

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

Volume XXX, Number 2

Chartered June 24, 1884

Summer, 2021

John R. Mann, Coitor Emeritus

Richard C. Danes, Editor

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

Commander's Comments by Nathan Smith, Department Commander

I hope this newsletter finds everyone safe and healthy as we wind down our summer. As you may have seen in my recent Department Order No. 07, our 138th Annual Michigan Department Encampment will take place on Saturday, May 14, 2022, at DoubleTree by Hilton Grand Rapids Airport, 4747 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49512. Registration will begin at 8:00 am, and the Encampment proceedings will begin at 9:00 am. Information and forms for the Annual Michigan Department Encampment will be posted on the Department of Michigan website at: www.suvcwmi.org as they become available.

It is nice to see some of our camps having events this summer. I recently attended Gov. Crapo Camp's "Last Soldier" Marker dedication in Lapeer County for Charles L. Oliver, a PVT in Co. E. 15th Michigan Infantry Regiment. Despite it being a hot and muggy day, the event turned out great. The 14th Michigan SVR was on hand acting as the honor guard and did an outstanding job as always. Great work, Gov. Grapo Camp! I also enjoyed attending a marker placement for a Revolutionary War Soldier who never received proper recognition. Pvt. John Myers is buried in the Memphis, Michigan Cemetery. It was nice to see so many groups such as the SAR, VFW, and American Legion come together to ensure the soldier received proper recognition and honors. If your respective camps have events, please be sure to reach out to the Department Signals Officer at signals.officer@suvcwmi.org to place the event on our Department website.

Over the past four months of being the Department Commander, I have learned a great deal more about our Department and our many camps. This was made possible by your camps sharing the information via email, Facebook, or article placement into the Messanger. I like to hear about the great things our camps are doing and encourage you to share your success stories with the Department. Recently I became aware of a camp that has been struggling with having a meeting due to some concerns over covid. It has made the camp's participation in community events difficult. I was happy to hear Robert Finch Camp No. 14 out of Traverse City has jumped in to help the camp out with some of their events. This is what our Fraternity is about. It is about Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. My hat is off to you, Camp No. 14. Thank you for stepping up.

"world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion ..."

- Jeff Shaara, The Last Full Measure

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Nathan Smith, PCC



Headquarters Marlette, MI August 17, 2021

RE:SCHEDULING OF CAMP OFFICER INSTALLATIONS

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

To facilitate the Installation of Camp Officers for the upcoming 2021-2022 term.

Camps must communicate with the Department as to their intended date of installation.

This will assist withthe scheduling of an installing officer.

Camp Officers shall be installed at a regular meeting of the Camp to be held between the firstmeeting in September, and the first meeting in the following January, by a person designated by the Department Commander.

Camps that intend on keeping the same slate of elected officers in place for the upcoming termmust still make notification to the Chief of Staff.

Camps shall contact the Department Chief of Staff, David Smith PDC, with the intended Officer Installation date no later than September 10, 2021. The Department Chief of Staff canbe contacted at: chiefofstaff@suvcwmi.org or David.smith@suvcwmi.org.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

/s/

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

) that Smith

ATTEST:

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

> Future Michigan's Messenger Publications Submittal Dates and Publication Dates

Winter - March 1 for a March 15 Publication Spring- June 1 for a June 15 Publication

Summer – September 1 for a September 15 Publication Fall – December 1 for a December 15 Publication

> Send all articles to Rick Danes, Editor, preferably at editor@suvcwmi.org, 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!

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, MÍ 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

Department Order #6



Series 2021 - 2022

Headquarters Marlette, MI September 1, 2021

CORRECTION TO THE 137th ANNUAL MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT PROCEEDINGS AND THE BYLAWS AS ADOPTED.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Michigan received a letter dated August 9, 2021, by a Brother of the George W. Anderson Camp No. 58, indicating an error in the Published 137th Annual Department of Michigan Encampment Proceedings as well as in the Department of Michigan Bylaws from an adopted Bylaws changed approved on May 1, 2021. The error as indicated pertains to the Department of Michigan Bylaws, ARTICLE IX-COMMITTEES, Section 12. The Nominating Committee. The motion languageput forth by the Brother read, "A Brother(s) nominated for Department Commander must be qualified to be elected by virtue of having served as a past Camp Commander or is currently seated as a Camp Commander." This language was not reflected in the recently published Bylaws for the Department of Michigan nor the recently published 137th Annual Department of Michigan Encampment Proceedings.

Our Assistant Department Secretary/Proceedings Editor researched this reported error, and thetranscription error was located as pertaining to Section 12. The Nominating Committee.

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

That a transcription error has been determined to exist in the 137th Annual Department of Michigan Encampment Proceedings under the Bylaws Committee Report pertaining to ARTICLE IX-COMMITTEES, Section 12. The Nominating Committee. The language shallread, "Todd Cordill moved to amend the language to state: A Brother(s) nominated for Department Commander must be qualified to be elected by virtue of having served as Past Camp Commander or is currently seated as a Camp Commander."

That the Assistant Department Secretary/Encampment Proceedings Editor is hereby authorized to make necessary changes to the 137th Annual Michigan Department Encampment proceedings as outlined in this Department Order and correct any future needed corrections forgrammatical, spelling, or spelling transcriptional errors. Notification of such changes will be made to the Department Secretary and Department Commander before being made. Following completion of any such changes, a corrected copy shall be forwarded to the Department Secretary, Department Commander, and the Department Signals Officer. The Department Signals Officer shall publish the new updated version on the Department Webpage.

That a transcription error has been determined to exist in the Department of Michigan Bylaws, page 6, under ARTICLE IX -COMMITTEES, Section 12. The Nominating Committee. The language in error currently reads, "A Brother(s) nominated must be qualified to be elected by virtue of having served as a past Camp Commander or currently seated as a Camp Commander." This language shall be changed to reflect the following as it was approved at the 137th Annual Michigan Department Encampment; "A Brother(s) nominated for Department Commander must be qualified to be elected by virtue of having served as Past Camp Commander or is currently seated as a Camp Commander."

Corrected Department of Michigan Bylaws will be forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief, SUVCW, for review and approval. Following his approval, they will be distributed to the Camps and published on the Department of Michigan website.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

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

ATTEST:

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



Department Order #7 Series 2

Headquarters Marlette, MI

September 3, 2021

2022 ANNUAL MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT & DISCHARGE OFSITE SELECTION COMMITTEE

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

DISCHARGE OF THE SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE:

The 2022 Annual Michigan Department Encampment Site Committee consisting of Paul Davis, PDC (Chair), L. Dean Lamphere, PDC, and David Smith, PDC having been duly appointed, haveprovided a Site Selection Committee Report as of September 1, 2021, and are now and hereby discharged from their duties contained in their committee appointment. The Department Commander thanks Brothers Davis, Lamphere, and Smith for their service on the Encampment Site Committee and their service to the Department of Michigan, SUVCW.

2022 ANNUAL MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT:

As previously determined, and now hereby ordered by proper authority, the 2022 Annual Michigan Department Encampment will be held on Saturday, May 14, 2022, at DoubleTree by Hilton Grand Rapids Airport, 4747 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49512. Registration will begin at 8:00am, and the Encampment proceedings will begin at 9:00 am. Information and forms for the Annual Michigan Department Encampment will be posted on the Department of Michigan website at: www.suvcwmi.org as they become available.

Brothers who have special accommodation and/or arrangement requests and/or questions may direct them to the Department Commander at nate.smith@suvcwmi.org or Department Chief of Staff David Smith chiefofstaff@suvcwmi.org. In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Wathank Smith

/S/

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

ATTEST:

Richard Denney, PCC, 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 you to submit relative news about your committees, your Camps.

General Israel B. Richardson Camp #2

Submitted by Bruce Miller, PCC

Camp 2 Dedicates Headstone

On July 6, 2021, members of General Israel B. Richardson Camp #2 of Oakland County, conducted the dedication service of a new headstone for a local veteran of the famed Michigan Cavalry Brigade.

Following the formal dedication ceremony that dates back to 1917 for members of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), Matt Van Acker, Chairman of Michigan's Save the Flags program, presented a Legislative Tribute Certificate to the camp for their adoption of the regimental flag carried by the First Michigan Volunteer Cavalry. This adoption also honors trooper George Washington Cole of Algonac, Michigan who fought with Company H of the regiment. A photo of the flag was presented to Mary Lewis, great granddaughter of trooper Cole. As part of Save the Flags, the camp contributed \$1,000 to "adopt" this flag to assist in its long-term care and conservation. The adopted flag is part of the Michigan State Capitol Battle Flag Collection, numbering 240 banners, including flags from the Civil War, the Spanish-American War and World War I. As part of "Save the Flags," groups or individuals may adopt a flag by contributing to its preservation.

The First Michigan Volunteer Cavalry Regiment was formed at Camp Lyons near Detroit in September 1861. Its commanding officer was Colonel Thornton Brodhead, a well-known former state senator and editor of *The Detroit Free Press*. The regiment later became part of the Michigan Cavalry Brigade, commanded by the dashing "boy general," George Armstrong Custer. The Brigade became one of the most famous fighting units of the Civil War. The regiment's greatest moment in the Civil War occurred on July 3, 1863, near Gettysburg. The First Michigan Cavalry was ordered to charge the rebel cavalry. As they formed, Custer rode up and, drawing his saber, shouted "Come on, you Wolverines!" Historians have described this as one of the most desperate, as well as brilliant, charges of the war.

Trooper George Washington Cole was born in New York in 1841 and moved to Algonac, Michigan with his family at a young age. At age 22, he enlisted with the First Michigan Volunteer Cavalry Regiment. He was severely wounded by a gunshot to the chest in the Shenandoah Valley in December of 1864. He recuperated in the hospital until his discharge on July 12, 1865 and returned to the family home in Algonac. A carpenter by trade, he became a wood worker in the local boat factories. He and his wife Cynthia had eight children, two of whom he named after Civil War Generals-Fred *Sheridan* and Charles *Custer* Cole. Trooper Cole died on October 18, 1909 at the age of 68.



Matt Van Acker, Chairman of Michigan's Save the Flags program, presents a photo of the 1st Michigan Cavalry regimental flag to Mary Lewis (left) and Legislative Tribute to Jack Haus (right). Camp 2 adopted the flag and Mary is the great granddaughter of trooper George Washington Cole. The camp conducted a headstone dedication service for this veteran of the famed Michigan Cavalry Brigade.

Robert Finch Camp # 14

Submitted by: David S. Smith, LM, PDC

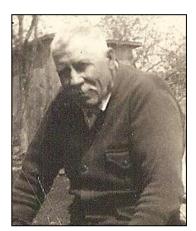
2021 certainly has lived up to its promises as being one of the busiest in recent memory for Robert Finch Camp No. 14. Ceremonies, meetings, and other Camp activities quickly have filled the calendar with vigor and a resumption of normalcy. This summer season has been one that has been bittersweet with the honoring of our heroes that saved the Union, as well as honoring of our contemporaries with services for Brothers that have passed, and also an honor from the Commander-in-Chief.

The start of the Camp 14 ceremony season began on 19 June 2021 with honoring Samuel Qua, Otsego County's Last Union Veteran Buried. In addition to receiving the bronze flag marker identifying Mr. Qua as the "Last Veteran", he also received a new VA headstone, as his gravesite had been left unmarked since his death. Attendees included members of the Qua family, Gaylord VFW Post 1518 and the VFW Auxiliary, Michigan Army National Guard from Camp Grayling, Bugles Across America, and community members. 9&10 News sent a camera crew and reporter to cover the event. During the ceremony, Camp Bard Brother Jim Ribby gave a reading of "The Black Regiment" in honor of the newly recognized National Holiday of Juneteenth, which also fell on this day. This is believed to possibly be the first time in an SUVCW ceremony that the holiday was honored since becoming a Federal Holiday.



LEFT: Samuel Qua, Company L, 26th NY Cavalry; CENTER: Rifle Salute (L-R: Br. Jones, PDC Davis, & Br. Ribby); RIGHT: (L-R: PDC Smith, PDC Davis, Mr. Qua, Br. Ribby, and PCC Mattis)

On 10 July 2021, Camp No. 14, Auxiliary No. 9, the Beeman Family, Bugles Across America, and community members came together to honor Charles Beeman, the Last Union Veteran Buried in Benzie County. Mr. Beeman was a long-time resident of Empire in bordering Leelanau County, but was the final Union Veteran Buried in nearby Benzie County in Almira Township's Greenbriar Cemetery. TV 9&10 and TV 7&4 both sent photojournalists to cover the event, and the Beeman Family had a large presence with a family reunion planned that day in the area. A very special relic was placed at the gravesite by the Beeman Family, which provided the folded US flag in its case used at Charles Beeman's funeral. In addition to receiving a "Last Veteran Buried" bronze flag marker, Mr. Beeman also had a grave dedication memorial service provided as he received a new headstone very recently.





LEFT: Charles Beeman, Company K, 185th Ohio Infantry; RIGHT: Beeman Family Members leaving flowers at Charles Beeman's gravesite



LEFT: Brothers of the Camp 14 Honor Guard fire a volley (L-R: Br. Boals, PDC Aurand, Br. Welliver, Br. Jones, and PCC Goodrich) with PDC Smith and PCC Mattis looking on; RIGHT: AP Rongey, PAP Smith, Chaplain Aurand, PDC Davis, Br. Jones, Br. Welliver, PCC Goodrich, PDC Aurand, CWMO Schwander, PDC Smith, Br. Ribby, Br. Boals, Br. Graham, Br. Scheck, Br. Morse, Sr., Br. Morse, Jr., GRO Sawyer, and DUVCW-MI DP Davis

Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 bid final goodbyes to two of our Brothers on 24 July and 04 August attending memorial services for Brother Bill Hanusik and Camp 14 legend PCC Neal Breaugh. Commander Davis, PDC, SVC Smith, PDC, and Chaplain and Council Mattis, PCC paid final respects to Brother Hanusik and his family at his memorial service held at Messiah Lutheran Church in Roscommon on 24 July. Brother Bill was memorialized by a packed church with the 14th Michigan Infantry "Irish Rifle" SVR serving as the Honor Guard. Many a story was told, tears shed, and laughs had with those that knew and paid tribute to Brother Hanusik. He was a great Brother, a good friend, a wonderful family man, and just an honorable soul that will be deeply missed by all that had the privilege of meeting him.



LEFT: Brother Bill Hanusik; RIGHT: 14th Michigan Infantry "Irish Rifle" SVR in attendance at Brother Hanusik's memorial service. L-R: Br. Neal Zabicki, PDC Dean Lamphere, PCC Butch Miller, PCC Lloyd Lamphere, Br. Chris Douglas, PCC Ron Shull, PCC Len McInerney, Br. Jerry Crow, PDC Paul Davis, and PDC Rob Payne

On 04 August, Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 and Sisters of Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 assembled at Christ the King Catholic Church in Acme to attend the memorial service of PCC Neal Breaugh, the pillar of Camp 14 for many years. A wonderful celebration of life was shared among those that attended the service in person and online. Brother Neal was larger than life, and lived his life as a great adventure shared in love with his family and friends.





LEFT: PCC Neal Breaugh; RIGHT: Standing with PCC Neal Breaugh one last time. Back Row (L-R): PCC Ted Mattis, PDC Dale Aurand, JVC Joseph Conger, Br. Jim Morse, Jr., and Color Bearer Jim Ribby. Front Row (L-R): PDC David Smith and PDC Paul Davis.

Camp 14 also participated in several special events in the community during Summer 2021. Brothers attended the annual Flag Day Ceremony at Elks Lodge #323 in Traverse City. Additionally, Camp 14 was represented at the Change of Command Ceremony at U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City.

After what can be said as one of the most successful commands at Air Station Traverse City, Captain Chuck Webb bid Michigan adieu for his new assignment at NORAD in Colorado. Three Brothers of Camp 14 had the high honor of being invited to attend the Change of Command Ceremony at Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City on 16 July 2021. With Captain Webb departing, Commander Christopher Wright assumed the helm of the CGAS Traverse City. Rear Admiral Michael J. Johnston, Commander, Ninth Coast Guard District presided over the ceremony.

The Change of Command Ceremony saw many local, state, and national dignitaries, business leaders, organization representatives, along with many friends and family members of Captain Webb and Commander Wright.





CGAS Traverse City Change of Command Ceremony. LEFT: (L-R): Captain Webb, Rear Admiral Johnston, and Commander Wright (picture courtesy of FB page of CGAS TC); RIGHT: (L-R): CW Memorials Officer Schwander, Captain Webb, and PDC Smith. Camp 14 presented Captain Webb with a Certificate of Appreciation for his service to the nation, state, and locally.



LEFT: (L-R): SAR NM Chapter President Spence, JVC Conger, and PDC Smith. RIGHT: (L-R): CWMO Schwander, Commander Wright, and PDC Smith.

In August, Robert Finch Camp No. 14 was notified by Department Commander Nathan Smith that the Camp's newsletter "The Sharpshooter" was presented the Marshall Hope Award as the Best Newsletter of the Order by Commander-in-Chief Pierson at the 2021 National Encampment in St. Louis. This is the third time that The Sharpshooter has won the Marshall Hope Award since its inception in 2014.

The remainder of 2021 continues to be busy for Robert Finch Camp No. 14 with the Last Union Veteran Buried in Manistee County on 18 September, as well as 2021's largest event to be held at Oakwood Cemetery in Traverse City honoring several Union Veterans, friends of the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Last Union Veteran Buried in Grand Traverse County on 02 October. Additionally, Camp 14 will be doing a joint event with Camp 28 and the Lake County Historical Society to honor Union Veteran homesteaders in Lake County during the county's sesquicentennial.

Graves Registration Committee

Submitted by Rick Danes, Chair

Your Graves Registration Committee met at the State Library in person for the first time since December of 2019. Mark Hoffman and Gary Swain submitted many new and revised records. The committee decided to schedule Zoom meetings in December and March in order that committee members will attend during the winter. Those meetings are on December 11, 2021 and March 12, 2022 at 10 AM.

There has been no further input into the Department databassince December, 2019, as we await the finalization of a new format for this research tool look for the launch by the end of the year.

We certainly hope that as Camps choose new officers for the 2022 season, the officers place a special emphasis on either starting or completing the graves work in your county(s). If you are unsure about how to start, contact me and I will arrange a tutorial session.



Grave of Brevet General Dwight May, Mountain Home Cemetery, Kalamazoo

George W. Anderson Camp #58 Submitted by Todd Cordill, Patriotic Instructor

On a Saturday in July, several brothers from George W. Anderson Camp #58 performed restoration and maintenance work on headstones of veterans at Wacousta Cemetery in Clinton County. Nearly three dozen headstones of veterans of the Civil War, Spanish-American War, and even the War of 1812, were cleaned. A few of the subject veterans were members of the G.A.R. George W. Anderson Post 58 in DeWitt. Many of the headstones were covered with biological growth (algae, lichen, or mildew). The Grand Army of the Republic statue monument at the cemetery was also cleaned where needed.

The cleaning materials and methods followed the guidelines of the National Cemetery Administration and the National Park Service.



U.S. Grant Camp 67 Memorial Day Services

Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC

Company A, 14th Michigan Sons of Veterans Reserve comprised of Brothers in several Camps within the Department of Michigan has been extremely busy in the past several months conducting Memorial Services for Brothers throughout the state who have passed away, as well as several services for the Last Civil War Soldier buried in the various counties in Michigan. A typical service consists of flower tributes, the reading of the Soldier's Service Record and a brief Biography followed by an Honor Guard musket salute. Services are concluded with the playing of taps.



In July at the Evergreen Cemetery in Flint, a Last Soldier Service in Genesee County was conducted for Cordoyn Foote.



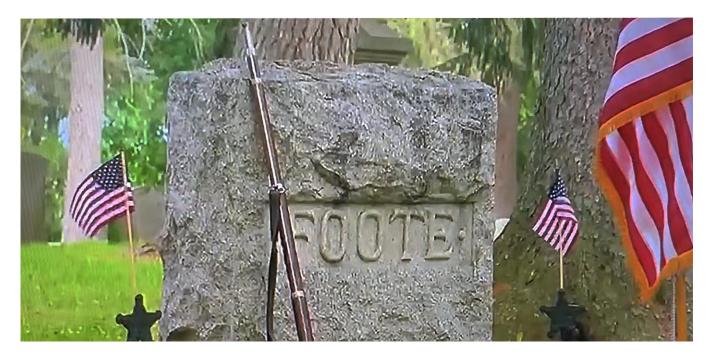
Bill Hanusik, formerly a member of Company A, 14th Michigan SVR. Service held in Roscommon, Michigan.



Company A, 14th Michigan SVR will continue to support and provide its services to Michigan Camps, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.



A Flower Tribute - Last Civil War Soldier Ceremony for Charles L. Oliver, Lapeer County.



Foote, Civil War Soldier Ceremony in Flint.