



Michigan's

Messenger

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

Volume XXIV, Number 2

Chartered June 24, 1884

Summer 2015

John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus

Richard C. Danes, Editor

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

Commander's Comments

By Dale Aurand, PCC, DC

Warmest greetings Brothers,

The busy months of summer have rapidly passed. I was fortunate to be able to attend a number of events around the state that were well organized and presented.

I have just returned from the National Encampment held in Richmond, VA and wish to congratulate the Department of Michigan for receiving the "Horace Greeley Award" for the best website. Thank you Brothers of the Communication and Technology Committee.

I also wish to congratulate Robert Finch, Camp 14 and their editor, Dave Smith, for receiving the "Marshall Hope Award" for the most outstanding newsletter, the "Sharpshooter."

A big thank you to all the Brothers who represented the Department of Michigan at the National Encampment.

All Brothers please keep in mind the Department of Michigan will be hosting the 2017 National Encampment of the Allied Orders in Lansing.

I am looking forward to a productive autumn.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty



Department Orders #3  Series 2015 – 2016
Headquarters, Traverse City, Michigan
July 24, 2015

DEPARTMENT ORDERS #3
SERIES 2015-2016
DALE L. AURAND, COMMANDER
HEADQUARTERS, TRAVERSE CITY, MI
JULY 24TH, 2015

In the interest of promoting harmony within the Department this order addresses the issue of camp geographic areas.

Geographic areas shall be defined and determined by the Department Graves Registration Officer.

Members doing work outside of their camps geographic area shall notify the camp responsible for that geographic location.

This order includes but not limited to:

1. Graves Registration
2. Memorials
3. Ceremonies

Cooperation and communication has always been encouraged and expected, this is an essential element to continue the good work of the order.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

/s/

Dale L. Aurand
Department Commander
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

/s/

Gerald L. Jacobs
Department Secretary
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Department Orders #4  Series 2015 – 2016
Headquarters, Traverse City, Michigan
September 4, 2015

Effective August 15th, 2015, Brother Bruce B. Butgereit-PDC has resigned his appointed position as Department Civil War Memorials Officer. The Department commends Brother Butgereit for his years of service to the order.

I hereby appoint Brother Dennis Fyke to the position of Department Civil War Memorials Officer effective immediately, August 30th 2015.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

/s/

Dale L. Aurand
Department Commander
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

/s/

Gerald L. Jacobs
Department Secretary
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Patriotically Speaking

Gary Granger, Department Patriotic Instructor

Dear Brothers:

It is EASY to file your Camp PI Report! Seven yes or no questions.

The next deadline for your Camp's PI Report is January 15, 2016.

There is a fill-in enabled form on the Department website.

The form can be e-mailed to me at: hagranger@hotmail.com. My wife and I share this e-mail and it is viewed daily.

You may also fax the report. Please call before faxing because it is connected to my home telephone and we have restrictions on it so I don't get a lot of junk mail and I will need to press a button to accept the fax.

You can mail your report to me at: Gary Granger PI, PO Box 41, Corunna, MI 48817.

Also, you can telephone me at: (989) 494-4993 and place your report over the phone with either my wife or me and if I am not there please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

It is our duty to report our Patriotic Activities that help keep out non-profit status.

Thank you Brothers

Senior Vice Commander*David S. Smith, LM*

Greetings from Virginia! The National Encampment in Richmond has concluded after completing two successful days of conducting business of the Order. The Department of Michigan has much to be proud of after the National Encampment. Sister Linda Kronberg was duly elected as the ASUVCW National President. Her installation to the highest position was witnessed by the Michigan Brothers attending as Delegates. We are very proud of you Sister Linda!

PDC Don Shaw was reelected to the Council of Administration with outstanding support from the Encampment - Congratulations Brother Don! The Department of Michigan website earned the Horace Greeley Award for the Best Website of the Order.

Many kudos must be given to Signals Officer Chris Skillman, PC-in-C Keith Harrison, PC-in-C Jim Pahl, DSVC Dean Lamphere, and Brother Matt Adair of the Communication and Technology Committee for their fine work on the Department website. Robert Finch Camp No. 14's "The Sharpshooter" newsletter was the recipient of the Marshall Hope Award for the Best Camp Newsletter of the Order.

Congratulations Brothers!

One of the items that struck a chord with many of us in attendance at the National Encampment was the high success in new member recruitment achieved by a Brother from the Department of Ohio. This Brother has recruited the most new members in the Order for four years consecutively – well over 60 new members in that four year period!

In the upcoming weeks I will be sending an e-mail to the Junior Vice Commander of each Camp (and/or Camp Secretary for communication channels). This e-mail will be for the purposes of gaining valuable input from Brothers across the Department to generate a lessons learned document for new member recruitment and retaining of current members. Once this document is generated and compiled, the intention is to eventually place a link to it on the Department website to aid members with what works, and what doesn't, when it comes to recruiting and retaining members. This document should be a continuous work in progress as we learn and evolve in this area over time.

As they say, "many hands make light work", and the more members we have the stronger our Order will be.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

IN THIS ISSUE**Officer's Reports****Department GOs
#3 and #4
Of 2015-2016****Camp News****ASUVCW News****GAR Chairs
Needed****And****Much More!**

We refuse to apologize for any "errors" in this publication because a few are left in on purpose to drive any literary perfectionists up the wall.

**2015-2016
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Bob Griggs

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Rev. Charles F. Buckhahn, PDC

Patriotic Instructor

Gary Granger, PCC

Color Bearer

Edgar Dowd

Counselor

James Pahl, PCinC

Guard

Ron Shull, PCC

Eagle Scout Coordinator

Dewey Jones, CC

Signals Officer

Christopher Skillman

Michigan's Messenger Editor

Rick Danes, CC

Historian

Chris Cox

Guide

Rob Payne

Graves Registration

Rick Danes, CC

GAR Records

Gary Gibson, PDC

Civil War Memorials

Dennis Fyke

Chief of Staff

Donald Shaw, PDC

Camp At Large Coordinator

Dennis Zank

Aide de Camp

Keith Harrison, PCinC

Graves Registration Committee

by Rick Danes, Department Officer

Your Department Graves Registration Committee will meet on September 12 at The State Library in Lansing, The date for the next meeting is December 12, 2015.

Our on-line database will have over 68,000 Civil War burials and 3,570 Other War records when it is updated after the meeting.

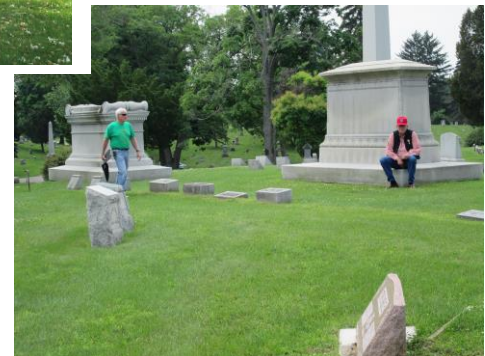
Because the Department Website is under re-construction, we have not had an update to the on-line records in over a year. I have been assured by the Brothers of our Signals committee that this will soon be remedied.

(Reprinted) I hope that you read in past Michigan's Messengers that "the Committee has taken on another task, that we hope to complete in 2015 (the anniversary of the end of the Civil War)" – the Last Soldier Project that Brother GRO Officer, Jim Petrimoux is coordinating. This task has gone from slow-to-no in completion. I would like to encourage all to participate, enabling our Department to have another resource that few in the Nation has.

I will close this quarter as I have in the last, by encouraging those Brothers in Camps 1, 3, 43, 85, and 139 to make a plan and start surveying your cemeteries – one grave at a time, and perhaps someday (not in my lifetime) we can say that we have surveyed all counties in our state.

Our time has come, get out and survey!

Be safe!



General John A. Logan Camp 1

By Thomas Jenkins, Signals Officer



Brother Gerald Grieve receives John B. Swainson award for preserving Michigan history.

The John Swainson award, named for former Michigan Governor and longtime head of the Michigan Historical Commission is presented to active public employees who have gone above and beyond their official job duties to help preserve Michigan's history. Brother Grieve, a forester for the Department of Natural Resources, received his award for his efforts to locate the 226 known graves of Civil War soldiers in Kalkaska County public cemeteries. 11 of those graves were unmarked and Jerry made the effort to obtain monuments from the Veterans' Administration and work with the local officials to have the monuments placed.

Jerry also is a member of the Department Memorials team and works to locate Civil War cannon and other memorabilia in the state. His great grandfather was a drummer boy in the 13th Michigan Infantry.

Photo: Brother Bruce Butgerit, Camp 1, Grieve, and Department Commander Dale Aurand at the door to old GAR office in Michigan State Capitol.

Allied Orders participate in Veterans Home annual Carnival

The John A. Logan Camp 1 joined the WRC No. 41 in sponsoring a booth at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. The event was held July 25 and included a Bean Bag toss game and prizes were provided for all the winners (and non-winners alike). The annual event is designed to give the residents of the GRHV an opportunity to share something "fun" with their families with numerous game booths and food tents.

The Allied Orders of Camp 1, W.R.C. Corps 41, and the DUVCW Tent 3 sponsored the game booth and also an adjoining food tent.



Photo Credits:

Carnival 1 Many booths with GRVH members and families enjoying the day. Phil Rasey mans the Bean Bag Toss

Carnival 2: (L-R) Camp 1 Brothers Tom Jenkins, Jerry Grieve, Commander Bill Truss, Phil Tasey, SVC John Uplinger (kneeling), JVC Tim Korlean, WRC Kim Korlean.



Photos by WRC Marcia Butgerit

**Future Michigan's Messenger Publications
Submittal Dates and Publication Dates**

Winter - March 1 for a March 15 Publication

Spring - June 1 for a June 15 Publication

Summer - September 1 for a September 15 Publication

Fall - 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

Please do not send me photos without the names of persons in the photo and a suggested caption. Thanks for your support!

General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20

By John R. Keith. PCC, SVC

Mr. Mike Bosch Finishing Line Executive, and Mr Bill Land of On Mill ASSIST Inc. holding the Certificate of Appreciation Awards from the Department of Michigan Award they received for doing work on the bases for the G.A.R. Monument and 20# Parrott Rifle in Mountain Home, Otsego. Allegan County last year!



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.

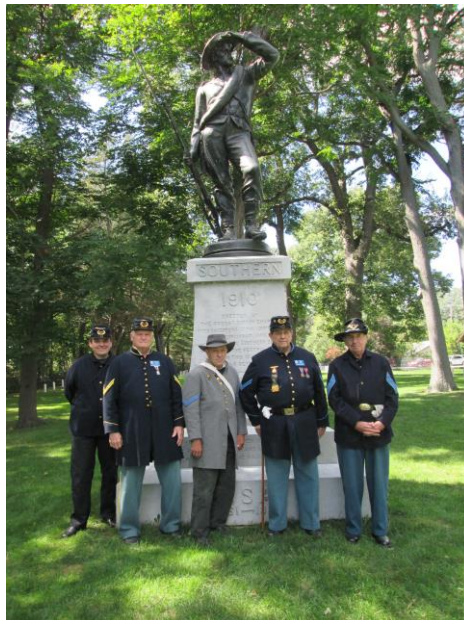
Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427

By Rick Danes, CC



Camp 427 has continued our effort to be among the best Camps in the Department with our aggressive program of activities.

Since May we have met every month during the summer, initiated our newest Associate Member, Greg Farino, continued to walk Historic Trinity Lutheran Cemetery, held our 17th Annual Picnic, served as a color and honor guard for an Eagle Scout Project in Plymouth, and had a field trip to the Ohio Soldiers' Home Museum and Hospital and to the Johnson's Island Confederate POW Camp and Cemetery in Sandusky, Ohio.



Another Editor's Note:

In order that we maintain the high level of excellence that we have set for this publication, it is important for each of you to become owners of this effort.

To that end, some helpful hints are: make sure that your articles are submitted on time – that is before the 1st of the month that Michigan's Messenger is due for publication; in order that each Camp has equal opportunity to have their information published, please limit your submissions to two pages including photos; do not use exotic photo programs, .pdf or .jpg works just fine, and do not use "editor" programs, a simple word program is good.

We have been very fortunate to have such dedicated brothers that keep this effort fresh, and that effort is evident by the recognition that we have received by the National Organization.

In advance, thank you for your continued help in making this a multiple-award winning publication,
Rick

**News From the National Convention
From our Sisters in the ASVCW**

By Helen A. Granger



ALLIED Orders Joint Opening Ceremony were held Aug. 21 in Richmond, Va. SUVCW National Commander-in-Chief Tad Campbell (left) escorted his wife ASUVCW National President Rachelle Campbell (right) during the Joint Opening Ceremony. They were accompanied by their daughter, Emelia (center). (ASUVCW Photo/Helen A. Granger)



OFFICERS -- All in a row just moments before the Aug. 21 joint opening of the 2015 Allied Orders of the GAR Encampment & Conventions. Standing in foreground are SUVCW National Commander-in-Chief Tad Campbell (left) escorted his wife ASUVCW National President Rachelle Campbell during the annual Joint Opening. They were accompanied by their daughter, Emelia. All of the 2014-2015 officers appear in line waiting for the ceremony to begin. (ASUVCW PHOTO/Helen A. Granger)



EUGENE G. Mortorff, ASUVCW Senior Vice-Commander in Chief (left) is shown with Michigan Sister Linda Kronberg, ASUVCW National Vice-President at the Aug. 21 Joint Opening just moments before the Joint Opening and Memorial Program. The next day, Aug. 22, Mortorff was elected the 2015-2016 SUVCW Commander-in-Chief and Kronberg was elected ASUVCW National President. (ASUVCW PHOTO/Helen A. Granger)

GAR MEMORIAL HALL & MUSEUM

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT

JAMES B. BRAINERD POST #111 MEMORIAL HALL AND MUSEUM, INC.

224 South Main Street

Eaton Rapids, Michigan 48827

Email: GARmichigan@gmail.com

Website: <http://garmuseum.com/>

Face Book: [GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum](#)

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Allied Orders, and Friends:

The GAR Memorial Hall & Museum would like to offer you the opportunity to honor your Union Civil War ancestor, or any Union Veteran.

We are looking for new or used, *sturdy* wooden chairs, similar to the ones pictured below, but not necessarily identical, to provide seating in the Memorial Hall. An eclectic collection of mismatched chairs would be ideal. These types of chairs can be found in used furniture stores, antique malls, of even yard sales.



With the donation of a chair, we will place the name and regiment or ship of the Civil War veteran on the chair, as well as your name as the donor.

As the museum is a recognized 501(c)(3) organization, your donation would be tax-deductible! To arrange the placing of this memorial to your ancestor, please contact either Museum Board of Directors member Gary Gibson at glgsuvcw@aol.com or me at GARmichigan@gmail.com to arrange for your donation.

Keith G. Harrison

Board President

GAR MEMORIAL HALL & MUSEUM

(GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN JAMES
B. BRAINERD POST 111 MEMORIAL HALL AND MUSEUM, INC)

Website: <<http://garmuseum.com>>

Past National Commander-in-Chief (2009 - 2011)

MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES

Past National Commander-in-Chief (1994/95)

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR