



Michigan's Messenger

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

Volume XXXI, Number 1

Chartered June 24, 1884

Spring, 2022

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*

Commander's Report

Brothers of the Department of Michigan,

After a long winter and wet spring, summer is finally upon us.

Thank you for entrusting me with another term as Department Commander for the Department of Michigan, and I look forward to a productive year working alongside you.

As we enter our busy season for holding events, I want to remind you to please send any event dates to the Department Signals Officer for posting on the Department website. I find this very useful myself as I try to show up at some of the events throughout the year.

I also want to remind everyone that the Department of Michigan is hosting this year's National Encampment in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from August 11-14, 2022. If you visit our Department website at www.suvcwmi.org, it will have a link to the 2022 National Encampment page, which will provide event, hotel, tour information, and order forms for National Encampment items

We hope to see you there. I wish you all a safe and healthy summer.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Nathan Smith, Commander
Department of Michigan

"Anyone wishing to have credentials as an alternate to the National Encampment, please contact me asap, and before July 6th. Contact me at secretary@suvcwmi.org. Please include your name and Camp."

We are currently at 20 ads for the National Encampment Book. In order for us to break even we need 41 full page ads. If you could have the Secretary put the word out to each camp, encouraging camps and brothers to place memory ads or even congratulatory ads, it would be great. We have only around 37 days to receive ads.
Thank you. Robert R Payne, PDC rrpayne@suvcwmi.org

Department Order #15  Series 2021 – 2022

**Headquarters Marlette, MI
March 16, 2022**

RE: SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON INSURANCE COVERAGE AND DISCHARGE OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Whereas, at the 137th Annual Department Encampment I was directed by the Encampment to appoint a Special Committee to explore obtaining insurance for the Department of Michigan in order to protect the organization during Department and Camp Events. That Special Committee was so duly appointed and consisted of Donald Shaw, PCinC, Bruce Gosling, PCC, and David Smith, PDC and aided by James Pahl, PCinC.

On March 16, 2022, I received the Special Committees Report which will be attached to this order. The following was noted in the Committees Report as it relates to existing coverage available to the Department of Michigan, Camps, and SVR Units through our National Organization:

INSURANCE: All members of the SUVCW are covered by the National's general liability policy. If your camp or SVR unit needs an insurance certificate for your events
- - just send me the request. Please let me know who the named insured will be (usually the venue location). Again, the National Insurance policy covers all members (including associates & juniors) of the SUVCW - - so this does mean you have general liability insurance when conducting the business of the Order. Also firing blanks from black powder weapons is covered – so you can fire a volley at ceremonies – this does NOT cover reenactments—only ceremonies the SUVCW conducts, and only firing by members of the SUVCW (note—this

Contact Information: D. Michael Beard, PDC
National Treasurer,

Email:

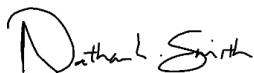
I would like to Thank Brothers Shaw, Gosling, Smith, and Pahl for their work on this Special Committee.

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

That the requirements of the Special Committee on Insurance have been met as directed by the 137th Annual Department Encampment and the Special Committee is hereby discharged from their duties.

That the Special Committee's report be forwarded to all Camps and the SVR Unit within the Department of Michigan so that they may properly obtain an insurance certificate for any upcoming events.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



Nathan L. Smith, PCC
Commander, Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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

Department Order #16  **Series 2021 – 2022**

Headquarters Marlette, MI
April 6, 2022

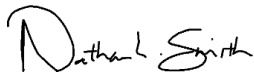
RE: REINSTATEMENT OF WA-BU-NO CAMP NO. 250

Whereas, it has been reported that Wa-Bu-No Camp No. 250 has filed all required forms with the Department Secretary and is now in compliance with the Charter, Constitution, and Regulations (2021) of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as of this date, and;

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

1. That the suspension of Wa-Bu-No Camp No. 250 of Shephard for failure to file required forms is hereby lifted, and the camp is fully reinstated.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



Nathan L. Smith, PCC
Commander, Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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

Department Order #17  **Series 2021 – 2022**

Headquarters Marlette, MI
May 12, 2022

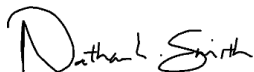
RE: CHANGE OF DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

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

Effective Friday, May 13, 2022, the headquarters of the Department of Michigan shall be transferred to DoubleTree by Hilton-Grand Rapids Airport 4747 28th Street, SE Grand Rapids, Michigan, to allow for the transaction of business of the 138th Annual Department of Michigan Encampment. Thereafter Sunday, May 15, 2022, it shall revert to the address prior to this transfer or to another location designated by the Department Commander within his Department Orders.

Brothers are reminded that the encampment registration begins at 8:00 am, with the Encampment beginning at 9:00 am.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



Nathan L. Smith, PCC
Commander, Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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

Department Order # 01  **Series 2021 – 2022**

Headquarters Marlette, MI
May 16, 2022

RE: 2022-2023 TERM OF OFFICE / STAFF AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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

1. Having been duly elected and installed as Department Commander for a second term on 14 May 2022, I hereby continue my command of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
2. Headquarters for the Department is hereby transferred to:
2620 S. Decker Road Marlette, Michigan 48453.
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
4. Correspondence to the Commander should be sent to Nathan L. Smith, 2620 S. Decker Rd Marlette, Michigan 48453, or e-mailed to: commander@suvcwmi.org
5. I want to extend my appreciation to all newly elected and appointed Officers and Brothers serving on the various committees of the Department.
6. I would also like to extend my appreciation to this past year's Officers and committee members for their service to the Order.
7. The Department would like to extend appreciation to CinC Michael Paquette for joining us at our Encampment and for installing our Department Officers for the 2022-2023 term.
8. The Department extends the highest appreciation for the Brothers in attendance at the 138th Department Encampment.
9. Memorial Day will be observed on Monday, 30 May 2022. All Camps and Brothers are highly encouraged to attend or participate in services or other acts of remembrance in Keeping Green the Memory of our Union ancestors, and all American Veterans no longer among the living.
10. Camps are reminded to please send information on Camp events to the Department Signals Officer for posting on the Department's Website.
11. I hereby make the following Staff, Committee, and Special Committee Appointments:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Chief of Staff | David Smith, PDC | BY-LAWS COMMITTEE | |
| Counselor | Paul T. Davis, PDC | SVDC; Chair | Gary Swain, PCC |
| Chaplain | Rev. Charles Buckhahn, PCC | Department Secretary; Member | Dick Denney, PCC |
| Patriotic Instructor | Terry McKinch, PDC | Counselor; Member | Paul T. Davis, PDC |
| Color Bearer | Edgar J. Dowd, PCC | Member | James B. Pahl, PcinC |
| Signals Officer | Robert R. Payne, PDC | LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE | |
| Editor, "Michigan Messenger" | Richard E. Danes, PCC | DC; Chair | Nathan L. Smith, PCC |
| Historian | Keith G. Harrison, PcinC | Department Secretary; Member | Dick Denney, PCC |
| Guide | Ronald Shull, PCC | Member | Dale L. Aurand, PDC |
| Guard | Lloyd Lamphere, Sr., PCC | Member | Gary Naugle, PCC |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Graves Registration Officer | Richard E. Danes, PCC | Member | James B. Pahl, PCinC |
| G.A.R. Records Officer | Gary L. Gibson, PDC | MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE | |
| Civil War Memorials Officer | John H. McGill, CC | JVDC; Chair | Steve Martin, PCC |
| Eagle Scout Coordinator | Lloyd Lamphere, Sr., PCC | Member(s) | All Camp JVC's |
| Camp-At-Large Coordinator | L. Dean Lamphere, Jr. PDC | GRAVES REGISTRATION COMMITTEE | |
| Camp Organizer | James B. Pahl, PCinC | GRO Officer; Chair | Richard E. Danes, PCC |
| Aide-de-Camp | L. Dean Lamphere, Jr. PDC | Member(s) | All Camp GRO's |
| Military Affairs Officer/ROTC Awards | Edgar J. Dowd, PCC | CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE | |
| Ceremonies & Rituals Officer | Keith G. Harrison, PCinC | CW Memorials Officer; Chair | John H. McGill, CC |
| | | Member(s) | All Camp CWMO's |
| CEREMONIES & RITUALS COMMITTEE | | CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE | |
| CR Officer; Chair | Keith G. Harrison, PCinC | Chair | L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC* |
| Member | James B. Pahl, PCinC | Member | Robert R. Payne, PDC |
| Member | Paul T. Davis, PDC | Member | Charles Worley, PDC |
| G.A.R. RECORDS COMMITTEE | | NOMINATING COMMITTEE | |
| GAR Records Officer; Chair | Gary L. Gibson, PDC | Chair | Richard E. Danes, PCC |
| Historian; Member | Keith G. Harrison, PCinC | Member | Donald Shaw, PCinC |
| Member | Tom Bruce | Member | Dale L. Aurand, PDC |
| Member | J. Douglas Park, PDC | Member | Charles Worley, PDC |
| Member | Blaine Valentine, PCC | Member | Gary Naugle, PCC |
| COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY | | 139th ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE | |
| Signals Officer; Chair | Robert R. Payne, PDC | Chair | David Smith, PDC |
| Member | David Wallace, PDC | Member | Gary Swain, PCC |
| Member | Dennis Fyke | Member | L. Dean Lamphere, Jr. PDC |
| Member | Patrick D. Wallace | Member | Steve Martin, PCC |
| Member | Keith G. Harrison, PCinC | | |
| 102nd USTC MEMORIAL SPECIAL COMMITTEE | | EAGLE SCOUT QUESTION REFERRAL SPECIAL COMMITTEE | |

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Chair | John H. McGill, CC | Chair | Lloyd Lamphere Sr. |
| Friend of the Committee; Member | Geoff Blair | Member | James B. Pahl, PCinC |
| Member | Keith G. Harrison, PCinC | Member | Roy Richard |
| Member | Robert May, PCC | MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS SPECIAL COMMITTEE | |
| Member | David F. Wallace, PDC | Chair | Edgar J. Dowd, PCC |
| KALAMAZOO LINCOLN PROJECT SPECIAL COMMITTEE | | Member | Lloyd D. Lamphere, Sr., CC* |
| Chair | Charles Worley, PDC | Member | Calvin Murphy |
| Member | Gary Swain, PCC | Member | Paul A. Nelson, PCC |
| Member | Cameron Brown | Member | Max Riekse, PCC |
| ABRAHAM LINCOLN & DR. MARY E. WALKER AWARD COMMITTEE | | Member | Richard Schafer |
| Chair | Rev. Charles Buckhahn, PCC | J. RICHARD GREENE AWARD (Per Dept. Bylaws) | |
| Member | Edward Dowd, PCC | Chair | Richard Danes, PCC |
| Member | Paul Nelson, PCC | Member | Rev. Charles Buckhahn, PCC |
| SPECIAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE | | Member | Richard Denney, PCC |
| Chair/SVDC | Gary Swain, PCC | | |
| Member/JVDC | Steve Martin, PCC | | |
| Other Members | As Appointed by Chair | | |

Curtenius Guard Camp #17 and Austin Blair Camp #7
Submitted by Robert L. Payne, PDC



On May 28, Curtenius Guard Camp 17, Lansing-Sunfield, was joined by Austin Blair Camp #7 and Austin Blair Auxiliary, Jackson, at the Mt. Hope Cemetery Soldier's Plot, in Lansing, to commemorate those buried there, Memorial Day weekend. They then made their way to Evergreen Cemetery, in Lansing, and again joined forces, to act as the Color Guard for the City of Lansing Memorial Day Service. These are annual events which our camp has led or participated in for years. We were honored to have Past Commander in Chiefs Keith Harrison and James B. Pahl join us on this day.

General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2

Submitted SVC Bruce Miller

Memorial Day Activities, 2022



The brothers of General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2, Department of Michigan, had a busy and fulfilling Memorial Day 2022. The City of Birmingham is home to the Oakland County Civil War monument and the camp is an active participant in that city's Memorial Day Service. The SUVCW was highly visible with SVC Bruce Miller as Master of Ceremonies and Secretary Kevin Lindsey's address on the origins of the day. As always, the camp placed a Memorial wreath at the Civil War monument. Members of the North-South Skirmish Association also participated in the service.

At the conclusion of the service the camp moved to historic Oak Hill Cemetery in Pontiac and the grave site of namesake General Richardson. The memorial service was highlighted by the stirring biography of the general and the placing of appropriate floral tributes.

What is The Central Region Association?

Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic

HISTORY:

The Union veterans after the Civil War founded the Grand Army of the Republic. Other organizations followed but only a few were considered kindred organizations. These include: Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Women's Relief Corps, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. These groups often held annual encampments near where the Grand Army of the Republic held theirs and all felt a need to coordinate the efforts of the various organizations.

The Central Region was founded with the purpose of "bringing the Departments closer together in the true spirit for which they were organized, and to receive information and inspiration for renewed efforts" when participants returned home. Each Camp in the Region was asked to send at least one representative and both Camp and Auxiliary and Department and Past Department officers were encouraged to attend.

Today, the Central Region is one of only two surviving regional associations within the Allied Orders.
The other is the Eastern Regional Association.

Department Chaplain

Submitted by Chaplain Charles Buckhahn, PCC

The following prayer is called a “traditional” prayer for the nation by William Bennett and John Cribb in their book, The American Patriot’s Almanac: Daily Readings on America.

I have found a version of it in the Episcopal Book of Prayer and in Lutheran books of prayers. The following is the Lutheran version used in my Lutheran denomination.

“Almighty God, you have given us this good land as our heritage. Grant that we remember Your generosity and constantly do Your will. Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education, and an honorable way of life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil course of action. Grant that we, who came from many nations with many different languages, may become a united people. Support us in defending our liberties, and give those to whom we have entrusted the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there may be justice and peace in our land. When times are prosperous, may our hearts be thankful, and in troubled times do not let our trust in You fail; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.”

Let me comment on several petitions within this prayer. The petition, “Grant that we remember Your generosity and constantly do Your will;” reminds us that the gift of a nation from God does not give us freedom to do within it as we please. God’s will calls us to love our neighbor, our fellow citizen. As St. Paul teaches, “Love is the fulfillment of the Law.” The Ten Commandments shows us how to love the citizens of our country.

The petition, “Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education, and an honorable way of life,” asks God to lead the leaders of industry to produce what is needed for the nation without corruption and with fairness to their workers; to lead educators to teach the truth in all subjects to our students; and to lead all citizens into the way of righteousness.

The petition, “Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil course of action,” certainly is needed to be prayed today! We face the threats of violence from those who would radically change our society. Already there is discord over education, sexual identity, and policing. And there is an arrogant pride in some, thinking that their ideology (based upon an “oppressed verses oppressors” view of the world) is the only solution to the problems of the world.

The long petition, “Support us in defending our liberties, and give those to whom we have entrusted the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there may be justice and peace in our land,” needs little comment. God gives us government and, in our system of government, we not only need to support our governmental officials with prayer, but also hold them accountable through the ballot box.

The final petition, “and in troubled times do not let our trust in You fail,” reminds us that, in the end, our ultimate trust is not in governments, human ideologies, or in human leaders; it is in God our Father, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, and in the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of wisdom and of peace.

May we fervently pray this and other prayers like it daily, for the sake of the nation we love.

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, 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!*

Robert Finch Camp #14
 Submitted by Eric Boals, CC
 Photos and text by Joanie Moore

HONORING PVT. EUGENE OWEN - Numerous veteran service organizations, including the VFW Post #2780 Honor Guard, AMVETS Post #114, the Robert Finch Camp #14 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Traverse City, and the American Legion George Puckett Post #264 Mancelona, gathered at Fairview Cemetery Saturday, May 28, 2022 in Mancelona, Michigan to honor and remember Pvt. Eugene Owen, the last union veteran of the Civil War, to be buried in Antrim County.

"We did this ceremony to keep green the memory of those who have sacrificed so much in the preservation of our union," said Eric Boals, Commander of Robert Finch Camp #14 SUVCW. "It is important to revisit events in our history and reflect upon them, especially now during the Memorial Day holiday."

The service included a prayer, a reading of Pvt. Owen's biography, which states he was a Mancelona resident for a period of time after serving in the military, a poem, and concluded with the playing of Taps. Mancelona Area Historical Society, Mortensen Funeral Homes and Mancelona Chamber of Commerce assisted with the service.



**2022 - 2023
 Department Officers**

Commander

Nathan L. Smith, PCC
 2620 S. Decker Road
 Marlette, Michigan 48453

Senior Vice Commander

Gary Swain, PCC
 697 Wynding Oaks
 Kalamazoo, MI 49006

Junior Vice Commander

David Kimble
 910 Queen Street
 Owasso, MI 48867

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

Robert R. Payne, PDC Secretary
 David S. Smith, PDC, Chair
 David Kimble, PCC Vice Chair

Chaplain

Rev. Charles Buckhahn, PCC

Patriotic Instructor

Terry McKinch, PDC

Color Bearer

Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Military Affairs

Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Counselor

Paul T. Davis, PDC

Guard

Lloyd Lamphere, Sr PCC

Eagle Scout Coordinator

Lloyd Lamphere, Sr. PCC ³

Signals Officer

Robert R. Payne, PDC

Michigan's Messenger Editor

Richard E. Danes, Sr. PCC

Historian

Keith G. Harrison, PC-in-C

Guide

Ronald Shull, PCC

Graves Registration

Richard E. Danes, Sr., PCC Chair

GAR Records

Gary L. Gibson, PDC Chair

Civil War Memorials

John H. McGill, CC Chair

Chief of Staff

David Smith, PDC

Camp At Large Coordinator

L. Daen Lamphere, Jr, PDC

Aide de Camp

L. Daen Lamphere, Jr, PDC

Camp Organizer

James B. Pahl, PC-in-C

Ceremonies and Rituals

Keith G. Harrison, PC-in-C chair

Governor Crapo Camp 145
Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC

Memorial Day Services 2022

The U.S. Grant Camp 67, Crapo Camp 145, and members of Company A, 14th Michigan Infantry Sons Of Veterans Reserve combined forces to provide and support several Memorial Day Services on 30 May, 2022.



Memorial Day Service at Aventine Cemetery. Flowers were placed on Graves and Services performed. Carol Powers Carrington Chapter Regent, David Wallace Crapo Camp 145, and SVR Commander Dean Lamphere.

14th Michigan Company A, Sons Of Veterans Reserve performed a musket salute at Aventine Cemetery.



Brothers of U.S. Grant 67 participated in their annual Cemetery Clean-Up at Soldiers Rest Cemetery and GAR Monument.



Grant Camp 67 and SVR Honor Guard.



Grant Camp 67 Memorial Day Service.



Grant Camp 67 and SVR Honor Guard fired a ceremonial salute.

**Department Of Michigan Well Represented at 2022 Lincoln Tomb Ceremonies
Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC**

The Department of Michigan has been attending the Lincoln Tomb Ceremonies for several years. This year was no exception and our participation has continued to become more and more involved. The Michigan Contingent consisted of Brothers, Daughters and Sisters from various Michigan Camps and Allied Orders as well as members of Company A, 14th Michigan "Irish Rifle" Sons of Veterans Reserve.



Color Detail. L to R: Ed Dowd, Linn Malaznik, Lloyd Lamphere, Kim Horning, Howard Lloyd.



Ed Dowd and Lloyd Lamphere



The Department of Michigan supplied the Color Guard for the posting of the Colors. Participants included: National Color Bearer Ed Dowd, Lloyd Lamphere, Linn Malaznik and Dick Denney.



Michigan Contingent at Lincoln Tomb Service



Following the Lincoln Tomb Service, the Michigan contingent traveled to Petersburg, Illinois for services at the Stephenson Monument. At the end of the service, the traditional "Take a Drink" "Leave A Drink" was hosted by Company A, 14th Michigan Infantry.



Lincoln Tomb

GENERAL ORLANDO M. POE CAMP 444 – June 2022

Submitted by: David S. Smith, LM, PDC – Camp 444 Commander

Camp 444 has had an extremely busy and productive several months thus far in 2022. The Camp has commenced the campaign of creating a census of the 1st Michigan Engineers & Mechanics within Camp's Geographical Area, along with establishing the Camp's presence on Find A Grave headed up by GRO/CWMO Kenny Jones. Additionally, the Camp has created a multi-page website and begun social media presence via a Facebook page. The Camp's website can be viewed at: genompocamp444.org.

Several Brothers of Camp 444 attended the 138th Department Encampment in Grand Rapids and enjoyed the business at hand and the shared camaraderie with Brothers across the Department. Several Camp 444 Brothers were elected or appointed to serve the Department. Camp Patriotic Instructor Jeff Walker was elected to serve as a Delegate to the 2022 National Encampment in Grand Rapids. Secretary Dale Aurand, PDC was reappointed to the Legislative Committee and the Nominating Committee. Council and Chaplain Calvin Murphy was reappointed to the Military & Veterans Affairs Special Committee. Council Dick Denney, PCC was reelected to another 3 year term as Department Secretary, as well as being reappointed to the Bylaws Committee, J. Richard Greene Award Committee, and the Legislative Committee. Commander David Smith, PDC was reelected to his third term on the Department Council, and was reappointed as Department Chief-of-Staff, as well as to Chair the 139th Annual Department Encampment Committee. Camp 444 Council Dick Denney was awarded the prestigious Abraham Lincoln Award from the Department of Michigan for his many years of highly distinguished service to the SUVCW and the memory of the GAR.



General Orlando M. Poe Camp 444 at the 138th Department Encampment (L-R): Department Commander Nathan Smith, PCC; Council Dick Denney, PCC; Commander David Smith, PDC; Commander-in-Chief Michael Paquette, PDC; Secretary Dale Aurand, PDC; and Patriotic Instructor & Council Jeff Walker.

Continued

Throughout the lead up and through the Memorial Day weekend, Camp 444 Brothers participated in events, ceremonies, and cemetery work as members of the Camp, other Camps that they are Dual Members in, Veterans Organizations that they belong to such as the VFW and American Legion, and as citizens of their respective communities. Some of the activities (but not all) that Brothers of Camp 444 participated in includes services and parades in Cadillac, Big Rapids (serving with Camp 28), and with the VFW Post 6333 in Kaleva. Brother Calvin Murphy received two medals from the VFW at services on 30 May. Brother Murphy received the VFW Commendation Medal for his outstanding dedication to Veterans, Active Duty Military, and their families across the state and nation. Brother Murphy also received the VFW First Responder Medal for his 18 years of service deploying and fighting western fires while employed by the United States Forest Service. Brother Murphy's better half and partner Starla Owens was the guest speaker at the VFW Post 6333 Memorial Day services, and gave an incredible speech on what Memorial Day truly means. Starla is a Gold Star Mother, who lost her son Specialist Joseph Lancour of the 173rd Airborne Brigade in combat in Afghanistan in 2007. She has devoted her life to aiding Veterans and other Gold Star families selflessly with amazing generosity, including leading the Gold Star and Blue Star Families in Northern Michigan. Starla truly is an exemplar of the best of American Citizens. The VFW agrees, and presented her with the VFW Bronze Citizenship Medal.

Below are a few of the pictures involving Camp 444 members during Memorial Day activities:



Above Left: Starla Owens delivering the keynote speech. Above Right: VFW Post 6333 Commander Knudsen pins one of the awards on Past VFW Post 6333 Commander and Camp 444 Brother Calvin Murphy (source of pictures: Manistee News website)



Above Left (clockwise from left top): Council & PI Walker, Treasurer Welliver, PDC Aurana, and GRU/CWM Jones in discussion before the Cadillac Area Honor Guard Memorial Day Parade. Above Right: Council & PI Walker looks on as Treasurer Welliver prepares his US Army 1962 M37 truck.

Continued



Above Left (L-R): GRO/CWMO Jones, Commander Smith, PDC, and Secretary Aurand, PDC before the parade
 Above Right: Secretary Aurand, PDC and GRO/CWMO Jones greet the Cadillac parade watchers with Council & PI Walker at the wheel
 Below Left (L-R): Brother Lintemuth and Camp 444 SVC Sible (CC for Camp 28) are parade ready in Big Rapids
 Below Right (L-R): Brother Lintemuth and Camp 444 SVC Sible (CC for Camp 28) at the CW Monument in Big Rapids



The Union's Biggest Soldier?

The biggest man in the Union Army was Captain David Van Buskirk of the 27th Indiana Infantry, who stood 6 feet 11 inches and weighed 380 pounds. He was captured in 1862 and sent to Richmond Prison where a Confederate entrepreneur put him on exhibit. Even Jeff Davis came to see him and was astounded when the impish Van Buskirk claimed that back home in Bloomington, "when I was at the train station with my company, my six sisters came to say goodbye. As I was standing there they all came up to me, leaned down and kissed me on top of the head."

27th Michigan Infantry

By James B. Pahl, PCinC

(The account is based upon and quotes frequently from "Michigan in the War" 1882, compiled by J. Robertson, Adjutant General.)

The Twenty-seventh was composed of companies from the Upper and Lower Peninsulas and its organization was partially completed at Ypsilanti, eight companies being mustered into service April 10, 1863. Two additional companies were later added, mustering in December that year and January 4, 1864.

The regiment started from Ypsilanti for Kentucky on April 12, 1863 with enrollment of 865 officers and men. . In June, they were assigned to Third Brigade, First Division, Ninth Corp and sent to Vicksburg, Miss to co-operate with Gen. Grant's army before that city.

It joined in the movement against Jackson, Miss in the rear of Vicksburg. After the fall of Vicksburg, the Ninth Corp was sent across the mountains to take part in the East Tennessee campaign. After a long and toilsome march over almost impassable roads, it reached Lenoir Station, Tenn. and were attacked by Gen. Longstreet's forces. The Union lines were gradually withdrawn towards Knoxville, but halted at Campbell Station to ensure the safety of the trains. Here the Union forces were fiercely attacked and the 27th sustained considerable loss. The Union forces then rallied behind their defenses at Knoxville and in Fort Saunders, where they repulsed repeated charges with great slaughter.

When the siege was raised and the confederate forces retreated, the 27th followed as far as Rutledge and then fell back to Blain's Cross Roads in January of 1864. The 27th had suffered hardships and severities in this campaign and were poorly supplied. Their shoes were worn out by constant marching in both deep mud and over frozen ground.

While at Mossy Creek in March of 1864, (the final two companies which had been recruited since the regiment left Ypsilanti) joined the regiment.

The Ninth Corp was then transferred to the Army of the Potomac, with the 27th marched some 200 miles across the Cumberland Mountains to Nicholasville, Ky. They were placed on trains and sent to Annapolis, Md. where the regiment was joined by two companies of sharpshooters, who served with the regiment until the end of the war. These two companies were armed with Spencer rifles, which made the regimental front more respectable. Petition was made by the 27th to equip the entire regiment with Spencer rifles, which was granted. These seven shot rifles dominated the situation on advanced picket and firing lines both.

The 27th crossed the Rapidan with the Ninth Corp on May 6 and was immediately engaged in the terrific struggle of the Wilderness, suffering 89 killed and wounded. Having scarcely emerged from the Wilderness, the regiment was engaged in the bloody encounter of Spotsylvania, where they suffered 27 killed, 148 wounded and 12 missing. They continued in active marching and fighting throughout May and fought at the battle of Bethesda Church on June 3.

From Cold Harbor, they crossed the James river and during the 17th and 18th of June, charged the enemy's works before Petersburg, meeting severe loss.

The 27th was under constant fire the months of June and July and on July 30, took part in the disastrous charge at the "Crater". The 27th was in the advance of its brigade and suffered heavy loss.

The 27th took part in numerous attempts to break the enemy line at Weldon railroad, Peebles Farm, Poplar Grove Church and South Side railroad. They participated in the charge to capture Fort Mahone and succeeded in placing its colors on the eastern wing, capturing three pieces of artillery and more than 150 prisoners.

Once the Confederates evacuated Petersburg and Richmond, they followed,. On April 18, they were ordered to Washington where they did light guard duty. They took part in the grand review on May 23 and were mustered out at Tannallytown on July 26. They were paid off and disbanded at Detroit July 29, 1865.

The 27th was of the "Three Hundred Fighting Regiments of the Union army, receiving special mention by the War Department and Congress in 1866, these regiments showing casualty lists of over 30% of total enrollment.

Guidelines for Choosing a Recipient of the J. Richard Greene Award

1. J. Richard Greene Award shall be based on Camp Newsletters voluntarily submitted to the Committee Chair between the end of a department Encampment, and no later than 30 days before the next encampment. (This years' start date is May 14, 2022 it will end 30 days before the next Department Encampment)
2. The Committee Chair (redanes@aol.com) will receive (preferably by e-mail) all current Camp Newsletters and forward copies to the other committee members.
3. The Committee Chair will be the single point of contact for communications regarding this award.
4. Newsletters shall be assessed based on:
 - a. Readability (including spelling and grammar);
 - b. Content (including reports, ancestor vignettes, news from the Department and National, activities, and announcements);
 - c. Appearance (including placement of text and photos, and use of color);
 - d. Distribution (do all Camp members receive the Newsletter, what other distribution is there);
 - e. Regularity of publication (monthly, quarterly, etc.)

What is The Central Region Association

Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic

The Union veterans after the Civil War founded the Grand Army of the Republic. Other organizations followed but only a few were considered kindred organizations. These include: Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Women's Relief Corps, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. These groups often held annual encampments near where the Grand Army of the Republic held theirs and all felt a need to coordinate the efforts of the various organizations.

The Central Region was founded with the purpose of "bringing the Departments closer together in the true spirit for which they were organized, and to receive information and inspiration for renewed efforts" when participants returned home. Each Camp in the Region was asked to send at least one representative and both Camp and Auxiliary and Department and Past Department officers were encouraged to attend.

Today, the Central Region is one of only two surviving regional associations within the Allied Orders. The other is the Eastern Regional Association.