



Michigan's

Messenger

The Newsletter of the Department of Michigan – Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus



Richard E. Danes, Editor

*Recipient of the Marshall Hope Award for Best
Department Newsletter of the Order 2002, 2007, 2011*

Commander's Comments

By Donald Shaw, DC

Brothers:

I sit down today to write what in all likelihood will be my last article as Department Commander. It has been a busy two years, but a good two years. This piece will act as a "Thank You" to all my brothers across the Department or Michigan for the courtesies they have shown, that made those years all that they could be.

I will be serving through the Department Encampment on March 31, 2012. I will be repeating these thanks to all my brothers who attend the Encampment, but I wanted to get them out in the Messenger as well, to assure the widest possible dissemination of my gratitude. In these last two years, I have conducted over 100 visits to our local camps, either for officer installations, participation in events, dinners, or just coming around to say hello, and to answer questions. During that time I have met many brothers, good men all. While many are active all around the state, there are also a lot who don't make it to any of the other camps, don't come to the Department Encampment, or don't otherwise participate in statewide activities. These men go about the work of the Sons of Union Veterans without fanfare or oftentimes getting to meet their fellows from even the next camp over. They are however, in many cases, the backbones of their local camps and when I met them on one of my visits around the state, were always hospitable and helpful. To you brothers, who I will not be able to thank personally at the Encampment, allow me to take the opportunity now to say how very much your kindnesses have been appreciated in my journeys around the state.

Part of the charge that is given to a departing Commander in our rituals, notes that having received the honor of being a Commander, a continuing commitment to the Order will help encourage others in the work we do. In the past year, I have had the honor of serving the Sons of Union Veterans at the Camp, Department, Regional and National levels. While I won't be as busy at the Department level anymore, I intend to spend my time working for the Order in both of the local camps of which I am a member and at the National level of the Order, assuming that I can be of service there.

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**2010-2011
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Rick Danes, CC

GAR Records

Gary Gibson, PDC

Civil War Memorials

Douglas R. Armstrong, PCC

Chief of Staff

William Morris

Camp At Large Coordinator

L. Dean Lamphere

Where ever I can be of service though, I will continue to try to do the honor to the Boys in Blue that we all are committed to carrying out. I have more of a reason than most to do that at this point. I have the inspiration given me for the task by the brothers of the Department of Michigan.

Several times in the last couple years, as I have spoken about my role as Department Commander, I have often noted in that regard, "I serve at the pleasure of over 500 of the best men in Michigan." I truly believe that to be the case. It has been a pleasure to so serve, and an experience I will never forget. Thank you all again, for having made that possible.

Secretary's Scribes

By Paul Davis, Department Secretary

It's that time of year again for lots of paper work. We just completed the effort for our Forms 22, Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers and submission of the new Form 22MI for use to update Camp websites and authorize the publication of Camp Officers contact data.

Next on the paper work agenda is the Camp Form 27. Please note that a new Form 27 is now available and must be used for your Camp Annual Report. Do Not file your report using the old Form 27. Download the new Form 27 from the National Sons website.

Another new requirement this year concerns Camp Rosters. The National Executive Director will be sending shortly, his copy of the Official National Roster for all of the Camps in the Department of Michigan. This will be broken out by individual Camps.

Once the document is received from the Executive Director, the Department Secretary will send each Camp a copy of their Roster as compiled by the National organization.

As part of the submission of your Form 27 this year, you will need to review and update your Roster in the form and style that has been provided by the Executive Director.

Please note that the Forms 27 are due to the Department Secretary by not later than April 30, 2012.

Also of importance is that the mailing address for the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will be changing. You can use the new address below:

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
National Headquarters, Suite 240
1 Lincoln Circle @ Reservoir Park
National Civil War Museum
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17103-2411

After October 31, 2012 the old P.O. Box 1865 will no longer be valid.

Also a note to all Department Officers and Committees, your reports for the Department Encampment are due by March 20, 2012. Please Email an electronic copy as either a Microsoft Word .doc file (please do not send a .docx file) or a pdf file to: pdmarcomm@aol.com.

Bring at least one hard copy of your report to the Encampment for the Secretary.

Department Orders # 5



Series 2011 – 2012

*Donald Shaw, Commander**Headquarters, Flint, MI**25 November 2012*

1. Brothers are reminded that the 2012 Department Encampment will be held at the Great Lakes Christian College in the City of Lansing, Michigan on March 31, 2012. Several important questions will come before the Encampment. We would like your input in passing on those questions. Please arrange to attend if you can. Pre registration materials are contained in the current edition of the Michigan's Messenger at pages 22 & 23. There is a direct link on the home page of the Department web site that will take you to the Messenger so you can retrieve the pre registration materials should you wish to do that. Hoping to see as many of you at the Department Encampment as possible next month, I remain, until that time, yours.
2. All Camps are encouraged to bring their Camp Flags to the Department Encampment to be displayed with the Department Colors.
3. Effective on and for the day of Saturday, March 31, 2012, the headquarters of the Department of Michigan shall be at the Great Lakes Christian College, 6211 W. Willow Hwy., Lansing, Michigan, to allow for the transaction of business by the 123rd Department Encampment. Thereafter, it shall revert to the address it had prior to this transfer or to such other place as the Department Commander shall designate in his Department Orders.
4. Any brother interested in holding a Department elective office should submit his letter of interest, credentials, and any letters of endorsement to the Department Nominating Committee no later than March 1, 2012. The chair of the Committee is Brother Rick Danes. Please direct your information to him and he will share the same with the Committee. He may be reached through email at redanes@aol.com, or through regular mail at 2612 Burns Street, Dearborn, Michigan 48124.
5. The Nominating Committee as previously announced is expanded by two members. They are:
Brother Richard Scott, Camp Commander, Camp 3
Brother Jim Jackson, Camp Commander, Camp 22 Thank you brothers for agreeing to serve.
6. Persons wishing to make nominations for presentation of the Department's Abraham Lincoln Award may continue to present their candidates to the Committee through the Department Commander. The address to which nominations should be sent is 3914 Larchmont Street, Flint, Michigan. Nominations must be received by March 1, 2012.
7. The Department's new James T. Lyons Award, as authorized by the 122nd Department Encampment, will begin its first year long points accumulation period beginning on March 1, 2012 and running until February 28, 2013. Camp Commanders should watch for a full explanation of the Award and the point system as developed by the Lyons Award Committee within the next week.
8. On behalf of myself and the other brothers who acted as installing officers for the Department for camp officer installations these past few months, I would like to thank all those brothers from the various camps who displayed such hospitality and friendliness to us as we visited with your camps. Your kindness, which was displayed in dozens of different ways, was very much appreciated.
9. On behalf of the Department Secretary and myself, I wish to thank our camps for the diligence they have shown in getting their form 22's, form 22MI's and rosters in to us. By in large they are all accounted for now. That makes the work we must do with them at the department level so much easier having them all in, in a timely fashion.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

*/s/
Donald W. Shaw
Department Commander
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

*Attest: /s/
Paul Davis
Department Secretary
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

Senior Vice Commander's Quips

By Paul David Arnold, PCC

Department of Michigan Brothers and Camps:

The Department Encampment is almost upon us (**March 31st, 2012**) at the Great Lakes Christian College in Lansing. I hope that you all will be able to attend.

A hospitality get together will be held the night before the encampment on Friday, March 30th, from 7:30pm to 9:30pm at the Quality Suites Inn, located at 901 Delta Commerce Dr, Lansing Mi, (517) 886-0600

*** (Just to touch base briefly on a change everyone should know about.)

For those attending the Encampment this year, it will be imperative that you make Luncheon and/or Banquet reservations (In Advance). No meal vouchers will be sold the day of the Encampment.

(The deadline to do so is March 10th.) Registration forms were sent out electronically to Camp secretaries or are available on the Department website.

Last year considerably more people attended the Luncheon than what the college had reservations for, and there was a problem with them not having enough food on hand to service everyone. By making your reservation in advance we hope to avoid any confusion this year.

U.S. Government Still Pays Two Civil War Pensions

By LAUREN FOX

February 9, 2012 [RSS Feed](#) [Print](#)

Despite the fact that the Civil War ended April 9, 1865 (53,630 days ago, for reference), the government is still paying out veterans' pensions.

Records from the Department of Veterans' Affairs show that two children of Civil War veterans, as of September, are receiving pensions from their fathers' service.

Department of Veteran Affairs spokesman Phil Budahn says the VA last checked in on the benefits recipients in the fall. Both were alive, but in poor health.

Budahn says it's likely that the children of the Civil War veterans, who have wished to remain anonymous, both had illnesses that prevented them from ever becoming self-sufficient.

Trevor Plante, a reference chief at the National Archives says it's also possible that the beneficiaries were young when their fathers died and had no living mothers to care for them, which would also qualify them for their fathers' pensions. Plante says unlike current times, where pensions are granted to dependents based off military service numbers or social security numbers, in the late 19th century, people had to prove their connection to a deceased veteran by sending the government evidence of their relationship. Children, parents and spouses submitted photographs, love letters, marriage certificates, diaries and gifts to prove they were eligible for pensions.

"Genealogists love pension files because you never know what you are going to get. Civil War pensions are especially fascinating because of the wide array of things people submitted as evidence."

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, only Union soldiers were eligible for military benefits. It wasn't until the 1930s that confederate soldiers began receiving pensions from the federal government. Prior to that, confederate soldiers could apply for benefits through the state they resided in.

The last verified Civil War veteran, Albert Woolson, died in 1956 at age 109. The last widow, Gertrude Janeway, died in 2003 at age 93.

Budhan says he respects the request for privacy, but would be fascinated to learn about the lives and memories of the last two people receiving pensions from the Civil War.

"I was hoping that someone would be able to talk to these folks," he says.

Patriotic Instructor's Thoughts

By Gary A. Granger, PCC

I've been thinking a lot about Patriots and Patriotism especially in light of the current events on the political scene.

What is a Patriot? What is Patriotism?

At its most basic meaning, a Patriot is a fellow country man/woman who loves and loyally or zealously supports one's own country. In our case The United States of America.

So, by extension, Patriotism is the expression of that love of country through loyal or zealous support of one's country.

It is simply that -- love of country.

All of us who love The United States of America and support it are Patriots.

However, sometimes our "politics" get confused with who is a Patriot and what being a Patriot is and how we should or should not express our Patriotism.

Politics -- simply put -- is the science and art of running governmental or state affairs within civil governments. I'm NOT talking about the politics within special interest groups, fields, institutions, corporations, academic disciplines, religions, and other segments of society.

What I'm addressing here is strictly politics as it applies to government. Government is not some "separate thing" it is all of us. When this country was formed our founding fathers set up a Constitution that gave a guideline as to how they wanted to be governed. We've inherited that Constitution.

The founding fathers understood that government is not separate from us ... it is a part of us -- our governing body -- an expression of our willingness to organize our citizenry within a framework of social relations, authority, power, regulations, laws, procedures and amendments. The beauty of our Constitution is that it is a "living" document that can be amended as the country grows and faces new challenges. After debate, discussion, compromise, we come to an agreement/understanding of the "how" we will proceed in the face of the new challenge.

Politics is the "how" that Constitution is interpreted, how those amendments will be formulated and how policy and laws will be applied. As a nation we all have the opportunity to express "how" we want to be governed while remembering that our founding fathers intended we proceed with the goal of deciding what is best for the majority and not was is best for a special interest group or individual. Wrapped up in all of that is political science, political affairs, politicizing, and politicians.

At its basic meaning "politics" is the "how" a nation governs its citizens. Political parties -- Democrats, Republicans, Yankees, Rebels, The Bull Moose Party, Loyalists, Secessionists, among others -- are the groups of citizens who want to be in power to determine "how" and "who" will govern us.

However, I am convinced that not every citizen is a Patriot and not every politician is a Patriot.

Being a Patriot does not automatically make someone a member of a political party and being a member of a political party does not automatically make someone a Patriot.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a PATRIOTIC organization and despite our political beliefs, affiliations, faiths, religions, ethnic background, financial standing, or the cut of our jib or whether or not we part our hair on the left or the right ... WE are ... by our membership in this organization expressing our patriotism ... we are Patriots.

Please stop for a moment, the third Monday in April -- to observe a legal holiday in Maine and Massachusetts that commemorates the April 19, 1775 battles of Lexington and Concord. Let us all remember those Patriots who made the formation of The United States of America possible and by so doing made it possible for us to become Patriots.

Department Graves Registration Committee

by Rick Danes, Department Officer

Your Department Graves Registration Committee met on March 10 at the Capitol Area Library in Lansing. Those attending were, Don Shaw DC, Matt Adair Camp 145, Mike Christiaens Camp 180, Chris Czopek, Dick Hutchins Camp 120, Jim Jackson Camp 22, Bill Lowe, Charles Waters Camp 7, Alan Teelander of Camp 1, Tom Bruce, Camp 20, Jim Petrimoulx Camp 67, Chuck Worley PDC Camp 135, Bruce Butgereit PDC, John Mann of Camp 58, Dave Arnold DSVC, and Gary Copenhaver from Camp 17. At that time I reported that the current database contains 62,970 records, including 59,601 Civil War and 3,369 other war entries.

Future 2012 meeting dates are set for June 9, September 8 and December 8. I hope that even if you cannot attend our quarterly meetings, you and your Camps are starting or continuing the work started by our forefathers in documenting the last resting places of the heroes of the War of Insurrection 1861 - 1865.

What better way to honor them and bring attention to the work of the Order!

Stay Safe!!

Proposed Bylaw Changes

By - Paul (David) Arnold, PCC, Chair and
James B. Pahl, PCinC, Department Bylaws Committee

At the 2011 Department Encampment several items were discussed and referred to the Bylaws Committee for review and recommendation in regards to potential Bylaw changes.. Following are the recommendations of the Committee regarding those referrals. (The proposed changes were sent out electronically to Camp secretaries the last week of January to be distributed to the Camp membership) Listed below are the proposed changes.

Legislative Committee:

Current Article IX, Section 5 states:

The Legislative Committee shall keep itself informed of all legislation which may be introduced in the Michigan Legislature, of such a nature as to affect the interest of this Order and/or the other Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic, or the patriotic interest of the people, and may recommend to the Camps, subject to the approval of the Department Commander, any action that the committee deems advisable or expedient. The Legislative Committee shall consist of the Department: Commander, Secretary and three other Brothers of the Department, appointed by the Commander.

Bylaws Committee Recommendation:

Since the Department has not had a sitting Legislative Committee in many years, it is recommended that this section be removed from the Department of Michigan Bylaws and this section reserved, rather than re-numbering subsequent sections.

Ceremonies & Ritual Committee

Current: Article IX, Section 11 states:

The Ceremonies and Rituals Committee shall assist Camps with appropriate use of the Ritual in performing ceremonies at Camp functions. It shall help Camps to organize Camp Guards and provide training for these groups in effective presentations and programs. It shall develop "Degree Teams" to handle ceremonies and other duties at Department level functions. It shall provide guidance and assistance in regard to dress and appearance of Brothers participating in ceremonial functions. The Rituals and Ceremonies Officer shall chair the Committee.

Bylaws Committee Recommendation:

Since the Department has not used Degree Teams for many years it is recommended that we:

Modify Article IX, Section 11, by removing language as indicated:

The Ceremonies and Rituals Committee shall assist Camps with appropriate use of the Ritual in performing ceremonies at Camp functions. It shall help Camps to organize Camp Guards and provide training for these groups in effective presentations and programs. ~~It shall develop "Degree Teams" to handle ceremonies and other duties at Department level functions.~~ It shall provide guidance and assistance in regard to dress and appearance of Brothers participating in ceremonial functions. The Rituals and Ceremonies Officer shall chair the Committee.

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Standardized Training:

It has been brought to the attention of the Department that during SUVCW public ceremonies, inconsistencies in military etiquette and procedures have been occurring on a regular basis. It is recommended that the Department develop a standardized training program in this area.

The Department Bylaws Committee agrees with the above observation regarding standardization of training. It would recommend the following modification to Article XX (Sons of Veterans Reserve and Camp Guards)

Current ARTICLE XX - Sons of Veterans Reserve and Camp Guards states:

Section 1. The Department of Michigan will encourage the establishment of a military unit known as the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) as outlined within the Constitution and Regulations of the Order.

Section 2. The Department Commander may call upon the SVR Officer commanding within the Department and request the SVR to provide an appropriate appearance and military participation on behalf of the Department.

Section 3. The Senior Officer of any SVR unit existing within the Department, present at any Department function, shall assume overall command of the military aspects of the Department function. The senior officer of each Camp Guard participating in the Department function shall place himself and his Camp Guard under the command of the SVR Officer.

Section 4. Camps may maintain an Independent Camp Guard under the auspices of the Camp. Said Camp Guards would not be governed by the Standard Operating Procedures of the National Military Department, SVR. The highest-ranking officer of any Camp Guard shall be Captain.

Section 5. Each member of any Camp Guard shall wear upon their kepi the insignia as adopted by the Department, being the VII Corp Badge. The Badge shall contain a silver, five point star (point down). There shall be a crescent moon around the top of said star, touching four of the points. The moon shall be red in color and trimmed in gold.

Section 6. The Department may call upon the various Camps and request that the Camps to provide an appropriate appearance and military participation at a Department function.

Section 7. For the purposes of these By-Laws, the presentation of the Colors, and related activities, at meetings, ceremonies and other functions need not be considered a "military" activity.

Bylaws Committee Recommendation

Modify Article XX (Sons of Veterans Reserve and Camp Guards) by adding new Section 6 and then renumbering all subsequent sections.

Section 6. The Department Commander shall appoint a Department Aide who has knowledge of Civil War infantry drill and of the various ceremonies used by the Order wherein uniformed Camp Guards participate.

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The Department Aide shall serve as a coordinator between various Camp Guards as they participate in Department functions and shall serve as Commanding Officer of the combined Camp Guards at Department functions. The Department Aide shall also coordinate uniformed activities with any SVR units participating in Department activities and shall place himself under the authority of the senior SVR officer present at such events. The Department Aide shall also provide instruction to the various Camp Guards in practices, protocols and procedures in conducting public ceremonies of all types.

TAPS

By William B. M^cAfee, PCC, Chaplain Department of Michigan

I regret to inform you of the death of two brothers in the Michigan SUVCW. They are:

Brother Roger E. Church, age 85, of 4705 N. 19 Road, Mesick, MI, passed away at his home, Friday, January 20, 2012. He was born January 20, 1927, in Lansing and he married the former Nita Peterson May 29, 1948. Roger served U.S. Army during World War II. He was employed at General Motors for 30 years, retiring in 1978. He was a member of UAW No. 652, coached Little League and was a Pioneer leader in the Lutheran Church in Lansing before moving to Mesick. He was an avid fisherman and had traveled to the Arctic Circle for fishing. He was also a deer hunter, an avid bowler, a member of the F&AM Lodge No. 466 in Mesick. Brother Church was a member of Robert Finch Camp No. 13, Traverse City by virtue of his G-G-Grandfather, Pvt. William H. Church, Co. F, 7th Vermont Infantry. For two years, he served as Worshipful Master of the Masonic Lodge, was a member of the Scottish Rite and received a Red Hat. He was a member of the Shriners and the Order of the Eastern Stars, and was Grand Chaplain of Michigan Odd Fellows. Brother Church is survived by his wife, Nita, three sons, and a daughter, eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren; a brother and a sister. He was preceded in death by a brother. Funeral services were held January 23, 2012, at the Mesick United Methodist Church. A graveside service was January 24, 2012, at the Deepdale Memorial Gardens in Lansing. Memorial contributions may be directed to a charity of one's choice.

Associate Brother Albert Harper, Jr., SSG USMC, Ret., age 71, 1549 Tennyson Avenue, Dayton, OH, 45406, died January 31, 2012. Born in Saginaw, Michigan, he had been a resident of Dayton since 2004. He maintained his associate membership in Michigan's General Pritchard Camp No. 20 since 2003. A descendant of a slave, he was never able to identify a Civil War ancestor. He was also an active member of the U.S. Colored Troops Living History Association. Brother Harper was preceded in death by his oldest daughter, a baby girl, and a brother. Albert leaves to cherish his memories: the joy and love of his life, Jacqueline Lawrence, two children, a sister, a step-son and -daughter, 10 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren and a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws and friends. Funeral services were held February 9, 2012 at the House of Wheat Funeral Home, Inc., in Dayton. Interment was at the Dayton National Cemetery. Online condolences may be expressed at houseofwheat@woh.rr.com. Personal condolences may be sent to Ms. Jackie Lawrence and the Harper family at the home address, above.

God Bless the USA!

"Serve the Lord with gladness."

"It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived." -- U.S. Army General George S. Patton, Jr. 1885-1945

TAPS

A TRIBUTE TO A FRIEND

By John R. Keith, Camp 20 CC

Brothers of the Order:

I was just starting to write out our Camp 20 Spring Report for the Messenger, when I received a call. One of our members since 2003 had passed away.

Suddenly my mind full of ideas a second ago, was blank but one subject.

Brother Albert Harper Jr. a friend and brother I have claimed since 2003, was no longer among us. When I first met Albert it was when our camp was preparing for the Lt Col. Charles Haydon Gravestone Dedication in Decatur.. Albert helped set items up for that, he got Company B of 102nd USCT involved and they show up in number to honor this Union Soldier. A year later he made the trip to Rolling Prairie, IN to help honoring a 2 great Uncle of my wife's who received a new stone.

Al and I never lived to close together, so we never saw enough of each other, but he was always there to help with something if he could, and we both enjoyed keeping in touch, although through the years we kept in touch less and less it seems. But even to this day I still consider him one of the best friends I ever had.

Some people enter your lives, I know we all have someone that comes to mind, that for whatever reason, was special, left something good inside you, a person you will never forget. Brother Albert Harper Jr. is one of those people for me, I can't quite tell you why, but he had it. Many people were blessed just knowing him.

His oldest daughter, a baby girl and a brother preceded him in death. 2 children Ms. Peggy West and Mr. Walter Harper survive him, also surviving are 11 grandchildren, and 9 great grand children and the love of his life Ms. Jackie Lawrence.

Brother Albert Harper Jr., served our country in Vietnam, in 1965, retiring as a SSG in the United States Marine Corp.

Funeral services were held February 9, 2012, with interment at the Dayton National Cemetery.



General John A. Logan Camp No. 1

Submitted by; Bruce B. Butgereit, Secretary

During my time as Department Commander, I was a strong advocate for Camps to submit articles regularly to the Department newsletter, *The Michigan Messenger*. And while the increase in articles was not kind to the Department finances, we did enjoy reading about the wonderful things many Camps were doing.

With some embarrassment, as I began to put this report together, even I was unaware I had not submitted any news from Camp 1 since the Spring 2009 issue. So today I'll provide a brief recap of 2009-2010 and what we did this year. The reason for providing information on 2009-2010 is that the Messenger provides a record of the work performed in the Department.

KENTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY –

April 9, 2011

Camp 1 partnered with History Remembered to kick-off the 150th anniversary commemoration of the Civil War with an event titled *1861: The Civil War Begins – Paris Township Answers the Call*.

Brothers Bill Truss and Alan Teelander set up a table display and shared with visitors to the library. Information was shared about the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the work we do in the community. Brother Teelander had the Department of Michigan Grave Registration database available for research.

Brothers Bruce Butgereit and Chet Trybus were part of the presentation of *“Bedrolls and Bonnets – Life During the Civil War*. We were joined by Sisters Bernadette Butgereit, Marcia Butgereit and Jeannine Trybus from the Champlin Corps No. 41. Youngsters were able to participate in the *“School of the Soldier.”*



Brother Teelander (CGRO) doing a look-up in the Department GR database



Sergeant Butgereit drilling the troops in the "School of the Soldier"

CITY COMMISSION MEETING IN GRAND RAPIDS –

April 12, 2011

The Camp and I have enjoyed a great relationship with our local government for over a decade. In 2009, when I asked Mayor Heartwell what we were going to do for Lincoln's 200th birthday; he replied, "Tell me what we're going to do." A few weeks later we conducted an outdoor event on February 12 and the Mayor issued a proclamation.

I suggested a proclamation to commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War and his reply was, "There's my secretary. Put something together and let's issue it on April 12." We did.

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City of Grand Rapids, Michigan

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

GEORGE K. HEARTWELL
MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on April 12, 1861, Confederate troops fired on the federal garrison at Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina, and three days later, President Abraham Lincoln sent out a call for 75,000 men in response to the attack; and

WHEREAS, the 1,040 man Third Michigan Infantry Regiment left Grand Rapids June 13, 1861, having trained at Cantonment Anderson on the county fairgrounds at Hall, Jefferson and Division Streets; and

WHEREAS, over the course of the next four years, the Grand Rapids area had a total of 4,214 men who served in the defense of our great country with over five hundred and fifty men and women who suffered the ultimate sacrifice and gave their lives in the service of their country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George K. Heartwell, Mayor of the City of Grand Rapids, do hereby recognize the

SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

and ask all citizens to use the period of April 12, 2011, through September 15, 2015, as a time for education, discussion, and preservation efforts to ensure the history of the Civil War is remembered today and preserved for the future.



George K. Heartwell

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MICHIGAN HISTORICAL CENTER – April 16, 2011

The kick-off of the state-wide commemoration of the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War took place at the Michigan Historical Center in Lansing. Over 1,200 visitors attended the event which consisted of a living history camp outside and display tables from over 20 organizations set up in the rotunda of the complex. The Michigan Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, Camp 1, and History Remembered had displays. Brother Becker enjoyed shaking hands and handing out about 400 signed postcards to guests.



True Son Brother Becker



Brother Butgereit sharing information at the tables

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY – April 21, 2011



Brother Butgereit

The GVSU Local History Roundtable held an open house for all local historical and genealogical societies. The Roundtable was created a couple of years ago to bring together like-minded groups in an effort to coordinate efforts and to provide communication support for these organizations.

The General John A. Logan Camp No. 1 and Michigan Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States are charter members. There is no cost to be a member and we get free advertising of our events and a link to our websites.

Brother Butgereit, representing Camp 1 and the Michigan Commandery, spoke about the Civil War Sesquicentennial event in Lansing and shared a presentation titled, *Keeping Green the Memory – Post Civil War Legions, Armies, and Orders*.

General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2

Submitted by Bruce Miller, SVC/PCC

The General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, recently recognized a local U. S. Naval Sea Cadet with the presentation of the ROTC Award, given for outstanding achievement. The recognition came at a January 15, 2012 awards banquet held by the U. S. Naval Sea Cadets-Tomcat Squadron and the U. S. Navy Cadet Corps Training Ship Tomcat based at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. This year's award winner was Petty Officer Third Class Krystal Morrison of Memphis, Michigan, a junior at Memphis High School. In addition to the SUVCW award, Cadet Morrison also won the prestigious national U. S. Naval League "Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal" as sea cadet of the year.

SUVCW Camps selectively present the award to deserving cadets that "show a high degree of patriotism to his/her Nation and has demonstrated a high degree of academic performance and leadership." The General Israel B. Richardson camp, a longtime proponent of this program, surveyed several local high school level ROTC programs and has made its award to a member of the "Tomcat Squadron", one of the area's finest organizations.



U. S. Naval Sea Cadet Krystal Morrison displays the SUVCW ROTC Award she received from the General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2. The award was presented by camp ROTC Chairman John Bowker (left) and Camp Commander William Nash (right).

Editor's Note: I have included all officer's and Camp reports in this volume. Because of the wonderful interest in providing articles to publish, not all items that were sent could be printed. I will include them in future editions of Michigan's Messenger as space allows.

Thank you for your interest. RD

Future Michigan's Messenger Publications Submittal Dates and Publication Dates

Spring - March 1 for a March 15 Publication

Summer - June 1 for a June 15 Publication

Fall - September 1 for a September 15 Publication

Winter - December 1 for a December 15 Publication

Send all articles to Rick Danes, Editor, preferably at mimessrd@aol.com or to 2612 Burns Street, Dearborn, Michigan 48124-3204

ALL PUBLICATIONS WILL BE MADE ON TIME

Henry E. Plant Camp 3

Submitted by Daniel Grable, Secretary/Treasurer

This past holiday season has come and gone with a very mild winter. In January the Henry E. Plant Camp #3 held their 12th Holiday Muster at Braunn's Steakhouse in the Holland area. It was a very sunny and mild day. At the Muster we had a very good meal and conversation with 6 brothers and two wives in attendance. Following the meal the camp conducted a meeting with updates of a few of our continuing projects.

Following the meeting Department of Michigan Commander Donald Shaw installed the 2012 Camp officers present at the Muster.

Brother Grable then presented a present to the Camp. He mentioned that a group of people from his church the Spring Lake Christian Reformed Church who were going on a mission trip to Nicaragua at the time of the Muster held a fund raising rummage sale and they had his present for sale but it was not sold and Brother Grable got the item for nothing (Sale value was \$3.00). It was a nice framed picture of Commander and Chief Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War.

In February the Camp's committee working on getting M 231 named after our Camp's namesake Henry E. Plant sent a letter to our local State Representative. The land the highway would cover includes the farmland once owned by our camp's namesake Henry E. Plant. We asked if the camp could work on getting M-231 - the bypass for US 31, named after Medal of Honor recipient Plant considering US 31 from M-45 to I-196 was already named after the four Medal of Honor recipients from Holland and M-231 was the bypass for US 31, or must Plant be included in the US 31 naming. The committee received a letter stating that the naming request for M-231 was already put in as a bill request. Thus answering the question floating around the camp.

Work continues on replacing the vandalized and removed Perkins Post #279 monument originally located in the Spring Lake Cemetery.

The camp is working on Grave Registration work in a number of cemeteries, but due to this being winter was put on seasonal break.

We are currently working on our presentation for the Spring Lake Heritage Festival this coming June and our annual school presentation at the Harbor Lights Middle School in the West Ottawa School District in the Holland Township. Meanwhile our Camp Commander Richard Scott has had a rough winter. On Christmas Eve his Mother-in-law died. This was followed by his wife Karen having conjunctive heart problems and wound up in the hospital. Please keep Richard, Karen and their son Jonathan, a brother of our camp, in your prayers.



Did You Know

submitted by Bruce Butgereit

In 1927, the U.S.S. Monitor provided the inspiration for the name of a new style of refrigerator. It was in that year the General Electric introduced the first refrigerator with the compressor on top and outside of the cabinet – it was called the “Monitor-Top Refrigerator” due to the fact that the circular compressor resembled the turret of the Monitor. These were popular into the 1930s. (<http://www.vintagevending.com/ge-monitor-top-fridge>)

Editor's Note: Why Michigan's Messenger is now distributed electronically:

In 2005 the Department was faced with rising printing and mailing costs for the nationally recognized Michigan's Messenger. Very few options were available to Department Officers, so the issue was put on the floor at the Department Encampment.

The Members voted to publish Michigan's Messenger in an electronic format, with each edition being forwarded to one person in each Camp (thereafter called a Camp Signals Officer), who would then distribute the newsletter to Camp Members.

As a result of this action by the Membership, dues have not been raised.

I believe that the Camps have the responsibility to report changes, so that we can continue to serve you, you must provide me with a current contact for electronic mailing.

I have tried to include every article that was sent to me prior to publication, so that all future issues will be timely. I welcome all constructive suggestions, and encourage all of you to submit relative news about your committees, your Camps, and your ancestors. This is your newsletter, and its success depends on you. Rick Danes, Editor mimessrd@aol.com.

Austin Blair Camp 7
 Submitted by Robert Griggs, PCC

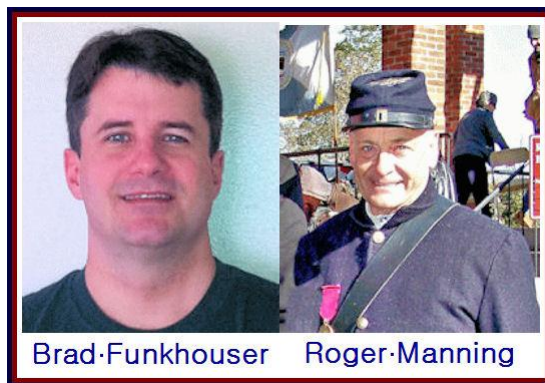


Kerry Chartkoff

Austin Blair Camp No. 7 once again this year hit the ground running. Members of the Camp, the Auxiliary and guest were treated to a lecture given by capital Historian Kerry Chartkoff. Her lecture was on Civil War Governor, Austin Blair and his life before, during and after the Civil War. In addition to this title, Kerry also co-chairs the state's "Save the Flags" project, dedicated to preserving, researching, and exhibiting the Capitol's collection of Michigan Civil War battle flags. The talk was very informative for all in attendance. Thank you again Kerry for your time and visit to our Camp.

At our February meeting the Sons of Union Veterans Brotherhood was increased by two as Bradley Funkhouser and Roger Manning became members of the Austin

Blair Camp. Brad's ancestor was Nicholas Jacob, Krebs (Crapps) who served in Company B, 78th Ohio Infantry. Roger joined us as an Associate member. I'm sure I speak for the entire camp when I say WELCOME and we look forward to your input and working along - side both of you at upcoming events.



Brad Funkhouser Roger Manning



Camp 7 members with the Standard Bearer of the 303.

On Sunday February 26th, members of Camp 7 along with members of Company B., 7th Michigan re-enactors, and 2nd Michigan Light Artillery, Battery B. had the honor of presenting the Colors for the 303 MP Activation Ceremony. The 303 is being deployed to Afghanistan.

During the ceremony Commander Hawker presented a State of Michigan Flag to the 303 upon which was written on the spine;

Presented FEB 26th 2012 303rd M.P. Co Jackson, MI. May the "SPIRIT of JACKSON" Watch over and guide you safely home. Good Luck and God Speed!

On the front of the flag it read; Spirit of Jackson (on the Left side of State Seal) 20th & 26th Michigan Vol. Infantry REGt. (right side of State Seal) Above the Seal: 1862 - - - Below: 2012.



The flag was made by Robert Helsel. After the ceremony we had a chance to mingle with members of the 303 and thank them for their service. For more pictures of this event visit www.austinblair.com/year2012.htm.

In March Brother Chris Cox will be putting on a Power Point Presentation in the McIntyre room on the 2nd floor of the Carnegie Branch of the Jackson District Library. This will be taking place on the 24th at 12 noon to 1:45 and 2:00 to 3:45. The address of the library is 244 West Michigan Ave. in Jackson.

We also have many members of the Camp who was planning on attending the Department Encampment on March 31 as well as brothers making plans to attend the Ceremony at Lincoln's Tomb in April. It looks like 2012 is going to be another very busy year for members of Camp 7.

Robert Finch Camp 14

January to March 2012

Submitted by Wm. E. Skillman ~ Signals

As of March 10, 2012, Camp 14's roster shows 407 Brothers present. 40 are Members and 7 are Associates. During January's meeting Camp 14 was honored with a visit by Department Commander Don Shaw and Dept. Secretary Paul Davis who made the long trip north to install the Camp's officers and staff for 2012. They are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Camp Commander and Historian: | George Goodrich |
| Senior Vice Commander: | Skip Bryant |
| Junior Vice Commander: | Joe Conger |
| Secretary and Graves Registration: | Tom Jenkins |
| Treasurer: | Bill Watson |
| Camp Council; | Dale Aurand, Jan White, Wm. Skillman |
| Patriotic Instructor: | Jim Morse, Jr. |
| War Memorials: | Jerry Grieve |
| Chaplain: | Neal Breugh |
| Color Bearer: | Anthony Bonecutter |
| Guide: | John Dyle |
| Guard | A.J. Werdehoff |
| Signals | Wm. Skillman |
| Eagle Scout Coordinator | Jeff Morse |



PCC Dale Aurand, Dept. Sec. Paul Davis, New Camp Commander Geo. Goodrich and Dept. Commander Don Shaw enjoy a moment following the installation of the 2012 officers and staff of Camp 14

In recognition of his exemplary leadership, PCC Dale Aurand was presented a plaque on behalf of the Brothers of Camp 14. Brothers and guests gave PCC Aurand a rousing ovation and well wishes for his continued work on behalf of Camp 14, the Department and the Order.



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A late winter storm that dumped nearly 2 feet of snow on northwestern Michigan forced us to postpone our meeting until March 10th. When Brothers arrived at the Ruby Tuesday restaurant the electrical power for the entire area failed (a power pole one mile away burst into flames plunging weary residents into darkness for the second time in less than a week). New Commander George Goodrich took up the challenge and inspired Brothers and guests alike with a hearty: "*We are going to push on with the meeting!*" So despite no electricity or lunch, CC Goodrich steadfastly led the Camp proceedings like an old veteran.

Our guest was author Mr. Frank Slaughter, who spoke about his book Echoes of a Distant Thunder. Despite not having power to operate his projector, Mr. Slaughter gave a compelling talk about a Michigan Light Artillery veteran returning home after the War and years of struggle to overcome the trauma of his combat experiences. Seeking the solitude of the woods as a 'landsman' (a man who surveys timber holdings for the best trees and ways to transport them to market), Frank's character gradually heals. Frank expertly wove incidents from his own family and ancestors, his experience as an artillery reenactor with Battery D, and Michigan's regional history. Those of us from northern Michigan were particularly fascinated with his descriptions of life the the lumber camps. All in all, Mr. Slaughter gave a riveting and entertaining talk. As he was finishing, the power returned that allowed Frank to show video clips of artillery batteries firing, photos of the lumber camps, the men who worked there, and the devastation wrought by miles upon miles of clear cutting. One denuded landscape with a fringe of trees on the horizon Frank identified as Interlochen (the town received its name because it described a railroad terminus). None of the Brothers were able to identify a single landmark from the moon-like landscape. Frank is also an announcer for Interlochen public radio, so his knows the community and its history intimately. Brothers clustered about after his talk to purchase books and talk more about his research.

Camp 14 welcomed new Brother, John Lantzer, who was initiated during the January meeting. John learned about the Sons because Camp 14 was performing a GAR grave dedication for Sergeant's Horace and John Calkins in the cemetery next door to his Kalkaska home last October. John is the descendent of Private Nehemiah Hurlbutt, who served in the 1st Independent Company of Michigan Sharpshooters (Perrin's Company) attached to the 27th Michigan Infantry. John, in turn, sponsored his cousin, Douglas Hulbert, who was initiated during the March meeting, Doug is also a descendent of Pvt. Hurlbutt.

Rounding out our trio of new Brothers, we welcome David S. Smith, who was sponsored by JVC Joe Conger. Brother Smith is a descendent of Private John Morris of Co. 'B' 77th Ohio Infantry. Brother Smith, a resident of Grand Haven, will be soon relocating to Traverse City. Brother Smith and his wife were very excited to finally meet many of the Brothers who provided encouragement and support as he researching his ancestors for his membership application.



Brother Jerry Grieve pins SUVCW membership badge on Brother John Lantzer

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*Camp 14 Brothers Douglas Hulbert, John Lantzer and David Smith
(note-we finally have power)*



Private Nehemiah Hurlbutt

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, May 12th at the Elks Lodge (625 Bay Street; at the intersection of Grandview Parkway and Division) in Traverse City.

U.S. Grant Camp 67

Submitted by Paul Davis, Camp and Department Secretary



Department Commander Don Shaw presided at the Installation of Officers for Grant Camp on January 18, 2012. Robert May, Chief of Staff to Commander Shaw and Commander of Crapo Camp 145 was also in attendance. A dinner meeting preceded the Installation of Officers during which the Camp Commanders from both Grant Camp and Crapo Camp discussed the opportunities and various ways that the two Camps could work together and strengthen support and relationships in the upcoming year.

Photo: Commander Shaw performs Installation of Officers at U.S. Grant Camp.

Since its inception, Grant Camp has participated in a day long Living History program for five 8th Grade History classes at Freeland Middle School in Freeland, Michigan. Grant Camp has been invited back again this year. In 2011, Grant Camp officially recognized the Freeland Schools via the Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War Adopt A School initiative.

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Photo: Battle flag



Photo: Brothers from U.S. Grant Camp 67 and Austin Blair Camp 7.

On Sunday, March 26th, Brothers from Grant Camp and Austin Blair Camp 7 attended a deployment ceremony where they combined their efforts to serve as an Honor Guard and perform a musket firing salute for the soldiers of the 303rd Military Police Company from Jackson as they are to be deployed to Afghanistan. A Civil War era cannon also fired a salute. The deployment of the 303rd also coincides with the deployment in 1862 of Jackson area Companies from the 20th and 26th Michigan Infantry Regiments. A battle flag was presented to the 303rd.

Frederick H. Hackeman Camp # 85

Submitted by Rex Dillman, Secretary

On 28 January, Brother Bruce Butgereit, PDC, and his wife, Marcia, visited Frederick H. Hackeman Camp 85 in Bridgman, Michigan to install the camp's officers for 2012. Brother Bruce is a frequent visitor to Southwest Michigan, he and Marcia having marched in the Three Oaks Flag Day Parade with the members of Camp 85 on several occasions. New Camp 85 officers are Brother Charles Pfauth, Jr., Camp Commander, and Brother Dan Stice, Secretary/Treasurer. Brother Rex Dillman, PCC, retains his position as Senior Vice Commander. All other officers were reelected to the offices held in 2011.



Lockwood Camp # 139

By Don Londo



This is a photo of Eagle Scout presentation to Stephen Luty on Jan 30,2012. L to R Commander -Lockwood Camp #139 , Kevin Luty, father, Eagle Scout Stephen Luty, mother, Betty Luty and Lockwood Eagle Scout Coordinator,Don Londo.

Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427

By Jerry Jacobs, Camp Secretary

Department of Michigan Eagle Scout Coordinator Jerry A. Olson, PCC and Rick Danes, CC congratulate Eagle Scout Joshua Palmer at his Court of Honor on January 28th in Livonia.



Camp 427 was honored at the 30th Museum Guild of Dearborn Volunteer Appreciation Brunch on March 3. Extending kudos were Dearborn Mayor John B. O'Reilly, Jr, the Dearborn Historical Museum, and the Museum Guild of Dearborn. Last year the Camp dedicated over 1900 volunteer hours to museum programs, as well as their work in other communities..

12th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Reorganized

by James B. Pahl, PCinC

The 12th was organized in Niles in September of 1861, under the command of Col. Francis Quinn. The various companies were organized all across the state as follows:

Co A, Cassopolis. Co B, Benton. Co C, Buchanan. Co D, Albion. Co. E, Niles. Company F, Niles. Co. G, Lansing. Co H, Lawton. Co I Berrien. Co K, Niles.

They completed organization and were mustered into federal service on March 5, 1862 with strength of 1,000 officers and men. The ladies of Niles gave to the regiment a silk banner, presented on their behalf by Miss Mary Penrose.

The regiment left Niles on March 18, 1862, to St. Louis, MO and then by steamer to Pittsburg Landing, where it was assigned to Col. Peabody's brigade of General Prentiss's division, Army of the Tennessee. As such, the 12th was one of the first regiments attacked by the enemy during the battle of Shiloh, suffering a severe loss. After the battle, the regiment remained at Pittsburg Lansing and then moved to Jackson, Tennessee in June. The regiment was on picket duty on September 2nd and was in the battle of Metamora.

Thereafter, the regiment was engaged in guard duty on the Mississippi Central railroad until the end of May, 1863. During this duty, 115 men in a block house in Middleburg was surrounded by a large force of Van Dorn's rebel cavalry (some 3,000), who demanded their surrender. This being refused, the rebel cavalry spent more than two hours engaged to carry the defenses and not being successful, they withdrew, with fifteen rebels being captured, including ten officers.

June 3rd saw the regiment move to Vicksburg, where they were engaged in several locations in the area until the fall of Vicksburg.

After the Vicksburg campaign, the regiment embarked for Arkansas, where they were encamped until early November. 334 members of the regiment re-enlisted as veterans and they finally left for Michigan in January of 1864, arriving in Niles on February 1, where they were furloughed for thirty days. Once reassembled with several new recruits, they returned to Arkansas, arriving on April 1. They maneuvered around Arkansas, pursuing guerilla forces and some engagements with regular troops.

From November 1, 1864 until January of 1866, the 12th was engaged in guarding railroads and on picket, provost guard and fatigue duties, guarding public property and stores and scouting in the surrounding country, having been divided into several detachments during this time. January 28, 1866, the regiment was ordered to assemble at Camden for muster out of service which was accomplished on February 15. They proceeded by steamer to Cairo, where they boarded trains for Michigan, arriving at Jackson on the 27th. The regiment was paid off and discharged on March 6, 1866.

The membership of the 12th was 2,325, with losses of 432, of which one officer, 23 men died of wounds, 28 killed in action, three officers and 377 men died of disease.

Michigan in the War editor John Robertson notes at the conclusion of his narrative on the 12th Michigan an interesting story. Corporal William H. Burgess, Company F of the 12th Michigan, while on an expedition up Cache Bayou, made a capital shot which ought to be placed on record. On a boat and ordered to detain every citizen they encountered, they were hailed by a man from the shore. The boat was swinging over toward the shore to stop and take the stranger on board and as the boat approached, the man scrambled up the bank and mounted his horse. The order to halt was given, but the man put spurs to the horse and was off like the wind. The men were ordered to fire and all missed. Corporal Burgess, who had reserved his fire, drew up his musket, took quick aim and fired. The man, at least 40 rods distant, was seen to reel and pitch heavily to the ground. The ball struck him squarely in the back, coming out just below the heart. (A rod is about 16.5 feet, so this shot hit a man galloping on horseback some 660 feet away).