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# Messenger

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN ~ SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



Vol. X No. 3

Chartered June 24, 1884

January 2002

## REMEMBRANCE DAY AT GETTYSBURG

On November 17, the Department of Michigan's delegation to this year's Remembrance Day ceremony gathered on the Gettysburg Battlefield at the monument which honors Battery I, First Michigan Light Artillery Regiment. A salute was given as a wreath was laid and a 12 x 18-inch State of Michigan flag placed at the base. The unique wreath (provided by Department Commander Hayes) contained "Bay Laurel leaves to convey *Honor*, Rosemary to convey *Remembrance* and Daises to say *Farewell*."



*Standing, from left to right are: Jim Pahl, PDC, Curtenius Guard Camp 17; Gordon McGary, Sr. Vice Commander of George W. Anderson Camp 58; Mark Pangburn, Secretary/Treasurer of Camp 58; Doug Armstrong, Commander of Camp 58; Kent Armstrong, PDC, Camp 58. Kneeling, from left to right are: Gary Gibson, PDC, Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20; Ed Hall, Commander of Carpenter-Welch Camp 180. [Brothers not pictured, but who were present for other activities were Steve Rossio, Sr. Vice Commander of Camp 20 and Max Newman, Commander of Gov. Henry Crapo Camp 145.]*

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*Department Officers  
2001/2002*

*Commander*

Gregory Hayes  
P. O. Box 53  
Linden, MI 48451-0053  
(810) 735-9283  
Dayhayes@aol.com

*Senior Vice Commander*

Bruce B. Butgereit  
2555 Ridgemoor Dr SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49512  
(616) 285-0693  
civilwar@mindspring.com

*Junior Vice Commander*

Philip N. Parks  
1228 Minnesota St.  
Hancock, MI 49930-2208  
(906) 482-7070  
jparks@ccisd.k12.mi.us

*Secretary*

Richard F. Lee  
1111 Kern Road  
Fowlerville, MI 48836-9257  
(517) 223-9497

*Treasurer*

Del C. Farnsworth  
479 132<sup>nd</sup> Ave.  
Wayland, MI 49348-9598  
(616) 792-1427

*Council*

Keith G. Harrison, PC-in-C  
Howard Streeter  
William Lowe

*Chief of Staff*

Richard Greene

*Camp Organizer*

Richard Lee

*Patriotic Instructor*

Neal F. Breugh

*Chaplain*

William B. McAfee

*Counselor*

Michael W. McMillan

*Historian*

Paul Hodges, PDC

*Guide*

Ed Dowd

*Color Bearer*

Gayle Steele

*Graves Registration*

Rick Danes

*G.A.R. Records*

James T. Lyons, PDC

*Civil War Memorials*

Douglas R. Armstrong

*Communications & Technology*

David F. Wallace, PDC

*Camp-at-Large Coordinator*

Bruce Butgereit

*Editor, Michigan's Messenger*

John R. Mann

*Weekend of Remembrance*

Keith G. Harrison, PC-in-C

*B.S.A. Coordinator*

Gary F. Ralston

*Commander's Group Rep.*

Kent Armstrong

## *PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR*

*Neal F. Breugh*

In August, I submitted my article for the October Michigan Messenger entitled Hello, Remember Me?" which was actually a reprint from the January 1974 Banner. Since the tragic and horrible events of September 11<sup>th</sup>, there is no doubt that "The Flag" has not only been remembered, but become very popular again. It reminds me of my days as a young boy growing up in the 1940's during World War II. The news media is reporting that 90% of Americans feel "proud to be an American"; the sale of American flags is going out of sight, and flags and patriotic symbols in public buildings, in front of homes, on cars, etc. show that patriotism is again a very popular idea.

I have thought about these ideas and this article a great deal during the past 10 days. I have come to the conclusion that our greatest test for demonstrating our patriotism will come in dealing with that other 10%. In no way do I intend to imply that any of these people are really not proud to be an American.

What about the lone Congressperson who voted against the recent actions taken by Congress? What about Americans like Donahue and others who do not support the bombing of Afghanistan, plead that we must understand the reasons for the actions of September 11<sup>th</sup>, and/or those Americans who seem to be attacking our Country's past actions and in some way placing the blame on us?

Perhaps some of them are readers of the Michigan Messenger. We probably all have (I know that I do) friends that we like and respect who have expressed some of the views above and other similar ideas. We have probably all seen such demonstrations on TV of Americans expressing ideas that we don't agree with and expressing them at a time of extreme abnormal crises.

I personally have been very frustrated seeing such demonstrations and hearing other Americans, news commentators, professors, experts, etc. stating their views because I personally disagree with them and support the President and the actions of Congress. I know that our American world has changed dramatically since Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, and we will be living for a long time—probably the rest of my life—with tighter security, more concerns, less personal freedom than we have come to expect. I accept this as a reality.

However, there is another reality that I must also accept. The reality that our Country has not always been perfect. Governments and organizations are made of people, and people have faults and make mistakes—and mistakes can be criticized. Another reality is that our country was founded on disagreement and revolution and our forefathers died for the right of freedom of expression. So perhaps now, our big test of Patriotism will come in us allowing and tolerating dissent. Instead of being frustrated and just condemning out of hand those who are expressing disagreement and attacking our Government's actions, express Patriotism by being willing to stand up and challenge ideas that might be different from ours. Our Constitution guarantees us the right of reasonable expression of free speech. Let us not lose that right no matter how upsetting someone else's viewpoint can be. Let's attack ideas, not people. Let's respect all people, not necessarily all ideas.

## *DEPARTMENT ORDERS NO. 3*

### *SERIES 2001 ~ 2002*

#### *Department Headquarters, Linden Michigan*

**1.** Plans for our Mid-Winter conference are in this issue of Michigan's Messenger. I encourage every Brother to attend. As like last year, the state of the Department will be presented, as well as reports from the Officers and Committee Chairs.

**2.** The plans for the Annual Department Encampment are also presented in this issue. The Committee, with the Commander's approval, has modified the arraignments; both as a cost savings matter and to face the reality of numbers. For many years, attendance has been declining at this event. As you know, the cost of convention space and lodging is based on how many people attend. To provide the best value for the Allied Orders, we will not have the evening banquet, but instead have an afternoon luncheon, with speaker. I wish to acknowledge the hard work of Brothers Max Newman, Rick Greene and PDC James Lyons in securing these arraignments.

**3.** I have, with regret, accepted the resignation of PDC David Wallace as Signal Officer for the Department. Brother Wallace has been attending to the health of his father, Brother Floyd Wallace and needs to devote his full energy to him. On behalf of the entire Department I warmly thank PDC Wallace for his years of work on the website and send my personal wishes for improvement to Brother Floyd.

**4.** I wish to also extend my wishes for continued recovery to Brother Max Newman, Department Junior Vice Commander Phil Parks and the family of Department Senior Vice Commander Bruce Butgereit.

**5.** The following Brothers are hereby appointed to the positions listed:

*Bylaws Committee* – James Lyons, PDC and William McAfee.

*Nominating Committee* – Max Newman, PDC Paul Hodges and Doug Armstrong.

*Signals Officer Search Committee* – PC-in-C Keith Harrison, PDC Gary Gibson and Bruce Butgereit.

**6.** On behalf of the Brothers of the Department I sent letters, on September 12<sup>th</sup>, to the President, our

Congressmen and the Governor. These letters expressed our sadness of the tragic loss of life and reaffirmed our firm resolve to preserve and protect the ideals of our Nation. I received gracious replies from all.

**7.** I will forever feel a deep sense of gratitude to the Brothers of this Department for giving me the high honor of being Department Commander. With every great organization however, new ideas and new perspectives are vital to its growth. Therefore I shall not seek a third term, and will actively support the administration of my successor.

By the order of:

**Gregory Hayes,**

*Commander, Department of Michigan*

Attest:

**Richard Lee,**

*Secretary, Department of Michigan*

### *SECRETARY*

*Richard Lee*

The Camp Quarterly Report for July thru September was received by the requested date of 10 October from the following Camps: 1\*, 3, 14\*, 17\*, 20\*, 22\*, 28\*, 43\*, 58\*, 67\*, 85\*, 101, 120\*, 145\*, 160\*, 180, 250\*, 259\*, 266\*, 427\*, and 462\*. The \* indicates Camps that reported on time the previous quarter. The Department thanks those Camp Officers who are responsible for this good work.

The October thru December report will be due on 10 January. Camps may keep the ... ah, extra ... um, second ...er, ONE OF THE FORMS!!!

Both copies of Form 22 (Installation of Officers) should be returned as soon as Camp Officers have been installed. The information is used at both the Department and National levels. Please be specific as to the time, day of the week, which week of the month and which months the

## GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER

*Rick Danes*

It is with great pride that I report the efforts of a few Brothers, assisted by their wives and families. As of November 26 we have over 30,000 graves registered at the National db. This is an increase of 8,500 entries since the National Encampment. Our department data base has 28,500 records, up from 25,000 in August.

In addition to our "regular group" of attendees: Bill Lowe of Camp 7, Neal Breugh of Camp 14, Jim Lyons of Camp 17, Bill Costello of Camp 20, Chris Czopek of Camp 22, Dick Hutchins of Camp 120, Max Newman of Camp 145, Charles LaBar of Camp 147, and Bob Grove of Camp 250, we have new members Bill Johnston of Camp 1, Larry Arnold of Camp 180, and Randy Bauer from our new Camp 139 in Alpena.

We still have several Camps that have not attended a single meeting, nor submitted any records. For those who are still holding them, you are becoming a minority in this effort! Please do not be the last holdout. If you cannot find a way to send them to me, let me know...I can provide a way to pick them up or send you postage.

As soon as we have a single point of contact for each Camp we can launch our Department db. If your Camp does not have a GRO or Commander listed as a graves contact, please call me ASAP to get on the list. Remember the Camp will be the contact for the public to get additional information about a soldier. This is a key part of our plan.

In our effort to share methods and techniques of researching Civil War Veterans, I would like to thank Chris Czopek for presenting the subject "Getting Started" in September, and Jim Lyons for telling us about the contents of the Michigan Archives in December. Others that have signed up to present are Bill Lowe talking about the resources available in the State Library for May 4, and Dick Hutchins who will tell us how he researched to publish his book on September 7. Chris Czopek has asked for our help in a great research project. While visiting Andersonville, GA., Chris found out that civilian volunteers are checking the records of soldiers buried there for correctness. One of the sections is the 675 Michigan men who rest there. There is also a Michigan Memorial that was dedicated at the Cemetery in 1904. Chris' idea is to collectively research the Michigan men and put their record in a good order, to publish that information (along with any recollections or other data available) into a pamphlet, and then have a ceremony to rededicate that memorial in 2004. Although Chris found good support from our group, it should be a "Michigan" effort for all of us. Please contact Chris and find out how you can participate.

Our 2002 committee meeting schedule has been set, with a

lunch and new CGRO welcome planned prior to the Mid-Winter Conference on February 23. We will make arrangements for a place when we hear a number of attendees.

Other meetings will be held on May 4, September 7, and December 7. We plan on meeting at the State Library in Lansing, but a note will continue to be sent to each CGRO and/or Commander as a reminder.

Congratulations to all, I hope that you had a great holiday, and thank you for your continued support and participation.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

*William B. M<sup>e</sup> Afee*

We welcome the New Year. Let us pray together that the Lord God Almighty will grant us all a better year than the one we have just traveled through. 2001 was a trial for some, an ordeal for many, but let's hope there are also those who may have received a blessing during those twelve months.

We listened and watched, horrified, but strangely fascinated, by the surprise terrorist attacks on our nation and its civilian population and economic and military centers. Even the attacks on Washington during the War of 1812, the undeclared attack on Pearl Harbor and the invasion of the Philippines in December 1941 paled in comparison. As a nation, we have suffered atrocities before, but this has been the greatest and most widely viewed ever in our history. Not since the Indian Wars has our civilian population been the main target of our enemy.

Can we ever get accustomed to massive deaths? I hope not. When we stood in the center of the almost ten thousand graves at the American Cemetery in Normandy, there was an awesome reverence in the neat rows going in every direction that we turned. Then we remembered the over twelve thousand graves of Union soldiers who died in a nine-month period at the Georgia stink hole called Andersonville. I wish I knew the answer, but it's beyond my mortal comprehension. God doesn't always give us an immediate answer as to why these things happen. I am not a theologian nor have I received formal religious training. I only know that I can receive comfort and encouragement in studying the Word and through prayer and worship. In the first book of Peter in the New Testament, the central theme of which is victory over suffering, the disciple Peter says, in the twelfth & thirteenth verses of the fourth chapter, "Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed." We survivors are not in any way suffering as Christ did, yet we are asked to wait patiently until some meaning to all this can be revealed to us. May God be with us.

## SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Bruce B. Butgereit

As the winter months draw near, many of our Camp activities will undoubtedly be forced inside, due to the weather. But does this mean that we should stop “advertising” who we are and what we do? Of course not! This is actually a great time for the Camp SVC (the advertising agent) to work with the JVC (the recruiter) in getting the word out about our Order. The more advertising you do the better your chances of gaining new recruits.

This can be accomplished by making sure that you list your Camp’s meeting dates and contact information, in the local media’s calendar of events or “Community News”. Nearly every radio, television, and print media offer this service and usually at no charge. Most communities now have a website that will list local happenings. Historical and genealogical societies are usually more than happy to share information about your Camp in their website or newsletter. Creating a small “poster” (8 ½” X 14”) in color could be used to post in the library or any VFW/American Legion Hall as another way to get the word out.

The “word” about us can also be shared with the public by simply following through on our goals and purposes, especially our Memorials program. Your efforts in locating, assessing, and ultimately working with a community to preserve a memorial can receive excellent coverage in the media – it also would be an encouragement to Brother Doug Armstrong to have each Camp turning in reports and continually monitoring their memorials.

This all requires effort but the rewards can bring:

- ❶ An increased awareness of the fact the memory of the Grand Army still exists in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- ❷ More members
- ❸ Outside volunteers to assist in doing the work of the Order in Memorials and Grave Registration efforts
- ❹ An public appreciation of what we represent and what we strive to do
- ❺ Accomplishment of our goals and purpose

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Columbus Blue Jackets, a National Hockey League expansion team that calls Columbus, Ohio home, was named for the many clothing manufacturers in and around the Capitol City during the Civil War that supplied the Union troops with their dark blue sack and frock coats. Not surprisingly, the team’s home uniform is predominately Union Blue with white trim.

## JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Philip Parks

A book entitled *Stories of the Pioneers & Civil War Veterans of Delta County* was recently published by the Delta County Genealogical Society. This 327 page book contains a wealth of information about the settlers and their lives in the “Good Old Days”, including some photographs. The Pioneer section includes short family histories, which trace both the husband’s and wife’s ancestries and migrations, as well as personal family anecdotes. The Civil War section gives a biography of each soldier as well as their military service record and other available information.

The idea for the book was conceived in 1998 by members of the society on their return from one of their research trips to the archives in Madison, Wisconsin. They agreed that there was a need to gather the histories of the settlers who resided in Delta County prior to 1897. A trip was planned to visit the Brown County Librarian, Mary Jane Huber, who had sponsored and issued certificates for a similar project. The society made up the necessary submission forms and publicized the project, encouraging descendants of pioneers to submit family information. As nuggets of history were coming in, authors and editors Pat Sundstrom and Naida Standing noticed that many of the pioneers were also Civil War Veterans, both Union and Confederate. That’s when they decided to expand their book to include a separate section for them.

Then the hard work began. Two hundred sixty-eight records for all Civil War Veterans, not just submitted pioneers, were located through GAR membership lists from the C. F. Smith Post in Escanaba and the Michael Shay Post in Rapid River, Garden and Delta County Historical Societies, Fayette State Park, the Elegeert Index and local newspaper articles. After veteran’s names were found, documentation needed to be obtained for authenticity. To help defray the \$10 fee for each certified pension or military record obtained, soldiers were “adopted” by members of the society who donated the cost. The society paid the balance. The editors spent many additional months writing the biographies of each soldier. *Stories of the Pioneers & Civil War Veterans of Delta County* was completed and published in August of 2001.

Stories such as the battle between the Iroquois and the Chippewa’s on Sand Point, Swedish immigrants awaiting a minister’s arrival across the ice of Little Bay de Noc, a cavalry man who arrived by stagecoach, a woman named Honora who came with the railroad, and a man driving the first car through the deep ruts by Ludington Park are only a part of the wealth of stories and information spun from the 579 names from Anton Abrahamson to Mary Zark who are listed in the index.

Books are still available for purchase at \$30 each (the cost of printing), plus shipping and handling. For more information about the book or the Delta County Genealogical Society, contact Naida Standing at (906) 428-1116

## CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE

*Douglas Armstrong, Chairman*

This past year I have been greatly encouraged by the support and dedication to the Memorial Assessment Project. My thanks and appreciation to all brothers who have participated with the locating and assessing of Civil War Monuments and Memorials across our state.

I have also been impressed with the restoration projects taken on by several Camps within our Department. Camp Commander Bruce Butgereit and brothers of John A. Logan Camp # 1 in Grand Rapids have arranged the cleaning of several monuments throughout Kent County, including the Soldiers' monument in the Cemetery at the Veteran's Home in Grand Rapids. Rededication ceremonies have been conducted by the Camp for the restored monuments. Camp 1 has also continued it's fundraising for the restoration of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument in downtown Grand Rapids.

The brothers of Robert Finch Camp 14 in Traverse City have been involved with Grand Traverse County in the restoration efforts of the statue that rests there on the County Courthouse lawn. County Officials have received assistance from The Venus Bronze Works Co. in Detroit. A fundraising effort has been ongoing for the restoration.

The Wa-Bu-No Camp 250 in Shepard has seen to the cleaning and repair of the soldiers' monument in the Salt River Cemetery. The bronze statue was disassembled and restored by The Venus Bronze Works Co. The Camp conducted a rededication of the monument in September.

The General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 in Kalamazoo has recently cleaned and restored the monument in Kalamazoo's Riverside Cemetery. On Saturday, September 22, 2001, the Brothers of Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 gathered to rededicate the Orcutt GAR Post 79 memorial.

The George W. Anderson Camp 58 in DeWitt has reported the restoration efforts of the vandalized statue at the Wacousta Cemetery in Clinton County have begun. A Sculptor has signed a contract with the township to complete the work. He has taken preliminary steps at the monument this fall and work will be performed in his studio this winter. Plans are now being made by the Camp for a rededication of the marble statue on Memorial Day 2002.

Other monument projects of note are the City of St. Louis' cleaning and relocating of the bronze statue in Gratiot County. The City of Detroit's planned disassembling and relocation of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument on Campus Martius in Detroit. Construction began this summer on Woodward Ave and will continue through next year. The city's planning

department has assured me that we will be kept informed of all matters pertaining to the monument and has asked that we be involved in a future dedication ceremony at the new location of the monument. If your Camp is currently involved in or planning a restoration effort, please contact me so that a record can be made for the Department.

My thanks and appreciation to those brothers who have continued to fill out and send in the assessment forms for monuments and memorials in their areas. Those that have completed their assigned areas are Camps 7, 180, 160, and 427. Those that are currently known to have a memorials program and have ongoing efforts to locate and assess monuments in their areas are Camps 1, 14, 22, 58. I encourage all newly elected Camp Commanders and Camp Civil War Memorials Officers to contact me with their Camp's current program and any questions or comments you may have about the Department's program. I also encourage each Camp to consider including their assessment program along with their efforts of graves registration as many Civil War Monuments are located near soldier's burial sections of cemeteries. The assessment of these monuments and the filling out of the forms could be performed on the same visit to the particular cemetery. Each Camp should have the necessary forms and information about the project. Newly elected Camp Commanders are urged to inquire about the material if it was not included with the transfer of the material from the previous Camp Commander. If you're Camp needs additional forms from which to make

The  
**Deadline**  
for the next issue of  
*Michigan's Messenger*

is

**March 7<sup>th</sup>**

Articles and photos must be *received*  
by this date to ensure their inclusion  
in the April issue.

## HISTORIAN

Paul D. Hodges, PDC

### *Birth of a GAR Post*

The Grand Army of the Republic had many Posts throughout Michigan. At least one could be found in nearly every community. The Posts were organized for similar purposes, along similar lines, but each had its own story.

The following report describes early experiences of one of them, Zach Chandler GAR Post No. 35, in South Haven. Herrick Hodges, its first commander, presented it to the Post.

"Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, 1907. Zach Chandler Post was organized 26 years ago tonight, Dec. 12, 1881.

"In looking over some of my old papers a few days ago, I found the original paper drawn up by me, looking to organizing a Post of the Grand Army which reads as follows:

"South Haven, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 1881

"We the undersigned agree to pay one dollar each to pay for initiation into the Grand Army of the Republic.

"Herrick Hodges, C. M. Balch, W. G. Tiece, Delos Feegles, Chs. Grusinger, S. K. Jillson, G. B. Davis, Charles Delemere, C. H. Hastings, B. H. Dyckman, A. W. Earl, J. M. Mitchell, Hob Brown, J. H. Dimmock, Wm. Shull, D. A. Beebe, N. T. Dyer, S. Hosmer, N. S. Joles, J. S. Colby, Jerome Hale, Capt. Donahue, J. Lynn, Thomas Lewis, John E. Wilcox, W. E. Stewart, Rev. Joseph Anderson

"I immediately commenced to correspond with the state officers but got nothing definite from them until the first of November. I then collected the money. Sent petition with fees to H. H. Houlton, Adj. Gen. of the state, who wrote me the 9<sup>th</sup> of Nov. that supplies were in transit from Boston and that, upon their arrival, a detail would made to muster us. Also rec'd communications from Geo. H. Wright, mustering officer, with instructions, and on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December, 1881, he came here, bringing with him ten or twelve comrades from Bangor. We immediately got the boys together, and that night Zach Chandler Post was organized, upstairs over where we now are, to the music of a terrible hard rain which continued all night. So we had to keep our visitors until morning. If my memory serves me right, we kept them busy.

"The Post flourished from the start, and I commenced immediately to correspond with the national officers in regard to auxiliary societies. Found only one circle of the wives. They were in Massachusetts, but their president thought we should have a national society, and immediately circulars were sent out, and at Denver they organized the national, but we were ahead of them. When they published their rituals, they sent theirs to me, and I notified their officers & delivered them the books in the meantime. I found there had been an organization

of the sons. We sent our money but found we had sent to a boys' institution. I then went to Chicago, found an organization which is the Sons of Veterans of the U. S. of America. Came home and organized a Camp. The Post purchased immediately drums and fifes and set the boys to work.

"The Post had also had the second sham battle held in the state (the first being in Detroit). Had purchased eighty-five muskets with full equipment. We commenced to think we were the whole thing, but on the night of July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1891, we lost everything by a fire which burned our hall with our books & other property. Since then, we have been wandering from place to place until this. We hope we are anchored for good in this pleasant quarters.

"In the twenty-five years, we have had fifteen commanders as follows: Hodges, Jillson, Hicks, Dodge, Smith, Bradley, Earl, Prentice, Biddle, Cook, Butterfield, Donahue, Hilliard, Mathews, Martin. We moved from our original quarters to the Trip Hall, then back again, then to the Monroe Hall, then to the Peckham Hall, then to the French Hall, then to the Odd Fellows Hall, then here."

A meeting room for the Post was provided in the Andrew Carnegie public library which was built in South Haven in 1907. The building still exists, now housing the South Haven Center for the Arts, A.

### *SUVCW Logo Sweatshirts*

Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 is making available navy blue sweatshirts with the SUV insignia embroidered in gold and black on the "pocket" area. Encircling the insignia are the words "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War". The sweatshirts are a 50/50 cotton/polyester blend.

Prices are:

Medium & Large size — \$36.00

1X & 2X — \$38.50

Please add \$4.00 s/h.

You may send your order to:

Pritchard Camp 20

2339 Harmon Ave

Kalamazoo, MI 49004

Checks should be made payable to:

Gen. Benj. Pritchard Camp 20

We will also have these available at the Mid-Winter Conference in February.

## “RANK” GAR MEMBERSHIP BADGES

*by J. R. Mann*

Ever wonder about those GAR badges you see with the various rank devices on them? The following will help in identifying just what position the person wearing the rank badge held in the GAR. But first, a little background information. The rank device was adopted in 1873 for current or acting officers replaced the eagle and cannon suspension device at the top of the ribbon. It was similar to the rank strap worn on the shoulder of Army officers and was 1½ inches long by ½ inch wide, with a gold border 1/16 inch wide surrounding a field of blue (Post Officers) or black (Department or National Officers) enamel. In 1874 past officers were recognized with rank devices that were attached to the middle portion of the ribbon of the regular membership badge. The ribbon was changed from the flag pattern of the regular membership badge to a solid buff for National Officers, cherry red for Department Officers and light blue for Post Officers.

In 1887 the ribbon was modified for current and past officers by bordering the flag with a ¼ inch wide stripe on each side, buff for national officers, red for Department officers and blue for post officers.

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>Present or Past Office</i>
4 Silver Stars	Black	Commander-in-Chief
3 Silver Stars	Black	Senior Vice C-in-C
2 Silver Stars	Black	Junior Vice C-in-C
2 Silver Stars	Black	Department Commander
1 Silver Star	Black	Official Staff of the C-in-C
1 Silver Star	Black	Surgeon General
1 Silver Star	Black	Provisional Dept. Commander
1 Silver Star	Black	Dept. Senior Vice Commander
1 Gold Star	Black	Dept. Junior Vice Commander
Silver Eagle	Black	Official Staff of the Dept. Cmdr.
Silver Eagle	Black	Medical Directors
Silver Eagle	Black	Aides-de-Camp
Silver Eagle	Black	Asst. Adj. Gen. to the C-in-C
Silver Eagle	Blue	Post Commander
Silver Leaf	Blue	Senior Vice Post Commander
Silver Leaf	Black	Asst. Inspector General
Silver Leaf	Black	Aide-de-Camp to Dept. Cmdr.
Gold Leaf	Blue	Junior Vice Post Commander
Gold Leaf	Black	Assistant Inspector
Gold Leaf	Blue	Post Surgeon
Silver Letter “C”	Black	Council of Administration
Silver Star & Cross	Black	Chaplain-in-Chief
Small Silver Cross	Black	Department Chaplain
2 Gold Bars	Blue	Post Chaplain
1 Gold Bar	Blue	Officer of the Day
1 Gold Bar	Blue	Post Adjutant
1 Gold Bar	Blue	Post Quartermaster
Vacant Field	Blue	Officer of the Guard
Chevrons	Blue	Quartermaster Sergeant

## MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT WILLIAM WITHINGTON

*by Mike Maillard, Austin Blair Camp 7*

William Withington was Captain of the Jackson Grays, a pre-war militia company, which became Co. B of the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Volunteer Infantry on April 29, 1861. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for gallantry at the Battle of First Bull Run on July 21, 1861. In assisting and rescuing a superior officer he was wounded and taken prisoner by the Rebels. He stayed a prisoner and finally was exchanged on January 30, 1862. He mustered out of the service on January 31, 1862, but re-entered the war as a colonel on August 11, 1862.

He participated in the Battle of South Mountain on September 14, 1862. He was involved in repeated assaults with a small force of his regiment that resulted in the recovery of an artillery battery lost during the battle.

For his bravery at South Mountain, he received a Brevet Generalship on March 13, 1863. He resigned from the service and was mustered out on March 21, 1863.

As in many instances he received his Medal of Honor much later in life as the result of battle reviews and testimony from witnesses. He received the honor for his gallantry at First Bull Run on January 7, 1895. He was also considered for his gallantry at South Mountain, but that was not pursued as he already had received the Brevet General position as the result of his actions in that battle.

After the war he returned and lived in Jackson, Michigan. He was a noted businessman in the community, involved in the sale of agricultural equipment. He was instrumental in having a soldier's monument to Civil War veterans erected in the city square. He died on June 27, 1903 and is buried in Mt. Evergreen Cemetery, Jackson, Michigan.

*Brother Maillard has done extensive research on Civil War Medal of Honor recipients from Michigan and has given presentations on the subject and the recipients at Camp meetings. Mike has indicated that he will be submitting more Michigan winners of the Medal of Honor vignettes for future issues of Michigan's Messenger.*

## REMEMBRANCE DAY 2001

*Kent Armstrong, JVC-in-C*

Battery I, First Michigan Light Artillery Regiment was honored on Saturday, November 17, 2001, by the Department of Michigan's delegation to **Remembrance Day** at Gettysburg National Military Park (see photo elsewhere). In addition to taking part in the annual parade and witnessing the ceremonies near the "High Water Mark" and at the Woolson Monument, our group marched South from the Cyclorama to where the monument for Michigan's "Ninth Battery" is located.

The published proceedings of the "Dedication of the Michigan Monuments upon the Battlefield of Gettysburg, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1889," known as **Michigan at Gettysburg**, describes the monument as being located "on Cemetery Ridge between Round Top and a copse of trees, about one hundred feet to right of monument to Companies C and F, First Pennsylvania Light Artillery, and to the left of position occupied by First New Hampshire Sharpshooters, facing south-west."

The book also gives the following physical description. "The base is 7 x 5 feet, and the monument is of Westerly granite, 9 feet and 3 inches high. On the face of the die near the top appears the corps badge, and beneath an artillery wheel, the hub entwined, and the battle flag, cannon balls, swab and cap neatly arranged, brigade and corps, while on the opposite side appears the following inscription:

Ninth Michigan Battery, First Artillery, First Brigade Horse Artillery, Cavalry Corps, mustered in at Detroit, Mich., August 29, 1862; mustered out at Detroit, Mich., July 1, 1865. This monument marks the position held by the Ninth Michigan Battery from 12:30 P.M., July 3d, until 7 A.M. the following morning. Three hundred and twenty-two rounds of shot, shell and canister exploded. Casualties: One man killed and four wounded, Battery sustained a loss of twenty-three horses killed in this engagement. Army of the Potomac from December, 1862, to October, 1863. Army of the Cumberland, November, 1863, until close of service, in 1865."

[Battery I's service with the Army of the Cumberland included the advance upon Atlanta. After that campaign, the Battery saw duty at Chattanooga for the balance of the war.]

Michigan at Gettysburg includes a statement from a veteran of Battery I who was present at the monument's dedication in 1889. Albert Crosby wrote, "There were no formal ceremonies performed at the monument for Battery I or Ninth Michigan Battery. There was but seven of the Battery boys there; none of our officers and no speakers on the occasion. Therefore, we gathered around the monument and held a silent reverie for a few moments over the memories of what happened there twenty-six years previous. I think that there was not a dry eye in the little group of seven."

[Albert Crosby, Jr. was from Groveland, Michigan and 29 years old when he enlisted in Battery I on August 15, 1862. He was

promoted to Corporal on April 21, 1864 and mustered out at Detroit on July 14, 1865. After the war, he made his home in Flushing, MI.]

As in year's past the honored dead, buried in the Michigan section of the Gettysburg National Cemetery, each had their graves marked with 8 x 12 inch State of Michigan flags (donated to our Department by Brother Richard Micka of the Col. George W. LaPoint Camp 76 in Monroe). This included the resting place of Private John W. Barber, Battery I's one man who was killed-in-action on July 3, 1863 at Gettysburg. Private Barber was 19 years old when he left home in Rome, MI to enlist on August 15, 1862. – Another life that was tragically cut short in the struggle to Save the Union.

I encourage all Brothers to consider taking part in this annual tribute at least once. We honor a particular Michigan regiment each year (as described above) and it appears that our state's 5<sup>th</sup> Volunteer Infantry Regiment is due next.

## EDITOR

*John R. Mann*

In the past few years I have heard complaints from several of our members to the effect that they have been receiving their newsletter quite late, in some cases as late as the third or fourth week of the month. Normally, Michigan's Messenger is sent to the post office by the mailer no later than the end of the first full week of January, April, July and October. As we are mailing the Messenger 3<sup>rd</sup> Class, the post office is not required to process it immediately, but can put it aside in the event it is temporarily overburdened with higher priority or 1<sup>st</sup> Class mail.

None the less, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class mail should be delivered as soon as possible and in most cases no later than one week after it is received by the post office. In an effort to find out which delivery areas have "the slows", I would like to ask ALL our members to report the day they receive their copy of the Messenger. This will not be a one shot deal, but will need be an ongoing effort on our part, otherwise the post office will ignore any complaint we may have. If you wish, you may team up with others from your Camp or area and send in a multiple report. Just remember to include everyone's name, address and the day each individual received his newsletter.

The easiest, most convenient and cheapest way to make a report is by e-mail (for those who have it). Or, you may mail in a post card. If sending by e-mail, please use the subject line — Messenger Received. If sending by postcard no subject line is needed. Should you wish to add any further comments concerning the newsletter, please feel free to do so.

I will try to include an ongoing report (space permitting) in each future issue of Michigan's Messenger.

## CAMP NEWS

**Camp Commanders:** Please designate ONE member of your Camp to author your Camp's news article for the Messenger. Your cooperation in this matter will be much appreciated by the editor. Thank you.

### GEN. JOHN A. LOGAN ~ CAMP 1

by Bruce B. Butgereit, CC

As participants in the Grand Rapids "Celebration on the Grand" festivities, September 8<sup>th</sup>, we were quite pleased to have our re-dedication of the Charles E. Belknap statue included with all of the modern-day activities. As to our effort to "bring to life" the Federal armies' Balloon Corps, well, let's just say Professor Lowe would not have been pleased. This one-day celebration, parade, and re-dedication were very rewarding but it took months of serious effort to accomplish our goal.

The bronze and granite Charles E. Belknap statue was dedicated in 1931. The plaque on the statue reads:

Charles Eugene Belknap, distinguished soldier, worthy public official, self-sacrificing citizen, faithful friend. Born in Massena, St. Lawrence County, New York, October 17, 1846. Settled in Grand Rapids, 1854.

Served four years in Civil War as Captain of Co. H, 21<sup>st</sup> Michigan Infantry. Chairman and Historian of the Army of the Cumberland, Founder of Belknap Wagon Works.

A founder of Grand Rapids Fire Department, member of Board of Education seven years, Alderman of old Seventh Ward, Mayor of the City, 1884, Member of Congress, 1889-1892, Boy Scout Commissioner, 1922-1929. Patron of Camp Fire Girls, Raconteur and publisher of pioneer experiences.

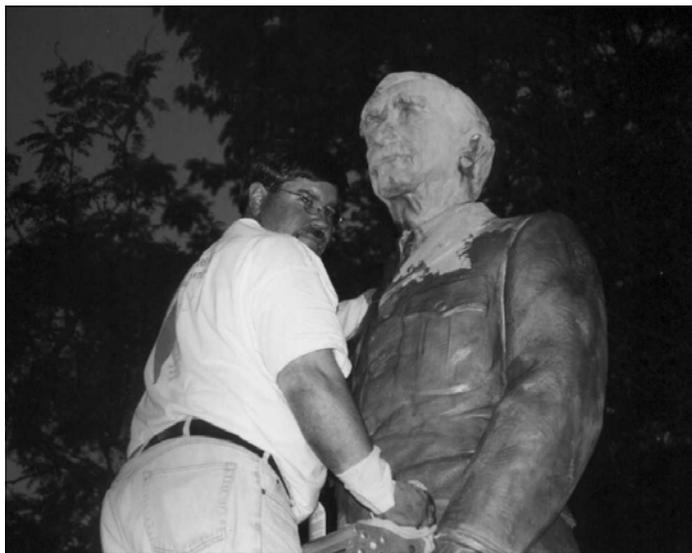
Died January 16, 1929. Buried in Greenwood Cemetery. This memorial, originally inspired by the Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls, has been erected by Friends who admired Captain Belknap's patriotic public services, his winsome friendliness and simplicity, and the practical Christianity of his exemplary life.

Charles was one of the monuments that Mr. Steve Watson of ARCO Engineering, from Louisville, KY had offered to clean as a demonstration on what his ARMEX baking soda blasting could do. His demonstration, at no charge, ended up requiring three separate trips to Grand Rapids and nearly thirty 50-lb. bags of product (at a cost of around \$50 /bag). He finally completed the project the last week of August, leaving us a shiny-bright bronze statue. It was after this, that our "fun" began!

Since Charlie was instrumental in establishing the Grand Rapids Fire Department, they were excited to be a part of this

effort and volunteered to wash away the entire soda residue from the statue and the park grounds. It was with absolute horror that I watched the statue turn pea green in less than ten minutes. In checking with local bronze monument companies as to how and why this could have happened, the only conclusion was that the chemical make-up of the bronze was not as we know it today. My panic was, how were we going to correct this, with the re-dedication a week away and it being Labor Day weekend and my family packed for Canada?

The only method that came to mind was the process I use in my cleaning business to clean metals and that was to use a tarnish remover. So with the help of Marcia Bruin (Champlin Corps 41, WRC), and a body-shop paint specialist, Bill McClain of Highland Chrysler Plymouth, we proceeded to wash the entire statue by hand. Of course, this posed another dilemma, as the cleaning product required rinsing with water, which we couldn't do. The three of us then used a rinse product designed to prep automobiles for paint to wash the entire statue – by the



headlights of our vehicles!

*Commander Butgereit cleaning the Belknap statue*

By now, I realized that we were going to have to seal the statue and the next evening (August 31<sup>st</sup>), Bill applied three coats of automobile clear-coat to a statue that had already begun to turn brown. By Monday evening on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September, Charlie was a chocolate brown color but very shiny. The City of Grand Rapids, realizing that we were dedicated to completing this project, was somewhat "embarrassed" as to the condition of the park surrounding the monument and sent over a crew to paint the benches, plant sod, put in wood chips, and dress up the entire area. Another Sister from the Champlin Corps, Jeannine Trybus, also planted flowers around the base of the monument. But doing this work on the statue had made the granite base appear soiled, so we called upon Bill again to sandblast the base, which he completed on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

The dedication notice had been on the Celebration on the Grand

website as well as in the Press and we even had a descendant of Charlie in attendance as well as a representative from every organization he had been connected with. The ceremony went smoothly with members of the Eva Gray Tent 2, DUVCW, the Champlin Corps 41, WRC, the Third Michigan Vol. Inf., Co. K, and our Camp assisting. As if on cue during the service and to honor one of their own, several fire trucks went by with their sirens blaring, on their way to a fire. The most rewarding experience we enjoyed was the fact that EVERY representative that spoke, including U.S. Congressman Vern Ehlers, spoke little of Charlie but of their appreciation for our efforts in keeping alive the memory of the Civil War. We feel we are now looked upon as a "for real" group of dedicated people here in this area.

Afterwards, we attempted to decorate our float for the parade theme of "2001 Space Celebration." Our most valiant efforts to "re-create" one of Professor Thaddeus Lowe's balloons failed miserably in the wind gusts that we experienced that day. No sooner than did we have the float prepared, the balloon broke its moorings and ended up in a tree. But "True sons" - Brothers Blakely and Becker carried the day and waved to a cheering crowd until their arms hurt.

Our next event was the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum's Grand Opening of the new exhibit, *Lincoln: A Personal Journey*, October 11 – 14. Members of the Grand Rapids Civil War Roundtable, the DUVCW, WRC, Bruce B. Butgereit & Co., and our Camp were able to meet former President Gerald R. Ford on the 11<sup>th</sup>. It was quite a treat and especially for Brothers Blakely and Becker. The Press ran a photo, which featured President Abraham Lincoln (Fred Priebe) and Mrs. Lincoln meeting the President also. Bruce & Co. scheduled the 12<sup>th</sup> for an outdoor living history presentation, but the weather was terrible and we were forced inside. Over 600 school children were bussed in to see the exhibit and our five educational displays spaced throughout the Museum. Brother Blakely spent the better part of five hours sharing stories about his father, the Civil War and himself.

On Saturday, the 13<sup>th</sup>, Brother Bill Lowe of Camp 7 brought his impressive display on Graves Registration and set up to share with the public. Brothers Gary Gibson, Del Farnsworth, and FAKE also assisted. Brother Kent Armstrong dropped off some of our SUVCW flag etiquette flyers to share with our display tables and Brother Dick Williams and his wife stopped by to say hi. A big "thank you" to all. Sunday closed out the most highly attended Grand Opening ever for the Ford, over 2,000 guests.

We, Marcia Bruin of the WRC and myself with Camp 1, introduced ourselves to the Kent County United Veterans Council on October 30. I had decided, after receiving our marching orders for the Veterans Day parade as "The Sons of the Third Michigan," that we needed to tell our story. I spoke for about 20 minutes and afterwards, they were anxious to have us join and they now go out of their way to include the Civil War in their activities. (See my Dept. SVC article).

The public did not as well attend the Veterans Day services in Grand Rapids, as I would have thought, given all the patriotism shown these days. Brother Blakely was driven through the parade in a new Chrysler PT Cruiser, donated by Highland Chrysler Plymouth of Grand Rapids and stood behind the wreath of our Camp during the services.

After the Press ran a great story and picture on our restoration and re-dedication efforts, a crowd of nearly 75 gathered at the Grand Rapids Veterans Home to witness the ceremony re-dedicating the Civil War monument in the cemetery. The media again was present and we were on all three local TV stations. We were again assisted by the same organizations as the Belknap service, and even had some 20<sup>th</sup>-century re-enactors in honor of the other veterans buried there.

As we were preparing to have the Cedar Springs, MI monument cleaned for a Veterans Day re-dedication, the funding fell through and the folks at the historical society were left trying to decide what to do...but not for long. Since the area newspaper had already run the story about the project, there was nothing left to do but go to work and that is exactly what they did. They began to clean the Bedford limestone monument by hand.

When I drove out to meet them and see how things were coming, what I saw was one of the most rewarding scenes I have yet experienced in my short time as a Son. There were over half-a-dozen folks, including an 80-year-old WW II vet, cleaning this monument, talking, laughing, and sharing in the experience. A young man, who was fortunate to survive a severe auto-pedestrian accident last year, was also involved in blasting the monument with soda. Just as the community had banded together in 1906 to get this monument, here was another group 85 years later, doing the same thing...honoring their Civil War heritage...just a few days prior to the 11<sup>th</sup> of November.

Over 100 guests, including descendants of Michigan soldiers as well as the Glenn Hill American Legion Post of Cedar Springs, attended the re-dedication service. The DUVCW, WRC, and the Third, Co. K again provided assistance. Afterwards, Bruce & Co. set up an educational display at the museum to share a look at life during the Civil War.

As for our Kent County Civil War Monument Restoration Project, we are about to send out another round of letters seeking contributions. What we seem to up against more than anything else in this project is the lack of knowledge in regards to the Civil War and this community. We just keep trying.

We look forward to a "little" break over the holiday season, as we've experienced some very busy times here in Camp 1 over the last three months. Brother Bill Johnston is still working closely with Brother Bill Lowe in getting our Camp Graves Registration program up and running and over the next few months, I'll be putting together more on our Memorial efforts and submitting them, with pictures to Brother Doug Armstrong.

## AUSTIN BLAIR ~ CAMP 7

by Mark D. Heath, CC

Greetings from Jackson... November proved to be a busy month for patriotic activities, as some of our brothers participated in local programs honoring our "Veteran's".

The Camp provided an "Honor Guard" to open the Community Band Concert held in Concord recently and received numerous complements and expressions of appreciation for the Camp's participation.

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, I participated in the Columbia Central Middle School's Veterans Day program and spoke of "Keeping Green the Memory" of those who have served and reminded the students how important it is to continue to support our troops everywhere.

Camp Chaplain Holton attended the Spring Arbor College "Civil War Semester" event, He commented that it was a good opportunity to educate students on Civil War organizations.

Veterans Day the Camp divided its troops between services at Whithington's monument in downtown Jackson and the dedication of the Sultana memorial in Hillsdale. There were 30 to 35 descendants of Sultana's men at the program and a piper and a bugler provided music for the event. Brother Doyle "Thanks" everyone for their participation at the dedication. There will soon be pictures of the ceremony added to the Camp's web site.

On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, The Auxiliary to the Austin Blair Camp had their Christmas annual Holiday Get-Together, at very nice place that was already decorated for Christmas. As our Auxiliary President would say, "our kind of place, no muss, no fuss". There was plenty of food and we had a fun afternoon of sharing, laughter, and decorating small Christmas trees.

For entertainment there was a paper bag auction. Items that were auctioned off included marbles, candles, candy, Christmas ornaments, books, postcards, wood items, and canned goods. Anything that was bid on was not known until you were the winning bidder. You received the bag with the item in it and had to open it. Some things were 'joke' (yo-yo, marbles, wood); some things were serious (canned goods, knitted shawl, books, postcards). It was a great time for all that came.

## ROBERT FINCH ~ CAMP 14

by Neal F. Breaugh

We are very saddened to report the passing of long time Camp Member Lt. Col. Donald K. McClure (USAF, Ret.) Brother McClure passed away after heart surgery on September 26<sup>th</sup>. A

military funeral was held at the Grand Traverse Memorial Gardens in Traverse City. Full Military Rites were provided by the Honor Guards of Wright-Patterson and Selfridge Air Force Bases. Representatives of Camp 14 were present for evening visitation the funeral services, and joined with the Honor Guard in SUVCW dress and kepi. Don had been awarded the Purple Heart and was a POW in World War II. In addition to the SUVCW, Don was a member of the Stalag 17B ex-POW Group, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, and was active with the 305<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group and the Air Force Association. Don traced his Civil War Ancestry back to Alexander McClure who entered service on September 8, 1862 with the 6<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry and was killed at Hawe's Shop, Virginia on May 28, 1864. Alexander's brother Nathan enlisted on September 5, 1862, survived the war and died in 1921. Lt. Col. McClure was an Officer, a Gentleman, a patriot, and just a plain good man. He will be missed.

Our Camp was also able to complete and submit to Civil War Memorials Officer Doug Armstrong two CW Memorial Assessment Forms — one for the Parrot Gun located at the Courthouse in Traverse City and one located in the Leelanau Township Cemetery in Northport. We are aware of two other Memorials in our area that need to be registered, and since no one is currently handling the Petosky area in Emmet County, we will try to get all of these registered in the next year.

Since our Raffle got off to such a good start, we were able to actually purchase a Camp Flag, three new Flag Poles — one to replace our American Flag Pole and one for our Michigan Flag donated by our former State Representative Michelle McManus, three flag stands, three neck straps, three tassels, a new Eagle and two Spears. It was great to have them on display for the first time at our Camp Meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup>, and the big Raffle Drawing. We were completely successful in our goal by selling 97 of 100 tickets. Our thanks to all who helped and participated The list of winners follows:

### 1<sup>st</sup> Prize

Bro. Dick Williams \$ 500.00

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize

Bro. Richard Lee Hand Crocheted Afghan (50x62 inches)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Prizes

Bro. Fred Knoodle \$50 Gift Cert.: Mountain Jacks

Michael McManus \$50 Gift Cert.: Mountain Jacks

Bro. Jim Johnson 1 Hour of Research: Chris Czopek

Chuck Lerchen Oil & Filter Change: Bill Marsh Buick

Bro. Ed Bardy Oil & Filter Change: Bill Marsh Buick

Bro. Ron Tousain \$20 Gift Cert.: South City Limits

Bro. Doug Armstrong Book: Ambrose Bierce's Civil War

Harlan Goodrich Book: Campfire and Battlefields

Bro. Don Bellinger Book: Uniforms of the Civil War

Bro. Ed Bardy Book: Uniforms of the Civil War

Barbara Stanisz 2 Med-3 Item Pizzas: Little Caesars

Bro. Ed Bardy 2 Med-3 Item Pizzas: Little Caesars

Bro. Harold Chase 1 Pound Beef Jerky: Dockside

Dr. Norman Fred 1 Pound Beef Jerky: Dockside

Art Janess Proud to be an American T-Shirt

Bro. George Goodrich US Sharpshooter's T-Shirt

Bro. Jan White	US Sharpshooter's T-Shirt
Bro. Del Farnsworth	Proud To Be An American Case Knife
Bro. Carrol Lock	The Old South Case Knife
Bro. Clint Kennard	20% Discount: The Quartermaster
Suzie Breaugh	Bottle of Champagne
George Micallef	Gallon of Sweet Cider
Bro. Ed Bardy	Bottle of Homemade Apricot Wine
Bro. Ed Bardy	Bottle of Chaucer's Mead
Bro. Ed Bardy	Bottle of Homemade Apricot Wine
John Breaugh	Bottle of Homemade Cherry Wine
Bro. Ed Bardy	Bottle of Gales Hard Cider

## CURTENIUS GUARD ~ CAMP 17

by Paul Hodges, PDC

The guest speaker at the September meeting of the Camp was Shirley Hodges. She presented an illustrated talk on "Michigan in the Civil War."

Several reports were given at the meeting in November. The Camp was represented in the Veterans' Day parade in Lansing, a ceremony in the Grand Ledge cemetery, and the Gettysburg parade. At the GAR Hall in Sunfield, a front porch, front steps, and rear steps were built. Several hundred Civil War veterans' graves in Eaton County have been verified, and about two-thirds of the cemeteries in Barry County have been surveyed.

Past Commander-in-Chief Keith Harrison installed the Camp officers for 2002. Those elected to office were James Lyons, PDC, Commander; George Roux, Senior Vice Commander; David Neese, Junior Vice Commander; Thomas Emerick, Secretary; Richard Williams, Treasurer; LaVerne Aves, Charles Brown, and Brian Shumway, Camp Council.

## GEN. BENJAMIN PRITCHARD ~ CAMP 20

by Gary Gibson, PDC

On Sunday, September 22, 1901, Orcutt Post 79, GAR, formally unveiled and dedicated their memorial in Kalamazoo's Riverside Cemetery. 150 veterans of the Civil War and 3,000 citizens of Kalamazoo attended the ceremony. Principal speakers that day were Circuit Court Judge George M. Buck, a member of Post 79, and Mayor A.J. Mills. Pulling the cord to unveil the monument was Mrs. Orcutt, widow of the late Lt. Col. Benjamin Orcutt of the 25<sup>th</sup> MI Infantry, for whom the Post was named. Before and after the war, Col. Orcutt was the Sheriff of Kalamazoo, and has the distinction of being the only Michigan Sheriff killed in the line of duty. He died of wounds received during a jailbreak in 1868. Orcutt also served in the Mexican War as the Sergeant of the Kalamazoo Light Guards, also known as Co. C, 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Infantry.

On Saturday, September 22, 2001, the Brothers of Gen.

Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 gathered to re-dedicate the Orcutt Post memorial. Attending that day as the principal speakers were Circuit Court Judge Richardson Johnson, and the Hon. Robert Jones, Mayor of Kalamazoo. Welcoming remarks were given by Sr. Vice Commander Steve Rossio, co-chair of the event, who introduced the master of ceremonies, co-chair Gary L. Gibson, PDC. The program included a brief history of the monument given by Bro. Gibson, the remarks by the Mayor and the Judge, a floral wreath presented by Bro. William Costello, PCC, and music provided by Miss Gloria Culp, bagpiper. A feature of the program was the introduction of descendants of some of the members of Orcutt Post. Mrs. Madge Taylor, granddaughter of Albert Whaling, and our own Bro. William Brennan, PDC, great-great grandson of Martin Gillespie. Bro. Bennan also served as chaplain, giving the invocation and benediction during the ceremony.

The memorial, made entirely of gray granite, stands 20 feet tall, surmounted by a seven-foot tall Union soldier standing "at rest". It stands in the middle of the Post burial lot, surrounded



Orcutt GAR Post 79 Memorial  
Riverside Cemetery, Kalamazoo

by the graves of 60 Union veterans. Adjacent to the monument is the "East Lot", containing the graves of 72 more of the "Boys in Blue".

### *COLEGROVE-WOODRUFF ~ CAMP 22*

*by John Lohrstorfer, CC*

Two Members were added to our Camp's ranks at our October meeting, Leo Cuyler and John E. Lohrstorfer III. Leo, age 81 is now our oldest Member. He is the descendant of David Cuyler, Company D, 153<sup>rd</sup> New York Infantry and the father of Past Camp Commander Louis Cuyler.

John, who recently turned 14, converted his Junior status to that of Member, and was initiated by his grandfather, Camp Commander John E. Lohrstorfer. Their Civil War ancestor was Ira G. Ormsbee, Company C, 16<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry.

On November 3, Camp 22 dedicated a new veteran's headstone in Oak Hill Cemetery in Battle Creek for Corporal John Henry Jackson, Company B, 102<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry. The grave had been unmarked for 105 years.

John enlisted in Company B, 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Colored Troops, shortly after authorization to form a colored infantry regiment was given to Gov. Austin Blair by the War Department in July of 1863. After the regiment was sworn into the service of the United States, its designation was changed to the 102<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry.

By February, 1864, the regiment had formed in Detroit, was given uniforms, equipment and very basic training and sent to

Annapolis, Maryland. From there it was sent to Hilton Head, South Carolina and placed on picket duty. The regiment was then sent to Jacksonville, Florida where it destroyed Confederate railroads. The 102<sup>nd</sup> was put to test by the rebels when they made several attacks in an attempt to end the destruction of their railroads. The rebels were repulsed and driven off in all encounters.

From Florida the regiment returned to South Carolina for further picket duty. The Confederates made an attempt to surround and capture the regiment, but were again thwarted, the 102<sup>nd</sup> driving off the rebels. At Grahamsville, they again proved their mettle by holding off rebel attacks and rescuing two Union cannons that had been previously captured by the Confederates.

The 102<sup>nd</sup> was not immediately shipped home to Michigan after the war's end in April, 1865, but remained in the Charleston, S.C. area on occupation duty. The regiment was finally mustered out on September 30, 1865 and returned to Detroit.

Not much is known of John Henry Jackson's civilian life, except that he was born in Battle Creek in 1841 and died there in 1895. He was the first black male born in Battle Creek.

*by Chris Czopek*

There are over 600 Michigan soldiers buried at Andersonville National Cemetery. Camp "history detective" Chris Czopek made a trip to Georgia in October to research some of these men. He discovered that the master data-base for Andersonville is under new management, and they need our help! Volunteers



*Dedicating the newly installed headstone of Corporal John Henry Jackson, 102<sup>nd</sup> U. S. Colored Infantry are Camp 22 members John Lohrstorfer (flag bearer), Leo Cuyler, John Lohrstorfer Sr., Louis Cuyler and Steve Datema; along with a representative from the American Legion (far left) and the Veteran's of Foreign Wars (far right).*

are needed to weed out errors in their records for Michigan soldiers. Members of Camp 22 have begun work on this project.

Camp Historian Louie Cuyler is leading a team of experts on trips to St. Joseph County to record the graves of Civil War veterans. Recent discoveries include one or two generals, an Indian who served as a sharpshooter, and a Catholic Priest in Mendon with a GAR star on his grave. Camp 22 is looking forward to his report at the February meeting!

## *GEORGE W. ANDERSON ~ CAMP 58*

*by Douglas Armstrong, Commander*

This fall Camp 58 has been active in the putting the finishing touches on some of its projects. In September, we completed our memorial restoration project in Ovid by installing replacement headstones for the four Civil War Veterans buried in the soldier's plot next to the monument. With the help of the cemetery sexton's records, we were able to determine the names and regiments in which these veterans served. With that information, orders were made for replacements from the Veterans administration in Washington D.C. Along with the placement of these headstones, the grave markers noting the George A. Winans Post 104 of Ovid, that were next to the original headstones were cleaned, painted and reinstalled in cans of cement.

At our meeting in September, the Brothers of the Camp chose

to show their support to the victims of the September 11<sup>th</sup> attack by donating to the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. Camp 58 donated \$100 as part of General Motors' gate collection program at the Lansing Car Assembly Plants. Totals collected for the one day event were over \$59,000 which GM has matched for a total donation of over \$100,000.

In October, we installed the four remaining George W. Anderson Post 58 grave markers. Members of the Camp placed over 100 of these markers throughout Clinton County during the project in 1999. These four as well as the other 100 mark the graves of members of the G.A.R. Post of DeWitt with replicas of their original grave markers. Three were in Mt. Rest Cemetery in St. Johns, James Dunn, who served in Co. A 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Engineers, James Newman, and Marion Case, who served in Co. E 6<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry and who is buried in the Mausoleum. The other was for Oel T. Smith who served in Co. I 3<sup>rd</sup> Ohio Cavalry and is buried in Georgia Cemetery just West of St. Johns.

On Veterans' Day, Camp 58's Color Guard along with brothers of Camp 17 attended the dedication of a Veteran's Memorial Walkway in Grand Ledge. The walkway is made up of concrete and bricks; several bricks are inscribed with the names of servicemen from the Grand Ledge area who gave their lives in the line of duty. The memorial was the idea of a local Boy Scout who chose the concept for his community project in earning the Rank of Eagle. The walkway was added to and enhances the existing Civil War monument, which consists of a 100 pound, 6.4 inch Army Parrott Rifle set atop a cut fieldstone base. The cannon was donated in 1898 by the U.S. Government to the local GAR Post for use as veterans' monument.



*Four new headstones in the soldier's plot, Maple Grove Cemetery, Ovid*

This year four brothers represented Camp 58 along with our Camp's Colors at the Remembrance Day Parade and Ceremony in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Our four Camp members, along with our fellow brothers from the Department of Michigan held a special ceremony at the Battery I, 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Artillery Monument on the battlefield. We were also honored to once again place Michigan Flags on the graves in the Michigan section of the National Cemetery.

Camp 58 is proud to report that work has begun on the restoration of the GAR Monument in the Wacousta Cemetery. Fundraising for the project began in 1996 and has, with the assistance of the Township, been steadily growing over these past years. Original estimates to restore the marble statue were between \$16,000 and \$18,000. With local donations and the matching funds of the Township a contract was negotiated earlier this year with a sculptor to repair and restore the vandalized monument. Sculptor, Andrzej Dajnowski and his assistant recently made the trip to Michigan from their studio in Chicago to perform preliminary work on the monument. They began by cleaning the white marble statue thoroughly. Measurements were then taken and cast molds were made of the features of the soldier for scale. With the information gathered, Andrzej can best sculpt the hands and musket that are now missing from the monument. He and his assistant will now take that information back to their shop in Chicago where they will perform the work this winter. At the urging of the sculptor, the township has left the scaffolding in place and has covered the monument for the winter months.

In the spring, the township has considered cutting down the large oak tree that towers over the rear of the monument to prevent any future damage to it. The sculptor will also return in the spring to install the hands and musket on the statue. Mr. Dajnowski has stated that it is possible he could have the restoration completed by Memorial Day of next year. If things go well, we may be planning a rededication of the monument for 2002, 101 years after its original dedication.

Our annual elections were held at our meeting in November. The new slate of Officer's for Camp 58 will be installed at our meeting in January. The Camp will then begin planning for it's events and projects of 2002.

### *MAJOR ROBERT ANDERSON, CAMP 139*

*by Bruce B. Butgereit, DSVC*

The efforts of several Brothers from Alpena, Department Secretary Richard Lee and myself, resulted in the establishment of the newest Camp in the Department of Michigan, the Major Robert Anderson Camp 139. The first Camp Commander of this Camp, Brother Robert Brookbank, is the descendant of Major Robert Anderson. he Camp number was derived from the previous G.A.R. Post in Alpena.

After several "interest" meetings and organizational meetings (you know, Alpena is a long way from Grand Rapids!), the Camp was officially installed by Brother Lee and myself, with "adjutant" assistance from Marcia Bruin of the Woman's Relief



*Installation of Camp Officers for newly formed Camp 139. Left to right are Chaplain Rudy Bauer, Commander Bob Brookbank, Secretary/Treasurer Don Londo, Junior Vice Commander Bruce Zann and Council Member Jim Furbush.*

Corps, Champlin Corps 41 on September 23, 2001.

The officers are:

Robert Brookbank – Commander  
 Don Londo – Secretary/Treasurer  
 Bruce Beckeney – SVC & Memorials Officer  
 Bruce Zann – JVC  
 Rudy Bauer – Chaplain & Graves Registration  
 James Furbush – Council and Guard  
 John Ulch – Patriotic Instructor & Council

Even though these men had yet to form a Camp, they had started on their Graves Registration program and have located over 300 graves – 145 in Alpena. One of their “goals” is to raise the funds necessary to erect a memorial in the community – something that apparently was never done – and they’ve raised \$100 towards the effort already.

Some history as provided by **Brother Jim Lyons** - The Lockwood Post 139 of Alpena, Alpena County was organized on May 23, 1883 and disbanded in 1932 or 33. Their last report was filed for 1928.

The Name of the Post was changed to Horace S. Roberts on the 12/31/1894 report. It was still Lockwood on the 6/30 report of 1894. (The Order went to a semi-annual report in 1891, from the original quarterly system)

The Brown Books show - Roberts, Horace S., Detroit. Entered service in company F, First Infantry as Captain, April 20, 1861 at Detroit for 3 months, age 33. Commissioned May 1, 1861. Mustered May 1, 1861. Mustered out at Detroit, Michigan, Aug. 7, 1861. Re-entered service as Lieutenant Colonel, First Infantry for 3 years, at organization, Aug. 10, 1861. Mustered October 31, 1861. Commissioned Colonel April 28, 1862. Wounded in action at Gaines’s Mill, Virginia, June 27, 1862. Killed in action at Bull Run, Virginia, August 30, 1862. Second Lieutenant, company D, Michigan Volunteers, Mexican War, Oct. 30, 1847. Mustered out July 23, 1848.

I was not able to come up with anything definitive on the Lockwood name origin. There are 56 Lockwood’s listed in the index to the Brown Books. No clue was found in the Post files on why the Lockwood name was chosen or why the name was changed.

My guess is that perhaps the Lockwood for whom the Post was originally named was still living. Posts were named after veterans who had died during the war or before the Post was organized. This was a frequent reason for name changes at the time of Post organization, but a few slipped through.

A check of the only history of Alpena County, published in 1876, did not reveal any listing of Civil War veterans from the County or veterans organizations. (The GAR was inactive at that time in Michigan.)

There was prominent mention of a James K. Lockwood, an

early settler who made a good bit of money in the lumbering business and formed several companies there. He may have had a son or sons who served. His name is not among the 56 listed.

## GOVERNOR CRAPO ~ CAMP 145

by Rick Greene

Greetings from Gov. Crapo Camp 145. This past autumn has been busy and memorable. The emergence of the Camp sponsored Military History Roundtable culminated organizational efforts of the past spring and summer. Scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month, we little knew how fateful the day of our kick-off meeting — 9/11/01!!! Events of the day dictated rescheduling to October 9 when guest speaker, Kim Crawford gave a fine presentation of the activities of the 16<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry in the Civil War. At this roundtable meeting, it was the Camp’s honor to host the presentation of several checks to the VFW for establishment of the World War II Memorial in Washington D.C. JVC-in-C Kent Armstrong presented a check on behalf of the National Organization in the amount of \$5000. The Gov. Crapo Camp raised \$500 for the cause and the DUV Tent 14 gave \$50. All funds were routed through the VFW which matches 50% of all donations before forwarding them to the World War II Memorial Committee.

One month later, on November 13 our own Camp Patriotic Instructor David Bock brought his collection of Civil War era communications devices and told us about the telegraph of that time. During a break in the program, the Camp was honored to host another presentation of a check to be forwarded to the World War II Memorial Fund. District President Nancy Newman presented a gift in the amount of \$40 on behalf of the DUV District Meeting.

Each month will bring a new speaker to the roundtable. You are cordially invited to be with us as we meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Flushing VFW Post 5666 on 616 N. McKinley Road in Flushing, MI.

Sunday, Nov 11, Veterans’ Day found several members of the Camp worshipping together at the Messiah Lutheran Church in Swartz Creek, Michigan. Later, we met at Lovejoy Cemetery, near Durand, Michigan to dedicate a marker at the grave of Private Harvey Hale, late of the 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan Volunteer Infantry.

Several members turned out to mark Remembrance Day, both, in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania and at the GAR memorial on the court house lawn in Flint, Michigan.

Annual elections were held on Wednesday, November 28. Again, Brother Max L. Newman was chosen by his Brothers to command our Camp in the ensuing year. We also congratulate Max on his selection by the National Encampment to serve as National Treasurer for the next 3 years.

The Gov. Crapo Camp continues to solicit donations to the World War II Memorial, under construction in our nation's capitol. It challenges all other Camps to contribute generously to this memorial to 16,000,000 men and women who helped turn back Axis tyranny in World War II. We respectfully suggest that contributions be channeled through VFW Post 5666 in order that they receive matching VFW funds before being forwarded to the World War II Memorial Fund in the donor's name.

### CARPENTER-WELCH ~ CAMP 180

by Edward D. Hall, Commander

Camp 180 has made excellent progress this year in its Grave's Registration effort. This has been largely due to the dedicated leadership and yeoman effort of our GRO Larry Arnold. As of November 30<sup>th</sup>, we have now completed the survey of 67 of Washtenaw County's 111 cemeteries (60%). From these, we have uploaded a total of 351 verified Union veterans' graves to the state data base. We also thank Austin Blair, Camp 7 for their help in surveying cemeteries in some of the Western townships of Washtenaw County. We intend to make an all out effort next Spring and complete the Washtenaw County survey in 2002.

I had the privilege of joining National JVC Kent Armstrong and several other Michigan brothers in participating in the Remembrance Day festivities in Gettysburg on November 17<sup>th</sup> including our memorial service at the 9<sup>th</sup> Michigan Artillery Battery monument on Cemetery Ridge. The weather was beautiful and all had a marvelous time. My wife and I attended the National Military Ball in the evening and greatly enjoyed the wonderful dancing. The next day was taken up with battlefield touring which I can never cease to hold my interest. I wish that more Michigan brothers would be able to experience Gettysburg on Remembrance Day. This was my second year in a row, and I am hoping to make it an annual event, the Good Lord willing.

At our Camp meeting on November 26<sup>th</sup> we enjoyed a wonderful presentation on the "Sultana Disaster" by noted Sultana expert Pam Newhouse. Pam's great-great grandfather was one of the 1700 repatriated Union prisoners of war who perished in the Sultana explosion. She has appeared on television documentaries about the Sultana, and was the inspiration behind the recent establishment and dedication of a memorial to the Sultana in Hillsdale. As a thank you to Pam, Camp 180 presented Pam with a donation to help pay off the cost of the monument.

Our Patriotic Instructor and 17<sup>th</sup> Michigan re-enactor John Delcamp is again leading the organization of the Ypsilanti Civil War Muster to be held at Depot Town and Riverside Park in Ypsilanti on Saturday, April 20, 2002. Mark your calendars as you will not want to miss this wonderful event.

Lastly, we had our elections for 2002 and elected the following officers who will be installed on January 22nd, 2002: Ed Hall, Camp Commander, Bill Hart, Senior Vice Commander; Dennis Blake, Jr. Vice Commander, Bill Eaton, Treasurer and Mike VanWasshnova, Secretary. Bill McAfee, David Speer and Gary Speer will remain on the Camp Council. In addition Bill McAfee will continue as Camp Chaplain and Larry Arnold will continue as GRO. Other appointments are being made.

### SGT. JOHN S. COSBEY ~ CAMP 427

by Rick Danes

Greetings Brothers and friends! We here at Camp 427 hope that all of you are well and are looking forward to a great holiday season.

We here in Dearborn continue to keep green the memory of our ancestors in spite of a continual decrease in membership. We would also like to report that our ailing Brother and past CC Rick Carden continues his battle with cancer.

On a more positive note, Camp 427 continues to participate in all activities that favor a small group, i.e. supporting our local historical society and museum programs, sustaining a bi-monthly meeting schedule, and spreading "the word" whenever we get the chance. During the past several months, we have served as a uniformed guard and interpretive resource at various functions at the Dearbornville Arsenal (Commandant's Headquarters), preparing and maintaining a Civil War era field camp at a local Homecoming celebration, and serving as uniformed escorts at the Dearborn Museum Guild Victorian Tea.

The incumbent slate of elected officers for 2002 will be:

Jerry Olson	Commander
Rick Danes	Senior Vice Commander
Jeffrey Montminy	Junior Vice Commander
Rick Danes	Secretary/Treasurer
Rick Carden	Camp Council Chairman
Aaron Schrader	Camp Council
Gerry Olson	Camp Council

Camp 427 will meet on the second Wednesday, bi-monthly at 7:00 pm, at either the Commandant's HQ, Mason at Michigan Avenue in Dearborn, at the Ross-McFadden House, Brady Street north of Michigan Avenue, or at an appropriate site chosen for a special subject. The exception will be an annual meeting and dinner on Sunday, January 27, 2002 at the Ross McFadden House. If you are interested in attending, please call or email me for further information. The dates of the meetings are:

January 27 — March 13 — May 15  
July 10 — September 11 — November 13

The Camp also reports the submittal of 42 monument registrations to Brother Doug Armstrong. We will complete the

other 15+ registrations and turn them in by year-end.

## RUSSELL A. ALGER ~ CAMP 462



Sitting in front of the Charles Belknap statue are, left to right, True Son Edward Blakely, Bruce Butgereit and True Son Harold Becker. The statue was cleaned of its grime and given a coat of sealer by Members of Camp 1. The statue was then rededicated during the "Celebration on the Grand" festivities in Grand Rapids, September 8.

## COMING EVENTS

### JANUARY

**10<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Reports Due**  
Camp Quarterly Reports are due in the office of the Department Secretary, Richard Lee.

### FEBRUARY

**23<sup>rd</sup> Lansing**  
Midwinter Conference and Annual Washington-Lincoln Commemorative Dinner at the Best Western Midway Hotel. All members of the Order are urged to participate. Please refer to the pull out section for details concerning the conference, the banquet and reservation form for the banquet.

### MARCH

**7<sup>th</sup> Messenger Deadline**  
All copy and photographs should be in the hands of the editor by this date.

### APRIL

**10<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Reports Due**  
Camp Quarterly Reports are due in the office of the Department Secretary, Richard Lee.

**20<sup>th</sup> Lansing**  
113<sup>th</sup> Department Encampment hosted by the Sons at the Holiday Inn West. Please refer to the pull out section for details concerning the encampment, a pre-registration form, the banquet and reservation form for the banquet.

### MAY

**4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Mansfield, OH**  
Civil War Show at the Richland County Fairgrounds, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm both days. Three buildings of dealers occupying over 500 tables.

*If your Camp is planning an activity and wishes to have other SUVCW members in attendance, why not report it for inclusion in Coming Events? Please keep in mind the mailing dates and plan ahead. The mailing dates this year are targeted for January 2, April 2, July 1 and October 1.*



*The Austin Blair Award was recently presented by Bill Lowe, PCC of Austin Blair Camp 7, Jackson, to Kevin L. Kregger of the NELSON-HOUSE FUNERAL HOME in Owosso. This award was given in appreciation of the funeral home's providing a circa 1870's horse drawn hearse for the re-interment of Private Daniel W. Pine this past summer in Jackson. Max Newman, Commander of Governor Crapo Camp 145, is a local resident of the Owosso area and assisted in the presentation.*

The Department of Michigan is on the Internet at: <http://suvvw.org/mi/deptmi.htm>

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