



# Michigan's

# Messenger

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

*Volume XXII, Number 3*

*Chartered June 24, 1884*

*Winter, 2008*

*John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus*



*Richard C. Danes, Editor*

*Department Orders #3*



*Series 2008 - 2009*

*Headquarters, Davison, Michigan*

*1 December 2008*

1. The 120<sup>th</sup> Annual Department Encampment is scheduled for April 25, 2009 at the Great Lakes Christian College, 6211 W. Willow Hwy., Lansing, MI 48917. This year the Auxiliary is hosting and this will be their first time hosting an encampment in 50 years.

The luncheon will be cafeteria style from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm immediately following the student brunch which is from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. The menu will be the same as the students, plus a salad bar. Cost will be \$7.00 per person.

The Banquet will also be in the cafeteria and I believe will be buffet style. The cost for the banquet will be \$17.50 per person.

For those who wish to stay over night, the hotel is close to the encampment location and the accommodations are very nice. It is the Quality Suites Inn, 901 Delta Commerce Drive, Lansing, 48917, Phone: (517) 886-0600, Website: [www.qualitysuitslansing.com](http://www.qualitysuitslansing.com).

When making reservations be sure to tell them you are with the Michigan Department of Allied Orders and which Order you are with. The cost per night is \$82.00 and the deadline for reservations is April 15, 2009. Regular cost per night is \$116.00. on Friday night the Auxiliary will be hosting a Hospitality Night. Festivities start at 7:30 PM in the Hotel Hospitality room located in the basement.

The Auxiliary will provide drinks and snacks. There will be a special Civil War Bingo game, card games of your choice, and other games, all with prizes.

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I would encourage all Brothers to attend the Department Encampment. If you have never attended a Department Encampment or if it has been a few years since you last attended, please make the effort to attend in 2009. The Auxiliary has made it a point to keep costs as low as possible in the hope of enticing more people to attend.

Registration forms and menu details will be available in the next issue of the Michigan Messenger.

2. For those who are not aware of it, next year is also the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Department of Michigan which was Chartered June 24, 1884.
3. I am pleased to report that Commander-in-Chief David V. Medert will be attending the next Department Encampment.
4. A reminder to all Camps that Camp Officer Installations must be completed by January 31, 2009. Installing Officers are to be appointed by the Department Commander, so if there is someone in particular that you would like to request to install your Camp Officers you need to contact me so I can make the appointment. Also, it is the Installing Officer's responsibility to make sure that Form 22, Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers is properly completed with all required signatures.
5. All Camps are reminded that Form 22, Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers is due to the Department Secretary by February 15, 2009 and is available for download from the National SUVCW Website. I would strongly encourage all Camps to submit Form 22 as soon as possible after Camp Officers have been installed.
6. Nominations for the Abraham Lincoln Certificate of Appreciation Award should be sent to Department Secretary Kevin Lindsey. Nominations must be submitted by February 25, 2009. Any nominations received after February 25<sup>th</sup> will not be considered.
7. Effective immediately, by order of Commander-in-Chief David V. Medert, all reports and forms (less membership applications) must be typewritten. Please see General Order No. 2 below:

**GENERAL ORDER #2  
SERIES 2008-2009  
1 December 2008**

1. *It has come to my attention that hand written reports and forms sent to the Executive Director, National Treasurer, and National Secretary are becoming too difficult to transcribe. This has resulted in inaccurate addresses, illegible names for Charters, illegible names of Officers for Camps and Department, etc.*
2. *Therefore, in order to better interpret submitted forms, all reports and forms (less membership applications) submitted to the National Headquarters shall be typewritten effective immediately. This can be accomplished by completing the forms online, printing a copy for file and printing another copy to be forwarded to the appropriate National Officer. Camps or Departments that are unable to fill in the form online may download the form and fill in the appropriate information on a typewriter. Forms submitted as handwritten are no longer acceptable and will be returned to the Camp or Department to be resubmitted in accordance with this General Order.*

So ordered this 1<sup>st</sup> Day of December 2008.

By order of:

David V. Medert  
Commander-In-Chief

Attested:

Donald Palmer  
National Secretary

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**2007-2008  
Department Officers**

Commander

Dennis C. Derr II, PCC  
4033 Horizon Drive  
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(810) 653-0859  
[dderr@chartermi.net](mailto:dderr@chartermi.net)

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Treasurer

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127 West Walnut Street  
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Department Council

Max L. Newman, PCC  
Howard Streeter, PCC  
Neal F. Breaugh, PCC

Chaplain

William B. McAfee, PCC

Patriotic Instructor

Dennis C. Derr I

Color Bearer

Edgar Dowd

Counselor

James Pahl, PCinC

Guard

Paul D. Arnold, CC

Eagle Scout Coordinator

Jeff Morse

Signals Officer

Matt Adair

Messenger Editor

Rick Danes, CC

Historian

John R. Keith, CC

Guide

John McFeters

Graves Registration

Rick Danes, CC

GAR Records

James T. Lyons, PDC

Civil War Memorials

Douglas R. Armstrong, PCC

Camp At Large Coordinator

Robert Mitchell

8. I would like to wish all Brothers and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

/s/

Dennis C. Derr II

Commander

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans

of the Civil War

Attest: /s/

Kevin J. Lindsey

Secretary

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans

of the Civil War War

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

**Henry E. Plant Camp #3  
Submitted by Daniel Grable, Secretary-Treasurer**

Henry E. Plant Camp #3 of Grand Haven hgas been busy keeping green the memory of the Ciivil War Soldier. PCC Max Rieskie is on a committee to build a monument for WW II to Iraqui/Afganistan Veterans, and will try and include Civil War Veterans from the are who died in service. Brother John Bauldous made us aware of the poor condition of Eastmanville Cemetery and his ancestor's headstone. We will survey the cemetery to insure that all Civil War Solsiers have a readable headstone. We are also resurveying the Nunica Cemetery. We are looking ahead to the Sesquiucentennial, and how we can best publicly celebrate that event. The Camp is also actively trying to get the four Medal of Honor recipients from our area inscribed on the new Union Monument at Bentonville, NC.

At our October camp Meeting we voted to purchase a Camp Banner to be used in parades and at our recruiting tent at The Holland Muster in August. Camp Officers for 2009 will be:

Commander – Richard Scott

JVC – John Baldus

Camp Council – John Baldus

Paul MacDonald

Jon Scott

Graves Registration – Jon Scott

Guard – Ron Bellinger

Patriotic Instructor – Ron Bellanger

Genealogist – Clifford Owen

SVC – Donald Ogden

Secretary – Daniel Grable

Chaplin – John C. Baldus

Memorials – Richard Scott

Color Bearer – Jon Scott

Guide – Jon Scott

Historian – Clifford Owen

Signals Officer – Richard Scott

The camp also requests that prayers be offered for the recovery of Brother Paul MacDonald, who is having trouble with his breathing, and is unable to get around.

**A Thank You Note**

**"Dear Brothers from Michigan,  
Thank you very much for the books and mouse pad. I  
will enjoy reading them.**

**In F,C, & L,**

**Charles E. Kuhn**

**PC-in-C"**

## 2009 DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

By Neal F. Breough, PCC Camp 14

Brothers & Sisters, it is not too early to begin thinking about the 2009 Department Encampment. I am because the Ladies Auxiliary is hosting it this year, and my wife Emily is the Secretary for the Michigan Department. It has been 50 years since the Michigan Auxiliary has hosted a Department Encampment, and these ladies are really excited about it. They began planning it even before the 2008 Encampment and have had a few meetings since then.

The Encampment will be the weekend of April 24-25, and will be held in Lansing at The Great Lakes Christian College. They will have there a large central room where any of the Allied Orders conducting auctions, raffles, displays, etc. can all be together and visible and accessible for all attending the Encampment. I don't have the cost of the Luncheon and Banquet yet, but both will be very reasonable. The luncheon will be cafeteria style. The guest speaker at the Banquet will be Bob Elliot, a well know down state reenactor. He will be speaking on "Why & How Michigan Entered the Civil War."

The news regarding lodging is just as good if not better. We will be staying at the Comfort Suites, which is about a mile or 5 minutes from the College. The Ladies have negotiated a fabulous low rate of \$ 82.00 plus tax (regularly \$ 116.00). Each room is a "suite" having a living room, bedroom, two televisions, refrigerator, and microwave.

On Friday evening beginning at 7:30 and lasting to ????, the Auxiliary will be hosting a Hospitality Room. There will be games, prizes, drinks, and snacks. It promises to be a fun filled evening.

If you have never come on Friday evening before, this is the year to do it. It can't get any better than this. In fact, I would encourage those Brothers and Sisters who live in the area and do not need a motel room, just to come over for the great hospitality room event. It would help out if all could bring a snack to share. Also bring your spouses and have some fun, Hope to see many of you there. There will be the usual Registration and sign up material In the next issue of The Michigan Messenger.

◆◆◆◆◆

### General John A. Logan, Camp No. 1, Grand Rapids

Bruce B. Butgereit, Secretary

After not having submitted a report on the activities of Camp No. 1 for over a year, I determined after the Fall issue that it was time to quit being lazy or putting off such a report. Little did I know that I would have rotator cuff surgery in November and so typing this report has proven to be more of a challenge than I thought. Nonetheless, here is a summary of our activities over the past year.



Ceremony for Private Samuel Lett  
(l) Marvin Lett, Great Grandson &  
(r) Victor LaRue Lett, Grandson

The Camp shared good times and great conversation at a mid-winter breakfast on March 22. True Son Harold Becker shared stories from his childhood. (More on Brother Becker elsewhere in this issue.)

Sunday, May 4 was spent at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans with our fraternal sisters of the WRC and DUVCW as we are helping them identify decades of old photos of residents and events. The turnout was great and many photos were identified and new friends made.

We honored Private Samuel Lett (102<sup>nd</sup> USCT) in a ceremony in Carson City to place a veteran's flag holder at his grave and recognize him as a soldier of the Civil War. Victor LaRue Lett, a grandson of Samuel as well as other family members participated in the placing of floral tributes.

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Our Camp participated in three different ceremonies honoring Memorial Day with two on May 26 and the Grand Rapids parade and ceremony on May 30. I offered the prayer of benediction at the main service conducted by the city. The Camp also conducted our traditional Grand Army of the Republic ceremony at the Kent County Civil War monument and fountain, as first authorized by Gen. John A. Logan, Commander-in-Chief of the GAR in 1868.

On May 17, the Camp conducted a ceremony that concluded close to twenty years of research. The moving and impressive ceremony was conducted with assistance from our Sisters in the Champlin Corps No. 41, Woman's Relief Corps, and Eva Gray Tent No. 2, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War as well as the Michigan Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS). It involved dedicating 14 new headstones for soldiers that had previously buried under a marker titled "Unknown" or "U.S. Soldier". In addition, eight other headstones were rededicated as replacement markers as well as a cast iron memorial urn. The first burial in this U. S. Government plot, Joseph Proper, Third Michigan Infantry, Co. K, had taken place on May 8, 1861 and over time, sixty-six soldiers were buried there – all but two never saw action as they had died in local training camps and hospitals. By 1868, the wooden headboards that had marked their graves had rotted and with no one to care for the plot, the identities of the men buried there had become lost to time...or so some thought.

*Here is the story:*

*This is a story of how efforts at various times through the years have never quite been able to retrieve the lost history of all the wartime burials in this Soldiers' Burying Ground, and still do not achieve that goal. The first lists of the men buried here were published in 1868 by the Federal Government. It was called the Roll of Honor and it was incomplete. Less than three years after the end of the Civil War, of the 61 men listed as buried in this section, there were only 35 with names and 26 no longer known.*

*Eventually, the actual locations of many of the men from the original 1868 list were also lost to history because the wooden markers were rotted, broken or misplaced. In addition to that, a fire destroyed a large portion of the early cemetery records and much will never be recovered*

*Interestingly, there were 66 soldiers buried here at the time, not 61. The five missing from the list include the first soldier buried here, Joseph C. Proper and four men from the 8<sup>th</sup> Michigan. Their names are recorded in the partial cemetery records that had been saved after the fire.*

*Despite these hurdles, the Civil War veterans who belonged to the A.B. Watson Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Post No. 395 (est. 1888) were the first to take on this task of identifying and caring for the graves. By this time, (late 1880's and early 1890's) the effort to give permanent identification and recognition to the wartime dead buried in this section was further hindered by the ravages of time, fading memory, and lack of technological tools such as we have available today.*

*Those Civil War veterans were committed to assuring that future generations would not forget who these soldiers were or what they did. They secured as many government military headstones for those original names as they could and the rest received a headstone simply marked "U. S. SOLDIER". Unfortunately, the loss of identity increased from 26 to 44.*

*Why would these names disappear? The majority was simple neglect and a lack of local concern for these strangers who came to Grand Rapids and died alone far from home, which caused the identities of forty-four soldiers to be interred in Oak Hill cemetery to be neglected into namelessness.*

*Over the decades, some research had been done to identify those buried here. In the 1920's and 1930's there was a man named Francis E. Hall who was a member of the Sons of Veterans (early name of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War). He did extensive research to identify the location of the veterans graves buried in every cemetery in Kent County. He died in 1939, but his research, his records and files are now housed in the History Collections at the Grand Rapids Public Library.*

*The most recent efforts were revived in the early 1990's with Steve Soper and Manuel Gentile. Steve is a former resident of Grand Rapids and has spent many years researching the history of the Third Michigan Volunteer Infantry (the first regiment from the west side of the State [Grand Rapids]) and has recently concluded a 900-plus page book on that regiment. Mannie now resides in Maryland where he is a Park Ranger at Antietam National Battlefield. Previously, Mannie was the educational coordinator for the Public Museum of Grand Rapids. Both men researched the unknown soldiers here at Oak Hill and have compiled an unpublished manuscript with their scholarly conclusions. Their research has identified several of the men with the strongest terms possible as "MOST LIKELY".*

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*In 2006, a local veteran of the U.S. Air Force, Eloise Haven, while looking for something on the 6<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry, noticed that many of the 100-year-old headstones placed by the G.A.R. were deteriorating and contacted us. Nine illegible headstones were replaced and fourteen new headstones were put in place thru the assistance of Trudie Anderson, the City's Cemetery Director and enlisting the research efforts of Marcia Butgereit (National President of Woman's Relief Corps and member of DOLLUS). While this does not complete identification all the UNKNOWN Civil War soldiers buried here, it does get us one-step closer to more accurately preserving a portion of our history.*

The A.B. Watson Post of the Grand Army of the Republic was named after Maj. Amasa B. Watson, b. 1826 – d. 1888. (Major 8th Regiment, Michigan Volunteer Infantry, August 19, 1861. Wounded in action at Port Royal, S.C., January 1, 1862.) The 8th Michigan Infantry recruited in August and September of 1861. By October, the regiment was on ships bound for South Carolina where they joined the campaign to seize Confederate installations on the Atlantic coast.

By November, 1861, when Port Royal, South Carolina fell, the men of the 8<sup>th</sup> were no longer raw recruits. On New Years' Day, 1862, during a skirmish with the rebels at the Coosaw River on mainland South Carolina, Major Watson was shot through the thigh. He returned to service and continued on with the regiment as it made an attempt to capture Secessionville, South Carolina. Major Watson's horse was shot out from under him during this battle.

In July, of 1862, the regiment was sent north to join the Army of the Potomac in Virginia. Major Watson was discharged for disability on September 24, 1862 and returned home.

When he died, a grand mausoleum was built in the Oak Hill Cemetery. The cost to build this Egyptian style structure, in 1888, was estimated to cost around \$500,000 (\$11,244,143.17 by today's value) and may be the most costly of its kind in this cemetery. Amasa B. Watson was also a member of the Michigan Commandery of MOLLUS.

Part of our ceremony included the rededication of a cast iron memorial urn. First mentioned by the Watson GAR Post records, this memorial urn was dedicated in 1898 and over time, became weathered and abused by time and elements which had caused portions to deteriorate and break off. Thru the financial contributions of the Michigan Commandery (\$300), Gen. John A. Logan Camp 1, SUVCW (\$500), Wenda Fore, descendant of Watson Post member Peter Simmons (\$100), and Bruce and Marcia Butgereit (\$250) we were able to obtain a new urn.

In honor of the occasion, Marcia Butgereit wrote the following poem that she read during the ceremony –

#### **'NEATH THE SHADOW OF THE URN**



The new urn

'Neath the shadow of the Urn  
Our forefathers lie.  
Filled with flower and of fern,  
We need not ask why.  
For as sentinel she'll stand,  
O'er the men who did die,  
Men of the Army called Grand,  
Who rest safely nearby.  
Still watching over the grave,  
No matter the sky,  
Lest we forget those so brave  
For whom the flags fly.

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Saturday, July 26 found us at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans as we participated in the annual carnival for the residents and their families. Our booth had our ring toss game and prizes of hats, shirts, socks, personal products, writing implements and more for everyone who played.

The Camp once again had our annual picnic on August 16 at the home of Brother Comer Skinner with the hamburgers and hot dogs provided by Brother Cleon Duryea.

We expect to be as busy as ever in 2009 as we have plans to rededicate several Civil War memorials and a list of requests for new headstones. We will kick-off a major restoration project for a Lincoln bust and the nearby historic law office of an early Grand Rapids attorney, Charles Calkins in conjunction with the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Abraham Lincoln on February 12, 2009. When I asked the Mayor of Grand Rapids if there were any plans to honor this special day locally, he replied, "No, but just tell me what you want to do and what you need and we'll do it." I encourage other Camps to look for such opportunities in your localities.

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**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](mailto: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! RD**

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

**Robert Finch Camp 14**

*September to December 2008*

*Neal Breough PCC, Camp Secretary and Treasurer*

Visiting Brothers are cordially invited to attend our Saturday noon meeting on January 10, 2009 at the Elks Club 625 Bay St. (intersection Grandview Parkway/Division). Our guest will be Dept. Commander Dennis Derr II.



On August 23, 2008, Camp 14 fulfilled the commitment they began in six years earlier by presenting Grand Traverse County two large bronze plaques embedded in a tripod of Chilton stone. The plaques described the history of the Civil War Soldier monument (originally dedicated in 1890, restored in 2005 by Camp 14) and the 100 Pound Parrott cannon that served aboard the sailing frigate, *U.S.S. Sabine*. The August 23rd date was selected as it coincided with the 150th anniversary of the commissioning of the *U.S.S. Sabine* by the U.S. Navy. PCC Neal Breough presided as Master of

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Ceremonies. Dept. War Memorials Officer, Doug Armstrong spoke about the history of the Cannon and the Sabine. During the dedication ceremony, Brother Dave Kaplan served as Commander, Don Gray, Chaplain, Jim Ribby, Officer of the Guard and Alan Werdehoff as Guard. Camp Bard, Jim Ribby, recited three poems selected for the occasion. VFW Cherryland Post 2780 served as Honor Guard and Rifle Squad; taps was played by Ben and Dan Sattler. Camp Commander Robert Clark formally presented the memorial to County Commission President Sonny Wheelock. The Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 was in attendance and provided a beautiful floral tribute.

For many Camp 14 participants the *Sabine* cannon dedication was a somber occasion, as Brother Fred Knoodle had been tragically killed only four days earlier. On August 25th, six Camp 14 Brothers drove to Harbor Springs to attend services at the First Presbyterian Church. We were all touched to hear family, co-workers, friends recall so many fond and touching memories of Fred's humility, generosity and enthusiasm in everything he did. At the close of the ceremony, the Camp 14 Brothers were honored to serve as Brother Knoodle's pall bearers.



On September 19th, members of Camp 14 participated in the Grand Traverse Heritage Festival. Brothers described the history of the 26th Michigan, Co. K. 1st Michigan Sharp Shooters and other citizen-soldiers who served during the Civil War to 750 4th and 5th grade students from regional schools. They also participated in the annual MIA-POW observance that evening.

On October 4th, nine Brothers traveled to Harbor Springs' Lakeview Cemetery to formally bid 'farewell' to Brother Knoodle with a memorial ceremony. MOC Neal Breaugh recounted to the 70 assembled guests that Fred had served as the Camp War Memorials Officer for eight years, as well as on the Dept. War Memorials and G.A.R. Records Committees. Fred's most notable contribution was his discovery of the 'one of a kind' Augusta Arsenal Napoleon cannon in 2000. Fred inspired Camp 14 to 'adopt' the cannon, secured grants from local businesses, raised awareness of the community through speaking engagements, and worked closely with Petoskey's Parks and Recreation director, Al Hansen, on possible locations where the cannon could be exhibited. Fred maintained an active correspondence with the leading experts on Civil War artillery. In June 2007, Fred with CC Robert Clark, transported the cannon to Cincinnati where it underwent restoration. This past June, Fred had the immense satisfaction of seeing the 'like new' Napoleon, mounted on a reproduction light artillery carriage, permanently installed at Petoskey's Arlington Park. He was one of the key-note speakers during the June 21st re-dedication ceremony. Fred informed Brothers that the cannon project was one of his most memorable contributions during his service with the Sons.

A few days prior to the memorial service, Jimmie Knoodle and Al Hansen placed a small commemorative plaque describing Brother Fred's contributions with the Petoskey cannon on the cement base.

The November meeting hosted the return of Brother Chris Czopek, who spoke about the Odawa and Chippewa volunteers who served in the First Michigan Sharpshooters. Unlike many Civil War historians, Chris' research meticulously recounts the pre and post war lives of his subjects. Chris was particularly pleased to announce that he finally discovered one of the few remaining 'unknown' resting places of a Co. K. soldier. This past summer he discovered the unmarked grave of Pvt. John Jacko in the Boyne City cemetery. Camp 14 volunteered to convene a committee to coordinate a grave rededication service with Odawa/Chippewa representatives for the upcoming sesquicentennial of the Civil War.

The results of the elections for the 2009 Camp Officers are below:

Commander: Jeff Morse Jr.                      Senior Vice Commander: Dale Aurand  
Junior Vice Commander: Dave Kaplan



## General Benjamin Pritchard Camp # 20

Submitted By John R. Keith CC

It has been a busy summer and fall, with more yet to come.

We at Camp 20 have set 37 new military gravestone so far this year with more on order, cemeteries that these stones were set in are Pine Grove Cemetery, Earl Cemetery and Kendall Cemetery in Pine Grove Township, Van Buren County. Also Baseline Cemetery (Union Burial Grounds) and Lindsley Cemetery in Cheshire Township in Allegan County. Thanks to all Camp 20 Brothers who helped in this!

*Camp 20 purchased two, "LAST SOLIDER PLAQUES" and have attached one on the gravestone of Ralph Towner, (the last surviving Civil War Veteran of Allegan County), interred in Mallory Cemetery, Trowbridge Township, Allegan County and one on the gravestone of Nelson Wood, (the last surviving Civil War Veteran of Van Buren County), interred in Coloma Township Cemetery, Coloma Township, Berrien County.*

Camp 20 hosted a gravestone dedication for Private Solomon Ostrander Saturday, October 4th, at 2:30 pm at Oakwood Cemetery, Allegan, Michigan

Mr. Ostrander enlisted in Battery C of the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Light Artillery at Grand Rapids, Michigan at the age of 44.

Solomon Ostrander, was born in Stillwater, Saratoga County, New York in 1817 to Thomas and Alida Ostrander. He was a mason by trade. He married his first wife, Harriet Wright Smith around 1837 in New York. They had five children: After his wife passed away, and the older children were married or on their own, and the two youngest boys were living with their grandmother in Halfmoon, Saratoga County, New York, Solomon moved to Michigan about 1855.

He took up residence, with his second wife, Margaret DuBois, in Allegan, Michigan. Solomon and Margaret had a daughter, Sarah in 1857. After Solomon's return from the Civil War, they had two more children: Conrad and Solomon.

In his later years, Solomon lived in The Michigan Old Soldiers Home for several years.

Mr. Ostrander passed away December 31, 1895, and his grave was unmarked until now!

At our October Camp 20 meeting, Brother Michael Culp gave a presentation on the 13<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry; Brother Culp has been relentless in his study of this local regiment. Several artifacts of the regiment were on display, many were from Brother Bill Brennan's extensive collection. The Civil War cannon in Bronson Park received a new coat of paint, thanks to Camp 20 members, Brother David Conklin, Brother Dennis LaPoint, Brother Robert LaPoint, Brother John Hansen, Brother Art Bonnell and Brother John R. Keith.

Veteran's Day, November 11th, 2008, found Camp 20 members in different locations to honor our heroes. Three Camp 20 members attended the ceremony in Plainwell in Hicks Park. Camp 20 was also represented at the ceremony in Kalamazoo as they helped read the names of soldier's of Kalamazoo at Rose Park Veteran's Memorial.

Others were attending the ceremony in their hometowns.

At our November Camp meeting the following officers were elected to served next year-  
COMMANDER-JOHN R. KEITH

SR.VICE COMMANDER-JEFF BAKER

JR. VICE COMMANDER-TOM BRUCE

CAMP SECRETARY-DANIEL KNIGHT

CAMP TREASURER-JOHN C. KEITH

MEMBERS OF THE CAMP COUNCIL:

BILL COSTELLO, ART BONNELL, STEVE REDINGER

Our officer installation dinner is scheduled for January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 6:30 pm, at the Blackhawk Inn, Richland, Michigan. Please make plans to join us!

Coming event in 2009

On May 16th, 2009 at the Pine Grove Township Cemetery, Pine Grove Township, Van Buren County, Camp 20 will host a gravestone dedication honoring 5 Civil War Soldiers who have received new military gravestones. Time to be announced later. Please mark your calendars

## March to the Sea Camp #135

Submitted by Bruce Gosling, CC

On August 30 March to the Sea Camp #135 of Centreville, assisted by the Benjamin Pritchard Camp #20 of Kalamazoo rededicated the restored GAR monument located in the Prairie River Cemetery of Centreville, Michigan.



The monument was erected circa 1896 in honor of local men who served in the War of the Rebellion in 1861 – 1865 and for those who served in Mexico in Company E of the 15<sup>th</sup> infantry under Captain I. D. Toll.

At some time after the turn of the century approximately fifteen inches of the rifle barrel was broken off. Unfortunately, the monument was not repaired immediately and the broken piece lost.

In 2007 March to the Sea Camp #135 undertook the restoration of the monument to its original glory. Funds were secured by grants from our National Grant program and Camp #20 as well as donations from the community. We were able to locate two sculptors nearby who were able to create and install a nearly perfect match for the broken piece out of granite.

*Monument before Restoration*

The rededication was carried out in nearly perfect weather with a crowd of over 50 attendees including many brothers and allied sisters from across the State of Michigan. Our featured speaker was State Senator Cameron Brown, a brother of Camp #135, who very ably summed up the importance our stewardship of the nation's history of freedom and liberty.

On October 14 we hosted Brother Richard Hatcher who presented illustrated talks on the *H.L. Hunley* submarine and on the history of Fort Sumter. These presentations were held at the Three Rivers Michigan Public Library and were open to the public. Everyone attending found the presentations to be very informative and quite fascinating.

Brother Richard Hatcher is a member of the Phelps Camp #66 of Springfield MO, as well as Secession Camp #4 of The Sons of Confederate Veterans in Charleston SC. He has worked in the National Park Service since 1970 and has served as the Historian of Fort Sumter since 1992. Rick has also been involved with the recovery of the *H.L. Hunley* submarine that was sunk during the war off the coast of South Carolina. We greatly appreciate Brother Rick for sharing his vacation time in Three Rivers with our community.



*Brothers of Camp #135, Camp #20 and special guests with the restored monument*

Two months after the Second Battle of Manassas, the War Department issued General Order Number 75, September 11, 1861, which made commanders of national forces responsible for burials and marking graves. In the same General Orders, the Quartermaster General of the Army was directed to provide headboards and forms for the preservation of burial records. Thus began the first organized system of marking graves by the Federal Government. *US Department of Veteran Affairs Information.*

## Lockwood Camp #139

Submitted by Don Londo

On Labor Day Weekend, 2008 Brother Don Londo and his wife Evelyn traveled to St. Louis, Missouri. While they were there they attended a concert by the 97<sup>th</sup> Regimental String Band. The concert was everything that they expected, and when Don asked band member Craig Wolford if he knew where Alpena was, he replied that he was from Mikado, a small village close to Alpena.



Don Londo (center) with 97<sup>th</sup> Regimental String Band Members Mark Luce, Richard Mooock, and Craig Woolford in St. Louis

On September 13 the Lockwood camp attended the Michigan 3<sup>rd</sup> Battery 1 Light Artillery Civil War re-enactment in Comins, Michigan. Despite the continuous rain, we had a good time. We not only had the opportunity to meet a number of re-enactors from down-state, but got a chance to appear on R.F.D.T.V.



Members Larry Taylor, Dennis Bodem, Don Londo, Bob Diemond, and Rudy Bauer at the Comins, Michigan

The next week we were part of the sixth annual Harvest Day Festival at the Jesse Besser Museum.

On November 7 it was our honor to attend in uniform, the dedication of the Clement Van Wagoner V. A. Clinic. It is the northern-most V. A. Clinic in Lower Michigan. In addition to regular health services, will treat mental health, rehabilitation, and substance abuse problems. The clinic was named in honor of Clement C. Van Wagoner, an Alpena native and Michigan's most decorated World War II Veterans. Among the speakers was Senator Debbie Stabenow, and Camp Member Major Clay Van Wagoner, son of Clement Van Wagoner.



L – R Major Clayton Van Wagoner, son of Clement Van Wagoner; Gabriel Perez, V. A. Medical Center Director; Florence Van Wagoner, wife of Clement at the dedication of the new V. A. Clinic.

On Veteran's Day Lockwood Camp #139 participated along with the other Alpena Veterans groups in ceremonies at Flanders Field. Brother Guy Decker and Evelyn Londo of the Women's Relief Corps and Daughters of Union veterans of the Civil War placed a wreath on the civil War Cross. The cross is in memory of George Guild and Charles Kniling, two Alpena soldiers who died during the Civil War.

### The 97<sup>th</sup> Regimental String Band is Coming to Alpena

On Wednesday, February 25, 2009 Lockwood camp #139 will host the The 97<sup>th</sup> Regimental String Band in a Lincoln Tribute Concert at the Alpena High School. The Band has spent the last 21 years performing at such places as Branson, Disney Epcot, Gettysburg, the Lincoln Presidential Library, and at numerous National Parks and Civil War events. They have recorded 8 albums of minstrel and Civil War music. Assisting the camp will be members of the Huron Area Boy Scouts Troop # 92. For further information or tickets contact Lon Londo, 9068 W. Long Lake Road, Alpena, MI 49707. Phone is 989-595-2440 – email is dlondo2440@charter.net.

## Department Historian's Report

Submitted by CC John R. Keith

As we investigate soldiers of our country's past, sometimes we come across facts or stories so strange we want to share them with everyone. This is one of those cases.

As I was investigating Private Joseph Carroll; who served the Union in the 138<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteers, and is buried in Maplewood Cemetery, Hopkins Township, Allegan County, Michigan, I came across a most unusual obituary.

This is a case like many that the Civil War soldier had an injury in battle and this wound took decades to kill him. In all the facts and stats that are studied about the Civil War, this is one that effected many men and would be almost impossible to study.

One of my own relatives, Alexander Kilgore, took a gunshot wound through the bottom of both lungs and that wound would never heal. He died in Goodell, St. Clair County, Michigan on January 13, 1891 while visiting his mother. The wound he received back on May 31, 1862 on Virginia soil, proved to be fatal. It took almost 29 years for the musket ball to claim its victim.

ALLEGAN GAZETTE

Saturday, September 14, 1901

Hopkins Station Department

### *A Bullet Pierced his Heart*

#### *Autopsy of Joseph Carroll Revealed a Remarkable Wound Received at the Battle of the Wilderness*

*The late Joseph Carroll of Hopkins Station was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion and from the day he fell in the Wilderness to the one on which he died he suffered almost constantly from his wounds. The lesser of these was in his left arm, above the elbow, caused by a rifle bullet, which struck him there.*

*This wound reopened a few months ago and was supposed to be the principal cause of his fatal illness, but the physician say that for all this he would have been well long ago. The bullet struck the bone in his left arm and split, one part piercing his left breast close to the nipple and the other part was found in his haversack. Where it went could not be determined by the surgeons who dressed the wounds, which presently healed and Mr. Carroll rejoined his regiment and served on to the close of the war. Then he learned the blacksmith trade and worked at it the rest of his life. But he had much trouble with his heart, latterly having times of extreme faintness, on a few occasions falling helpless because of it's failure. He many times expressed a wish that an autopsy should be performed on him after his death in order that the curse of the bullet might be discovered. This was done last Monday and the remarkably discovery followed that his heart was pierced by the half ball which entered his breast. The lead was not there, but its track was plain and so was the point at which it stopped in the wall of the heart. The metal must have been absorbed in course of the thirty-eight years, which passed after it entered and before Mr. Carroll's death.*

*In the left ventricle of the heart was some bony tissue of globular form and connecting this outward to the point where the bullet is known to have entered his chest, passing through the pleura and pericardium, was a line of connective tissue showing the bullet's track plainly. The right ventricle was dilated and the heart considerably enlarged. The center of the bony tissue in the heart was rough, indicating conformation to the shape of the piece of bullet.*

*There is no reasonable doubt of the original presence there of the missing portion of the bullet. This is the opinion of all physicians who took part in the autopsy. These were Dr. Lupinski of Grand Rapids, Drs. N. E. Leighton and J. F. Campbell of Hopkins Station and Dr. W. H. Wicks of Hopkinsburg. The wound in the heart was about one inch above the apex.*

*Instances are known of men surviving when their hearts had been slightly pierced, but in all such the wounds were closed by surgeons: but there is said to be no other known case in which a man lived with a missile within the walls of the heart. So extraordinary is this case that the heart has been preserved for exhibition to medical men and will presently be presented before the Kalamazoo academy of medicine.*

*Joseph Carroll was born in Shellsburg, Bedford County, Pennsylvania on February 23, 1844 and passed in his home in Hopkins Station, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 1901 at the age of over fifty-seven years.*

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At the of nineteen he enlisted in the 138<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania volunteers was in several battles, was seriously wounded in the Battle of the Wilderness, from which wound he has suffered more since he returned to civil life than many are aware.

It was this wound which induced his last sickness. He was honorably discharged from the army September 19, 1865. He then went to Allegan and began work at the blacksmith's trade with William Partridge, with whom he made his home for twelve years. He was married to Rebecca McBride July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1869. There was born to them one daughter, Minnie, who died March 5, 1894, leaving two little daughters for whom it was the earnest desire of their Grandfather Carroll to live and labor. For several years his wife was an invalid and clung to him as to no other until her death in May 1899. For her he cared during long and weary nights, while working at his trade by day. He had been a resident of Monterey and Hopkins nearly a quarter of a century and made a host of friends by his uniformly good nature, his sterling integrity and his devotion to his family and friends and his loyalty to his country.

He became a Christian a few years ago and united with the Congregational church of Hopkins Station and remained a worthy member to the end. It has been a frequent remark by those who knew him well "he is one of the best men I ever knew".

He was an esteemed member of the I. O. O. F. of Allegan, and of the Harlow Briggs G.A.R. Post of Monterey and both orders as well as the Sons of Veterans were with his many other friends to show their brotherly regard to him, He leaves to mourn his departure two brothers, five sisters and two grandchildren, besides his many more distant relatives.

Please submit items for the Department of Michigan Historian to  
950 106<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Plainwell, MI 49080  
Or email Hardtackcw@aol.com

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

### **Department Graves Registration Committee**

*Rick Danes, Chairman*

Greetings, Brothers.

At the fourth quarter Graves Registration Meeting, we welcomed Department Commander Dennis Derr and PDC Rick Greene. I was also pleased to see representatives of 13 Camps join us – the best turnout in a long time. They were: Tim Kolean (Camp 1), new GRO Charlie Waters and John Mann (Camp 7), Mark Hoffman (Camp 17), Bill Costello (Camp 20), new GRO Ken MacNevin and Chris Czopek (Camp 22), Dick Williams (Camp 58), Gerry Christianson (Camp 83), Dick Hutchins and George Allen (Camp 120), Chuck Worley (Camp 135), Matt Adair (Camp 145), Bob Groves (Camp 250), and Mark Keller (Camp 255). All reported some progress in the program at their Camp.

I reported that the Department Database now holds over 56,900 records. We also have some good news for us researchers, as the Michigan Electronic Library (MEL) plans to have Civil War unit histories and muster rolls scanned and available by 2009.

I read in this publication about how Camps from all over the state spend countless hours conducting ceremonies and cleaning and replacing headstones in cemeteries next to where our forefathers lay unrecognized.....what will it take to get your Camp motivated enough to record the graves that you have to walk around to perform these wonderful ceremonies??

***"...The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us – that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion – that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain – that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom – and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."***  
***Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg, November, 1863.***

## **A DAY IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MY FATHER**

### **A story about True Son Harold Becker and his father, Charles C. Becker**

By Bruce B. Butgereit

The American Civil War was fought April 12, 1861 thru April 9, 1865 – 143 years ago at the time of this publication. The last known Union soldier of that war, Albert Woolson, passed away in 1956 at the age of 109. There are however, a number of sons and daughters of those Civil War veterans still with us today although the latest update indicates there are only 21 known men who can still claim their father fought in the Civil War (there are 40 known daughters). As a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), I have had the distinct honor and privilege to know two of these sons of a Civil War soldier.

I first met Mr. Edward Blakely (1903-2003), son of Egbert Blakely (10<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry, Co. E) in 2000 when he had seen an article in the *Grand Rapids Press* about the restoration of the Kent County Civil War Monument and Fountain and called me to inform me he was the *son* of a Civil War soldier. Mr. Blakely then made the first donation to the fundraising effort in honor of his father who had attended the monument's dedication in 1885.

Several months later, following another article in the *Press*, I received a call from a Mr. Harold Becker informing me that he also was the *son* of a Civil War soldier, Charles Conrad Becker (128<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry, Co. H). Before the passing of Mr. Blakely, just six weeks shy of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, both he and Harold developed a strong bond with each other that continues to bring fond memories even today. Both men joined the Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1, SUVCW in Grand Rapids, MI in honor of their fathers.

In 2001, I took Mr. Blakely on a trip to see the battlefields of Antietam and Gettysburg and other Civil War-related sites – we called it the “*On to Richmond Tour 2001*” as our destination was an annual meeting of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) in Richmond, VA. Although Mr. Blakely had attended several reenactments, it was looking out over the sacred ground of those battlefields where he truly connected with the memory of his father.

While Egbert Blakely had passed away when Ed was only five-years-old, Harold was seventeen when his father passed away and has more memories of the time spent with his father. These memories, including those of his father wearing his GAR uniform, have never included some of the things that Charles did while living in Chicago (Harold's birthplace).

The following contains a brief summary of the life and activities of Charles Conrad Becker during the time he was a resident of Chicago, IL, 1872 thru 1924. Like many of his fellow veterans of the American Civil War, Charles lived a quiet, ordinary life earning a living and raising a family. It was also while a resident of Chicago where Charles became a member of the Lyon Post No. 9, Grand Army of the Republic.

Earlier this year, I decided to begin a research project to see just what more we could learn about Charles Conrad Becker and his GAR involvement. What I found over the course of half a dozen two-day trips to the Chicago Public Library, the Chicago History Museum, and the Chicago Cultural Center was simply amazing. This information was produced in a 70-page booklet titled “*In the Footsteps of His Father,*” and shared with Brother Becker and his family of three daughters as we spent a day in Chicago on October 4, 2008.

Our journey started at the Lincoln memorial in Lincoln Park where the Lyon Post had conducted numerous ceremonies. From there, we visited the Harold Washington branch of the Chicago Public Library where we were treated to a tour by the Collections Department and a showing of a few items from their GAR collection, including the saddle of Gen. U. S. Grant, a hat worn by Gen. George Custer, and the Department of Illinois GAR encampment badges worn by Mr. Becker's father.

The memorable day concluded with a tour of the Chicago Cultural Center, in which is the Grand Army Memorial Hall and the former assembly room, where Charles Conrad Becker once presided over meetings as commander of the Lyon Post.

Continued from Page 14

Brother Becker had the privilege of walking up the same staircase that his father had on his way to the GAR assembly room.



Brother Becker on his way to the GAR Memorial Hall, in the footsteps of his father.



The entrance to the GAR Memorial Hall, circa 1940's, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of what is now the Chicago Cultural Center. Note one of the six cannons, now owned by the CPL, on display thru the center door.

It was purely coincidental that when we were shown the theatre where the GAR Assembly room used to be, there was a production taking place on the Underground Railroad.

**Note:** Should anyone wish to obtain a copy of the before-mentioned booklet, please contact me at [civil-war@comcast.net](mailto:civil-war@comcast.net). The booklet contains the personal story of Charles C. Becker including his military record and efforts to obtain a pension as well as nineteen newspaper articles about the Lyon GAR Post No. 9. It also has a detailed historical account of the Lincoln statue in Lincoln Park and the Grand Army Memorial Hall in Chicago. It has numerous historical photos of local parades and Memorial Day exercises. It makes for interesting reading of the activities of one GAR Post as they conducted the work that we as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War are to perpetuate. The cost is \$7 postage paid.

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

### DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN SUVCW, HISTORIAN FILES CIVIL WAR PENSION FILES COLLECTION

ABBOTT, SEWELL A.	COMPANY B	8 <sup>TH</sup> NEW HAMPSHIRE INF
BUNYEA, GEORGE	COMPANY K	16 <sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN INFANTRY
CHUBB, LUCIUS W.	COMPANY E	24 <sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN INFANTRY
COFFEY, WILLIAM	COMPANY K COMPANY C	107 <sup>TH</sup> ILLINOIS INFANTRY 5 <sup>TH</sup> US VRC
GARRISON, HENRY C.	COMPANY I	1 <sup>ST</sup> U S SHARPSHOOTERS
GOLDEN, WILLIAM	COMPANY D	32 <sup>ND</sup> OHIO INFANTRY
HAYES, CHANCEY R	COMPANY M	2 <sup>ND</sup> MICHIGAN CAVALRY
MESLER, WILLIAM	COMPANY H	41 <sup>ST</sup> OHIO IFANTRY
NORTON, ELLIOT M.	COMPANY B	6 <sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN CAVALRY <b>(MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT)</b>

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PIERSON, ALBERT	COMPANY B	30 <sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN INFANTRY
REED, CHARLES	COMPANY B	9 <sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN CAVALRY
SHAY, DAVID LOREN	BATTERY D	1 <sup>ST</sup> MICHIGAN LIGHT ARTY
SKINNER, SYLVESTER	COMPANY F	1 <sup>ST</sup> BAT 16 <sup>TH</sup> U S INFANTRY
SMITH, ROBERT	COMPANY F	102 <sup>ND</sup> U S COLORED TROOPS
STARK, HENRY	COMPANY G	6 <sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN INFANTRY
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WEBB, DAVID M.	COMPANY A	151 INDIANA INFANTRY
WILLIAMS, ROBERT LEE	COMPANY E	6 <sup>TH</sup> TENNESSEE CAVALRY
WILLIAMS, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN	21 <sup>ST</sup> BATTERY	INDIANA LIGHT ARTILLERY
WILLIAMS, CHARLES, W.	COMPANY H	30 <sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN INFANTRY
WILLIAMS, GEORGE W.	21 <sup>ST</sup> BATTERY	INDIANA LIGHT ARTILLERY
WINTERS, THOMAS C.	COMPANY A BATTERY D	15 <sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN INFANTRY 1 <sup>ST</sup> MICHIGAN LIGHT ARTY

**SOME PENSION OR MILITARY PAPERS FOR**

BENSON, IRVIN WATERMAN	COMPANY H	2 <sup>ND</sup> MICHIGAN CAVALRY
HANCE, MICHAEL	COMPANY C	3 <sup>RD</sup> VERMONT INFANTRY
HOLLIS, JAMES A. C.	COMPANY E	7 MICHIGAN INFANTRY
MASTERS, JAMES EDWARD	COMPANY E	17 <sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN INFANTRY
NEVINS, WILSON ELBERT	COMPANY E	18 <sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN INFANTRY
RICHMOND, EMORY CARLTON	COMPANY G	6 <sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN CAVALRY

Anyone who wants to add their Civil War relative's Pension or Military file added to the Historian files, (Complete or Partial) , can makes copies and send them to –  
 Brother John R. Keith  
 Department of Michigan Historian  
 950 106<sup>th</sup> Avenue,  
 Plainwell, MI 49080

**Daily Union Army Ration from 3 August 1861 – 20 June 1864**

Marching Rations per day

12 oz. of pork or bacon, or 1 lb. And 4 oz. of salt or fresh beef; and  
 1 lb. and 6 oz. of soft bread or flour, or 1 lb. of hardtack, or 1 lb. and 4 oz. of corn meal; and  
 1 ¼ lbs. coffee, 2 4/10 lb. of sugar, and 6/10 lb. of salt. Only when the soldier was in camp did  
 he receive beans, rice, tea, vinegar, soap, potatoes, etc.

*U. S. Army Regulations*





Traditionally, the Members of the Women's Relief Corps – Champlin Corps No. 41 maintains the 173 flags on the gravesites of Michigan soldiers buried at Gettysburg National Cemetery. Recently, members of the SUVCW, WRC, DUVCW, LGAR, and ASUVCW braved a cold wind to continue that effort. The participants named in a photograph of this this years efforts are Bruce and Marcia Butgereit, Sally Reddinger, Jim and Carol Pahl, and Chet and Jeannine Trybus. Our apologies to those who were not identified.

*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 some responsibility to report changes, so that we can continue to serve you, so 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*

### **Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427**

*By Rick Danes, CC*

*Camp 427 continues to do the things that bring attention to the Order and the reason that we exist. This year the Camp organized and participated in over 30 events. Membership has climbed to 39 Brothers, and we have prospects for several more in 2009. The photo at the right was taken during the St. Paul's Cathedral Veteran's Ceremony held in November. Some of the guys stepped out of "the blue" and into other eras to enhance the program. Shown are Howard Fite, Ken Roberts, Ed Binkley, Keith Kushnir, Rick Danes, Jerry Jacobs, Henry Heatley, and kneeling are Ian Kushnir and Jerry Olson.*

*Happy Holidays.*



### 3rd Regiment Michigan Volunteer Infantry (The New Third)

By Jim Pahl, PCinC, PDC, PCC

This is the fifth installment of the regimental history series being published in the Michigan Messenger. With the "old 3<sup>rd</sup>" Infantry having been mustered out of service in June of 1863, orders were issued to reorganize the regiment. This was a totally new regiment, but was organized by Lt. Col. Houghton of the old 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Third was re-organized and mustered into service October 15, 1864, with an enrollment of 879 officers and men.

The Regiment left Grand Rapids October 20 for Nashville, Tennessee, then moved to Decatur, Alabama, then to Fort Rosencrans, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

While the Regiment went on picket duty at Murfreesboro, a confederate brigade of mounted infantry drove the Union pickets out of the town, but a counterattack by four companies of the 3<sup>rd</sup> along with four companies of the 181<sup>st</sup> OVI and a section of artillery drove back the attackers and reestablished the original line.

After several minor engagements, including marching to rescue a supply train, the regiment was transferred to Huntsville, Alabama on January 16, 1865, assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division of the 4<sup>th</sup> Army Corps.

On March 16, the Regiment moved with the Brigade to New Market, Tennessee, and camped at Bull's Gap and later at Jonesboro. The 3<sup>rd</sup> engaged several groups of guerrillas, and participated in scouting and expeditions into the surrounding country.

After the fall of Richmond, the 3<sup>rd</sup> was ordered back to Nashville. On June 15, the Regiment boarded trains to Jonesville, then by steamer down the Tennessee, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans. They then crossed the Gulf of Mexico to Indianola, Texas, arriving by foot at Green Lake on the 11<sup>th</sup>. The 3<sup>rd</sup> marched for a grueling 14 days to San Antonio, where they served Provost duties. In the early spring, the Regiment was ordered to Victoria. Where it Mustered Out on May 26, 1866. They marched back to Indianola, and retraced their river trip back up the Mississippi to Cairo, Illinois. After a train ride to Detroit, the unit was paid off and disbanded on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

The total enrollment of the Regiment was 1,109 and losses were 158. One enlisted man and one officer died of wounds, and the remaining 156 men of disease. Most of the losses to disease was because of the hard marching through Texas and the encampment at Green Lake, a most unhealthy place.

Occasionally, we find oddities while looking for the final resting places of our forefathers.

This headstone stands in the Memphis National Cemetery. Can you pick out what is wrong with the stone? GROs can't play, they have already seen it.

Don't think too hard, the answer is at the bottom of this box.

*This is in fact a headstone for Pvt. Jonathan Lord, Co C, 3<sup>rd</sup> MI Cav. He died 28 February 1864 in Memphis. The problem? He lies underneath a Confederate headstone, which has the Iron Cross and CSA inscribed! Get the point?*

