

e Official Aetosletter of the Department of Michigan - Sons of Union Veterans of the Cibilithar

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Chartered June 24, 1884

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Summer, 2023

John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus

Richard C. Danes, Sr. Editor

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



Chaplain William C. Way, 24th Michigan Infantry



#### HEADQUARTERS 2620 S. DECKER RD MARLETTE, MICHIGAN 48453 16 July 2023

#### **RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPARTMENT RESOURCE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE**

#### Background:

At the 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Department Encampment, Department Treasurer Bruce Gosling PDC proposed the following recommendations which were subsequently approved by the Encampment:

- 1. The Department financial resources have grown sufficiently to allow additional prudent spending to advance the objectives of the SUVCW and the Department of Michigan.
- 2. A Special Committee be created to define the opportunity and to recommend approaches to equitable allocation of additional financial resources.

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

- That, as allowed under the Department of Michigan Bylaws, Article IX-Committees-Section 2 & 3, I hereby establish a Special Committee to be named the "Resource Allocation Committee."
- 2. The primary objective of the Resource Allocation Committee is to define a sustainable and equitable allocation of additional Department financial resources and to identify opportunities to achieve the charitable and educational objectives with consideration of the goals outlined in the current Department 5-Year Strategic Direction Plan.
- 3. The Resource Allocation Committee will include: Bruce S. A. Gosling PDC-Chairman, Terry McKinch, PDC, David Kimble DJVC, and John Bennett Camp 135. Additional committee members can be added at the determination of the committee chairman.
- 4.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Gary L. Swain Gary L. Swain, PCC Commander, Department of Michigan Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

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



#### Headquarters 2620 S. Decker Rd Marlette, Michigan 48453 4 September 2023

#### **RE: DISCHARGE OF KALAMAZOO LINCOLN PROJECT SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

Whereas, on August 23, 2020 Past Department of Michigan Commander Terry McKinch issued Department Order #4 establishing the Kalamazoo Lincoln Project Special Committee and appointed Charles Worley PDC as chair and Brother's Cameron S. Brown and Gary L. Swain PCC as its first committee members. Brother Bruce Gosling Department Treasurer joined the committee in 2020 and Brother Terry McKinch PDC joined that committee as a member in 2021.

Whereas, on August 27, 2023 the completed bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln was dedicated in Kalamazoo's Bronson Park commemorating Lincoln's only visit to the State of Michigan.

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

- That the objectives of the Kalamazoo Lincoln Project Special Committee have been met and the Special Committee is hereby discharged from their duties.
- I would like to thank Brothers Worley, Brown, Gosling and McKinch for their outstanding efforts and diligent work on this Special Committee.
- I would also like to express our deepest gratitude to the Brothers and Camps of the Department of Michigan
  as well as the National SUVCW and the Foundation for their significant support in making this decade long
  objective a reality.

This is so ordered, on the fourth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-three and the one hundred and fifty-seventh year since the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Gary L. Swain Gary L. Swain, PCC Commander, Department of Michigan Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

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

#### VOLUME XXXII, NUMBER 2

#### CHARTERED JUNE 24, 1884

#### New Steakhouse to Occupy 2 Floors of Downtown Detroit's GAR Building Story by Lyndsay C. Green, Detroit Free Press



Sexy Steak, a new project by Prime Concepts Detroit, will take over the Grand Army of the Republic Building, replacing Parks & Rec Diner and The Republic.© Lyndsay C. Green

Since the eateries of Detroit's Grand Army of the Republic Building, casually known as the GAR Building, closed shop during the COVID-19 pandemic, frequent diners have been curious to learn of the new steakhouse and event space that would replace the once beloved Republic and Parks and Rec Diner.

The recently installed window wraps that cling to the glass at the ground level of the historic building have hinted at what's next, and yet simultaneously added to the mystery of the place.

Sexy Steak is the name of the impending restaurant by Prime Concepts Detroit, and plans for the ambitious project are underway.

Prime Concepts Detroit is the West Bloomfield-based hospitality group behind restaurants such as Prime29 Steakhouse; Nara, with locations in West Bloomfield and Miami, and Pao Detroit, another culinary transformation of a city artifact with the rehab of the former Michigan Oriental Theater into a multilevel, Asian-inspired restaurant.

Sexy Steak will occupy the first and second floors of the GAR Building,

Taking over the former Parks and Rec Diner at a corner of the building is a smaller, more casual concept. Sexy Burger, a six-day, lunch-and-dinner spot,

"They've uncovered things in the building — pictures, drawings and artifacts — that will be on display on the third floor," Near said. "Just as they did with the Pao space, they want to highlight the history of the building."

This article originally appeared on Detroit Free Press: New steakhouse to occupy 2 floors of downtown Detroit's GAR Building

#### SUMMER 2023

2023 - 2024 Department Officers

> Commander Gary Swain, PCC 697 Wynding Oaks Kalamazoo, MI 49006

Senior Vice Commander Steven S. Martin, PDC 400 Catholic Church Road Leslie, Michigan 49251

Junior Vice Commander David Kimble 910 Queen Street Owosso, MI 48867

> RecordingSecretary Richard Denny 30090 Orla EagleRoad Colon, Michigan49040

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 Nathaniel L. Smith, PDC

Chaplain Rev. Charles Buckhahn, PCC

> Patriotic Instructor Terry McKinch. PDC

Color Bearer Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Military Affairs Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Counselor Nathan L. Smith, PDC

Guard Lloyd Lamphere, Sr PCC

Eagle Scout Coordinator Lloyd Lamphere, Sr. PCC

Signals Officer Robert R. Payne, PDC

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

> Historian David F. Wallace, PDC

Guide Leonard Sheaffer, CC

Graves Registration Richard E. Danes, Sr., PCC Chair

> GAR Records Gary L. Gibson, PDC Chair

> Civil War Memorials Leonard Sheaffer, CC Chair

Chief of Staff Gary L. Gibson, PDC Chair

Camp At Large Coordinator L. Dean Lamphere, Jr, PDC

Aide de Camp L. Dean Lamphere, Jr, PDC

> Camp Organizer James B. Pahl, PC-in-C

Ceremonies and Rituals L. Dean Lamphere, Jr, PDC

#### CHARTERED JUNE 24, 1884

#### July, 2023 National Patriotic Instruction

Submitted by Terrance McKinch, Department Patriotic Instructor

Brothers,

It is my pleasure to report to you for what has been a great summer. I did attend several events this summer from 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades to Eagle Scout ceremonies. I along with ten other Department of Michigan Brothers attended the National Encampment in Nashua, NH, August 3-6, 2023. The encampment was a great success with the Order's work getting done. We welcomed in our new Commander-in-Chief Peter J. Hritsko and had eulogies for the past Commander-in-Chiefs, two being from Michigan, who departed earlier this year. Don Shaw and Keith Harrison, both close personal friends, were at the National Encampment in spirit, and I am sure they are missed by many. I urge you to read the current National orders. Past C-in-C Bruce D. Frail changed or rescinded several of his previous orders.

One of the motions that was not approved, was one that would chain Patriotic Instructors from an appointed position to an elected position. I along with other Michigan Brothers did not approve of the proposed change.

#### The following is from National Patriotic Instructor, Ben Frail, PDC.

"We should be looking to the Department and the National for guidance on our Flag Certificate Program. This program is designed for us, as the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, to recognize those in the community that have shown "exemplary Patriotism in the display of the Flag of the United States of America". Camps, Departments and National can issue this certificate out and they are available through the National Quartermaster. Any Brother in the order can nominate a company, individual or agency that proudly, conspicuously, and properly flies or displays the flag. The Camp, Department, or National Patriotic Instructor would then review the nomination and make the final call on if that organization rates the award. That being said, those who are doing the nominating and the Brother that is deciding to award the certificate, must be well versed in how one can show said exemplary Patriotism in the display of the Flag.

That begs the question, how do we become knowledgeable about this? Well, we don't need to look far as on the Governance page of our website you can find a few pieces of literature that can help educate us on what these definitions are. The first brochure we have is a flag facts page. It gives the history of the flag and how we got from the first official flag, that was authorized on 14 June 1777 to our current flag, which is the 27<sup>th</sup> official variant. It also give important flag code facts, how to properly raise and lower the flag, how to position the flag and things of that nature.

The other document is how to properly conduct a flag disposal ceremony. Now an outside organization might not do the ceremony to a T, it should be used as a guideline to ensure that these groups are treating our flag with the proper respect and dignity it deserves while disposing it. This information is vital for a Brother to see if an outside group is showing exemplary Patriotism, but also good information to have for being a Brother of the Order in general. These two items are just some of the countless items you can find online through the google machine that will help you with understanding the US Flag code and proper flag etiquette, I have listed below a few that I have found. My challenge this month is for all of you to lead by example by properly flying your flag, as well as educate those outside the order on proper flag etiquette and search for those in your community that are deserving of the Flag Certificate Program." More information can be found at these websites. <a href="https://www.legion.org/flag/code">https://www.legion.org/flag/code</a>; <a href="https://www.usa.gov/flag">https://www.military.com/flag-day/us-flag-code.html</a>

As members of the SUVCW, it is our duty not only to support patriotic functions and instructions, but to keep track of all our activities and turn them into me, the Department Patriotic Instructor. We can find the form here; <a href="https://suvcw.org/sites/default/files/2022-04/Form-40fi-Mar-2021-Final.pdf">https://suvcw.org/sites/default/files/2022-04/Form-40fi-Mar-2021-Final.pdf</a>. Your camp can use a simpler form, but this form is what is submitted to me to keep track during the year, but the end result should be in the form 40 form.

The form includes the hours to and from an event, times the number of brothers, any money spent on supplies, this includes mileage priced per the United States mileage allowance, and other patriotic duties.

I refer the SUVCW Constitution and Regulations for Camp Patriotic Instructors.

#### ARTICLE VIII. Appointed Officers Job Descriptions & Duties

Section 1. Camp Patriotic Instructor- The purpose of the office of Patriotic Instructor is to educate and provide Brothers and the general public with information that will help to foster patriotism among the membership and the populace in general. Camp Patriotic Instructor shall perform such duties as are prescribed by the Ritual of the Order or indicated by the official forms, or directed by the Commander. The activities of the Camp Patriotic Instructor should include:

- (a) Presenting at each Camp meeting information on such items as -
- (1) Civil War military, civilian and other great American leaders,
- (2) National and state holidays,
- (3) The United States Flag,
- (4) Duties of citizenship such as voting,
- (5) Great Civil War battles and battles of other wars, and
- (6) Great American artifacts and sites;
- (b) Providing public displays and orations on patriotism as called upon;

(c) Providing awards of recognition to deserving individuals as deemed necessary or ordered by the Camp.

Even though it does say to keep records, Form 40 must be filled out and sent to me. Please keep track of our participation. It is our responsibility and duty as a Brother and a Patriotic Pnstructor.

August 27, 2023, is the dedication for the Lincoln Statue presentation and dedication in Kalamazoo Michigan. I am attaching this to my report.

Yours in F, C & L Terry McKinch, PDC

As the Department and National Organizations continue to evolve, a change has been made to how we report graves registrations in Michigan. The procedure for reporting new entries, changes, and other graves related business has not changed, and should be routed through Rick Danes, the Department Officer. He will administrate further action.

The official statement is:

"...we are no longer updating the Michigan Graves Database. It will still be available to utilize (view), and we recommend using the National Graves Database at <u>www.suvcwdb.org</u> (which is updated). As always, we are continuing to support and update the National Graves Database."

CHARTERED JUNE 24, 1884

#### CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

SUBMITTED BY REV. CHARLES BUCKHAHN

### A Michigan Union Chaplain: William C. Way

The Rev. William C. Way was the only Chaplain serving the 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. According to his obituary, he was the only Chaplain to serve a Michigan infantry regiment from muster in (August 15, 1862) to muster out (June 30, 1865).

He was born in East Avon, Livingston County, New York, on July 31, 1824. He grew up in East Avon. His Mother was a Presbyterian and his Father was from a Baptist family but was converted to Christianity as an adult and then baptized in the Baptist Church. William received only a "district school" education, leaving school at the age of 16. His father desired William to go on with his studies at Canandaigua Seminary; however, Willian chose to learn the clothing trade and joined his father in the family store. When the family business failed, he then worked at a daguerreotype establishment.

The future Chaplain converted to the Methodist faith in 1842 at the age of 18. He taught Sunday school and soon felt the call to preach. His first attempts at preaching failed and according to his obituary, he "became discouraged, and then followed a time during which his Christian experience was at a low ebb. Every time he made an effort to arouse himself to something better he was confronted by the inner command, 'Preach.' Finally he could resist no longer; he gave up his position (at the Methodist Church in East Avon, New York), came to Detroit (Michigan), laid his case before Rev. F. A. Blades, was licensed as a local preacher, and put to work under Rev. J. A. Baughman at Lee's chapel (1857)." During this period in his life, William married Eliza M. Lane (1826-1901) on August 30, 1845, in Moscow, NY. They would have two children; Charles (1846-1901) and Eugenia (1853-1938).

He served the Methodist Church in Wayne, Michigan, from 1858 to 1859 and then in Plymouth, Michigan, from 1860 to 1861. He then served the 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry Regiment from 1862-1865. He was 38 when he started his chaplaincy.

Chaplain Way was described by Alan Nolan in his book, <u>The Iron Brigade: A Military History</u>, in these words; "William C. Way, who also served in the field as war correspondent for a Detroit newspaper, was a man of both physical and spiritual influence who contributed much to the betterment of the lot of the men under his charge."

The Chaplain accompanied the 24<sup>th</sup> at the Battle of Gettysburg. Nolan notes in his book, "The soldiers of the First Division were up at dawn on July 1<sup>st</sup>, busy preparing a frugal breakfast of hardtack, pork and coffee. In the Twenty-fourth Michigan, the day's events were forecast by Chaplain Way's calling the men together for prayer, an occasion that acquired solemnity from the fact that ammunition was dust to the soldiers as they prayed." After the battle, Chaplain Way stayed in Gettysburg to care for the wounded from both sides and to help bury the dead. He wrote, "It is sad to look upon the decimated ranks of one of the bravest regiments that ever left the Wolverine state." Nolan notes that the 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan suffered a 80 per cent casualty rate, the highest loss rate of any Union regiment at Gettysburg. The Regiment went into the battle with strength of 496 men. During the battle, 79 were killed, 237 were wounded, and 83 went missing for a total of 399 casualties.

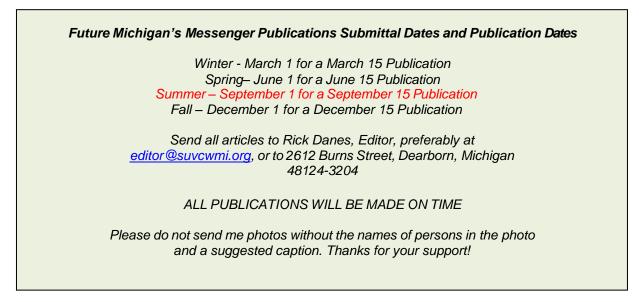
The Chaplain also wrote, "Gettysburg is one vast hospital. The Court House, College, Seminary, Churches, Schoolhouses, warehouses and private buildings are filled with wounded....I went upon the field with two of our regiment and buried several of our comrades and there witnessed a strange vandalism — our dead were robbed of everything, their bodies stripped of clothing and shoes!"

This event was also mentioned in the Chaplain's obituary, "For several weeks after the battle of Gettysburg, he remained with the wounded in hospital service. Several days after the battle he found a heap of unburied slain in a secluded spot on the bloody field, and with his own hands, aided by two comrades, gave the bodies burial. It was a dreadful experience."

After the war, William served parishes in Farmington, Dexter, Sharon, Blissfield, Holly, Rochester, Gratiot, Almont, Bancroft, and Chesaning. His obituary described him as "a genial, common-sense man, with a keen appreciation of human nature and a relish for humor. He was spiritual and devout, and yet destitute of can't and sanctimoniousness. His brethren loved him, and his parishioners trusted him as a candid, spiritual teacher." Chaplain Way delivered the Invocation at the Dedication of the Michigan Monuments at Gettysburg, PA., on June 12, 1889. Part of the Invocation reads, "We are here to dedicate to the memory of Michigan's brave sons — they who laid down their lives on this memorable battlefield — monuments of granite, and we pray that so long as they last, so long may the memory and deeds of these dead heroes be fresh and green in the minds and hearts of the people."

William died in Leslie, MI., on September 3, 1896, after a period of declining health, at the age of 72. The Grand Army of the Republic post at Leslie attended his funeral. He and his wife are buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Leslie, MI.

This biography is based upon his obituary at Find a Grave, William C. Way; <u>The Iron Brigade: A Military History</u>, by Alan T. Nolan; <u>A Distant Thunder: Michigan in The Civil War</u>, by Richard Bak; <u>Michigan at Gettysburg</u>; and <u>Faith in the Fight: Civil War Chaplains</u>, by John W. Brinsfield, William C. Davis, Benedict Maryniak, and James I. Robertson, Jr.



#### GRAVES REGISTRATION

SUBMITTED BY RICK DANES, COMMITTEE CHAIR



Your Graves Registration Committee met on September 9, with four Camps attending. As the effects of recent changes in the National and Department programs there is no need for the DGRO to handle records for the Department, only to review records for the National. This is not a bad thing, just a change. The committee members attending voted to decrease the number of graves meetings from four to two per year. The next meeting will be on May 4, 2024, and the following meeting will be on October 19, 2024 at the State Library.

There will not be a meeting on December 9, 2023.

#### *CHARTERED JUNE 24, 1884* **George W. Anderson Camp #58** Submitted by John Mann, CGRO

Members of the Maple Rapids Village Council and members of Camp 58 the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War installed three Civil war headstones in the Maple Rapids City Cemetery on July 22, 2023.

Military headstones for Walter McKinney and George A. Richmond are being replaced due to weathering and a military headstone for Lathrop R. Skinner is being installed for the first time.



We also have been busy researching CW Vets that were missed when the first surveys were done back in the late 1990's and early 2000's. Have added quite a few new Vets to the lists and still have to do more research for some of the Vets from other states that died and are buried in Clinton County. In addition to Maple Rapids we have ordered two new stones for Gunnisonville Cemetery and will be installed by the Cemetery Sexton. Several more stones need to be ordered and placed in the future. One cemetery in particular is quite old and has been vandalized two or three times and has many broken stones. We found a list of burials for the cemetery made back in the early 1990 and researched many of the names and have come up with 29 Vets total. Problem is we need to get with the cemetery sexton to try to find the V Members of the Maple Rapids Village Council and members of Camp 58 the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War installed three Civil war

headstones in the Maple Rapids City Cemetery on July 22, 2023.

Military headstones for Walter McKinney and George A. Richmond are being replaced due to weathering and a military headstone for Lathrop R. Skinner is being installed for the first time.



Walter McKinney, enlisted at age 19 in Company C New York 50<sup>th</sup> Engineers and Mechanics on September 5, 1861. He was discharged in New York on September 20, 1864. He joined the Maple Rapids GAR, Begole Post No. 127.



George A Richmond enlisted at age 18 in Company I Michigan 1<sup>st</sup> Engineers and Mechanics on December 12, 1863. He was taken prisoner December 13, 1864, held at Andersonville Prison in Georgia. He was discharged at Camp Chase, Ohio, June 13 1865.



Lathrop R. Skinner enlisted at age 42 in Company B 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Engineers and Mechanics on January 8, 1864. He was discharged in Louisville, Kentucky, July 10, 1865.



Today was a great day at the museum's "Civil War Discovery Camp." 23 kids from 8 to 14 years old learned (hopefully) something about the

Civil War and something about the museum.

We taught the kids how to form up, march, handle muskets (no, not real ones) and took them back to the museum to show them what the

G.A.R. was about.

We mustered (dismissed) them out, paid them with real fake money and many of them thanked us and shook our hands and asked about coming back next year. It's easy to forget after so many years of doing the camp how important this day is to a kid. One grandparent came back because his granddaughter lost one of her "dollar" bills and she wanted it. That's a kid. That's why we do what we do and why it's important.

As a kid I would not have slept a wink waiting for today. A Civil War Camp! How cool! Ok, I didn't sleep last night either.

Your continued support helps us continue with our mission to remember and teach the history of the Grand Army of the Republic. Please consider a modest donation to help us continue our mission. Donations are tax-deductible and can be made by sending a check to:

# GAR Museum, 224 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids, MI 48827



The U.S. Grant Camp 67 General Grant Trivia Quiz Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC

Here is a Quiz concerning some facts about General Grant. Hope you will enjoy!!!!

- 1. What is U.S. Grant's christened name?
- 2. Grant attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Did he ever plan to have a military career?

3. Did Grant have any military combat experience before the Civil War?

4. Was Grant a slave owner?

5. Grant was a horse lover. During the Civil War, how many horses did he have, and for extra points can you name them?

6. In 1863 Grant was appointed a Lieutenant General. He was the second to have that rank. Who was the first?

7. Grant had an unusual talent for a military man and some of his work still exists today. What is it that Grant did and did quite well?

8. Grant was accused as being a drunkard. It has been said that Lincoln proposed finding out what brand Grant was drinking and he would send a barrel to all of his Generals.

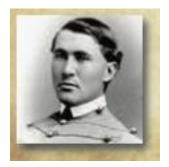
9. When it came to whiskey, Grant did prefer a certain brand that is still made today. Can you name it?

10. After Grant's victory at Fort Donelson, his admirers in the North sent him something in great quantities. What was it?

11. How did Grant get his picture on the US \$50 Bill?

12. Concerning Grant's Memoirs, Grant is believed to be the actual writer but two names are often mentioned as possible authors. Can you name them?

#### 13. Can you identify this person?



ANSWERS:

1. Hiram Ulysses Grant. For convenience, Ulysses was shortened to US. Grant's fellow cadets at West Point call him Uncle Sam.

2. No:

3. Yes. As a Lieutenant in the Mexican War in 1846-1848

4. Yes. He was given a slave William Jones in 1850 by his father-in-law Frederick Dent. Grant freed William in 1859.

- 5. Four. Cincinnati, Jack, Kangaroo and Fox
- 6. George Washington
- 7. He was an accomplished artist. One of his favorite subjects was horses
- 8. False. Lincoln denied saying it.
- 9. Cigars.
- 10. Old Crow, a Kentucky bourbon.

11. No one knows for sure. Probably because Grant was a hero in his time just as Washington (on the \$1 bill) was a hero. Grant's image on the \$50 began in 1914.



12. Adam Badeau falsely claimed he was a Ghost Writer for Grant. It was also suggested that Mark Twain

15. He is Franklin Dent Grant, son of U.S. Grant. Franklin served 15. He is Franklin Dent Grant, son of U.S. Grant. Franklin served attaining the rank of MAJGEN.

#### Conclusion

HOW DID YOU DO? 15 Points: GENERAL 14 Points: BGeneral 13 Points: COL 12 Points: LTCOL 11 Points: MAJOR 10 Points: CAPT 9 Points: 1LT 8 Points: 2LT 7 Points: SGTMajor 6 Points: Sergeant 5 Points: Corporal 4 Points: Private 3 Points

Hope you enjoyed the Trivia Quiz. Questions and answers were taken from sources which included: Civil War Trivia and Fact Book by Webb Garrrison

Editor's Note: Why the 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>.

> *Major Lee's War against the Mossbacks* Robert S. Davis, August 21, 2023, <u>blueandgrayeducation.org</u>

It is a well-known fact that Georgia governor Joseph E. Brown clashed with the Confederate government. In early 1863, however, he asked Maj. George Washington Lee, the Confederate provost marshal of Atlanta, to lead an expedition into the mountains to subdue deserters (from both armies) and draft evaders. The latter were called hogbacks and mossbacks because they hid in caves and the woods, or "Tories" from the Americans who refused to support the original American Revolution.

There is little doubt the fighting and terrible conditions in the army depleted the ranks. Men refused to comply with the Conscription Act of 1862. Persons of all backgrounds and associations, including former Confederate soldiers and even federal agents, stirred up dissent and organized sabotage. Sometime in late 1862, Lee learned about a wild plot to burn down Atlanta and railroad bridges going into and out of the city. In addition, local newspapers in north Georgia carried stories of robberies and murders committed by the war resisters.

Governor Brown provided Lee with 150 men and persuaded the Confederate government to add another 150 cavalrymen for the campaign. Lee added local defense troops to make a force of 500 soldiers. On January 24, 1863, Lee and the first of his troops arrived in the city of Dahlonega in bitterly cold weather. Citizens of Lumpkin County's seat of government welcomed Lee's men. The mossbacks had recently made a prison break in an adjoining county and burned down most of the jails in the region. When they tried to assault Dahlonega, however, local people successfully defended their town.

The campaign brought 1,000 men to the army, many voluntarily but 150 to 200 men in chains. The latter included 53 civilians opposing the Confederate war effort.

In September 1863, Lee led a second expedition into the Georgia mountains. While some 15 miles from Morganton, he and a lieutenant did a reconnaissance disguised as civilians. They joined 100 armed Unionists trying to flee, led by two federal officers. 13

SUMMER 2023

Returning to his own camp, Lee set out in pursuit. In an ensuing violent exchange, Lee's men killed four Unionists and wounded several others; a federal officer and a local preacher were among the 30 to 40 men captured.

Furthermore, Lee also crossed state lines to squelch war resistance. He led 20 men into Cherokee County, North Carolina, where they captured five men, including a notorious mossback leader and two federal recruiting officers. Lee also sent detachments into Ducktown, Tennessee. This campaign captured 300 to 400 men and confiscated 75 heads of cattle and included Goldman Bryson, a known horse thief, serial murderer, and mossback leader with a commission in the federal army, being killed by two of Lee's Cherokee warriors.

Resistance continued as defeat and exploitation consolidated into mass discontent. Lee later led a campaign across South Georgia and even to the Okefenokee Swamp but found few men to return to the army.

Lee died on April 3, 1879, in Rome, Georgia.

This Civil War Dispatch has been brought to you by the Blue and Gray Education Society, a non-profit 501-3C educational organization. Please visit us at <u>www.blueandgrayeducation.org</u>

Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427 Submitted by Dennis Fyke Photos by Elizabeth McGill



Reverend Sam Laswell acknowledged receiving the National Chaplain William Corby Award





Council Member Keith Kushnir and Commander John McGill enjoy a plate.

Members, family and friends enjoyed lunch in celebration of another successful year.



CHARTERED JUNE 24, 1884

SUMMER 2023

#### **GENERAL ORLANDO M. POE CAMP 444 - September 2023**

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

The Summer of 2023 has been a very busy season for the Brothers of Camp 444. The Brothers have continued their initiatives of outreach in the community, performed and planned for ceremonies, and look for new opportunities to serve the citizens and honor not only Union Veterans, but Veterans of all eras.

Sunday, 04 June 2023, Brothers of Camp 444 conducted services to honor William Erestin Kemp, Jr., the Last Union Veteran Buried in Roscommon County. Mr. Kemp served in Company C, of the 1<sup>st</sup> New York Veteran Cavalry. Commander David Luck of VFW Post 4159 of Roscommon fell in with the Camp 444 Honor Guard and performed Taps.

Due to extreme fire danger (including a Red Flag Warning issued), the Camp 444 Honor Guard did not fire volleys at the ceremony to ensure safety.





ABOVE LEFT (L-R): Patriotic Instructor Walker, Quin Walker, Commander Smith, Auxiliary No. 9 President Aurand, GRO/CWMO Jones, SVC Sible, Secretary Aurand, VFW Post 4159 Commander Luck, and Auxiliary No. 9 Secretary-Treasurer Smith

ABOVE RIGHT: Quin Walker salutes Private Kemp after he places a floral remembrance at his gravestone, assisted by his father Patriotic Instructor Walker

Saturday, 10 June 2023, the Marie Therese Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter in Cadillac hosted Commander Smith and his wife Sister Lisa, PAP (also a DAR member) for a presentation. Commander Smith presented "Who was Orlando M. Poe?" The presentation primarily covered the major highlights of Poe's military career in the Civil War and in the Great Lakes region until his unfortunate death in 1895. Additionally, some discussion and questions were had on Camp 444, the Grand Army of the Republic, MOLLUS, and the insignia of all of those organizations.

On Saturday, 16 September, Chaplain Calvin Murphy will be heading up a first-time ceremony honoring POW & MIAs and their families at Mt. Pleasant's Island Park where Michigan's Vietnam Veterans Memorial resides. The ceremony will include presentation of plaques specially co-designed by Brother Murphy to the families of POW-MIAs. A feature story from Grand Rapids' WZZM TV-13 on Brother Murphy, a Combat Veteran of the Vietnam War, and this event of remembrance can be seen here:

https://www.wzzm13.com/article/life/one-good-thing/michigan-vietnam-veteran-calvin-murphy-recognizingprisoners-of-war-and-missing-soldiers/69-36d9f55d-fd54-4584-a4eb-26a9a60e98e1?fbclid=IwAR3CSXsfcLeNAWFJKyYgcl9KUj6LywC2JnhbLSnbRTP9smcN58AV 3k-Lbk





ABOVE LEFT: Commander Smith presenting "Who was Orlando M. Poe?" to the DAR in Cadillac. ABOVE RIGHT: Commander Smith, PDC and Sister Lisa Smith, PAP after the presentation.

Sunday, 17 September, Brothers of General Orlando M. Poe Camp 444 will join in support of the Brothers of Alexander French Camp No. 28 for the Memorial Service of Brother Gerald M. Lintemuth, Past Camp Commander and the last living Charter Member of Camp No. 28. Camp 444 will provide the Honor Guard at the service. October 2023 will see Camp 444 honoring the Last Veterans of Clare County, Reverend William Younglove and Elias Riegle. These two well respected men passed away one day apart in January of 1939, closing the last connecting door to the Civil War within Clare County.

Source: The National Park Service, The Memoirs of U.S. Grant.



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**10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!** 

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