



# Michigan's

# Messenger

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

Volume XXVIII, Number 1

Chartered June 24, 1884

Spring 2019

*John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus*

*Richard C. Danes, Editor*

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

## **Department Commander**

*Robert R. Payne, DC*



Welcome to Summer! It is one of the busiest times for our Order. We have just commemorated Memorial Day and the lives of our fore-fathers who gallantly faced a foe so familiar, yet so different. My heart still beats heavily at the thought of the lost lives of that greatest generation, the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and Revenue Cutter Service men who gave all that this country might be preserved. As I attended the various services this past Memorial Day, I cannot help but think, "what did we lose to gain the preservation of the Union?" This question has been asked, repeatedly, about later generations, The Spanish-American War, The Great War, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, The Gulf War, The War on Terror. I have no answers to why war is waged, I can only mourn the lost and be thankful for their sacrifice.

We have held our 135th Annual Department Encampment and our new Officers have been elected and sworn in. I am honored to have been chosen as your Department Commander for a second term. To all the brothers now serving, thank you. We have new members of the Department Council, Brother David Ramsey, Camp 14, and Brother Steve Martin, Camp 17. We also have a new Camp-at-Large Coordinator, Nathan Tingley, Camp 7. I would like to again thank outgoing Council Members Mike Mailard and Kevin Lindsey, thank you for your

years of service. Thank you also to outgoing Camp-at-Large Coordinator, George Boller, your service has been greatly appreciated.

I was able to attend the Lincoln Tomb services in Springfield, IL and to Petersburg, IL, for services honoring Dr. Benjamin Stephenson, founder of the Grand Army of the Republic. It was a beautiful day for these events, however, the trip down was through treacherous crosswinds, and the trip back was through ice, snow, sleet, and rain. These were two very fine events, bracketed by lousy weather, but great brothers in the vehicle on the trip.

On May 17 and 18, I was able to bring greetings to the ASUVCW, and the DUVCW, at their annual meetings. It was a pleasure to represent the Department at these events.

*Continued from page 1*

I spent Memorial Day (observed) weekend around the state. I started on Saturday morning in Lansing with Curtenius Guard Camp 17 and Austin Blair Camp 7, at Mt. Hope Cemetery at the Soldiers Plot. We then headed down the street to Evergreen Cemetery, where we joined other Veteran's Organizations in honoring our Nations Dead from more recent wars.

On Sunday, I traveled to Saginaw to join the Department Chaplain and the 14<sup>th</sup> MI Vol. Inf. SVR (Irish Rifle) for Memorial Day Services at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Monday I joined Nash-Hodges Camp 43 PCC Gary Naugle, in Tecumseh, for a re-dedication of their Civil War Memorial, and finishing the week with Curtenius Guard Camp 17 for their May 30, Memorial Day meeting.

It has been a pleasure serving the Department this past year, I have met many of you and look forward to continuing to serve the Department in the future. I would also like to extend my appreciation to my Staff and all the brothers of the Department for their help and service this past year. I am looking forward to serving this next year as well.

*In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,*

*Robert R Payne, PCC, DC*

**Department Orders #17  Series 2018 – 2019**  
**Headquarters, Holt, MI**  
**April 18, 2019**

**Change of Department Headquarters**

Section 1: On April 27, 2019, the Annual Department of Michigan Encampment shall convene at The Okemos Conference Center. As such, I hereby order the Headquarters of the Department of Michigan, SUVCW, shall be relocated to The Okemos Conference Center, 2187 University Park Drive, Okemos, MI.

Section 2: It shall be noted that registration will begin at 0800 hrs. The Encampment will begin with a Memorial Service at 0900, and the regular order of business shall commence after the Memorial Service concludes.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



/s/  
Robert R Payne Department  
Commander, Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

/s/  
Richard Denney  
Secretary, Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

  
**Department Orders #18 Series 2018 – 2019**  
**Headquarters, Holt, MI**  
**April 20, 2019**

### Department Awards

By the authority vested in me, by the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, it is hereby ordered:

1. The following Department Awards, as established by the Department By-Laws, are awarded as follows.
  1. The Austin Blair Award (Greatest Numerical Member Gain)  
– Robert Finch Camp 14
  2. The Orlando LeValley Award (Greatest Percentage Membership Gain)  
– Russell A. Alger Camp 462
  3. J. Richard Greene Award (Best Camp Newsletter)  
– Frederick H. Hackeman Camp 85's "Camp Communicator"
2. I would like to express my appreciation to Brothers Rick Danes, SR, Brother Charles Buckhahn, and Brother Richard Denney, for your efforts and review on the J. Richard Greene Award Committee.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



/s/  
 Robert R. Payne, PCC, DC  
 Commander, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

Richard Denney  
 Secretary, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*In this Issue: Officer's Reports, Department Orders,  
 Camp News, and much more*

#### 2019 - 2020 Department Officers

##### Commander

Robert R. Payne, CC  
 3940 Keller Road  
 Holt, MI 48842

##### Senior Vice Commander

Terrence L. McKinch, CC  
 3278 Duffield Rd.  
 Lennon, MI 48449

##### Junior Vice Commander

Nathan L. Smith, CC  
 2620 S. Decker Rd.  
 Marlette, MI 48453

##### Recording Secretary

Richard Denny  
 30090 Orla Eagle Road  
 Colon, Michigan 49040

##### Treasurer

Bruce S. A. Gosling, PCC  
 20388 US Hwy. 12  
 White Pigeon, MI 49099  
 bgosling@charter.net

##### Department Council

Chuck Worley, PDC  
 David Ramsey  
 Steve Martin

##### Chaplain

Rev. Charles F. Buckhahn, PCC

##### Patriotic Instructor

David Kimble, CC

##### Color Bearer

Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

##### Military Affairs

Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

##### Counselor

Paul T. Davis, PDC

##### Guard

Steven Martin

##### Eagle Scout Coordinator

Nathan Tingley

##### Signals Officer

David Wallace, PDC

##### Michigan's Messenger Editor

Richard E. Danes, Sr. CC

##### Historian

Keith G. Harrison, PCinC

##### Guide

Nathan Tingley

##### Military and Veterans Affairs

Edgar Dowd

##### Graves Registration

Richard E. Danes, Sr., CC

##### GAR Records

Gary L. Gibson, PDC

##### Civil War Memorials

John H. McGill

##### Chief of Staff

L. Dean Lamphere, Jr. PDC

##### Camp At Large Coordinator

Nathan Tingley

##### Aide de Camp

Paul T. Davis, PDC

**Department Order #1**  **Series 2019 – 2020**  
**Headquarters, Holt, MI**  
**April 27, 2019**

1. Having been duly elected and installed as Department Commander, I hereby assume command of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
2. Headquarters is hereby transferred to 3940 Keller Rd, Holt, MI 48842.
3. General correspondence to the Department should be sent to Department Secretary Richard Denney, 30090 Orla Engle Road. Colon, MI 49040, or e-mailed to: [secretary@suvcwmi.org](mailto:secretary@suvcwmi.org)
4. Correspondence to the Commander should be sent to Robert R Payne, 3940 Keller Rd, Holt, MI 48842, or e- mailed to: [commander@suvcwmi.org](mailto:commander@suvcwmi.org)
5. Scheduling requests should be directed to Chief of Staff L. Dean Lamphere, Jr, PDC by email at: [chiefstaff@suvcwmi.org](mailto:chiefstaff@suvcwmi.org)
6. We would like to extend the appreciation and gratitude of the Department to all of the outgoing officers who served the Department so faithfully for the previous term.
7. We offer the thanks of the Department to all those brothers filling elected and appointed offices for the 2019-2020 term as well as all of those who are currently serving the Order on committees.
8. We thank Commander in Chief Donald W Shaw for attending our Department Encampment and installing our officers for the 2019-2020 term.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



ATTEST:

/s/  
Robert R. Payne, PCC, DC  
Commander, Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Richard Denney  
Secretary, Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**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 [editor@suvcwmi.org](mailto:editor@suvcwmi.org) 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!**

**Department Order #2**  **Series 2019 – 2020**  
**Headquarters, Headquarters, Holt, MI**  
**April 27, 2019**

**Planning the 137th Annual Michigan Department Encampment**

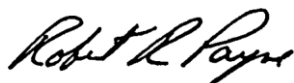
I am appointing J. Douglas Park PDC, as chair, Chuck Worley PDC, Richard Denney, PCC, Steven Martin, CC, and James B Pahl, PcinC, to the Annual Michigan Department Encampment Site Selection Committee.

This committee shall provide regular reports to the Department Commanders on a quarterly basis.

The report shall include recommendations including Date, Location, Hotel, Food, and/or Entertainment.

At least one (1) date and location shall be recommended to the Department Commander for the 137th Annual Michigan Department Encampment by November 1, 2019.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



/s/  
 Robert R. Payne, PCC, DC  
 Commander, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

Richard Denney  
 Secretary, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Department Order #3**  **Series 2019 – 2020**  
**Headquarters, Headquarters, Holt, MI**  
**April 29, 2019**

**Special Committee**

1. Where as, during the 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Department Encampment, a brother raised a question and voiced a concern, regarding provisions for the Boy Scouts of America and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War job description for the Eagle Scout Coordinator per the C&R, Article IX, Optional Officers Job Description, Section 3, page 69 and other Articles and Sections in the C&R where references are made to the Boy Scouts of America, and Eagle Scout Coordinator.
2. I do, therefore, appoint a Special Committee consisting of Brothers Nathan Tingley, James B. Pahl, PCinC, and Roy Richards, to examine this matter and report its' finding to the Department at the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Department Encampment in 2020.
3. Nathan Tingley is hereby appointed Chair of this committee.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



/s/  
 Robert R. Payne, PCC, DC  
 Commander, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

Richard Denney  
 Secretary, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Department Order #4**  **Series 2019 – 2020**  
**Headquarters, Headquarters, Holt, MI**  
**April 30, 2019**

**Standing Committees**

The following Standing Committees will be filled during the 2019-2020 term office:

**By-Laws**

Terry McKinch, DSVC, (Chair), Richard Denney, PCC, Paul Davis, PDC

**GAR Records**

Gary Gibson, PDC (Chair), Keith Harrison, PCinC, Tom Bruce, J. Doug Park, PDC, Blaine Valentine

**Legislative**

Robert R Payne, DC (Chair), Richard Denney, Dept Sec, PCC, Dale Aurand, PDC, Blaine Valentine, Roger McClary

**Communication and Technology**

David F. Wallace, PDC (Chair), Dennis Fyke, Keith Harrison, PCinC, Robert Payne, DC, Patrick D. Wallace

**Membership**

Nathan Smith, DJVC (Chair), ALL Camp JVC's

**Graves Registration**

Richard E Danes, PCC (Chair), ALL Camp Graves Registration Officers

**Civil War Memorials**

John H McGill, CC, (Chair), ALL Camp Civil War Memorial Officers

**Ceremonies and Rituals**

Keith Harrison, PCinC (Chair), Dale Aurand, PDC, David Hilliker, PCC

**Military & Veterans Affairs**

Edgar Dowd, PCC, (Chair), Lloyd D. Lamphere, PCC, Calvin Murphy, Paul A. Nelson, David Ramsey, Max Riekse, PCC

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



/s/  
Robert R. Payne, PCC, DC  
Commander, Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

Richard Denney  
Secretary, Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Department Order #5**  **Series 2019 – 2020**  
**Headquarters, Headquarters, Holt, MI**  
**April 30, 2019**

**136<sup>th</sup> Department Encampment**

1. Having received recommendations from the Encampment Committee appointed at the 134<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Department Encampment.
2. The date of the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Department Encampment has been established as June 6, 2020.
3. **The Location of the Encampment shall be The Okemos Conference Center, 2187 University Drive, Okemos, MI.**

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



/s/  
 Robert R. Payne, PCC, DC  
 Commander, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

Richard Denney  
 Secretary, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

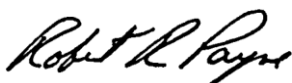
**Department Order #6**  **Series 2019 – 2020**  
**Headquarters, Headquarters, Holt, MI**  
**April 30, 2019**

**Special Committee Appointed**

Whereas, during the 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Department Encampment, it was determined that a Special Projects Fund be established utilizing the proceeds from the 2017 National Encampment.

1. I therefore appoint a Special Committee to establish criteria for the distribution of these funds to Camps in the Department. These criteria shall include, but are not limited to, Application process, Application Form, Approval process, limits on amounts available per project. The committee shall include Chuck Worley, Bruce Gosling, Steven Martin, David Ramsey.
2. Chuck Worley, PDC, shall chair this committee, and report its' findings to the Department no later than the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Department Encampment.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



/s/  
 Robert R. Payne, PCC, DC  
 Commander, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

Richard Denney  
 Secretary, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Department Order #7**  **Series 2019 – 2020**  
**Headquarters, Headquarters, Holt, MI**  
**May 3, 2019**

**New Camp at Large Coordinator**

1. Whereas: On April 29, 2019, Brother George Boller informed the Department of Michigan of his desire to step down as Camp-at-Large Coordinator.
2. Whereas, Brother George Boller has faithfully served the Department of Michigan for many years, in many roles, I have accepted his resignation from his post as Camp-at-Large Coordinator. Please join me in thanking Brother Boller for his tireless service.
3. Having accepted the resignation of Brother Boller, I hereby appoint Brother Nathan Tingley as Camp-at- Large Coordinator.
4. Brother Tingley may be contacted at [alusss@hotmail.com](mailto:alusss@hotmail.com).

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

*Robert R. Payne*

/s/  
 Robert R. Payne, PCC, DC  
 Commander, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

Richard Denney  
 Secretary, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp #427**  
 Submitted by Rick Danes PCC



Camp 427's Decoration Day Ceremony included Camp members, members of Daughters of the American Revolution, Colonel Joshua Howard Chapter, a representative from the U. S. Army Recruiting Station, and Dearborn Historical Museum Staff.

Photo by Dennis Fyke, CJVC



  
**Department Order #8 Series 2019 – 2020**  
**Headquarters, Headquarters, Holt, MI**  
**May 21, 2019**

**Memorial Day Observance**

Whereas, This being the 151<sup>st</sup> year since General Logan issued General Order #11 instituting the observance of Memorial Day, on May 30.

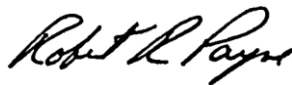
I hereby call all Brothers and Camps, to the observance of Memorial Day, both on May 27 (observed) and the true Memorial Day, May 30.

I ask that all brothers encourage this observance, not only through our activities, but also by actively reminding others of the real reason we commemorate this day.

I call on all brothers to visit the graves of, not only, our fore-fathers of the Grand Army of the Republic, but also the graves of our veterans who have lost their lives in all the wars which have occurred since. The Spanish-American War, The War to End All Wars (World War I), World War II, The Korean War, The Vietnam War, The Gulf War, The War on Terror, and the many other conflicts, both known and unknown, in which our country has fought.

This is so ordered, on the Twenty-First day of May, Two Thousand and Nineteen, the One Hundred and Fifty- Third year since the Grand Army of the Republic was formed.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



/s/  
 Robert R. Payne, PCC, DC  
 Commander, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

Richard Denney  
 Secretary, Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*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 all 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 have tried to keep all articles in the format that they are sent, however, in the spirit of editorial judgement, I will correct spelling or edit for space restrictions. 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@suvchwmi.org](mailto:editor@suvchwmi.org).*

**Israel B. Richardson Camp #2**  
*Submitted by Bruce Miller, PCC, SVC*

**Camp does its duty at the Birmingham Memorial Day Service**

SUVCW Camp 2, Department of Michigan, was heavily involved in the Memorial Day service in the City of Birmingham, Michigan again this year. Birmingham has held a Memorial Day service annually since the creation of the Oakland County Civil War Monument in 1869. The Chairman of the Birmingham Memorial Day Committee is Bruce Miller, SVC/PCC of Camp 2. The patriotic program included addresses of historical interest, popular songs, wreath laying at the monuments and live music provided by the Birmingham Concert Band. Members of the North-South Skirmish Association also assisted in the service. This year's service commemorated the 75th anniversary of D-Day, June 6, 1944.



*I don't think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday.*

*A. Lincoln*

**Robert Finch Camp No. 14 – June 2019**  
*Submitted by: David S. Smith, LM, PCC, PDC*

2019 has been a busy and prosperous year for Robert Finch Camp No. 14, and more exciting things are left to come. At the January meeting, the Brothers initiated and welcomed new Brother George Scheck to the Camp. Brother Scheck is a historian with specialization in Colonial America, the American Revolution, and the Civil War, as well as other history time periods such as World War II.

PDC Paul Davis announced to the Camp that he is seeking the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and the Brothers were ecstatic to see one of their own looking to advance to the highest levels in the Order.

April brought the Department Encampment, and Camp No. 14 was well represented. The weekend started out with a private tour of the Michigan Battle Flags hosted by Chair Matt VanAcker. Brothers of Camp No. 14 were joined by Brothers of March to the Sea Camp No. 135.



Above: Members of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 and March to the Sea Camp No. 135 enjoy a private tour of the Michigan Battle Flags hosted by Chair Matt VanAcker on the Friday of the Dept. Encampment weekend.

On Saturday, CSVV David Ramsey was elected to the office of Department Council, and CC John Lantzer accepted the Austin Blair Award for the greatest new member gain. This is the second year in a row that Camp No. 14 has received the Austin Blair Award. The Encampment voted unanimously to support Camp No. 14 member PDC Paul Davis in his quest for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

*Continued on the next page*

Right (L-R): CSVC David Ramsey (Dept. Council), Br. Joseph Conger, CC John Lantzer, PDC David Smith, PDC Dale Aurand (missing from picture: PDC Paul Davis) after winning the Austin Blair Award for the second consecutive year at the Department Encampment.



Memorial Day Weekend saw the Brothers of the Camp dispatched across the area to represent the SUCVW and the GAR in honoring our fallen heroes. CC Lantzer along with his family attended events at Greenfield Village in honor of our heroes. Below are a few of the pictures from various Camp members in attendance of local ceremonies and events.



Left: Brother Keith Graham and the American Legion Post 10's 1861 12lb. Howitzer at the Manistee Memorial Day Parade. The Howitzer belonged to Manistee's James F. McGinley GAR Post 201, and was passed on to American Legion Post 10.

*Continued on the next page*

Right (L-R): Br. John Milks, PAP Lisa Smith, PDC David Smith, PAP & AP Dorothy Rongey, PDC Dale Aurand, and CJVC Jim Ribby at the Linwood Cemetery Memorial Day Weekend Ceremony at Long Lake Township in Grand Traverse County.



Left (L-R): PCC Ted Mattis, PAP & AP Dorothy Rongey, PCC Neal Breagh, PAP Emily Breagh, PDC Dale Aurand, and Sister Deb Downey

MO Schwander, PCC Goodrich, Guide O'Hara, Brother Purkiss, and other Brothers continue to work on cleaning area headstones. Additionally, these Brothers are ensuring that GAR markers are in good and proper appearance. Their tireless work has not gone unnoticed in the area cemeteries. The sextants and local officials, along with local residents and descendants of these Noble men have paid many compliments and are in regular contact with the Camp.

The Camp will be dedicating a headstone for Marshall Swenor in Petoskey on 13 July 2019, with a meeting to follow at North Central Michigan College.

More exciting events are slated for this year, and will be communicated as the dates are finalized.

**General Benjamin Pritchard Camp #20**  
Submitted by John R. Keith PCC, Signals Officer

Alexander Keith, brother of Camp 20 member Charles Keith and grandson of Camp 20 Signal Officer John R Keith PCC, joined his siblings and their fellow Boy, Cub and Girl Scouts replacing flags over Veteran graves at Oakwood Cemetery in Allegan. Alex was given the honor replacing the flag over the General's grave!



**Graves Registration**

*By Department Graves Registration Officer Rick Danes*



*Our committee did not meet in June but I am announcing that we have reached another milestone with our database, having 75,108 Other War and Civil War, records represented.*

*We have very spirited discussions, not always about the Civil War, but in each session we learn something new!*

*The meeting schedule is: September 14 and December 8*

*All are welcome to join us.*

Left: Monuments on the graves of Enos and Alice Kimmel, 8 Michigan Infantry at riverside Cemetery, Alma.

**Company A, 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, SVR**  
*Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC, PCC*

**Lincoln Tomb Ceremonies, Springfield, Illinois, 2019**

The Department of Michigan was well represented at the Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremonies in Springfield, Illinois on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Company A, 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, SVR, Captain Dean Lamphere commanding, led the Combined Military Detail for the ceremony.



Captain Dean Lamphere leads the combined Military Detail at the Lincoln Tomb Ceremonies.

The Color Guard  
(Left to Right)  
consisting of LT. Paul Davis, Sgt. Ron Shull, National Color Ed Dowd, Linn Malaznik, Joe Frost, Chuck Worley and David Kimble.



*Continued on the next page*



Left To Right:  
SUVCW National  
Chaplain Jerome  
Kowalski,  
SUVCW  
Commander In  
Chief Don Shaw,  
Joe Coleman  
MOLLUS Senior  
Vice Commander  
In Chief, and  
Doug Niermeyer,  
Past MOLLUS C-  
I-C.

Jan Davis, Michigan  
Daughters of Union  
Veterans of the Civil War  
1861 to 1865 and DOLLUS  
National Junior Vice  
President and Joe Coleman,  
MOLLUS Senior Vice  
Commander In Chief  
presenting a wreath during  
the ceremonies.



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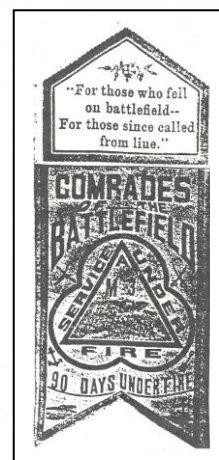
(L to R) Jan Davis and National President Sarah Meyer, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861 to 1865 with Chuck Worley, PDC, SUVCW Camp 135 March To The Sea. Chuck carried the colors for National President Sarah Meyer.

Following the Lincoln Tomb Ceremonies the contingent as is its custom traveled to Petersburg, Illinois to perform memorial services at the Dr. Stephenson Memorial.





## VETERANS' ORGANIZATIONS



### "Comrades of the Battlefield"

This organization of Northern veterans of the Civil War is completely unknown to most students of the 1861-1865 period. But it was a unique and interesting group! The organization was conceived in September 1887, and apparently grew out of a jest made by George E. Dolton of St. Louis, Missouri. He originally called for the founding of an "Order of Three Months' Men", to include as members those who had served three months or more **under fire**, but the name must also have been a jibe at those whose entire term of service had been three months and who distinguished themselves principally at the meetings of the GAR. In December 1890, Dolton wrote an article stating these views that appeared in the January 1, 1891 issue of the *National Tribune* (a prominent veterans publication of that day). Letters of support were written to Dolton from around the country and in August 1891, those interested in forming such an order met in Detroit, Michigan. A constitution was written, officers elected, and an investigating committee to pass on applicants' qualifications was appointed. George Dalton was elected "General Commanding". Chapters were designated as "Battlefields" and the first, "Chickamauga", was formed in St. Louis on January 30, 1891. In Newbern, Illinois, the members formed the "Vicksburg" Battlefield. There is no information how many other chapters were formed.

Prospective members submitted a fee of \$3.00 along with their application. They were required to provide proof of their combat service. Official reports, diaries, correspondence and other documentary evidence were preferred sources although sworn statements of those who actually saw the applicant under fire were accepted by the investigating committee. The committee verified these records, counted the days under fire, and, if he qualified, approved the new member. Ribbons were made available to the female members of the veteran's family, while the member himself could purchase a certificate recounting his combat days. He also received a badge which was lapel pin made of brass and partially enamelled. It consisted of a trefoil with a triangle set in the center. On the sides of the triangle were the words — "Service" — "Under" — "Fire"; and in an oval in the center of the triangle the number of combat days was engraved or stamped.

Very little is known of this veterans' organization. Probably it died with the death of its founder. Dolton died in 1906. He served in Battery "M" 1st Illinois Artillery (Enlisted August 11, 1862 and discharged July 24, 1865). The war apparently had a profound effect on him and like many young men thrust into combat he seemed to be affected by the war experience for the rest of his life. He also was a member of the GAR.