

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

Volume XXVII, Number 2

Chartered June 24, 1884

Summer 2018

John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus

Richard C. Danes, Editor

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

Department Commander Robert R. Payne, DC



It has been a full summer. After a busy first month as Department Commander things really picked I was privileged to participate with Henry Plant Camp #3 at their 25th Anniversary on June 9th. Present was a descendant of their Camp namesake, and she brought his Medal of Honor. What a blessing to see this rare piece of history person. Next came U.S. Grant Camp #67 and their rededication of the grave of Edward T Carrrington on June 16th.

I was able to attend General Pritchard Camp #20 as their camp held a History seminar in Allegan, presented by PDC Gary Gibson. Austin Blair Camp #7 and Curtenius Guard Camp #17 were also visited during their regular camp meeting.

At the National Encampment in Framingham, MA we saw our own Brother, Donald Shaw elcted as Commander-in-Chief for the 2018-2019 year. The Encampment also saw the adoption of as resolution sent forward by our department concerning the time frame for the installation of Camp Officers. Robert Finch Camp #14 was awarded The Abraham Lincoln Award by Commander in Chief Day. Let us throw our whole weight behind the successful term for Commander-in-Chief Shaw and do our best to insure his successful administration.

Continued on page 2

In this Issue: Officer's Reports, Department Orders, Camp News, The Final Bugle Call, Event Announcements and much more

Michigan's Messenger

Continued from page 1

My Chief of Staff has received 5 requests for installations. We are coming to the time and I need to be able to schedule my time and/or the time of my designates to perform Officer Installations this year. I am looking forward to visiting as many camps as possible this year, as my schedule dictates.

I have been out and about, I see our Camps engaging the public, seeking new brothers, and letting people know who we are. We must continue our mission of "Keeping green the memory" of the brave men "*who made their breasts a barricade between our country and its foes? Their soldier lives were the reveille of freedom to a race in chains*", in the defense of our Nation, our Flag, and their brothers in arms. This is the reason we exist, and we must continue to push forward with this mission.

A hearty "HUZZAH" to all my brothers in Michigan, for your accomplishments, and to our Commander-in-Chief, Donald W. Shaw.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Robert R Payne, PCC, DC

Don Shaw Elected SUVCW Commander In Chief

At the 137th Annual National Encampment held in Framingham, Massachusetts, Michigan's own Brother Don Shaw was elected to the position of Commander In Chief of the Sons Of Union Veterans Of The Civil War.

The Department of Michigan was well represented in his support and well deserved election.



Representatives of the Michigan Delegation to the National Encampment. C-I-C Shaw front row center.

2018 - 2019 Department Officers

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

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

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

Recording Secretary Richard Denny 30090 Orla Eagle Road Colon, Michigan 49040

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

Department Council Chuck Worley, PDC Kevin Lindsey, PCC Michael Maillard, PCC

Chaplain Rev. Charles F. Buckhahn, PCC

> Patriotic Instructor David Kimble, CC

Color Bearer Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Military Affairs Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Counselor Paul T. Davis, PDC

> Guard Steven Martin

Eagle Scout Coordinator Nathan Tingley

Signals Officer David Wallace, PDC

Michigan's Messenger Editor Richard E. Danes, Sr. CC

Historian Keith G. Harrison, PCinC

> Guide Nathan Tingley

Graves Registration Richard E.Danes, Sr., CC

GAR Records Gary L. Gibson, PDC

Civil War Memorials John H. McGill

Chief of Staff L. Dean Lamphere, Jr. PDC

Camp At Large Coordinator George L. Boller

> Aide de Camp Paul T. Davis, PDC

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Department Orders #6 Estimation Series 2018 – 2019 Headquarters, Headquarters, Holt, MI

12 June 2018

In accordance with actions taken at the 134th Annual Michigan Department Encampment, I am hereby organizing the J. Richard Greene Award Committee. This is a Special Committee for the purpose of conferring an award for the Most Outstanding Camp Newsletter in the Department of Michigan.

This committee shall consist of the Department Secretary, The Department Chaplain, and The Department Newsletter Editor, being chaired by Brother Rick Danes, Editor of the Michigan's Messenger. The Committee shall review all newsletters voluntarily submitted over the course of the year and select the most outstanding newsletter by a majority vote of the Committee.

Newsletters must be submitted to the Committee Chair no later than 30 days prior to the Annual Michigan Department Encampment.

A certificate shall be awarded with the winning Camp's name and the newsletter editor listed.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

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

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

Colegrove – Woodruff Camp # 22 Submitted by Jim Jackson, CC

Members of camp #22 traveled to Riverside Cemetery in Union City, Branch county to clean and reset several Civil War headstones. On our second trip (August 19, 2018) we reset and raised eight stones, among them Geo. W. Thayer, Co. B, 9 MI Cav.; Geo W. Chaffee, Bugler, Co. D, 1 MI Lt Art; Sanford Cox, Co. G, 126 IL Inf; and Charles Peterson, Co. B, 11 MI Inf. There are a lot more to go, but this was all we could do in the ninety degree heat. Louis Cuyler, Jim Jackson, Howard Streeter and Dan Wolf participated.



Louis Cuyler and Dan Wolf

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The Department Chief of Staff will coordinate the Department Commander's schedule. Requests for the Department Commander at Camp events, especially Officer installations, and other Camp activities should be directed to the Department Chief of Staff, L. Dean Lamphere, Jr, PDC, at chiefofstaff@suvcwmi.org or posted to 1062 Four Seasons Blvd., Aurora, IL 60504.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Robert R Payse

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

ATTEST:

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



The Annual Michigan Department Encampment shall be held April 27, 2019 at The Okemos Conference Center, 2209 University Park Drive, Okemos, MI 48864.

The Organizations attending The Annual Michigan Department Encampment is to be determined. Rooms will be available at the adjoining hotels. Further information shall be published in the future.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Robert & Payre

Robert R Payne, DC Commander, Department of Michigan Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War ATTEST:

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

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- 1. At the 137th National Encampment, a resolution was passed changing C&R Chapter 1, Article V, Section 3 allowing the installation of camp officers Starting in September.
- The C&R Chapter 1, Article V, Section 2 states "The Camp Commander, Senior and Junior Vice Camp Commander, Camp Council, Secretary, Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer), Delegates and Alternates shall be electd at a regular meeting of the Camp between the first meeting in October and the first meeting in December, inclusive".
- 3. All Camps will abide by the current Chapter 1, Article V, Section 2. Elections held prior to a regularly scheduled meeting in October will be considered invalid.
- 4. It should be noted that nominations may be held sooner.

Elections and installations may be held at the same camp meeting.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Robert R. Payre

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

ATTEST:

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

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 <u>editor@suvcwmi.org</u> 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!

Michigan's Messenger



- 1. Pursuant to Department Orders 2016-2017 #10 and #12, Brother Bruce Butgereit, PDC, is hereby restored to active status effective August 21, 2018.
- 2. He will be afforded all consideration and honors due him as Past Department Commander and a brother of the Order.
- In accordance with PDC L. Dean Lamphere, Jr's outgoing address at the 2017 Annual Michigan Department Encampment, this matter is considered closed and a spirit of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty is extended to Brother Butgereit.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Robert R. Payse

ATTEST:

Robert R Payne, DC Commander, Department of Michigan Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War /s/ Richard Denney, CC Secretary, Department of Michigan Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil

Carpenter Welch Camp # 180 Submitted by Bill Eaton, PCC, GRO

Carpenter-Welch, Camp 180, SUVCW, has been involved in a service for St John the Baptist Church and their Cemetery, this past spring and summer, namely locating 15 verified Civil War Veterans in the cemetery adjacent to the church building.

The church no longer has an active congregation, but descendants of the membership have formed an association that not only preserves the church building but also provides for the up keep of the cemetery. Descendants of the original membership continue to use the cemetery to bury their relatives in the newer areas of the cemetery.

On Saturday, September 15, 2018 at 11.00 am we are planning to hold a ceremony honoring these 15 CW Vets by having placed GAR flagstaff holders the previous Saturday at each veteran's tombstone. Only one veteran had a CW Tombstone.

There is a large memorial in the shape of a CW Tombstone, in the middle of the older area dedicated to all Salem Township Civil Wars Veterans who served in the Civil War. This will be our rally point for the ceremony service.

We have obtained the services of a Sons of the Civil War bugler to play Taps. We are inviting your groups of re-in-actors who looked so well last September at a similar ceremony in the Ypsilanti, The St John the Baptist Cemetery. We hope, as many can, will attend.

More details to follow when requested.

Department Chaplain

Submitted by Department Chaplain Charles Buckhahn, PCC

Brothers

This edition of the Chaplain's page has three sections.

First, let me share with you an up-date of my story of Chaplain Friedrich Wilhelm Richmann. As I related in my story, Civil War Union Chaplain Richmann was the Pastor of my home congregation, St. John's Lutheran Church in Elgin, Illinois, from 1869 to 1875. It turns out that some of his children settled down in Elgin. So, when Chaplain Richmann died in 1885 in New York State, his remains were sent back to Elgin and were interned in Elgin's Bluff City Cemetery. Mrs. Richmann was later buried with the Chaplain in 1902. A biography on the "Find a Grave" website was made for the Chaplain by Stephen Siemsen, a Brother of ours in the Sons and is also a Graves Registration Officer. Another Brother in the Sons created the memorial for the Chaplain and maintains it. Bluff City Cemetery is also where many of my family are buried, including my brother, parents, and grandparents. In 1970, as a senior in High School and a member of the Forensic Team at Elgin High School, I was invited to read Gen. Logan's General Order No. 11 at the Memorial Day Service at Bluff City Cemetery. Little did I know then that that event would be my first introduction to the work of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War!

Second, I wish to thank all those who congratulated me on receiving the National Chaplain's Award at the 2018 National Encampment. This was an unexpected and humbling honor.

Third, I wish to inform all of my Brothers that I have started to post several different messages on the Department of Michigan Facebook site. I will post notices of the passing of a Brother from one of the Department's Camps, notices of Brothers for whom our prayers are requested, and other information I feel the Brothers need to know. I will still e-mail the Camps on the passing of a Brother.

Frederick H. Hackeman Camp #85

Three Oaks Civil War Days

The second Civil Wars Days event in Three Oaks took place starting on Friday July 27th with the grave markings of three Civil War veterans buried at Shedd Cemetery. The veterans so honored and remembered were Pvt. John Redman - 23rd Michigan Infantry Co. G, Pvt. Thomas Bock - 102nd Michigan Colored Troop Co. H & K, and Corp. Benjamin Platt - 12th Michigan Co C.

Camp 85 provided the SUVCW Ritual portion of the ceremony after the local DAR began the presentation. The DAR chapter ladies researched and discovered these veterans buried in Shedd Cemetery. In that research they noted that there were no headstones marking their burial sites. The headstones were ordered from the VA and placed by Bob Cooley. Participating in the SUVCW ritual were three Sons from the new South Bend camp of the Indiana Department as well as several Confederate Soldiers. The honor guard provided a 7 shot volley. Camp members attending this service were Charles Pfauth Sr, Charles Pfuath Jr with musket, Rex Dillman, Glenn Palen, Ted Chamberlain, and myself.

The Civil War days this year was the second year for this event and according to all reports was double the number of tents for the re-enactors; 4 Federal and 4 Confederate to twice that number. Each day had activities from 9 am to after dinner: 3 battle simulations, music, presentations of civil war personages (4), a free breakfast for the re-enactors on Saturday morning by the American Legion post, a free dinner Saturday for the re-enactors, music in the park Saturday evening, a Sunday worship service, an afternoon presentation by the Harbor Country singers of Civil war era songs, plus several vendors All of the activities were open to the general public and throughout both days many visitors came around to experience he ambiance. Other camp members coming by during the weekend were, Ray Truhn and Keith Chapman. Greg Scygiel and son, Mark, were there as re-enactors. Scattered thorough out this issue will photos of the event.

All camp members are encouraged to consider taking part at next year's Civil War Days even if it's to come for a couple hours and sit with us at our tents. Certainly if you have an outfit so much the better.

The Final Bugle Call

Submitted by Department Chaplain Charles Buckhahn, PCC

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Brothers;

It is my sad duty to inform the Camps of the death of a Brother. **Clifford (Bob) Burhans** of General Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20 passed away on Friday, August 3, 2018, in Kalamazoo. Cremation has taken place and Memorial services will be planned and announced at a later date. Brother Burhans was 92, a little more than two months from his ninety-third birthday. He was a WWII and Korean veteran. His obituary is given below. We all keep the Burhan family and the Brothers of Camp 20 in our prayers.

Revelation 14:13: And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; Yea sayeth the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.

Burhans, Clifford (Bob) 10/16/1925 - 8/3/2018 Plainwell Clifford (Bob) Burhans of Plainwell passed away on 8/03/18 in Kalamazoo. Bob was born 10/16/25 in Lawton to Clifford and Florence Burhans. On 2/1/51 Bob married the love of his life Beatrice (Red) Meacham. Bob was an Army Veteran and served in WW2 and the Korean War. Bob has been an active Member of the local VFW and American Legion, and a member of the Plainwell VFW Memorial Board. Bob is survived by 4 children; Jerry of Oshtemo, David of Espanola, NM, Steven of Kalamazoo , Ginger Burnham of Scotts and a sister Elaine Rife of Lawton. Bob also is survived by 4 grandsons; Blaine Burnham, Andy Burnham, Daniel Burhans, and Nick Burhans, and 4 great grandchildren Cremation has taken place and Memorial services will be planned and announced at a later date. Published in Kalamazoo Gazette on Aug. 19, 2018

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Brothers;

I have been informed by Brother John Keith of the death of a Brother in the Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20; he is Brother **Cleon Merton Duryea**. Brother Duryea died on August 8th at the age of 92. His obituary is given below. Please keep his family and Camp 20 in your thoughts and prayers. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord henceforth: Yes, saidth the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. (Revelation 14:13)"

Cleon Merton Duryea, 92, of Hopkins, passed away Sunday, August 5, 2018, at Ely Manor Nursing Home in Allegan. Born December 2, 1925 in Monterey Township, he was the son of the late Charles and Vera (Ruehle) Duryea and was the husband of the late Marilyn Ruth (Rankins) Duryea who preceded him in death in 2015.

Mr. Duryea is survived by his children, Charlene Landrum, Dennis and Cindy Duryea and Jodi Morris; 8 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. Along with his parents and his wife, he was preceded in death by 8 siblings; and his sons-in-law, Richard Landrum and Dennis Morris.

Friends may meet with the family on Tuesday, August 7, 2018, from 5-7 pm at Gorden Funeral Residence, Hopkins Chapel, where funeral services will be held on Wednesday at 11 am. Comer Skinner will officiate. Interment in Poplar Hill Cemetery, Monterey Township.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

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General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20

Submitted by John R. Keith PCC, Signals Officer

We started out in June having our camp meeting at the Allegan Public Library. Camp 20 Brother Gary Gibson PDC, gave a great lecture on the Grand Army of the Republic in Allegan County, Michigan. The meeting was attended by a large group with many from the local area. We were honored to have Michigan Department Commander Robert Payne and Michigan Department SRVC Terrance McKinch in attendance that evening.



Brother Len Sheaffer

Our July meeting was held at the Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum in Eaton Rapids, after a touring of the building we went a few doors down and had lunch, Then we met in the upstairs of the GAR building, with the main order of business was to initiate our newest member Brother Len Sheaffer, We wondered when the last time someone was initiated in this building, must be decades!

August turned out to be a sad month at Camp 20. On August 3rd we had Brother Clifford Burhans pass on and then on the 5th Brother Cleon Duryea pass on also. Both were 92 years old, with Brother Duryea being a Charter Member of Logan Camp No. 1, and SUVCW member since 1994, he transferred to Camp 20 when Camp 1 dissolved! Both will be missed by many Brothers!

On September 22nd at noon, all are invited to meet at the grave of Brother Burhans at Hillside Cemetery, just east of Plainwell for his Memorial and "Loss of a Brother" ritual. Then all are invited to the American Legion Post 84 in Otsego at 410 East Orleans Street, Otsego, MI 49078, for a catered lunch. Bro. Cliff was a WWII and Korean War Veteran!

On October 7th at 2pm, Camp 20 is hosting a "Loss of a Brother" ritual for Brother Duryea. Once again all are invited to attend, this will also held at his grave at Poplar Hill Cemetery, Monterey Township, Allegan County. Please contact me for directions and questions on both.

Finally some good news in August, one of our Junior members, Brother Charlie Keith, reached his 14th birthday and chose to move on to full member, he made Grandpa Keith (me) very proud! Bro. C. Keith joined the SUVCW through his 4 Great Grandfather, Private Hiram Wellman, Company A 15th Michigan Infantry!



Commander Culp and Camp 20 Brother Charlie Keith



Left – Culp, Shoemaker, and Swain at Eaton Rapids

Right - Private Hiram Wellman Company A 15th Michigan Infantry



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General Benjamin Pritchard Camp #20

Our Efforts Are Working Submitted by John R. Keith PCC, Signals Officer

Sometimes if you are like myself, it seems a lot of our hard work to get our name out there, get noticed what we do goes unnoticed. Trying to get young people interested in our cause! We all have had people walk up after an event and ask," I've never heard of your organization" and such!

Well, I have two things happen recently that gave me a boost on this subject of getting young kids involved.

The first- as you will see in the Camp 20 news in this publication, my Grandson, who joined us as a Junior member a few years back, liked what we do and decided now at 14 years of age, will stay with us now as a full member now he is 14.

The second- one of the Hopkins FFA members Ethan Gilder, age 16, who was on the gravestone committee for the Dedication we in had Hopkins Township, Allegan County on August 19th, 2018.

He was at every committee meeting and was a speaker at the dedication!

Brother Comer Skinner sent an article about how Ethan was the local winner in the annual Tractor Supply "Great Neighbor" essay contest!



Hopkins FFA Group at the Skinner Gravesite

Ethan wrote about his experience working on the gravestone

committee, "He said the work was done for a group called, The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. He wrote about researching Civil War soldiers, if they had gravestone, if it was correct, etc. The committee researched the soldier's involvement in different Civil War Battles."

"Then if any were located, they would request a corrected or new stone from Veteran's Affairs, when the stones arrived, I and others help set the stone."

He also wrote, "This experience has shown me a unique way I can contribute to my community. I especially enjoyed the ceremony part of this project because it brings respect to the Veterans. I know I've done my part to honor what they died for." Ethan and I give credit to his FFA Alumni President Comer Skinner for giving him and others the opportunity to be part of the Civil War Gravestone Committee. Comer Skinner is a member of our General Benj. Pritchard Camp 20! Thank you Brother Comer for getting these kids involved with positive projects!

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

In 2005 the Department was faced with rising printing and mailing costs for the nationally recognized Michigan's Messenger. Very few options were available to Department Officers, so the issue was put on the floor at the Department Encampment. The Members voted to publish Michigan's Messenger in an electronic format, with each edition being forwarded to one person in each

Camp (thereafter called a Camp Signals Officer), who would then distribute the newsletter to all Camp Members. As a result of this action by the Membership, dues have not been raised.

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

I have tried to include every article that was sent to me prior to publication, so that all future issues will be timely. I 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, <u>editor@suvcwmi.org</u>.

Graves Registration

By Department Graves Registration Officer Rick Danes



At the September 8th Graves Registration Committee I announced that the Department database now contains 70,880 Civil War and 3,859 Other War records.

Department Senior Vice Commander Terry McKinch honored the assembly by attending, and filling us in about his travels on behalf of the SUVCW and the Departments work.

Mark Hoffman continued his work providing some resources for researching Marine and Navy personnel.

At the meeting we discussed the Last Soldier Project and the direction of the project.

As you meet during the fall months, think about taking one cemetery in your area of responsibility, and walking it, and seeking Civil War Soldiers' burial places. After all, if not us, who will keep their memory?

Lt. Garrett A. Gravereat Co. K, 1st Michigan Sharpshooters Submitted by John Keith, PCC

Obituary:

"Garrett A. Gravereat, Lt. of Co. K, 1st Michigan Sharpshooters, aged 27 years, wounded in action at Petersburg, died from the effects in Washington. He was a Chippewa Indian of the Bear River band. " (Detroit Free Press, 20 Jul 1864). He was laid to rest on Mackinaw Island in Saint Anns Cemetery Mackinac Island, Mackinac County, Michigan, were he was from.

His father Henry died in the Civil War in the same Regiment his son was in. He was killed in 1861 and is interred in Fredericksburg National Cemetery, Fredericksburg, Fredericksburg City, Virginia, USA, Sgt. Henry Graveraet lied about his age at enlistment, shaving 10 years off his age, he was actually 57 years old! Papers mentioned Garrett his son, buried him there!



Lt. Garrett A. Gravereat's headstone and Sgt. Henry Gravereat's cenotaph at St. Ann's Cemetery, Mackinaw Island



Sgt. Henry Graveraet's headstone at Frederickburg National Cemetery

Graveraet article submitted by John Keith, PCC

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Co. A, 14th Michigan Infantry, SVR Attends 137th National Encampment Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC

Several members of Company A, 14th Michigan Infantry, Irish Rifle, Sons of Veterans Reserve traveled to Framingham, Massachusetts in support of Michigan's favorite son, Don Shaw. Before the election, the 14th enjoyed side trips and various experiences in the Boston area.

Key among those events was a trip to tour the USS Constitution (Old Ironsides). The USS Constitution is an active duty warship of the U.S. Navy. While aboard the USS Constitution, the men of the 14th had the opportunity to hoist the national Colors above the ship and retain the flag as a souvenir of the occasion.



USS Constitution (Old ironsides)



Dean Lamphere hoists the Colors aboard Old Ironsides



Ron Shull lowers the Colors

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Department Commander Payne folds the flag



Crew at Charlestown Navy Yard

Robert Finch Camp # 14 Submitted by David Smith, PDC



Record-Eagle/Photo by Tessa Lighty Scott Schwander carefully places a flag in its holder by a headstone in Oakwood Cemetery

A Letter From the Front Submitted by Gale Dugan

1864 Letter from Jeremiah Dugan to Margaret Stanford Camped Near Atlanta, GA. transcribed by Gale Dugan 8/20/2017 (153 years later)

AUGUST 12TH, 64

Friend Maggie it is with that I take my pen to write you a short letter, I am well and I hope that these few lines will find you and all your folks the same. It has been some time since I wrote to you or got any letters from you. We have been in some hot places where the bullets and shell flew quite thick and have had a great many good men shot down by my side. Probably

better men than I am. On the 20th of July there was a man shot down by my side. I thought that he was dead, but came to again and the boys offered to carry him off the field, but he would not let them take him off. He said that he could walk himself. He said give it to them the best you can boys. We had one sergeant shot through the neck. He died very soon. He had just got a commission as second lieutenant. He had it two days. He was a great fellow and I hated to see him fall, he had

a wife and one child in Allegan. He has three brothers in the Army. One in the 13th and one in the Fifth Calvary and one in our Co. yet he felt very bad. Maggy it's hard to see them lay on the ground dead and wounded. I helped one of them off to a tree so he could lay in the shade, he was shot through the leg. I took him and laid him down in the shade and give him some water. He thanked me kindly for it. I told him that I had to get back to my Co. with the other boys.

Charley Hogeboom has got back to the Co. after a long time. He had a hard time of it. He has had small pox and been sick a long time, but he is well now and tuff. He says he is glad to be back with our Co. for he feels ashamed.

Thomas McCormick is not with the Co. He was left back sick, but we heard that he got well and is on duty to the rear. Our regiment has suffered very much on this campaign. We had 775 men when we left McMinnville, Tenn. Now we drawn rations for 340, so that you can see that we have lost, some

killed, wounded and by sickness. We have lost 111 in our Co. killed and died from the effects of wounded. Sixty-Two killed on the field and four died in the hospital.

We had our Orderly Sergeant killed last Sunday. He stood by my side when he was shot. We took him to the division hospital two miles. He lived till the next day at one o'clock. His name was Haeger, He lived in Otsego, His wife is there. We have no commissioned officers with the Co. So, I have to take command a lot and it has got a very poor commander to I tell you, you know that to. We had one man killed yesterday and one wounded. The one killed belonged to Co. J, wounded Co. C. They

were to work on a new line of work that our boys were building close to the rebels, it makes the 36th line of work that our Regiment has built on this campaign. So you see we have to play trady some, but it pays us for it for we can get behind it when the rebels are shelling us and be safe, but we have not had many chances to fight behind one of them yet. When we have had to fight, we had to take to the open field for it and we have done the best we could.

I understand that the draft is coming off, I am glad for it. I hope that all the boys that are drafted will come, for I think that it is their duty to come and fight for their country as well as me. I shall have to close so farewell for the presnt.

From True Friend, Jeremiah Dugan

Direct to J Co 19th Michigan 2nd Brigade 3rd Division 20th A.C. (Army of the Cumberland) CHATAMAN, GEORGIA