Herdegen of Milwaukee, WI to be our Guest Speaker. Mr. Herdegen will give one of his noted C.W. Roundtable talks on the *Iron Brigade*.

Reservations for the Dinner Buffet (and/or Lunch Buffet) are **required** and must be submitted by April 28<sup>th</sup> (see form elsewhere). - Advance sales ONLY. Pre-purchased tickets will

(Continued on page 10)

## SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

William R. Morris

The Department Bylaws Committee has carefully reviewed our existing Bylaws along with several suggested amendments during the past few months. It is the opinion of the Committee that Bylaws should rarely be changed, but when they are, serious consideration must be given to their future impact.

If I might be so bold, allow me to draw an analogy between the Department Bylaws and our County's Constitution and Bill of Rights. Our beloved forefathers had the infinite wisdom to draft a document that was specific enough to cite our rights but general enough to be adaptable to different kinds of situations. Over the years this document was further shaped by case law, statute, and in very rare case, by amendment. It stands as a remarkable achievement of mortal man.

While our own bylaws can never hope to have the standing of the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights we can learn from the lessons taught by following their proven path. It is the intention of the Bylaws Committee to help shape a document that can be used now and in the future, allowing the membership the freedom to address yet unforeseen situations without repeatedly having to go through an amendment process. As such, the suggested amendments tend to be more general than specific, relying on the Department's Operating Guidelines for specificity. The Bylaws Committee has shaped the following proposals using the above premise as a guide.

(Current)

### ARTICLE II - Meetings

Section 1. The Encampment of the Department of Michigan - Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic shall be held once a year between May 1<sup>st</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup> in each year.

(Proposed)

### ARTICLE II - Meetings

Section 1. The Encampment of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, shall be held on a day between the first day of January and the first day of July.

The Committee recommended the change from "... Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic..." to "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War." Our Bylaws are intended to govern only the actions of our Order. As worded, the Section implied that the SUVCW was setting the date for an Encampment for all the Allied Orders which is clearly not the case. It is our opinion that this amendment will have no adverse impact on our continued cooperation with the other Allied Orders of our Department at setting an Encampment date.

We also recommended the change from "...shall be held once a year between May 1<sup>st</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup> in each year..." to "...shall be held on a day between the first day of January and the first day of July." The reason for this change was to create a document that could be used in the future without undue alteration, freeing the membership to adapt to unforeseen situations. The

dates were taken from the National C&R. As you are aware, we have changed our traditional Encampment date this year to May 1<sup>st</sup>. I speculate that five or ten years ago we would not have seen a need to change our encampment date by as much as a month, but we did. We sought to be flexible and cooperative with another of Michigan's Allied Orders. Perhaps sometime in the future, for reasons we are not now aware of, there will be a need to change our encampment dates to March or even February.

Again, it is our opinion that the Bylaws should be a more generally worded document that allows the membership the flexibility to meet unforeseen situations without undue alterations to the document. We feel the Department's Operating Guidelines should be a more specific document and therefore more subject to change. Should the Encampment date be changed by use of the Department Operating Guidelines, the Guidelines could be amended by the same action to change the fiscal year.

(Current)

### ARTICLE XVI - Awards and Insignia

Section 2. Authorization for two (2) Department membership awards is provided. The Department may confer an award upon the Camp within the Department of Michigan that initiates the most new Brothers during the twelve (12) months preceding (March to March) the Department Encampment. This award shall be designated as the Governor Austin Blair Membership Award. The Department may also confer an award upon the Camp within the Department of Michigan that demonstrated the largest percentage growth during the twelve (12) months preceding (March to March) the Department Encampment. This award shall be designated as the Orlando LaValley Membership Award.

(Proposed)

### ARTICLE XVI - Awards and Insignia

Section 2. Authorization for two (2) Department membership awards is provided. The Department may confer an award upon the Camp within the Department of Michigan that accepts into membership the most new Brothers during the twelve (12) months preceding the Department Encampment. This award shall be designated as the Governor Austin Blair Membership Award. The Department may also confer an award upon the Camp within the Department of Michigan that demonstrated the largest percentage growth during the twelve (12) months preceding the Department Encampment. This award shall be designated as the Orlando LeValley Membership Award.

We again offered the change from March to March to the twelve months preceding the encampment to again make the bylaws a more general document relying on the operating guidelines for specificity. As far as any possible overlapping time periods resulting from a change in the Department

(Continued on page 6)

## SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

(Continued from page 5)

Encampment date, certainly such would have to be adjusted for in the Department's Operating Guidelines. As far as the specific dates and new Brothers numbers, we suggest that the Department should be able to rely on the honesty of individual Camp Secretaries for their accurately reporting new Brothers accepted within the specified time period.

We would of course like to correct the spelling of Comrade Orlando LeValley's name.

Since publishing these proposed amendments, the Committee has received another suggestion to change the "membership award" to "growth award" as it is a far better description of what the award is about. The Committee would have no objection to this change acted on from the floor during the encampment.

(New Section)

### ARTICLE XVII - Discipline

Section 1. Disciplinary activities are addressed and governed by the National Constitution and Regulations in Chapter V (General Regulations), Article VI (Discipline).

Article XVII of our present Bylaws was reserved for a provision then in the works by our National Organization. We reviewed the present National Constitution and Regulations, Chapter V Article VI and found it extremely well worded and far reaching. We felt that, as there was strong reference to Department and Camp Disciplinary activity, we should adopt it by reference. Our Department Counsel and Committee Member had drafted a rather eloquent Section in which we sought to adopt Chapter V (General Regulations), Article VI (Discipline) by reference. In comparing this with that offered by the National Counselor we found it nearly identical in meaning. We cited the National Counselors phraseology with some minor change (we used the Roman Numerals as they appeared in the C&R).

(Current)

### ARTICLE XX - Annual Encampment

Section 1. All Past Department Commanders, current and Past Camp Commanders, Department Officers and Camp Delegates, or Camp Alternates serving in the absence of the Camp Delegates, to the Annual Department of Michigan Encampment, shall be charged a Pre-registration Fee of five dollars (\$5). Those who register on site, the day of the Encampment, will be charged eight dollars (\$8). Only paid registrants shall be entitled to vote at the Department's Annual Encampment. Registration Fees shall be reviewed and revised at each Annual Encampment.

(Proposed)

### ARTICLE XX - Annual Encampment

Section 1. All Delegates to the Annual Department of Michigan Encampment, including Past Department Commanders, current

and Past Camp Commanders, Department Officers and Camp Delegates, or Camp Alternates serving in the absence of the Camp Delegates, shall be charged a Registration Fee. Delegates who pre-register with the Department Secretary no more than 60 days, but no less than 14 days prior to the Annual Department Encampment shall be charged a Discounted Registration Fee. Delegates who register less than two (2) weeks prior to or on site at the Annual Department Encampment shall be charged the full Registration Fee. Only Paid registrants shall be entitled to vote at the Department's Annual Encampment. Registration Fees for the next Annual Encampment shall be reviewed and may be revised by the current Annual Encampment. Fee structures will be published in the next Michigan's Messenger following the Annual Encampment.

Again, the suggested amendment is to make the Bylaws a document free from undue changes, more general than specific, relying on the Operating Guideline to be subject to alteration. The current section cites a specific fee that should be charged at the encampment. Such a reference prevented us from raising or lowering it in the future, should there ever be a need. The phraseology offered is a much-edited version of the original proposal with reference to the actual dollar amount having been removed. As the rest of the proposed change, we felt that specificity would be appropriate as it is very descriptive of the procedure and it would seem unlikely it would ever change. We are confident in the ability of our Brothers to understand its meaning.

We have also received some comment that not everyone in the Department has received a copy of our current Bylaws. It is my intent to ask our Department Commander for permission to direct our Department Webmaster to list our Bylaws and Operating Guidelines on the web much the same way that PCinC Keith Harrison has done with other documents of the Order. While this will not replace an issued hard copy, should this be approved, it will afford all our Brothers a much easier and quicker way to secure another reference copy.

In summary, the Bylaws Committee was faced with three alternatives in accomplishing our assigned task, lead, follow, or get out of the way. We could have followed by simply taking no action, following the works of others. We could have gotten out of the way presenting suggested amendments as originally offered by our Brothers. We instead chose to lead, taking a slightly different (and perhaps in some quarters unpopular) course while striving to grant our Brothers a little leeway to meet the yet unforeseen challenges they may come across in years to come. We have presented several proposals our Brothers may act on. It is they that will ultimately decide what we do in the future.

## JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

John R. Mann

I have good news to report, and unfortunately, some bad news. First, some of the good stuff: Brother Bill McAfee, Department Chaplain, and local Camp Organizer for Washtenaw County has a definite start-up date for a new Camp. The Carpenter-Welch Camp 180 (name and number pending approval by the Department Commander) will be officially organized on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 1999, with at least 5 new and 4 current Members signing the charter. The Camp will take its name from Carpenter GAR Post 180 of Ypsilanti and Welch GAR Post 137 of Ann Arbor. The Camp will initially meet 6 times annually on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of odd numbered months, using 2 or 3 different meeting places.

Now for the bad news: James D. Morgan, Camp 70 of Alpena has turned in its charter. The members decided to disband, following the resignation and moving away of the Camp Commander. However, there is a ray of hope that the Camp will be restarted. Brother Don Londo of Camp 67 has recently moved to the Alpena area and has contacted several of the members of the former Camp. Apparently there is interest in the rejuvenating of James D. Morgan Camp.

The sparkplug for the organization of a Camp in the Stockbridge area, Dan Steffey, has decided to drop the idea due to family problems. None of the other gentlemen he had lined up for membership in the Camp have expressed any interest in continuing with the organization effort.

Richard Greene, Department Council Member and Camp Organizer for Tuscola County reports that there has been no progress in the formation of a Camp in that area. He has contacted several people in the area, but as yet has had no firm commitments on their part.

More good news: Brother Ed McDonald, who moved to Michigan about a year ago from Missouri, has contacted me about forming a Camp in Oakland County in the vicinity of Pontiac. He is in the process of contacting friends in the reenacting community and believes there is enough interest to support a Camp. Any current members who would like to help out or would be interested in transferring to a new Camp in the area can reach Ed at (248) 652-0166, or by e-mail at emcdon@kode.net.

Most all of the Camps have updated their web pages to reflect the changes in officers for 1999. Thanks to all who sent the changes in and thanks especially to Brother Chuck TenBrink for his great efforts in making these ongoing changes. Chuck has really done a fantastic job reworking nearly all of our Camp's web pages these past 10 months. I would also like to thank all of the Camp officers who worked with me in the recruiting of new members the past few months.

As at least one Brother has expressed interest in the Department

## COUNCIL

by Dick Williams

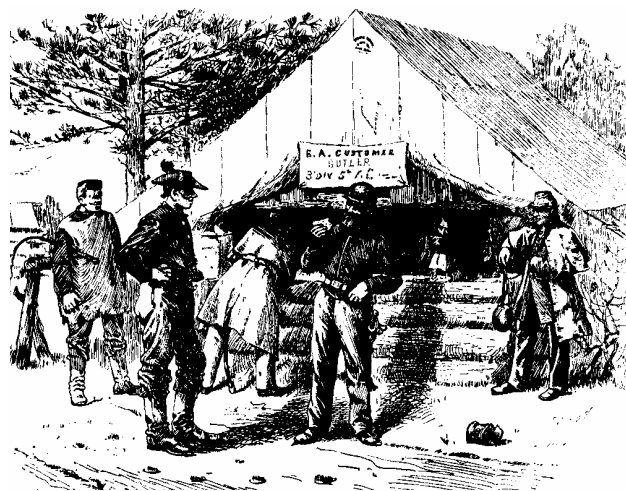
One of the fundraisers the Department is having this year is a raffle for the Dale Gallon print, *Men of Iron*. Each Camp was given a set of 50 tickets and a photo copy of the print so people can see what they have a chance to win. The council has agreed to reimburse one dollar back to the Camp for each ticket sold by the Camp so that the Camp can use that money for a local memorial or monument project. The Camp can request additional funds from the Council for such projects. Additional tickets can be obtained from Dick Williams. Ticket sales will be counted after the drawing on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August and disbursement of money back to the Camps will occur by late September.

Remember, the Department is also selling mouse pads (*see page 18*) and small state flags to cover any other expenses outside the normal operating expenses of the Department.

Jim Lyons is spearheading a project at the State archives to scan, index and have available to the general public Civil War soldier photos. You'll read more about it in this issue and hear more about it at the Department Encampment on May 1.

Our Department Commander, Kent Armstrong, has used a form Mark Pangburn provided to us that allows organizations like ours not be charged sales tax at official functions. The costs at the Department Encampment will be slightly lower than what was previously thought. We encourage people to purchase meal tickets so that we won't be charged for the meeting rooms.

I am pleased with the good response in Camps paying attention to reporting on time. This last quarter was the best we've had in quite a while. The next reporting due date is April 10<sup>th</sup>. Please try and get your reports into the Department Secretary no later than April 10.



## CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE

*Douglas Armstrong, Chairman*

As warm weather approaches, many of us will be venturing back into cemeteries for Grave Registration Work. Along with this important project, there is the physical evaluation and surveying of all tributes to Union Civil War Soldiers and Sailors. These include, monuments, Civil War cannons, historical markers, and memorial plaques. Some Camps have created a "Civil War Memorials Committee" to coordinate the assessment of memorials in their area. Others have even added pictures of these monuments to their web-pages. All Camps should have received the four-page assessment forms for this project.

This Project is something that can be done by any member or associate at their convenience or as a Camp project. If there is a Camp that has not yet received the assessment forms, please contact me right away at (517) 482-8962 or by e-mail at (DOUG24MICH@aol.com) to have them sent to you. Please send your completed forms to me, so that the information can be added to the Department Database. The address is 236 East Frederick, Lansing, MI 48906-3226. Thank you.



## CONTRIBUTION

*(Continued from page 1)*

This money will start a project of electronic imaging in which the staff will digitally scan the photos, add the textual data, catalog them and eventually make them available on the internet. This will ease access to these images, and related material, and will reduce the handling of the originals.

Our donation will fund the initial stages of the project. More money will be needed to complete the full project. The project has been noted in the current issue (January/February 1999) of *Michigan History Magazine* on page 7. There will also be an article on the project in the Historical Center newsletter. Each of these pieces includes a request for donations.

It is our hope that Camps and individuals of our Department may wish to support this important work with a donation. Checks should be made payable to SUVCW and sent to Photo Imaging Project c/o James T. Lyons, 411 Bartlett Street, Lansing, MI 48915-1805. The target for completing the funding effort is Memorial Day.

## SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE

*Ken Martin, Commander*

Dear Brothers,

I wish to take this time to address my Brothers in the S.V.R., as well as my Brothers in the S.U.V.C.W. The time is fast approaching for the re-internment ceremony for Daniel Calkins. It may not have been clear that all our Brothers, as well as Camp Guards, are welcome. Please remember that this is a unique opportunity for us to carry out our mission.

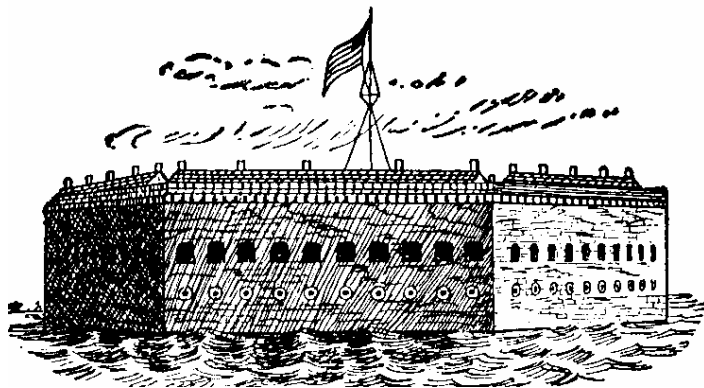
For those not already informed, this ceremony's function will be to re-inter the remains of Daniel Calkins. Mr. Calkins enlisted in the 81<sup>st</sup> New York Infantry in 1861, later he was transferred to the 50th Engineers. Upon his passing, Mr. Calkins was buried in the local cemetery. Eventually, this cemetery found itself a part of state land. All of the bodies, save for Mr. Calkins, were moved to a new location. With the help of the Luzerne Post of the American Legion and the descendants of Mr. Calkins, he can now be moved to the new township cemetery.

It is my hope that we can add our small measure of respect in participating in this ceremony. The date set for the ceremony is May 29, 1999 at 1:00 pm at the Kittle Cemetery near Mio.

Those wishing to participate should arrive by 11:00 am. Details can be obtained from either William Morris (wmorris@gfn.org) or myself at 1-517-893-5647.

### DIRECTIONS TO KITTLE CEMETERY

From the main four corners of Mio (M-72 & M-33), go north on M-33 three (3) miles to Kittle Road, turn west (left) on Kittle and proceed  $\frac{7}{10}$  mile. The cemetery is on the north (right) side of the road. Please park on the south side of the road in the Elmer Township Hall parking lot.





## CHAPLAIN

William B. McAfee

### MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN

We don't know all the stories of all your Civil War ancestors. Perhaps one was an officer or an artificer. Maybe he was a sharpshooter or a cavalry courier. Regardless of what role he (or she, as the case may have been) played in the great War Between the States, if he was imprisoned in any of the enemy's stockades for any length of time whatsoever, then he deserves not only a special tribute, but also a special mansion in Heaven. Jesus said that there were many mansions in his Father's house and that he was going to prepare a place for us (John 14:2). Taking that as the epitome for a heavenly home, then the military prisons of the day had to be the exact opposite, a Hell on earth. Having served at the Ft. Sill Stockade (1967-9) and visited the U.S. Military Disciplinary Barracks at Ft. Leavenworth, KS, as well as certain civilian jails, I was unprepared for some of the descriptions of the prisons of the 1860s that I have found in my readings. Although I once heard MacKinlay Kantor's novel Andersonville referred to as a thousand page description of s—t, it didn't really hit me how close our military prisons were to concentration (or death) camps from World War II until I started reading Lonnie R. Speer's book, Portals to Hell: Military Prisons of the Civil War. For example, "...as new arrivals entered Andersonville, they vomited at the sight of the other prisoners and the odor of the compound. The same, however, was true at Elmira (NY) and many other locations, including many prison buildings, where the stench of dirty, ragged, sweating men filled the air."

Few prisons had any furniture. If they did, it soon was used for firewood. Therefore, the men had to sit or sleep on the floor or bare ground. Speer observes, "Garbage, trash, and debris were everywhere...Prisoners became apathetic about sanitary standards. Few bothered to use the...latrines and most failed to cover their feces when they did." Danville (VA) prisoner William A. Wilcox (124<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteers) noted that there "... was a great deal of human excrement on the floor every morning." Some of that was the result of those with diarrhea not being able to visit the latrines at night.

Adding to their torment and discomfort, they were infested with lice, fleas and bedbugs. One prisoner lucky enough to be in a facility with bunks reported, "We brush them off our pillows by the dozens and all night long groaning and swearing may be heard from prisoners suffering under their attack. They are everywhere – bedbugs on the walls, in our blankets, our boots, and sometimes even in our [food]"

We have no more space here to continue to describe the suffering of a Civil War POW. It is a wonder that as many from either side survived as did. Nevertheless, we feel that a special Mansion must have been set aside for them as they passed through the Gates of Heaven and heard the long-awaited words, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" (Matthew

## SECRETARY

Richard F. Lee

### 2ND QUARTER REPORT RESULTS

The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 27/28 Forms for October-December, 1998 plus two copies of Form 22, the *Report of the Camp Installing Officer* were mailed to the Camps by December 11<sup>th</sup>.

The following Camps had returned the 27/28 and the per capita to this office by the cut-off date of 11 January 1999:

7 — 9 — 17 — 20 — 22 — 28 — 53 — 58 — 67 — 76 — 85 — 101 — 120 — 145 — 147 — 160 — 259 — 427 — 462

The following Camps returned the 27/28 and per capita after the 11 January 1999 cut-off:

1 — 3 — 14 — 43 — 145 — 266

The following Camps returned *both* copies of Form 22:

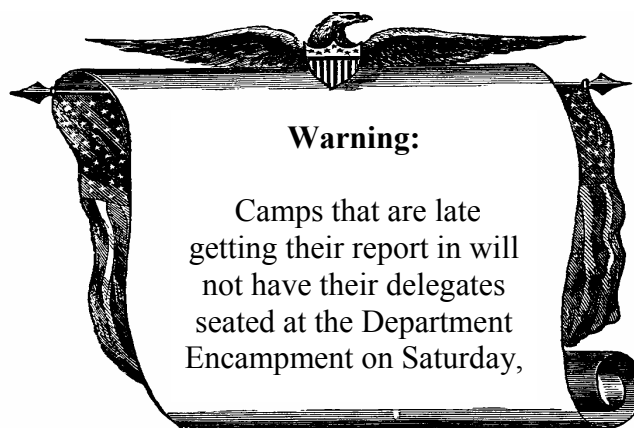
3 — 9 — 17 — 20 — 22 — 28 — 43 — 53 — 58 — 76 — 85 — 101 — 120 — 145 — 147 — 160 — 259 — 462

This is a better return than in the last three quarters. The Department administration appreciates the efforts of those Camp officers who made this possible.

There is apparently some confusion concerning Form 22. Several Camps only returned one completed form. Both forms need to be filled out, as one is kept by the Department and the other is forwarded to the National. Please fill out and return both forms in the future.

Also, some Camps are sending Form 27/28 and the per capita to the Department Treasurer instead of the Department Secretary. **Please mail Form 27/28 and your per capita check to the Department Secretary.** I will then forward the per capita checks to the Department Treasurer.

Please note that the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 27/28 Forms for January through March of 1999 were mailed on Saturday, 6 March 1999 and are due in this office, with per capita check, no later than Saturday, 10 April 1999, five weeks later.



## DEPARTMENT ORDERS

(Continued from page 4)

(Continued from page 4)

be distributed at the Encampment but no tickets will be sold after 04-28-99.

The May 1<sup>st</sup> Lunch Buffet will be served at 12:00 Noon, in the poolside Atrium. Your purchase of these meals is appreciated as it helps offset the cost to the Department for the facility.

17. As communicated to Camp Officers earlier, the deadline for reserving a discounted room at the "Midway" was March 30<sup>th</sup>. Regular rate reservations can still be made by telephoning 1-800-528-1234.

18. RED, WHITE, and BLUE will soon be everywhere as we observe Memorial Day. May 29, 30, & 31 will be very busy for many of us, indeed! Please see SVR Commander Ken Martin's update on the reinterment of D. C. Calkins at Mio, on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

No matter how many, or how few activities you take part in, I salute all our Brothers who make the effort to honor their membership pledge - *"always to observe the day set aside by the Grand Army of the Republic as Memorial Day (May 30<sup>th</sup>), sacred to the memory of the Union Soldiers and Sailors of 1861 to 1865 and to do all in my power to persuade others to do the same."*

19. All Brothers are encouraged to proudly display our country's flag on all the upcoming holidays and patriotic dates. Please consult the U.S. Flag Code (that I have distributed to each Camp) for dates and proper methods of display. Thank you.

20. Our Department now has a certificate available to recognize citizens (not businesses) who faithfully and **correctly** display our nation's flag every day of the year and have it properly lighted at night. I encourage all Camps to take advantage of this certificate and use it as a tool to generate good will and "P.R." for the SUVCW by having the presentation of such mentioned in the local press. Camp Commanders are asked to send me the name of the recipient and the date that you plan to present the certificate. I will then prepare one and mail it back to you.

21. Looking ahead to the 1999 *Central Region Conference*, we still need to hear from volunteers, willing to provide cross-town transportation from the meeting site (Midway Hotel), West of Lansing, to the State Historical Center, downtown. If you have a van and would be willing to help, please contact Dept. Chief-of-Staff Mark Pangburn via e-mail at pangburnm@state.mi.us or by telephone at (517) 321-8162. Thank you.

22. My sincere thanks go out to all Department and Camp Officers, who it has been my pleasure to work with these eleven months. It has been a privilege and honor to serve as

Commander of this Great Department and I look forward to working in this role for another term – if the membership deems me worthy.

By Order of:

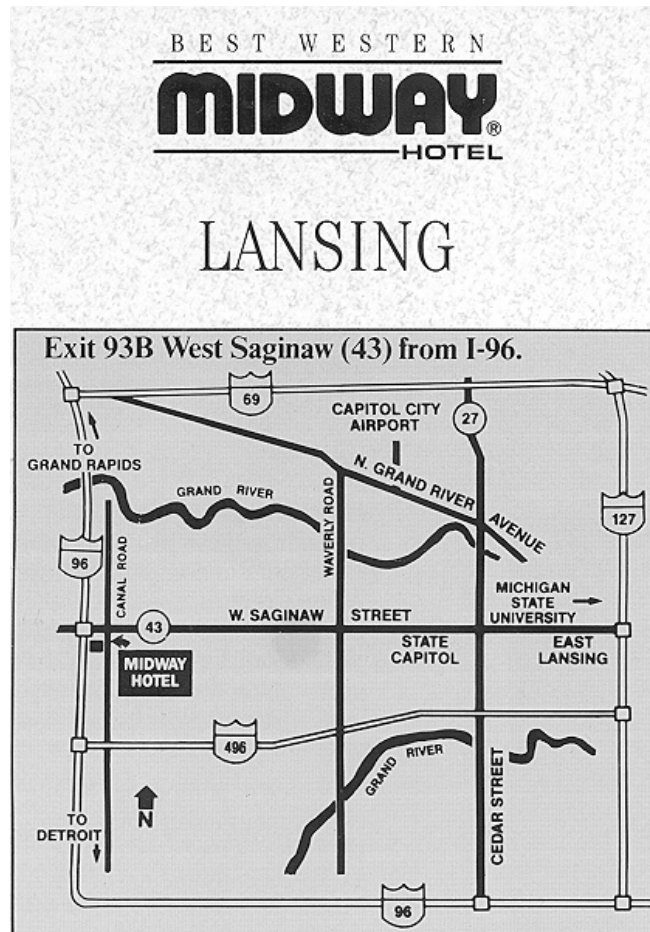
**Kent Armstrong**  
Department Commander

Attest:

**Richard Lee**  
Department Secretary



## DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT SITE MAP



## COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

by Chuck TenBrink, Chairman

### Progress Report

#### Camp Pages

Of the 24 Camps in the Department of Michigan, every one now has an active web page, and only five still lack an email contact person. Nearly all the Camp pages have been updated sometime within the past four months, and many Camp officers have taken the initiative of directly contacting me with new officer listings and information about special events. Nash-Hodges Camp No. 43 in Blissfield has joined the list of those Camps whose pages are maintained by the local membership, and I congratulate them on a fine page. Congratulations also to Dan Doyle, Camp Signals Officer for the Austin Blair Camp No. 7, for writing the code for a new draft of their page, and several fine additions to it, including the *Camp Blair Courier*.

This progress is largely due to the tireless efforts of JVC John Mann, both in his office and in his capacity as editor of *Michigan's Messenger*, to publicize the need for current information in recruiting new members. I can only emphasize that this is an ongoing effort, and that our web pages are an advertisement for our order that can never be allowed to grow stale.

#### More Graphics

Several Camps have furnished photographs or scans for their web pages, whether of historic meeting places (Sunfield), GAR gatherings (DeWitt) or of the soldier after whom their Camp is named (Kalamazoo). These are all good examples of types of images that can add visual and historical interest to a site. At the Department level, we are now regularly including photographs with Messenger articles and in the Commander's Orders. Special thanks are due to Commander Kent Armstrong for furnishing so many of the photographs and scans.

#### Visitors - Statistics and Feedback

From the beginning of 1999, we are currently averaging 110 requests per day on the Department pages. We are the most heavily consulted Department site, at more than 2.5 times the number of requests from the next highest Department, Pennsylvania.

The Department web site draws a number of requests for research assistance, usually genealogical. To enable us to respond more fully to these requests, the Commander appointed a group to respond to these requests, and it is providing another good service to the public. The queries page was also rewritten to include a list of general advice to researchers, with links to Brother Don Harvey's fine "Michigan in the War" web pages, the National Archives pages, and a basic bibliography of print materials for researching Michigan soldiers.

## CYBERSPACE NEWS AND REVIEWS

by Dan Doyle

### Poetry and Music of the War Between the States

<http://www.erols.com/kfraser>

My Number One pick for this issue of the Messenger is this award-winning site by Kathie Fraser which made the January 1999 issue of Yahoo Magazine.

Her home page opens with this paragraph. "The War Between the States was the pivotal event in our Nation's history. If you want only the facts about the conflict, any textbook will do. But if you want to understand the thoughts and emotions of the men who faced each other across the battlefield and those who waited for them at home, look to the poems and songs written during and after the War."

On her home page you will also note that Brother Chuck Ten Brink is given recognition for his moral and artistic support.

Speaking about Brother Chuck, the more familiar I become with what is on the Internet regarding the Civil War I find his fingerprints all over the place. Check out these sites:

<http://www.cwartillery.org/>

<http://www.cwartillery.org/artlinks.html>

<http://www.cwartillery.org/3rdbattery/links.html>

Then I decided to send an e-mail his way asking him to share some of his favorites with us and he sent me the following:

### Civil War in Middle Tennessee

<http://www.public.usit.net/markzim/index.htm>

This web page beautifully exploits the capabilities of the web to offer a tour of some of the critical battlefields of the Western Theater, from Shiloh to Nashville. The next best thing to being there.

### 14th Iowa Volunteer Infantry Regiment

<http://www.iowa-counties.com/civilwar/14th.htm>

This is an exceptionally fine historical web site that fully exploits the rich documentary history of this unit, which distinguished itself at the Hornet's Nest at Shiloh.

P.S. Chuck sent more but I am saving them for future issues.

The following web sites were sent to me from Brother Dale Tuckey. Dale is an Assistant Director with the Jackson County School District and is in the center of an Internet Civil War information stream because of his many friends and associates interested in the subject. Many thanks Dale and keep them coming.

### Selected Civil War Photographs from the Library of Congress

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cwphome.html>

### Letters Home from an Iowa Soldier

(Continued on page 12)

## G.A.R. TREE

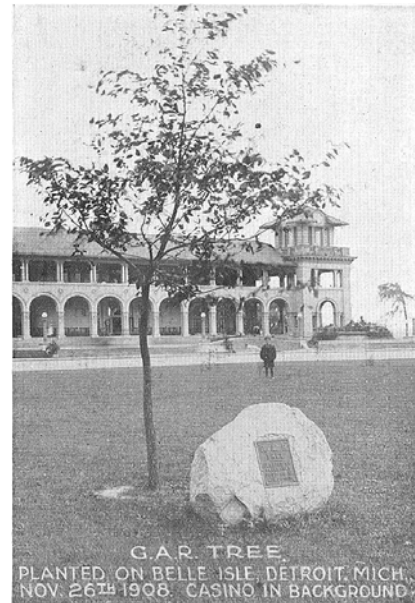
*thoughts from the Department Commander*

How many of you have visited a park or other public open space and seen a boulder with a "G.A.R. Tree Plaque" attached? Often, the plaque remains but the tree is gone. I'd like to see the SUVCW make an effort to renew the practice of planting a "Memorial Tree," as initiated by the Grand Army of the Republic.

I respectfully submit that this would generate *Community Good Will* and thereby be a positive Public Relations generator for our organization. Arrangements could even be made to plant a tree in conjunction with National Arbor Day (Last Friday in April). Granted, this is short notice for 1999 but it's not too early, to begin planning for next year.

Planting a new tree and rededicating the "G.A.R. Tree Plaque" is *on-my-list*, after construction of the new Clinton County Courthouse is completed. Another well known Mid-Michigan "G.A.R. Tree Plaque" is on Island Park in Eaton Rapids. All Camps are encouraged to look into the possibilities, in their locale.

The photo-image to the right (from a Postcard), was taken of the tree and boulder/plaque that were installed and dedicated on Belle Isle, by the **Fairbanks Post No. 17** of Detroit, in 1908. The boulder and plaque have survived the years and a new tree has been planted nearby, to replace the original.



*from the collection of Bro. Doug Armstrong*



## CYBERSPACE

*(continued from page 11)*

<http://www.ucsc.edu/civil-war-letters/home.html>

*Civil War Documents and Books*

<http://www.access.digex.net/~bdboyle/docs.html>

*Thinkquest*

<http://www.thinkquest.org>

Thinkquest is an interesting site because it was developed by students to add educational value to the Internet. It is well worth a look because it will show you what the younger generation is publishing about the Civil War. It has numerous links to other good sites. If you are new to the Internet and have thoughts about creating your own web page someday, this site also has a beginner's tutorial on writing the hypertext markup language (html) that will get you off to a good start.

*Computer Virus Myths Home Page*

<http://www.kumite.com/myths>

Lastly, did you ever wonder if those warnings you get from friends about a new computer virus are true? Warnings that say if you get an e-mail offering a free vacation, don't open it especially if it's an attachment because it will erase your hard drive. My friends pass them on to me and I have passed them on to others only to find out later, that in most instances, it was a hoax. Actually, computers are relatively safe from viruses as long as you have a current version of a reputable anti-virus program running in the background. However, the day is coming when newer versions of e-mail programs could provide an entry for macro viruses that don't need an attachment to latch on to your hard drive. There are macro viruses out there now with names like Cap, Wazzu and Concept, so to keep up with the latest on what is going on in this arena, check out this site.

# ORIGINAL GRAVES REGISTRATION PROJECT

## THE ORIGINAL SONS OF UNION VETERANS GRAVES REGISTRATION PROJECT

### DISCOVERED AT STATE LIBRARY IN LANSING!

### OVER 60 YEARS OLD!

By Chris Czopek

Back in the 1920's, the Department of Michigan formed a "Mark The Graves" committee. Its goal was to encourage and assist all Camps to make a list of the veterans buried in their area. A dynamic new chairman named Francis E. Hall took over the job in 1928. Brother Hall and his comrades had a bold vision: One, comprehensive list of *all* veterans buried in the state of Michigan: Mexican War, Civil War, Spanish-American, and World War I. It would be a permanent list kept by the Sons Of Union Veterans organization and passed down from generation to generation. This list would be constantly updated, and of course be available to the general public.

In this way, back in 1928, the *original* Michigan Graves Registration data-base was begun. A data-base in those days was a card-file system. Data entry was done the old fashioned way, on a manual typewriter, one file card at a time. Brother Hall had the right kind of stamina (and patience!) for this kind of work. He volunteered year after year to continue as Chairman of "Mark The Graves". Camps would send him lists of graves they decorated on Memorial Day. These names were entered into a master card file kept at his home in Grand Rapids.

After twelve years of work, Francis Hall gave a report on Michigan's "Mark The Graves" program to the national Sons encampment at Des Moines, Iowa. By that time (1938) there were over twelve thousand Civil War veteran graves in the Department of Michigan data-base!

Francis E. Hall died in 1939. Wartime gas rationing and tire rationing began soon afterwards. Non-essential driving, such as trips to cemeteries in search of veteran graves, was unpatriotic. And there were restrictions on telephone use which discouraged committee members from keeping in close touch with each other. These combined events put a halt to graves registration by the Sons. The data base of Veteran Graves put together by Francis E. Hall, a collection of over 15,000 file cards produced by twelve years of work, was packed away in boxes and put in storage somewhere. Years went by. The cards were forgotten. When our current Graves Registration Project was begun, nobody knew of the existence of Hall's list, so a new list of CW veteran graves was started from scratch. The story of those 15,000 cards ends with a trip to the landfill in 1989. Why did this happen? The owners thought "nobody cares".

The original cards have been lost forever, but the information

was saved! In 1971 a lady named Lois Fohl rescued the project. She typed the information from Brother Hall's file cards onto sheets of regular typing paper and had them bound into books. There are only two copies in existence! One is at the State Library, Lansing. It was discovered in September of 1998 by Chris Czopek, the "history detective" of Colegrove-Woodruff Camp 22. He immediately recognized it as a Sons project from long ago and spread the word of its existence. A second copy was recently discovered in the manuscript-closed collection of the Grand Rapids public library.

Anyone wishing to examine Hall's list can find it at State Library under the title: *BURIAL RECORDS OF MICHIGAN SOLDIERS IN THE INDIAN, MEXICAN, SPANISH-AMERICAN, CIVIL, WARS, AND WORLD WAR I*. It is an imperfect list. Some counties, like Cass, were thoroughly covered. Others, like Osceola county, report just two names! For all its flaws, the book has a practical value. There were memories and information available in 1928 that became lost in the following 60 years. I suggest all our modern lists be checked against this one.

This book has another kind of value, as a monument to our Order's continuity of purpose. Holding it in my hands gives me a feeling of connection. The words from "Battle Cry of Freedom" come to mind: "We shall harken to the call / Of our brothers gone before..." Brother Hall and his comrades had a dream, to create a comprehensive list of all the veterans buried in Michigan. A list that would be kept by the Sons Of Union Veterans organization and passed down from generation to generation. All of us today who contribute to the Graves Registration Project harken to the call of our brothers gone before. And looking at the growth of Sons Camps in our state, along with the impact of computers, I think it safe to say: "In our lifetime we shall see their dream come true!"



## CEMETERY WORK WEB SITE

contributed by Doug Park

The following website gives a lot of informational dos and don'ts for those members working on cemetery projects, both restoration and recording Civil War Soldier's gravesites:

## CAMP NEWS

### AUSTIN BLAIR ~ CAMP 7

By Max Miller

*Jackson* — The storm of early January caused us to cancel the January meeting, however, the February meeting was held as scheduled. Considering we hadn't had a meeting since November the attendance was good. After the regular session of the Camp, Brother Bob Metcalf presided over a presentation of several Camp members telling about themselves - name, wife, children, hobbies, job and work-related, volunteer or community service, church affiliation (optional), etc. and of course, CW interest and ancestry. We had one or two related "hook-ups" between other Camp members. We intend to continue these as time permits. At the break Auxiliary member Vicki Weiss, daughter of commander Max, came forth with a birthday cake for Max, whose birthday was February 11, also the birthday of his great-grandfather, Elias Pierce, 4<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry, Company I. Thank you, Vicki.

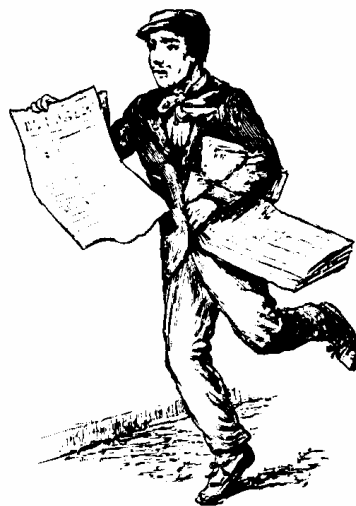
The month of February is very slow as far as Camp activities are concerned, however seven Camp members (including Brothers Mann and McAfee, who are Department officers) and two Auxiliary members attended the Mid-winter Conference in Lansing.

On March 8 the Camp held its regularly scheduled meeting with good attendance. March, another slow month, not much business of real importance came up. The Dept. bylaw changes are to be reviewed by the bylaws committee and brought back in April for consideration. Brother Woodman and I attended a meeting on the methods of selection of the architect and contractor for a new County Medical Care Facility. The County plans to construct the building on the old Mercy Hospital site in Jackson. The site was also the home of Austin Blair, the Civil War Governor of Michigan. On the site there is a plaque attached to a large boulder commemorating the site and is a part of the SOS registration program. We will present a letter to the "powers that be" to show the Camp's SUV and SOS programs interest in preserving the monument and that it be replaced on site in an honorable way if it has to be moved during construction.

Ron Tyrl, one of our newest members has had made the decals for the new Camp trailer. The trailer is enclosed and will be used to transport our Camp and cemetery projects, equipment and supplies. The decals will be applied as soon as the weather warms up. Ron has offered to help apply them when the time comes. The Camp offers a big "thank you" to Ron for his interest and help on this project.

As spring approaches the wheels of activities start turning and it appears it will be a very busy spring and early summer. We'll start graves registration again as soon as it warms a bit and the

snow is gone. Brother Lowe, our graves registration chairman, tells us we still have some "catch-up" work to do with the follow up research that is done after the "walk the cemetery" registration. It's all a lot of work but you really feel you have helped "preserve the memory" when you're done. We all thank Bill for his dedication to the graves registration project. When May arrives things really start to get moving. We all know we can't "do it all" but try to get to as many activities as you feel you can. When you do that you can feel you've had a part in "keeping green" the patriotism and ideals of those who went before us.



### CAMP NEWSLETTERS

The only Camp to report having a newsletter was Camp 7.

AUSTIN BLAIR CAMP 7

*The Camp Blair Courier*

Subscriptions are \$6.00 per year for six issues, mailed in January, March, May, July, September and November.

Make checks payable to: Austin Blair Camp 7, SUVCW  
Mail checks to:

Camp Blair Courier  
2495 South Washington Road  
Lansing, MI 48911-7216

Address exchanges to: Max Miller, Commander  
Austin Blair Camp 7  
180 South Sandstone Road  
Jackson, MI 49201-8925

## CAMP NEWS

### COLEGROVE-WOODRUFF ~ CAMP 22

By Chris Czopek

At the March meeting of The Eaton County Genealogy Society, Chris Czopek gave a talk about the Sons Of Union Veterans. He emphasized what they can do to assist people researching their family history. "Think of us as technical advisors" was the theme.

Afterwards a man in the audience came forward and said "I'm a descendant of Marcus Sabin. He served in Berdan's Sharpshooters and his grave has never been marked. I know exactly where it is - Can the Sons Of Union Veterans help me get a gravestone for it?"

### GEORGE W. ANDERSON ~ CAMP 58

By Douglas Armstrong

*DeWitt*—Camp 58 is looking forward to a busy spring season this year. The City of DeWitt has purchased new grave markers/flag holders for the Civil War Veterans buried in DeWitt Cemetery. The markers are replicas of the original George W. Anderson Post 58 markers. After the snow melts and the ground thaws, our Camp will be placing these on the graves of the members of Post 58 as well as all other Civil War veterans. Along with this, the city has agreed to replace the flagpole that once flew "Old Glory" over the GAR Memorial and grave section at the city-cemetery. At our last meeting, we approved a motion to donate a flag for this. The Camp will also be resetting headstones and ordering new military headstones to replace worn ones. With a lot of help and hard work by all, this project should be completed in time for Memorial Day.

We've also been busy with Grave Registration recording this winter. With Clinton County nearly completed and ready to turn in, we'll soon be venturing into Ionia and Gratiot counties.

Camp 58's next meeting will be held at the VFW Post in DeWitt on May 17, at 7:00 pm.

### ULYSSES S. GRANT ~ CAMP 101

by Gerald Walters

*Detroit* — At the January 23, 1999 meeting in Elmwood Cemetery in Detroit, the Camp had its election of officers for 1999. Elected were: Christopher Yagley, Commander; Tom Wightman, Senior Vice Commander; Gregory Miles, Junior Vice Commander; and Jerald Walters, Secretary/Treasurer. Reverend Henry Reinewald was appointed Chaplain. The quarterly dues were sent to the Department.

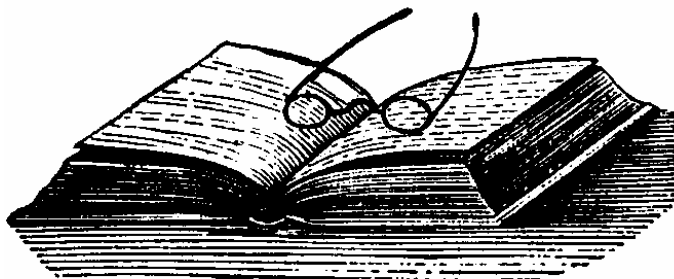
In the past year Camp members participated in recruitment and camp demonstration setup at the Civil War Days at Greenfield Village, a Memorial Day Service at Elmwood Cemetery, the Veteran's Day Service at St. Paul's Cathedral, the dedication of the Black Civil War Monument in Washington, D.C. and the Veteran's Day Service in Elmwood Cemetery.

The Camp decided to have a fellowship picnic the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. This is in line with the practices of the GAR, who often spent Memorial Day commemorating their late comrade's sacrifices and reuniting with other veterans in a park-like setting with their families. Other SUVCW are welcome to attend our picnic.

The Camp has accepted a request from the Daughters of the Union to provide a Color Guard for their National Convention in Dearborn in 1999. We are also looking forward to working closer with the 102<sup>nd</sup> Colored Troops reenactment organization in the coming year and increasing media contacts in Detroit to publicize the SUVCW's mission relative to all Union Veterans.

Our Camp calendar for 1999 includes the following activities:

April 17 — Camp meeting at Elmwood Cemetery  
 May 15 — Color Guard for the Daughters of the Union  
 May 22 — Camp picnic at Elmwood Cemetery  
 May 23 — Civil War Days at Greenfield Village  
 May 24 — Memorial Day Service at Elmwood Cemetery  
 November 7 — Veteran's Day Service at St. Paul's Cathedral  
 November 11 — Veteran's Day Service at Elmwood Cemetery  
 Jackson, MI 49201-8925



## DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT DINNER SPEAKER



Lance Herdegen congratulates Kent Armstrong at the dedication, October 9, 1994, of US-12 in Michigan as the "IRON BRIGADE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY"

Award-winning author and journalist Lance J. Herdegen is the founder and director of the Institute for Civil War Studies at Carroll College in Waukesha, Wisconsin. He previously was a reporter, editor and executive for United Press International (UPI).

Mr. Herdegen is the author of *"The Men Stood Like Iron: How the Iron Brigade Won its Name,"* (Indiana University Press, 1997); a contributing author for *"Like Giants in Tall Black Hats: Essays on the Iron Brigade,"* (Indiana University Press, 1998), and co-author of *"An Irishman in the Iron Brigade,"* (Fordham University Press, 1993) and the award-winning *"In the Bloody Railroad Cut at Gettysburg,"* (Morningside Press, 1990, History Book Club alternate selection).

Included among his honors are: The Service Award of The Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee (1995, 1999); The Harry S. Truman Award of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City (1998); The Award of Merit, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and The Gambrinus Prize, Milwaukee County Historical Society (1991).

Mr. Herdegen recently presented a paper at Sydney Sussex College at Cambridge University in England. He also has appeared on the History Channel's "Civil War Journal" and various network and local television and radio news shows. He led a Wisconsin Public Television tour of Civil War battlefields in 1991, a National Park Service tour of Antietam in 1993, and spoke at the 135th anniversary program of the Antietam National Battle Field Park in 1997.

He is past president of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee. He has also served as a governor's appointee to the Wisconsin Humanities Council and on the Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council.

On the evening of May 1, 1999 Mr. Herdegen's talk will be on *The Iron Brigade of the West*. Mr. Herdegen believes that these men comprised one of the best military organizations of the Civil War and will talk about why they were as good as any soldiers anywhere. He says that Gen. McClellan looked on them as equal to the



## COMING EVENTS

### APRIL

**10<sup>th</sup> — Saturday** **Camp Officers**  
Quarterly Reports (Form 27-28) and per capita payment are due in the Department Secretary's office by this date. *Make sure your Camp is not delinquent!*

### MAY

**1<sup>st</sup> — Saturday** **Lansing, MI**  
110<sup>th</sup> Encampment of the Department of Michigan, SUVCW, at the Best Western Midway Motel.

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> — Saturday & Sunday** **Mansfield, OH**  
Civil War Show. Largest of its kind in the Mid-West.

**14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> — Friday & Saturday** **Tecumseh, MI**  
Brookside Cemetery Tour. Proceeds go to monument preservation and restoration. See details in next column.

**15<sup>th</sup> — Saturday** **Armed Forces Day**  
A day to honor our service men and women protecting our freedom throughout the world.

**29<sup>th</sup> — Saturday** **Mio, MI**  
Reburial of Private Daniel Calkins at Kittle Cemetery. See page 8 for details.

**30<sup>th</sup> — Sunday** **Memorial Day**  
**31<sup>st</sup> — Monday** **Observed Memorial Day**  
All Camps should take part in local activities honoring our departed veterans of all wars.

### JUNE

**14<sup>th</sup> — Monday** **Flag Day**  
Fly *Old Glory!*

**20<sup>th</sup> — Sunday** **Newsletter Contributors**  
Deadline for articles for the April issue of Michigan's Messenger. Articles must be *received* by this date.

### JULY

**4<sup>th</sup> — Sunday** **The Fourth of July**  
The 223rd Anniversary of the birth of the United States of America! Fly *Old Glory* proudly.

**10<sup>th</sup> — Saturday** **Camp Officers**  
Quarterly Reports (Form 27-28) and per capita payment are due in the Department Secretary's office by this date. *Make sure your Camp is not delinquent!*

### AUGUST

**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> — Saturday & Sunday** **Grand Rapids**  
Weekend of Remembrance at the Michigan Veteran's Facility (formerly the Michigan Soldier's Home). More details in the July issue of *Michigan's Messenger*.

**20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> — Friday & Saturday** **Indianapolis, IN**  
118<sup>th</sup> National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. This is also the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the final Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic.

### OCTOBER

**2<sup>nd</sup> — Saturday** **Lansing, MI**  
Central Region Conference at the Best Western Midway Hotel on west Saginaw Street. An all day event at which the Department of Michigan will host officers and members from several Departments in the Mid-West.

### BROOKSIDE CEMETERY TOUR

North Union Street, Tecumseh, MI

### Featuring Civil War Veterans

Researched by Bob Elliot

(Member of Col. George W. LaPoint Camp 76, Monroe)

Members of the Auxiliary and Camps 43 and 76 will be dressed in period garb, relating stories about the Civil War Veterans buried in the cemetery.

Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm

&

Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm and 7:30 pm

**Advanced ticket sales only: \$5.00**

*Proceeds go toward monument preservation and restoration.*

Make checks payable to: *Nash-Hodges Auxiliary*

Send the check along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

*Nancy Findley  
805 Blood Road  
Tecumseh, MI 49286*



### Michigan Department Encampment

~ Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic Banquet ~

### Buffet Style Luncheon — Noon

Cost \$12.00 per person (includes tax and gratuity).

- Roast Beef, Turkey Breast and Corned Beef
- Cheddar and Swiss Cheese Sliced Tomatoes Onion Lettuce
- Potato Salad Koshur Dill Pickle Potato Chips Bread and Rolls Fresh Baked Cookies
- Coffee (decaf & regular) Iced Tea

### Buffet Style Dinner Banquet — 6:00 pm

Cost \$21.00 per person (includes tax and gratuity).

- Sliced Sirloin of Beef and Herb Baked Chicken
- Two Cold Salads Fresh Vegetable Tray with Dip Assorted Cheese Platter
- Tossed Garden Salad Potato Rice or Pasta and Vegetable
- Coffee (decaf & regular) Iced Tea

Number of Luncheon Tickets Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ at \$12.00 per ticket \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Banquet Tickets Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ at \$21.00 per ticket \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Dept. of Mich., SUVCW

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Camp \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Kent Armstrong  
 P. O. Box 618  
 DeWitt, MI 48820

Tickets will be distributed at the Encampment or at the entrance to the Banquet Room

**Please Note — Reservation Cutoff Date is April 28<sup>th</sup>**

## Department Encampment Pre-Registration Form

Use this form to pre-register for the Department Encampment. Registration Fee is \$5.00. Your pre-printed name tag, Encampment Ribbon and materials will be presented to you upon presentation of your Delegate Card at the registration desk in the Front Lobby.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Name & Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I am registering as (check one only):

Past Department Commander \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Commander \_\_\_\_\_

Past Camp Commander \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Delegate \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Delegate \_\_\_\_\_

Include your \$5.00 registration fee check made payable to the "Department of Michigan - SUVCW" and mail to:

Richard F. Lee  
Department Secretary - Michigan SUVCW  
1111 Kern Road  
Fowlerville, MI 48836-9257

**You Must PRE-REGISTER by April 28<sup>th</sup>**

The Department of Michigan is on the Internet at: <http://suvchw.org/mi/deptmi.htm>

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