

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

Volume XXX, Number 1

Chartered June 24, 1884

Spring, 2021

John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus

Richard E. Danes, Editor

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

Commander's Corner

Nathan L. Smith, Commander

Greetings Brothers,

I want to start by saying thank you for putting your faith in me to lead the Department for the 2021-2022 term. The outpouring of support before and following my election to the post of Department Commander has been greatly appreciated, and I look forward to working with you all to ensure we have a successful and productive term. During our annual encampment on May 1, 2021, the delegates approved a \$2,500 donation to the Kalamazoo Abraham Lincoln Institute for the proposed statue of Abraham Lincoln that will be placed in Bronson Park in the City of Kalamazoo. A challenge was issued to the Camps within the Department to try and raise additional funds to help support this project. So I challenge you to help contribute to this great endeavor. Brothers can find further information on this project and how to donate by going to: https://kalamazoolincolninstitute.org.

On Sunday, May 23, I had the honor to participate in the Macon Township Cemetery Event in Clinton, MI, hosted by Nash-Hodges Camp No. 43. The plaque dedication honored Corporal William Crittenden of Co. E, 4th Michigan Cavalry, who was involved in the capture of Confederate President Jefferson Davis in southeast Georgia on May 10, 1865. This event was well attended, hot, and well organized. Job Well Done brothers of Nash-Hodges Camp No. 43! I also want to give a shout-out to the many brothers of Co. A 14th Michigan Volunteer Infantry SVR, who were able to attend. The service and level of honors you provide at our various events is outstanding.

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and c herish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty, Nathan Smith, PCC Commander, Department of Michigan Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



VOLUME XXX, NUMBER I

Department Order #13



Series 2020 – 2021

Headquarters, Lennon, MI March 11, 2021

2021 Department of Michigan Annual Encampment

Since the State of Michigan has limited conferences and meetings to 25 people, no matter the size of the meeting place; The 2021 Department of Michigan Annual Encampment will be a combination of in person and virtual encampment via Zoom The following actions will be required to attend as a voting member:

Each Brother must be preregistered. No late registrations will be allowed. All registrations (form is on the website) must be mailed to:

Paul Davis, PDC, Chairman Dept. Encampment Credentials Committee 4490 Bueteo Drive Travis City, MI 49684

Registrations must be received by April 21, 2021

Registration fees shall be waived. If you have already already submitted registrations, with payment, a refund will be sent to you, unless you contact PDC Davis requesting your registration fee be donated to the Department of Michigan. All donations will be appreciated to offset Department expenses.

Credential Cards are still needed and must be delivered to the Credentials Committee prior to the day of the meeting. A fill-in PDF Credentials Form will be available to be filled out by the Camp Secretary and submitted to the Department. Follow ALL instructions on the 137th Department Encampment page for the Credentials Form.

We will be selecting a platform which afford either video or voice only options. Instructions will be available at www.suvcwmi.org/DEindex-137.php in the near future.

A list of Candidates is available on the 137th Department Encampment page for review.

The Encampment pack will be posted on the 137th Department Encampment page for download.

Brothers are encouraged to have a Ceremonial and Rituals book on hand for reference.

If you are brother who will be accepting a position, either by election or by appointment, please have a Bible on hand for swearing in.

Only current elected officers, appointed officers and prospective elected officers are allowed to attend in person.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty /s/ Terry McKinch, 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 War

2021 - 2022 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 Owosso, 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 Steve Martin, Vice Chair

Chaplain Rev. Charles Buckhahn, PCC

Patriotic Instructor Nathan Tingley, CC

Color Bearer Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Military Affairs Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Counselor Paul T. Davis, PDC

Guard Lloyd Lamphere, Sr

Eagle Scout Coordinator Nathan Tingley, CC

Signals Officer Robert R. Payne, PDC

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

> Historian Keith G. Harrison, PC-in-C

> > Guide Alex Tingley.

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



Change in Command

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

- 1. Having been duly elected and installed as Department Commander on 01 May 2021, I herebyassume 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 RdMarlette, Michigan 48453, or e-mailed to: commander@suvcwmi.org
- 5. I want to extend my appreciation to all newly elected and appointed Officers and Brothersserving on the various committees of the Department.
- 6. I would also like to extend my appreciation to this past year's Officers and committee membersfor their service to the Order.
- 7. PDC Terrance McKinch, I thank you for your leadership and service to the Department and theOrder during the 2020-2021 term.
- 8. The Department would like to extend appreciation to CinC Brian C. Pierson for joining us atour encampment and for installing our Department Officers for the 2021-2022 term.
- 9. The Department extends the highest appreciation for the Brothers in attendance at the 137thDepartment Encampment. The business conducted at our Encampments is of the utmost importance in forging consensus decisions going into the future, allowing us to share in our collective knowledge in what works and what does not, and enables us to share in fraternity.
- 10. Memorial Day will be observed on Monday, 31 May 2021, while the traditional date is Sunday, 30 May 2021. 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.
- 11. Department Committee appointments will be announced in a separate Department Order. In Fraternity,

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Dathank Spirth

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

ATTEST:

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



STAFF AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

By the authority vested in me as Commander, Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of theCivil War, I hereby make the following Staff, Committee, and Special Committee Appointments:

Chief of Staff	David Smith, PDC	BY-LAWS COMMITEE	
Counselor	Paul T. Davis, PDC	SVDC; Chair	Gary Swain, SVDC
Chaplain	Rev. Charles Buckhahn	Department Secretary; Member	Dick Denney, CC
Patriotic Instructor	Nathan Tingley, CC.	Counselor; Member	Paul T. Davis, PDC
Color Bearer	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC	LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE	
Signals Officer	Robert R. Payne, PDC	DC; Chair	Nathan L. Smith, PCC
Editor, "Michigan Messenger"	Richard E. Danes, PCC	Department Secretary; Member	Dick Denney, CC
Historian	Keith G. Harrison, PCinC	Member	Dale L. Aurand, PDC
Guide	Alex Tingley	Member	Gary Naugle
Guard	Lloyd Lamphere, Sr., PCC	Member	James B. Paul, PCinC
Graves Registration Officer	Richard E. Danes, PCC	MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE	
G.A.R. Records Officer	Gary L. Gibson, PDC	JVDC; Chair	David Kimble, JVDC
Civil War Memorials Officer	John H. McGill	Member(s)	All Camp JVC's
Eagle Scout Coordinator	Nathan Tingley, CC	GRAVES REGISTRATION COMMITTEE	
Camp-At-Large Coordinator	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr. PDC	GRO Officer; Chair	Richard E. Danes, PCC
Camp Organizer	James B. Pahl, PCinC	Member(s)	All Camp GRO's
Aide-de-Camp	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr. PDC	CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE	
Military Affairs Officer	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC	CW Memorials Officer; Chair	John H. McGill
Ceremonies & Rituals Officer	Keith G. Harrison, PCinC	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	Nathan Tingley, CC

Member	Blaine Valentine, PCC	Member	Gary Naugle, PCC
COMMUNICATION	& TECHNOLOGY	138 th Annual Encampment Committee	
Signals Officer ;Chair	Robert R. Payne, PDC	Chair	Paul T. Davis, PDC
Member	David Wallace, PDC	Member	David Smith, PDC
Member	Dennis Fyke	Member	L Dean Lamphere, Jr. PDC
Member	Patrick D. Wallace		
Member	Keith G. Harrison, PCinC		
102 nd USTC MEMORIAL SPECIAL COMMITTEE		EAGLE SCOUT QUESTION REFFERRAL SPECIAL COMMITTEE	
Chair	John H. McGill	Chair	Nathan Tingley, CC
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
LIABILITY PROTECTION SPECIAL COMMITTEE		Member	Richard Schafer
Chair	Donald Shaw, PCinC		
Member; Dept. Council	David Smith, PDC		
Member; Treasurer	Bruce Gosling		

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

)athank Spirth

Nathan L. Smith, PCC of Michigan Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War ATTEST:

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

Harper Hospital, Detroit

In 1863, Colonel Charles S. Tripler, surgeon, U. S. Army and U. S. medical director stationed at Detroit presented the "absolute necessity" for the erection of a general hospital for the care of Michigan Soldiers in Detroit.

Construction of the hospital was started in early 1864, costing about \$60,000 and included eleven one story buildings, and a capacity of eight hundred patients.

In spite of a stellar reputation of care, the hospital was closed in December of 1865, and subsequently given to the Harper Hospital Corporation to be used as a Soldiers Home.

Information from "Michigan in the War" pp 115-116. 1882. Robertson



PAST NATIONAL AND DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN – WILLIAM MCAFEE

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

- 1. With heavy sadness, it has been announced that Brother William "Bill" McAfee, PastDepartment Chaplain passed away at the age of 79 on Tuesday, May 11, 2021.
- Brother McAfee, a founding member of Carpenter-Welch Camp No. 180, was National Chaplain from 2003-2004 and served as Chaplain for the Department of Michigan for several years. He was very active in civic and fraternal organizations throughout his life to include: American Legion Post #225, Custer Memorial Association, Harrison County (WV) Genealogical Society, Castor Association of American, Dragoo Family Association, and SalineMasonic Lodge #133.
- 3. A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, at 2:00 pm at the Dundee Assembly of God located at 13790 S. Custer Rd. Dundee, MI. Visitation will be at the churchon Wednesday from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. The burial will be held at Fort Custer National Cemetery in Augusta, Michigan.
- 4. Brother McAfee was a man dedicated to his family and country and is noted to have served in the United States Army from 1966 to 1969.
- 5. All Camp Charters within the Department of Michigan, the Department Charter, and the Department Website shall be draped for 30 days from this date. Additionally, all Brothers of the Department of Michigan shall affix a black mourning ribbon to their membership badge for the same period of 30 days commencing on this date.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

ATTEST:

lathank Syirth

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

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

WHY MICHIGAN'S MESSENGER IS PUBLISHED ONLINE In 2005 the Department was faced with rising printing and mailing costs for the nationally recognized Michigan's Messenger. Very few options were available to Department Officers, so the issue was put on the floor at the Department Encampment. The Members voted to publish Michigan's Messenger in an electronic format, with each edition being forwarded to one person in each Camp (thereafter called a Camp Signals Officer), who would then distribute the newsletter to all Camp Members. As a result of this action by the Membership, dues have not been raised. I believe that the Camps have the responsibility to report changes, so that we can continue to serve you, you must provide me with a current contact for electronic mailing. I have tried to include every article that was sent to me prior to publication, so that all future issues will be timely. I have tried to keep all articles in the format that they are sent, however, in the spirit of editorial judgement, I will correct spelling or edit for space restrictions. I welcome all constructive suggestions. and encourage all of vou to submit relative news about vour committees, vour Camps.



MEMORIAL DAY

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

- Memorial Day will be observed on Monday, May 31, 2021, while the traditional date of Decoration Day recognized by the Grand Army of the Republic is Sunday, May 30, 2021. 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 Veteransthat are no longer among the living.
- 2. If you cannot attend an event (or even if you do attend an event), consider going to a local cemetery and honoring Veterans by placing American flags and leaving flowers such as thelilacs placed by our ancestors on the graves of their Comrades.
- 3. While Memorial Day is for honoring and remembrance of those that have gone to the "great bivouac of eternity," let us not forget the Veterans living among us. During your attendance, participation, and travels this Memorial Day and always extend appreciation to our veterans you may meet or see. Freedom is not free, and our Veterans have paid the price to preserve ourliberties. Let them know that we are grateful for their sacrifices and service to our Nation.
- 4. While this Department Order is about Memorial Day, I want to remind Brothers that Nash-Hodges Camp No. 43 will be having a Commemorative Plaque Dedication at the Macon Township Cemetery in Clinton, Michigan, on Sunday, May 23, 2021, at 3:00 pm to honor Corporal William H. Crittenden of Co. E, 4th Michigan Cavalry who was involved in the capture of Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

ATTEST:

thank Syirth

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

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

Future Michigan's Messenger Publications Submittal Dates and Publication Dates

Winter - March 1 for a March 15 Publication Spring– June 1 for a June 15 Publication Summer – September 1 for a September 15 Publication Fall – December 1 for a December 15 Publication

Send all articles to Rick Danes, Editor, preferably at <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!



J. RICHARD GREENE AWARD/CAMP NEWSLETTERS

Brothers of the Department of Michigan,

As per the Department Bylaws under Article XIX-Awards and Insignia, Section 5, the Department authorizes the J. Richard Greene Award. A panel consisting of the Department Secretary, Department Newsletter Editor, and Department Chaplain shall decide the most outstanding Camp Newsletter basedon a review of Camp Newsletters voluntarily sent to them over the course of a year.

This year's committee is requesting camps to please send their Newsletters to all three members at thefollowing email addresses for consideration:

Richard Denney – Department Secretary: <u>secretary@suvcwmi.org</u> Richard Danes – Editor, Michigan Messenger: <u>editor@suvcwmi.org</u> Charles Buckhahn – Department Chaplain: <u>chaplain@suvcwmi.org</u>

Should you have any questions for the committee, feel free to reach out to Rev. Charles Buckhahn whohas been appointed the Committee Chair or Chief of Staff David Smith: chiefofstaff@suvcwmi.org.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

ATTEST:

thank South

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

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



Sgt. John S. Cosbey Camp #427

Saint Martin of Tours

Submitted by Department Chaplain Rev. Charles Buckhahn

As I write this, our country is in the midst of the three summer, national holidays: Memorial Day, Flag Day, and the Fourth of July. So it got me thinking, my Christian denomination, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, has an award for those LC-MS pastors who are military chaplains. It is called the St. Martin of Tours Medal. When a LC-MS military chaplain serves the military for 20 years, he receives the bronze St. Martin of Tours Medal. I know of several college and seminary classmates who have been so honored. There is also a Silver St. Martin of Tours Medal that is given for exceptionally meritorious and sustained service to God and country either in the military chaplaincy or in support of the chaplaincy.

But why name such an award after St. Martin of Tours. Who was he? Why is he identified with the military chaplaincy? Well, here is his story. Martin was born in AD 316 in Savaria, now Szombathely, Hungary. His father was a tribune in the Roman army. A few years after Martin's birth, his father became a veteran and was allocated land on which to retire at Pavia, in northern Italy, where Martin grew up.

At the age of 10 Martin attended the Christian church against the wishes of his parents and became a catechumen. At that time, Christianity was far from accepted among the higher echelons of society. Among members of the army, the worship of of the Roman god, Mithras, would have been stronger; thus the family's objection.

As the son of a veteran officer, Martin, at the age of 15, was required to join the Roman army. While Martin was stationed in Gaul (modern-day France), he experienced a vision, which became the most-repeated story about his life. One day, as he was approaching the gates of the city of Amiens, he met a scantily clad beggar. He impulsively cut his military cloak in half to share with the man. That night, Martin dreamed of Jesus wearing the half-cloak he had given away. He heard Jesus say to the angels: "Martin, who is still but a catechumen, clothed me with this robe." The dream confirmed Martin in his faith, and he was baptized at the age of 18.

Later, just before a battle in the area which is now near Worms, Germany, Martin determined to switch his allegiance away from the anti-Christian Emperor, Julian, to a new commanding officer, Christ. Martin told Julian, "I am the soldier of Christ: it is not lawful for me to fight." He was charged with cowardice and jailed, but in response to the charge, he volunteered to go unarmed to the front of the troops. His superiors planned to take him up on the offer, but the battle never occurred, and Martin was released from military service.

After leaving the army, Martin became a Christian monk. He would be able to convert his mother to Christianity, but, sadly, not his father. He would fight the Arian heresy (which taught that Jesus was not true God) and become the third Bishop of the city of Tours, France, in 371. He continued in that role until his death in 397 at the age of 81. The Christian Church universally recognized Martin as a saint soon after his death. His Saint Day is November 11th. Thus we can see why Martin is identified with the military chaplaincy. And so, let us keep the men and women who serve our military personnel as chaplains in our hearts and prayers. Here is one such prayer: O Lord, almighty God, as You have always granted special gifts of the Holy Spirit to Your Church on earth, grant Your continual blessing to all who minister in Your name in the armed forces, that by Your gracious working they may honor Christ and advance the good of those committed to their care; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Brothers:

Last Bugle Calls

It is with a sad heart that I must share the following. Our former Department Chaplain, Brother Bill McAfee, entered eternal life this past Tuesday, May 11th. He was 79 years old. Brother McAfee helped form the Carpenter-Welch Camp No. 180, of which he was a member. He was National Chaplain for the SUVCW 2003-2004 and was Department of Michigan Chaplain for many years. He is survived by his wife Jeanette and four children. His funeral will be on Wednesday, May 19th, at 2pm, at the Dundee Assembly of God, 13790 S. Custer Rd., Dundee, MI. Attached is Brother McAfee's obituary. May the joy of Easter and the comfort that the Risen Christ brings be with the McAfee family, our Brothers of Camp 180, and with all of us in the Department.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty, Chaplain Charles Buckhahn PCC Department Chaplain, Department of Michigan, SUVCW

William Blaine McAfee of Milan, Michigan, formerly of Grass Lake and Chelsea, Age 79, entered into glory Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. He was born to William Kenneth and Alma Irene (Dragoo) McAfee, on April 30, 1942. Bill graduated from Strong Vincent High School in Erie, Pennsylvania in 1960 and then Allegheny College in Meadville, PA in 1964 with his BA in History. After graduation, Bill worked for the U.S. Public Health Service in New York from 1964 – 1966 until he enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served until 1969 stationed in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Bill worked in the Human Resources field and held a position as Reed City Manager from 1983-1986. In 1986, he accepted the position of Human Resources Director for the Washtenaw County Road Commission in Ann Arbor from 1986 –2005 when he retired.

Bill is survived by his wife Jeanette Day of Milan; two daughters from his first marriage to Patricia Yowell, Joanna McAfee and Jennifer (Todd) Patrick; two children from his second marriage, Bill (Megen) Day and Carolyn (Alan) Wright; grandchildren, Tucker, Timmy and Lilly Patrick; Lauren and Michael Day, Angela (Josh) House and Meredith (Josh Blessing) Wright, and Joseph Wright; great-granddaughter Elle House; niece, Kelly McAfee; and nephews, Christopher and Robert McAfee. He was preceded in death by his parents; and brother, Keith McAfee.

Bill formed the Carpenter-Welch Camp No. 180 for the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. He was a member of the American Legion Post #225, Custer Memorial Association, Harrison County (WV) Genealogical Society, Castor Association of America, and Saline Masonic Lodge #133. He served as Vice President and President of the Dragoo Family Association from 2004-2010, and was an active member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War where he served as the National Chaplain from 2003-2004 and as Chaplain for the Department of Michigan. Bill asked Jesus to be his Lord and Savior in 1981 at Evart Evangel Assembly of God. In recent years, Bill was a member and board member of the Dundee Assembly of God.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, May 19, 2:00 pm at the Dundee Assembly of God, 13790 S Custer Rd, Dundee, MI. **Visitation will be at the church Wednesday from 12 noon – 2 pm**. The burial will be held at Ft. Custer National Cemetery in Augusta, MI. Arrangements were entrusted to Cole Funeral Chapel in Chelsea.

Brothers;

It's my sad duty to report the death of a Brother, Dennis Clark Derr, who was a Charter and Life Member of the Gov. Crapo Camp, Camp No. 145, and father of Past Department Commander, Dennis C. Derr II. Brother Derr died this past Friday, May 14th. His obituary is given below. To share your thoughts and prayers with Dennis, his mother and brother, their address is 4033 Horizon Dr., Davison, MI 48423-8445, and their Email: <u>dderr@chartermi.net</u>. Please keep the Derr family and the brothers of Crapo Camp in your thoughts and prayers. From the Memorial Service for Departed Members, I offer this prayer:

Our Father, the Father of our Lord Jesus, and the Father of us all, bless the memory of our departed Brother, Dennis. Bless and comfort those near and dear to him by the ties of the flesh and fraternity. Help us, each one, to appreciate more and more the blessings we receive, daily, from Your great heart of love, and help us to prove our gratitude for all these good gifts, by our lives of usefulness and integrity. Bless our friends and Brothers everywhere, and may we be worthy of them and of You. Lead us graciously by Your strong right hand, and make us all to be the citizens we are privileged to be in this goodly land which You have given to us. We ask in the name of our Savior.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty, Chaplain Charles Buckhahn PCC Chaplain. Department of Michigan SUVCW

Dennis Clark Derr, of Davison, age 76, died Friday May 14, 2021 at Ascension-Genesys. Honoring his wishes cremation has taken place. Those desiring may make contribution in Dennis's memory to PALS, or Gov. Crapo Camp #145, SUVCW

Dennis was born in Flint Michigan on August 23, 1944 the son of the late: Louis & Margaret (Froats) Derr and has resided in the Davison area since 1973. He was joined in marriage to Marsha Johnson on March 20, 1965. He was a graduate of Flint Southwestern High School, and was an active member of the Gov. Crapo Camp #145, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. and a member of Local 651. He had been employed by General Motors AC Spark Plug Division for over thirty-one years, retiring in 1944. He loved listening to music, classic cars and attending car shows. He was loving and generous and never met a stranger.

Surviving is wife Marsha, sons: Dennis Derr II, Todd and wife Kelli Derr, and his loving grandchildren; Corbin and Colton. He leaves his brother Doug and wife Brenda Derr of Lapeer, and nephew Paul Derr of Michigan. Richard Johnson, Matthew and wife Lauren Johnson, niece Nicole Johnson and their mother Joy Johnson of Kansas. He was preceded in death by brother-in-law Jarrett Johnson of Kansas. Please share your condolences at <u>www.hansenfuneralhome.net</u>

VOLUME XXX, NUMBER I

SPRING, 2021

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



The brothers of General Israel B. Richardson Camp2 had a busy and fulfilling Memorial Day 2021. 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.

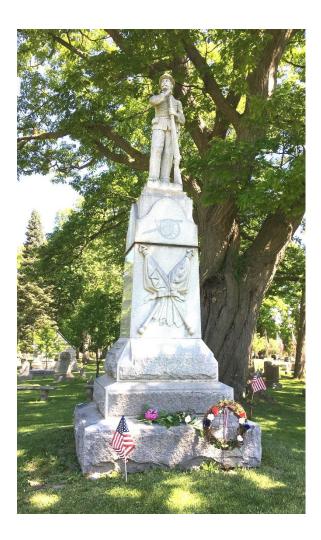
At the conclusion of the service the camp moved to historic Oak Hill Cemetery in Pontiac and the grave site of namesake General Richardson. The memorial service was highlighted by the stirring biography of the general and the placing of appropriate floral tributes.

Memorial Day 2021 was our duty and honor and we had fun doing it.

George W. Anderson Camp #58

Submitted by Todd Cordill, Patriotic Instructor

A community Memorial Day ceremony took place on May 30 in St. Johns, Michigan. The well-attended ceremony was held at Mount Rest Cemetery and was hosted by American Legion Post 153 and VFW Post 4113. George W. Anderson Camp 58 was represented and participated in a wreath setting at the monument to all fallen veterans. Camp 58 was among the other veteran groups and police and fire departments setting wreaths. Also, the G.A.R. monument at the cemetery was decorated. The St. Johns High School marching band performed during the ceremony.



SPRING, 2021

Curtenius Guard Camp #17

Submitted by James B. Pahl, PCinC

Memorial Day Activities at Mount Hope and Evergreen Cemeteries, then on to Eaton Rapids



On Saturday, May 29, brothers of the Curtenius Guard Camp #17 held our annual Memorial Day ceremony at the G.A.R. plot of the Mt. Hope Cemetery in Lansing. They then walked down the hill and aided the Lansing Fire Department with their services at the tomb of the Unknown Fireman.

Brothers then mustered at the Little Arlington section of the Evergreen Cemetery for services.



Monday, May 31 saw many brothers of the Camp support the G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum in Eaton Rapids. Steve Martin, PCC and Keith Harrison, PCinC, carried the Museum's parade banner. Current Camp Commander Rob Payne PDC and Ron Shull, , PCC carried the Camp's flag.

SPRING, 2021

Touring the Western Theater Battlefields Submitted by PDC Paul Davis

In April of 2021, Members of Company A, 14th Michigan Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve participated in an 8 day Tour of some of the Western Theater Battlefields. While the Eastern Theater Battlefields and the Army of the Potomac are widely familiar with many, the Michigan contingent took a tour of some of the Western Theater Battlefields including, Fort Heiman, Fort Henry, Raymond, Vicksburg, *Cairo* Restored Exhibit, Grand Gulf, Grant's Canal, Fort Donelson and Donelson National Cemetery, Spring Hill, Shiloh, Stones River and Franklin.

In addition to the historical aspects of the tour, there was an additional incentive to find the various locations where the participant's ancestors had fought and walk the same ground over which their ancestors had fought.



L to R: Lloyd Lamphere, Paul Davis, Dick Denney, Dean Lamphere



De Golyer's Michigan Battery



Shiloh Church



Stones River Slaughter Pen



Shiloh Hornet's Nest



Michigan Monument Shiloh



Michigan Monument Vicksburg



Battery Guarding River at Fort Donelson

Department Encampment



Department Commander Nathan L. Smith and attendees at the 137th Department of Michigan Encampment

VOLUME XXX, NUMBER I

SPRING, 2021

Robert Finch Camp # 14

Submitted by: David S. Smith, LM, PDC

As the busy season begins, 2021 promises to be one of the busiest in recent memory for Robert Finch Camp No. 14. As of this writing, it is anticipated that there will be 5 significant ceremonies held by the Camp before winter sets in at the end of this calendar year – a busy season indeed.

To kick things off Camp 14 held their May meeting on Saturday, 08 May 2021. During the meeting, Chaplain Mattis, PCC and Commander Davis, PDC led the Camp in the SUVCW Memorial Service for departed Brothers during the past year. Those honored in memoriam were: PCC Neal Breaugh (a former Senior Vice Department Commander and member of the Department Council), Brother Howard Byrne, and former Camp Brother and forever Camp friend, Brother Bill Hanusik.

Camp 14 also initiated a new Brother at the May meeting. Eric Boals of Traverse City was initiated, with Commander Davis, PDC and Chaplain Mattis, PCC leading the ritual. Brother Boals had his SUVCW membership badge pinned on him by Council Milks another fellow Veteran of the Cherryland VFW Post 2780. Brother Boals retired from the United States Army after serving 32 years at the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4.



Left: Brother Boals' Initiation (L-R: Chaplain Mattis, Brother Boals, and Commander Davis). Right: Council Milks pinning Brother Boals with the Badge of the Order

The Memorial Day Week and Weekend (and the lead-up to it) was extremely busy for the Brothers of Camp 14 as they stretched across the large 19 county geographical area to honor the fallen in various ways. Some of the activities included, but were not limited to: headstone cleaning and cemetery visits for evaluation of gravestone and flag holder conditions, straightening and resetting of headstones, placement of US flags at the graves of Veterans, placement of flag holders at the graves of Veterans, conducting research on various Veterans, giving presentations to churches and libraries, serving on area Honor Guards for Veteran funerals, and attending Memorial Day ceremonies throughout the week and weekend.





Historian Goodrich, PCC cleaning James Gear's headstone after it was reset. Gear is the Last Veteran Buried in Manistee County and a ceremony is upcoming in 2021 (pictures courtesy of GRO Sawyer)



Left: Council Milks during his presentation to the Betsie Valley District Library (screenshot courtesy of the BVDL You Tube Channel). Right: Assistant Secretary Welliver giving a presentation to his church in Manistee regarding the beginnings of Decoration Day/Memorial Day and the GAR on through to the SUVCW (screenshot courtesy of NLT Manistee FB Watch page).





Left: CWMO Schwander (and retired Grand Traverse Co. Deputy Sheriff) and MSP Trooper Halverson placing flags at Oakwood Cemetery in TC. Right: (L-R) Mr. Benjamin, Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association Michigan Chapter on left, Lieutenant Commander Wolfe (a USCG pilot) of Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City and former State Senator Jason Allen.





Camp 14 Brothers and Auxiliary 9 Sisters placed flags and flag holders for Veterans buried at Linwood Cemetery in Long Lake Township.The annual event takes place the week of Memorial Day. Left: (L-R): PDC D. Aurand, Chaplain Lorraine Aurand, PDC D. Smith, President Dorothy Rongey, PAP, Sec.-Treas. Lisa Smith, PAP, and Color Bearer J. Ribby. Right: Various members of the Grand Traverse Area Veterans Coalition and community members that participated at Linwood.





Long Lake Township Memorial Service on 28 May 2021. Left: (L-R): Council Milks, PAP Smith, AP & PAP Rongey, PDC Smith, Br. Ribby, Br. Morse, Sr., and Br. Morse, Jr. Right: Council Milks serving on the Traverse Area Honor Guard during the Long Lake Township Memorial Service.

A big thank you must be given to Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City for providing a flyover Friday of Oakwood Cemetery during the flag placement, as well as a flyover of the Long Lake Township Memorial Service (in addition to CGAS TC's Executive Officer serving as keynote speaker). The USCG's service and support to this community is extraordinary in addition to their everyday work protecting the Great Lakes.

Upcoming ceremonies in the near future for Camp 14 include the gravestone dedication and Last Veteran Buried in Otsego County for Samuel Qua on 19 June 2021, and the gravestone dedication and Last Veteran Buried in Benzie County for Charles Beeman on 10 July 2021.



Graves Registration Committee

Submitted by Rick Danes, Chair

The committee plans to meet by phone on Saturday, June 26, while we await news about a website and database update.

The Michigan Monument at Andersonville, Georgia

SPRING, 2021

U.S. Grant Camp 67 Memorial Day Services Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC

The Brothers of U.S. Grant Camp 67 performed the Memorial Day Service per the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Ceremonies and Ritual at Soldiers Rest in Bay City, Michigan. Flags were placed at the headstones by the Boy Scouts and members of the Friends of Pine Ridge, the previous name for Soldiers Rest. The Sons annually do a clean-up of the GAR plot at Soldiers Rest and attend to the cleaning and maintenance of the soldiers' headstones.







Honoring Corporal William Crittenden Submitted by Gary Naugle, CC

On May 23, 2021, Nash-Hodges Camp 43 sponsored a service in Macon Cemetery to honor Corporal William Crittenden, Co. D, 4th Michigan Cavalry. Corporal Crittenden was one of the men involved in the capture of Jefferson Davis. In attendance representing the Department of Michigan was Department Commander Nathan Smith.

Members of Co. A, 14th Michigan Infantry, "Irish Rifles", Sons of Veterans Reserve also participated in the ceremonies and performed a musket salute as part of the ceremonies.





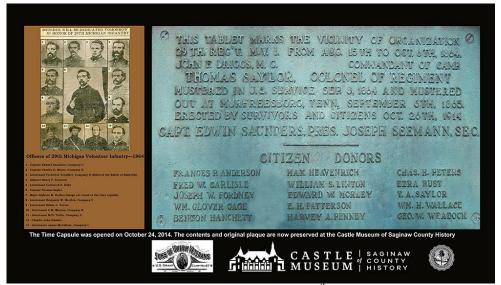
Rededication of 29th Michigan Infantry Monument Postponed Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC



On October 26, 1914 a monument for the 29th Michigan Infantry was erected in Bliss Park in Saginaw, Michigan. The site is the location where Colonel Thomas Saylor gathered and trained his men before going into service at Nashville, Tennessee on October 6, 1864. A time capsule was enclosed in the monument at the time of its dedication. On October 24, 2014, the time capsule was opened and removed. Sadly the ravages of time and weather pretty much destroyed most of the items in the capsule. The bronze tablet on the marker has since also been removed to prevent it from being further vandalized or stolen.

U.S. Grant Camp 67, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, has been working with the Saginaw County Castle Historical Museum to create a replacement tablet. Gary Dietrich, a member of Grant Camp, has an ancestor who served in the 29th and he has been instrumental in working with the Museum on this project.

The replacement plaque is now completed and the re-dedication Ceremony was scheduled for October 26th, 2020. That date due to the COVID restrictions was cancelled. In the meantime a search continues for relatives of the soldiers who served in the 29th. There have been three identified so far and they are local residents. If anyone in the Department of Michigan has an ancestor who served in the 29th Michigan Infantry, please make yourself known via Email to: pdmarcomm@aol.com. In addition, relatives of those whose names appear on the plaque are also being sought so they may participate in the Re-Dedication Ceremony scheduled now for October 26, 2021.



Replacement plaque to be installed on the 29th Michigan Monument

SPRING, 2021

Memorial Day Services at Aventine Cemetery

Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC

Aventine Cemetery is an abandoned Cemetery in Flint, Michigan that has been adopted and maintained by the Governor Crapo Camp 145. A Memorial Day Service was conducted at Aventine by the Brothers of Crapo Camp and U.S. Grant Camp 67. The service of remembrance included a reading of the Ceremonies and Rituals, followed by a musket salute and the playing of echo taps. Flowers were then placed on the headstones. Department Commander Nathan Smith was in attendance at this service as was Jan Davis, the President of the Michigan Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865. Also in attendance were the Carrington Chapter of the Society of the Daughters of the Union 1861-1865. Linda McKinch, Department President, represented the Women's Relief Corps.





Continued on next page





Department Commander Nate Smith



Michigan Department President DUVCW Jan Davis

SPRING, 2021

2021 SVR Lincoln Tomb Ceremony

Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC

Company A, 14th Michigan, Irish Rifle, SVR, traveled to Springfield, Illinois to participate in the Annual Lincoln Death Day Services. The 14th Michigan contingent has been attending and participating in these services for several years. Over the many years, the 14th Michigan has been taking on an increasing role with their support to this event. The 14th Michigan served as and had command of the Color Guard and also served as the Honor Guard consisting of the various units attending the event. This event is co-sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States.



Color Guard/Honor Guard at Lincoln Tomb



Lincoln Tomb

VOLUME XXX, NUMBER I

SPRING, 2021

Continued from previous page

After the Lincoln Death Day Services, Company A, 14th Michigan traveled to Petersburg, Illinois to participate in the Remembrance Service at the Benjamin Stephenson monument and Memorial Park where they also fired a musket salute. This too is an annual event for Company A, 14th Michigan.



Honor Guard at Stephenson Monument



This photo is continued from page 21

VOLUME XXX, NUMBER I

SPRING, 2021

Brief History of the 4th Michigan Cavalry

Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC

The 4th Michigan Cavalry was recruited from all over the state. They trained and organized west of Elmwood Cemetery in Detroit, and departed on Sept. 26th, 1862 with 1,233 men, led by an extraordinary Colonel, RobertHoratio George Minty, a veteran of the British Army. Minty would later command a brigade and a division of cavalry in the Army of the Cumberlandwhich included the 4th. His brigade was known as "Minty's Sabers" for theirnumerous successful saber charges. The 4th fought in over 100 battles and skirmishes, 375 cavalrymen from its ranks would perish.

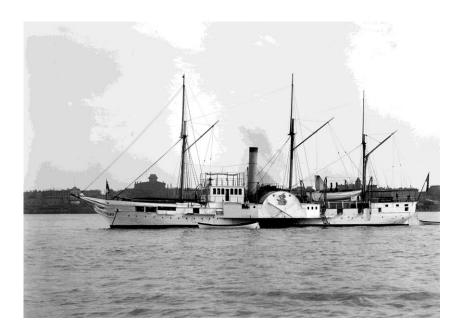
The regiment began its service clashing with General John Hunt Morgan's Confederate Cavalry in Kentucky and Tennessee. Dec. 31st, 1862,during the Battle of Stones River, the 4th would be part of an important sabercharge routing General Joe Wheeler's Confederate Cavalry, and Jan. 5th, 1863, they were the first regiment to enter the captured town of Murfreesboro, TN. With another daring saber charge at the Battle of Shelbyville, during the Tullahoma Campaign, the brigade routed two divisions of Confederates, capturing 600 prisoners.

At the beginning of the Battle of Chickamauga on Sept. 18th, 1863, "Minty's Brigade" made a heroic, determined stand at Reed's Bridge, an important crossing over Chickamauga Creek. The small force held off nearly 7 times its number by brilliantly deploying a delay tactic disrupting General Braxton Bragg's advancing Confederate Army by a day. This action helped to save the Union forces from being out flanked and destroyed, similar to General John Buford's Union Cavalry at Gettysburg.

The regiment went on to a fight at Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, the Atlanta Campaign, Wilson's Raid into Alabama and Georgia, and the final extraordinary mission under the command of Lt. Col. Benjamin Pritchard, of seeking out and capturing, the fugitive Confederate PresidentJefferson Davis in southeast Georgia on May 10th, 1865.

Pritchard reported that Captain Charles Hudson led an advance guard of 14 men into Davis' camp. "Corporal's George Munger of Company C, WilliamCrittenden, Company E, together with privates James Bullard, Company C, Andrew Bee and Daniel Edward, Company L, were present at the halting of Davis." Today, we honor one of those important participants, Corporal William H. Crittenden.

On page no. 684 of *Michigan in the War*, it states: "The 4th gained a national reputation and world-wide notoriety by the capture of Davis. It was the accomplishment of an eminently special and important duty for the nation, so distinctive and definite in its character, as to render a like service impossible, giving it a place in the history of the war without parallel".



The USS Michigan: Guardian of the Great Lakes Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC

Continued on next page

When most people think about Civil War era iron hulled and iron clad ships, the *Monitor* and *Merrimac* come immediately to mind as the first ships of that type. The *Monitor* was launched/put into service on January 30, 1862. However, the first ship in the Navy to have an iron hull was the USS *Michigan* in 1843.

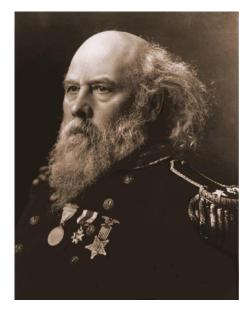
The *Michigan* was designated as a steam powered paddle frigate. She would come to serve as the link between wooden battleships and fully armored and steel warships. The *Michigan* was conceived and designed with many engineering and hull design advantages. In addition to her speed, the flat bottom and rectangular cross section of the hull allowed her gun crews to be consistently more accurate than her counter parts. Construction began in the Summer of 1842 at Pittsburg. In early Spring of 1843 the hull was disassembled and shipped to Erie where it was reassembled during the Summer and Fall of 1843. The first Captain of the Michigan was William Inman. The attempted launch of the *Michigan* occurred at 4:00 pm on Monday, December 4, 1843, but when the last block was removed, she remained still. Many onlookers had gathered as they had expected the iron ship to immediately sink.

The next day, the engineers were able to get her into the water and it did not sink displacing only three feet of water. During the following months the engines and boilers were installed along with the wooden decking, cabin partitions and other fittings.

Captain William Inman served as her first Captain from 1844 until November of 1845.

Commander John Carter was Captain of the Michigan from March of 1861 to November 1864.

On July 29, 1861, a newly commissioned 3rd Engineer was assigned to the USS *Michigan*. This sailor was George Wallace Melville who would later become a Rear Admiral.



George Melville



Francis Roe

In November of 1864, Lieutenant Commander Francis Roe, served as Captain through April of 1866.

Commander Andrew Bryson, served as Captain from April of 1866 to April of 1868.

Commander, later Rear Admiral, James E. Jouett served as Captain from April of 1868 to September of 1870.

The *Michigan* served in many capacities. From 1905 to 1912 she was named the *Wolverine*. From 1912 through 1923 she served as a training ship in the Pennsylvania Naval Reserve. In 1949 the *Michigan* was finally sent to be scrapped. At the time she was scrapped her hull was still sound and in rust-free condition. Lore has it that the *Michigan* did not go without a fight. In her last defiant act the line attached to the launch towing her to the scrap yard, parted and the *Michigan* rammed and swamped the launch.