



Mi

Messenger

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



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Fall 2003

REPORT FROM THE 122ND NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

Bruce B. Butgereit, DC

I know it's kind of late for a headcount, but did everyone who attended this Encampment find their way out of that hotel? You needed a map and a guide to find your way around that expansive hotel.

In recent years, I have relied on the excellent notes taken by Brother Neal Breaugh at the National Encampment to provide you with a report on the proceedings. As Neal was touring Ireland this year, I took the notes.

(Continued on page 2)



Michigan members at the National Encampment.

Left to Right: Rick Danes, PC-in-C Bob Grim, Dennis Felton, Bill McAfee, John Mann, Jim Pahl, Doug Armstrong, Ed Blakely, Gary Gibson, PC-in-C Keith Harrison, Robert Grove, Richard Lee, C-in-C Kent Armstrong, Bruce Butgereit (hiding behind Kent), Dick Williams and Max Newman. Missing from the photo are Bill Lowe, Ron Bellenger and Ed

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Bruce B. Butgereit

Ceremonies & Ritual

Gregory Hayes

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT REPORT

(Continued from page 1)

The following Brothers made up the Michigan delegation: Doug Armstrong, Kent Armstrong, Ron Bellenger, Ed Blakely, Bruce Butgereit, Rick Danes, Dennis Felton, Gary Gibson, Bob Grove, Ed Hall, Keith Harrison, Richard Lee, Bill Lowe, John Mann, Bill McAfee, Max Newman, Jim Pahl, and Dick Williams. Thank you for your attendance!

At the opening of the meeting, Commander-in-Chief Robert Grim asked all the Past C-in-C's present to stand before the delegation and there were 14 of the last 17 present. The Meritorious Service Award (Gold Star) was presented to Brother Ed Krieser (IN) and Dave Medert (OH).

The recommendations for amending the job descriptions for all National, Department, and Camp Officers were approved. I encourage current and those thinking of volunteering to serve as an officer look through these items on the National website at: <http://www.suvcw.org/cd-jobs/jobs2.htm>

Our own DSVC, Brother Neal Breaugh, was one of the recipients of the Distinguished Recruiting Award for bringing in at least three new Brothers to the Order.

Although I tend to shy away from bringing attention to myself or "blowing my own horn," since I'm writing this report, I have no choice to say that I was one of the recipients of the Cornelious Whitehouse Award – the award given to the most outstanding Brother in the Order. I must say though, without each of you offering your support and efforts to our work, I would have not enjoyed the successes we've had. Although my name is on the award, I can easily read all of yours as well. Thank you! This award, a large gold eagle with wings spread (sometimes called "The Bird"), was given to Brothers Keith Harrison and Jim Pahl in 2001, making three Michigan Brothers receiving this recognition for dedicated work in the last three years.

There were several minor changes made to the C&R, but none that require us to go back into our By-laws and make changes. A special litigation fund was established to help fight against ordnance (cannons) theft.

New York Department Commander Brother Todd Shillington made a motion to award the Kent County Civil War Monument Restoration Project the final \$2,000 needed to reach our \$250,000 goal. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was placed on the floor to reach out to our Sister Allied Orders and extend a welcome to join the SUVCW at future Encampments. The motion passed unanimously.

The elections of officers went rather smoothly as there was only Brother being nominated except for the Council of Administration. The position was sought by our own Brothers Gary Gibson (PDC, Camp 20), Tom Crawford (PDC, IN), and Dave Stephens (PDC, IA). After having a roll call vote five times, Brother Stephens was elected.

The meeting closed with Brother Kent Armstrong being sworn in as the new Commander-in-Chief. Participating in the ceremony was True Son Edward Blakely, Kent's son Doug and Kent's wife Judy. (Of course, the camel viewed the scene with pleasure.)

Again, I thank each of you who made the effort to attend and participate in this function.

DEPARTMENT ORDERS NO. 3

SERIES 2003 ~ 2004

Department Headquarters, Kentwood, Michigan

1. Please join me in congratulating our own Michigan Brother, Kent Armstrong in his being elected to serve the 2003-2004 term as Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Brother Kent has served the Order diligently and is deserving of the office. (For other Michigan Brothers serving in a National office or committee, see elsewhere in this issue.)

2. As many of you know, since the last issue of the MICHIGAN MESSENGER, I had suffered a severe financial setback in my business. Through your prayers and support, I can now report that I am employed at Kinko's, which supplements what remains of my business. As I have requested third-shift, I will be unable to travel as much as I was but will do my best. Department Senior Vice-Commander Neal Breaugh still intends to visit as many Camps as his schedule allows.

3. Please take time to remember any Brothers or Sisters in distress and especially any Brother or Brother's son who may be currently serving in our Nation's Armed Forces. Send your requests and updates to me for publishing via the Prayer List. For those who have email and are not receiving this, please send me an email if you would like to.

4. In my Department Orders No. 2, I had requested Camps who have yet to submit amended or updated By-laws to do so by September 1. Unfortunately, none of those Camps submitted anything to me. I am willing to continue to work on this issue with you, but the willingness to work together must be reciprocated. The Camps in default will be receiving a personal letter from me addressing this issue and what steps will be taken next.

5. After careful assessment of the condition of the Department tent, it was determined that age and weather have taken their toll on the canvas and a new one was needed. Please join me in extending a sincere "thank you" to the Brothers of Governor Crapo Camp 145 (Flushing) for their generous financial contribution to the Department and Treasury with their purchase of a new 9' A-tent and supporting materials for use by all Camps who request so.

6. Department Junior Vice-Commander Rick Greene had submitted an article concerning the Department tent in the last issue of MICHIGAN'S MESSENGER. As the tent is used for educational or recruiting purposes, the Department JVC oversees the handling of this tent and monitors where it is at and which Camp currently has it. It was also decided by the Department to create a new inventory listing, "how to" assemble and diagrams, and a "usage" agreement for the tent. I have instructed our Department webmaster, Brother Eric Kirchberg to place this information on the Department Headquarters Home Page on our website.

7. In our Constitution, ARTICLE II, Purposes and Objects states, "...to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war..." This of course includes those men and women currently serving in our military today.

The Brothers of Governor Crapo Camp No. 145 (established over ten-years-ago) should be commended for their action to see that they did indeed honor those currently serving. The Camp took part in the "Adopt a Unit" program and "adopted" the ship and crew of the USS Pearl Harbor. The following letter addressed to Camp Commander Dave Wallace PDC, shares what it is all about:

Dear Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the generous act of kindness you displayed by sending the books, newspapers and magazines to my ship and her crew. These gifts were well received by all.

It is important that members of the military know the home front is filled with patriots. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War set the patriotic example with their selfless gift. The citizens of your organization should be commended for their support of our troops as we seek to make the world a safe and secure place for people of all walks of life.

*Sincerely,
D.G. Fuller
Commanding Officer
USS Pearl Harbor (LSD 52)*

More information on this worthy program can be found on the VFW Internet site or contact a VFW Post in your area.

8. I'd like to thank each Camp who attended or participated in any ceremony or rededication. Camps 1, 7 and 259 participated in the 175th anniversary celebration of Jonesville, MI and helped rededicated their newly restored monument. Camps 7 and 17 shared the Department Grave Registration Database and more with the visitors at the Charlton Park reenactment in Hastings in July. Several Camps were present in sharing with the public at the Jackson Muster with Camp 7 offering educational programs for the youngsters as well. Many Sisters from different Orders shared in these events as well and we say thank you to them also.

9. With the end of this year fast approaching, it is time for each Camp to start preparing for nominations and elections of officers, which per our C&R, states this important business must be completed between 1 October and December

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31.

10. With the election of Camp officers, comes the other important duty of installing the new (even if the same officers are re-elected) officers, which must take place between the first meeting in November and the first meeting in January.

As my availability is yet to be determined, please contact me as soon as possible so that I may be able to assign others to do this work in my absence if necessary.

11. Another important duty at the close of the year is for the Camp Council to review the financial records and with the Camp Treasurer, come up with any recommendations necessary to successfully operate the Camp financially.

12. As Department Commander, I have participated these past three months in the following events (Camp No. 1 Commander events not included):

A. June 28 – Attended and participated in the Jonesville 175th anniversary parade and joint Camp 259 and 7 sponsored rededication of the Jonesville Civil War Monument

B. July 19 – Attended and escorted True Sons Blakely and Becker at the reenactment at Historic Charlton Park

C. July 20 – Celebrated 1st anniversary of my marriage to Marcia by attending the reenactment at Historic Charlton Park

D. July 26 – Spoke to the Henry Jenks Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of Union Veterans in Ionia

E. July 26 – Participated in the annual veterans Carnival held at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans

F. August 7 through 10 - Attended and led the Michigan delegation at the National Encampment held in Ft. Mitchell, KY

G. August 23 - Attended and escorted True Sons Blakely and Becker at the Jackson Muster. Shared some time at the Department fly.

H. August 24 - Attended and escorted True Son Blakely at the Jackson Muster

I. August 31 – Attended and participated in the dedication of a new monument to the 7th Michigan Infantry at Fredericksburg, VA (See picture in this issue and story in next issue of the BANNER)

J. August 31 – Attended and participated in the return of a “souvenired” Confederate flag to the City of Fredericksburg, VA (See story in next issue of the BANNER)

K. September 6 – Attended and presented certificate of appreciation to Juliet E. Stevens Tent No. 14 in Corunna for their adopting of the 14th Michigan Infantry flag as part of “Save the Flags.”

By the order of:

Bruce Butgereit,

Attest:

Richard Lee,

EDITOR'S NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

Effective immediately

jrmsuvcw@comcast.net

Please make the change in your address book NOW, before you forget.

John Mann

TREASURER

Dick Williams

The current balance for the Department accounts:

Alger Medal of Honor	\$735.10
Checking	\$59.15
Savings	\$15,884.82

Last year the Department sold items for an income of \$697.00. This year the Department had an income of \$536.00 from sales. During the last month the old large department tent was replaced by a newer smaller version.

Department Database

It is important for Camps to use the new form 30's to report any membership information changes. Changes include area codes, address changes, phone number changes, e-mail changes, etc. The information contained in the Department database is used to update the database maintained by the National Organization. Be sure the information on the Camp membership is correct in the Department to insure delivery of the Messenger and Banner to the Camp membership and to insure communication to Camp membership either by snail mail or e-mail.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Neal F. Breaugh

The response to my summer Messenger article has been very good, and I am even optimistic that it will become even better in the future. It shows that more and more members are reading our award-winning Messenger, and this is most gratifying to our Commander, Editor, and me. In June I received either a Newsletter or Minutes from Camps 1 and 7; in July I heard from Camps 58, 17, 180 and 14; Camp 427 reported in August; and as of early September, I have received material from Camps 7 and 14. I am very pleased to report that Camps are beginning to send newspaper articles and pictures to me. In July I received an article with picture from Camp 259; in August Camp 180 sent an article with two pictures, so far in September, I have received an article with picture from Camp 14. I must make a special mention of the three articles I received in July from Camp 427. It seems that Camp Secretary/Treasurer and Department GRO Rick Danes has started to write a column on the Long School Area for the Heritage Newspapers/Press & Guide. In these articles Rick is able to also make mention of the activities of Camp 427 and the SUVCW at both the Department and National level. Congratulations Rick! A great idea to take advantage of an excellent opportunity. Now that school is started, I look forward to receiving more of these entertaining articles.

On July 28th, Messenger Editor John Mann and I journeyed to Ann Arbor to attend the Carpenter-Welch Camp No. 180 Meeting. Brother Bill Lowe of Camp 7 also joined us. There was good attendance from the Camp and the meeting was most enjoyable. As I write this I hope to be attending meetings on September 9th in Grand Rapids with Camp 1 and in Cadillac on September 21st with Camp 147. I am also hoping to see many of you at the historical Rededication of the Grand Rapids Monument on October 4th and also at the Central Region Conference on that weekend at the Airport Hilton in Grand Rapids.

One of my responsibilities as DSVC is to chair the By-Laws Committee. With that thought in mind, I am requiring that any Camp or individual Member, who wishes to submit any item to the By-Laws Committee, do so by Wednesday, December 10, 2003. Such material can be sent by U.S. mail to my home or to me via the internet. (See address and e-mail address in Department Officers Column on page 2). This information must reach me by December 10th because I am scheduling a Committee Meeting on the weekend of December 12-13th so that any proposals can be mailed to the Camps in January for their consideration in plenty of time before the April 24 2004 Department Encampment.

As an American of Irish decent, I have read and heard a great deal about the potato famine in Ireland. However, I had never heard anything about the "cotton famine" until our recent trip to Ireland, England, and Scotland. While touring Lancaster Castle in England, our guide spoke of the effects of the American Civil War on this area. Due to the Union blockade of

Southern ports, very little cotton reached England and this caused a "cotton famine" that put many workers out of jobs. So, the Government and Lord Ashton put these unemployed cotton workers to work constructing the beautiful Williamson Park and huge Ashton Memorial and Butterfly House. The guide seemed quite proud to state that we owed the existence of the Park and Memorial to the "War between the States". We had already planned to visit this site, but this new information made it a "must see" destination. It was worth the visit.

I am looking forward to visiting additional Camps before the end of the year, and looking forward to a very busy January helping to install Officers in as many Camps as I possibly can.

DEPARTMENT BYLAWS

Camps or individuals wishing to submit proposals for changes to our Department Bylaws must do so by **December 10, 2003**. The proposals must be **received** by this date as the By-Laws Committee will be meeting the week-end of December 12th and 13th.

Please snail mail or e-mail any proposals to:

Neal F. Breaugh, DSVC
10230 E. San Remo Blvd.
Traverse City, MI 49648
nbreaugh@gtii.com

All proposals for changes to the Bylaws will be sent to Camps in January for review and consideration. Voting on the proposals will take place at the Department Encampment April 24, 2004 in Grand Rapids.

MICHIGAN BROTHERS SERVING THE ORDER IN NATIONAL POSITIONS

<i>Kent Armstrong:</i> <i>Max Newman:</i> <i>Jim Pahl:</i> <i>Dick Williams:</i> <i>Gary Gibson:</i> <i>Bill McAfee:</i> <i>Doug Armstrong:</i> <i>Keith Harrison:</i>	<i>Commander-in Chief</i> <i>Treasurer</i> <i>Council of Administration (Non-Voting)</i> <i>Counselor</i> <i>Assistant Treasurer</i> <i>Aid-de-Camp</i> <i>Camp-at-Large and Department Organizer</i> <i>Chaplain</i> <i>Color Bearer</i> <i>Back-up Webmaster</i>
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PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

Tim Kolean

I've been a member of the SUVCW now for about a year. It really wasn't until recently that the importance of the responsibilities that we have as the heirs to the G.A.R. became evident to me. My Great, Great Grandfather and his brother (my GGG Uncle) served with the Michigan 25th Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. While researching my ancestors regiment during the last few years, I became aware of a monument dedicated to the 25th Michigan in the Kalamazoo area.

The monument consisted of a boulder with a plaque. The inscription on the plaque reads:

"This stone, placed here October, 1923 by the surviving members of the Twenty-fifth Michigan Volunteer Infantry who served in the Civil War, marks the spot where this regiment first went into camp, September 1, 1862, was mustered into the service of the United States, September 22, 1862, and left for the front, October 1, 1862, under its gallant and beloved commanders, Colonel Orlando H. Moore, Lieut. Col. Benj. F. Orcutt. This Regiment participated in 22 battles, was mustered out at Salisbury, North Carolina, June 24, 1865, and was discharged from the service at Jackson, Mich., July 14, 1865, after having gallantly performed its part toward the preservation of the union and won for itself a merited reputation for bravery and loyalty."

I was quite excited to see this monument considering the personal nature of it to my family history. One warm Summer Sunday afternoon my family and I decided to drive down to Kalamazoo to look at the monument and take a photograph of it. As we drove up, I could see something wasn't right from a block away. To my surprise and extreme disappointment, the plaque on the boulder was missing. All that remained was the imprint of where the plaque should have rested. I wondered what could have happened. I figured at best the plaque was off being refurbished, and at worst it was probably stolen.

Fortunately, because of my membership with SUVCW, I knew of people I could contact to find out what had happened to this monument. After contacting Camp 20 in Kalamazoo, we were able to learn the complete story of this monument. The original plaque from 1923 was stolen sometime before the Centennial of the Civil War in 1961. It was replaced again during the Centennial celebration. The plaque was possibly stolen again and replaced in 1985. The SUVCW participated in that dedication. Six months after that dedication, the plaque again came up missing and has been gone ever since.

This story looks to have a happy ending though. Camp 20 has decided to take on this monument for restoration. They are looking for a permanent way to replace the plaque on the monument so that it can never be removed. Hopefully there will be a dedication for the Michigan 25th Infantry monument in 2004.

This experience gave me a greater appreciation for the work that the SUVCW does, as well as meaning to my own participation in Son's activities. Its important that our work continue to "Keep Green the Memory" as well as prevent other descendants of Civil War Veterans from experiencing disappointment at seeing their Civil War ancestor's memory tarnished.

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

Paul Hodges, PDC

The September 2003 issue of *MMGS Newsletter* of the Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society depicts ways for perpetuating the memory "of the men who saved the Union 1861 to 1865."

Judy Pfaff, the editor, had some Civil War materials from her own family and sought materials from other members to gather enough to devote an entire issue to the Civil War. The request produced enough letters, documents, and artifacts for at least two issues and perhaps for even more. Thus the September newsletter, the Society's initial newsletter with a Civil War theme, came about.

The feature article, "Keep up good courage, Elsie," is based on eleven letters of Francis E. Keefer of the 23rd Wisconsin Volunteer Regiment. The letters were passed down through the family and reached Mark Havitz, his great, great grandson. Mark grew up in Lansing, Michigan, and now is a professor at the University of Waterloo in Ontario. He transcribed the letters, wrote supplementary material about the soldier's family and about the troop movements related to the 23rd Wisconsin, and gathered pictures and maps. All these he and a colleague compiled and published as a computer CD as a gift for family members "...in order that the memory of one of our great-great grandfathers, Francis Elmer Keefer, be sustained for us and for future generations."

The Keefer letters provide interesting insights of army life as seen by a man in his early twenties who left home to answer President Lincoln's calls for volunteers in 1862. From the very first letter and in others, Keefer expressed concern about the crops on the farm back home. He commented frequently about not getting paid, and he asked that stamps be sent to him. An adequate water supply was a major concern. When the troops were sailing down the Mississippi River, he wrote: "The Mississippi water is very rily and pretty hard looking water to drink. We have to shut our eyes to drink it." He survived close calls in battle but succumbed to illness after seven months of military service.

This *MMGS Newsletter* also has a review by K. Stanley Read, Ph.D., of the book **Eye of the Storm: A Civil War Odyssey**. It was written and illustrated by Private Robert Knox Sneden and edited by Charles F. Bryan, Jr., and Nelson D. Lankford. In his assignment in the Union army, Private Sneden traveled widely, made hundreds of maps and sketches, and recorded the details in his journals. Even as a prisoner, he secretly kept diaries and made sketches. After the war, he wrote about his experiences and added to the sketches.

My own contributions to the newsletter were the brief biography and picture of my grandfather, Herrick Hodges, as written for the Michigan Department, SUVCW, website. Along with it is a picture of me holding a framed document which certifies Herrick's rank as First Sergeant in Company I, Seventeenth Michigan Infantry Regiment.

At my suggestion, Judy Pfaff visited the GAR Hall in Sunfield for more Civil War material. She was so impressed that she included photos of the hall in the newsletter. She also arranged with PDC James Lyons to have MMGS members attend his tour of

CHAPLAIN

William B. M^cAfee

We have written about the G.A.R.'s usage of the word "Charity" in a previous article. This quarter, We'd like to look at another part of the "complimentary closing" that they passed on to us.

Allegheny College in Meadville, PA, is larger than it was forty years ago when I was a student, but not by a whole lot. We were small enough that we got to know our classmates pretty well. Then came (social) fraternity pledging. There were 21 members in my pledge class, a large group for any time at Allegheny. I have kept in touch with some of my classmates and my fraternity brothers over the years, because we formed a strong bond when working together for the common purpose of meeting the requirements to become full members of the fraternity. A couple of years ago, I attended a meeting at U. of Detroit-Mercy put on by the company that administers my agency's Employee Assistance Program. As I chose a table and sat down, I turned to the other man there and we both simultaneously pointed at the other and said "I know you." We just couldn't immediately figure out from where. Then, we realized that not only did we go through basic and advanced training in the Army, but we were also in the same O.C.S. company at Ft. Benning and were assigned to Ft. Sill for a time before he was shipped to Nam. Gerry and I hadn't seen each other since 1967, but we had been in the same "fraternity". We had bonded through our training, our drill, and our common experiences. I can name other such fraternal experiences among members of lodges, professions, etc.

Putting these examples together, we can better understand what the word FRATERNITY meant to our ancestors who served in the Civil War. Many came from the same geographic area and had already formed friendships with their messmates from home, school and church. Now they were thrown together in tent cities to learn the ways of war and to march and eat and sleep and fight together for a common cause. They were even more strongly bonded through these common experiences than they would have been just living in the same town or being a part of the same church or profession. Two of my cousins, brothers in a large family, served first in the Texas Rangers together and later in the 15th Texas Infantry (C.S.A.). I can't help but believe that their common experiences in the Rangers and the army made them even closer with each other than they were with other members of the family.

Looking at all of this, it is easier to accept that the founders and members of the G.A.R. put strong feeling into the word "Fraternity", which they included in their standard complimentary closing, "Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty". It goes deeper than the dictionary synonym "brotherhood". It indicated to them the bond they formed with their Comrades through the most traumatic experiences of life and death. Living in the heat and cold, the rain and mud, the snow and ice, the marches through dust or muck, eating short rations or feasting off a landfall of captured foodstuffs; lives were saved, heroic acts were performed with personal sacrifices made for a friend. All of these activities created the fraternal bond. With this, as with other traditions of the G.A.R., let us carry on what they started, with feeling and the knowledge of "why". I urge you, among each other, to use that closing, not abbreviated with just the initials, but with the full term, "Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty".

May God bless our Order and our work to carry on our ancestors' traditions, thus keeping green their memory.

COMMANDER

-IN-

CHIEF

To my fellow Michigan Brothers:

It is indeed a great honor to have been elected to a turn as Commander-in-Chief of our great Order. As I said, after being Installed at the National Encampment, I will work to remain worthy of the privilege. I want to take this opportunity to personally thank all of you who gave your time and expense to take part in the recent National Encampment at Ft. Mitchell, KY. I also want to thank everyone else for your continued contributions to the SUVCW's combined efforts to honor the memory of the G.A.R. and all who answered President Lincoln's call to "Save the Union." As I said in my C-in-C acceptance remarks, this is a time for all of us to rededicate ourselves to the principles of our Order.

During my turns of service in various offices, I've had the opportunity to visit and witness the efforts being made by other Brothers, in other Departments, to honor "The Boys in Blue." I can attest that a great deal has been accomplished elsewhere but I want you to share in the pride that these efforts do not surpass your own, here in Michigan I am proud to be your Michigan Brother of the SUVCW.

Very sincerely yours,

In Fraternity, Charity, and
Loyalty,

Kent Armstrong

GENERAL JOHN A. LOGAN CAMP 1 ~ GRAND RAPIDS

Bruce B. Butgereit, CC

By the time you are reading this issue of Michigan's Messenger, you will have either heard of or participated in one of the proudest moments in the short history of Camp 1 – the rededication of the 118-year-old Kent County Civil War Monument.

In this issue, you will find a form to order a commemorative booklet telling the entire story, not only of our efforts, but that of Kent County in the Civil War, the Monument, and more. The proceeds from these sales will go to what we are calling Phase Two. Now that the monument has been restored and rededicated, we are continuing to work with the City of Grand Rapids in helping to renovate Monument Park, create signage with historical information, park benches, and more. These funds will also help us pay for surveys in order to get the monument placed on the National and State Historic Registries.

Also in this issue is a form to order Commemorative T-shirts depicting the monument and the rally cry we used in raising funds: "...As long as grass grows and water runs, the deeds of the soldiers will be kept fresh and green in the hearts of the people." The proceeds from this also go to Phase Two. (*Order forms on page 24.*)

Many have asked whether we will "take a break" for a while and we usually say yes and then we say, BUT there are other monuments to work on. The three Grand Rapids Allied Orders; Camp 1, Champlin Corps No. 41, WRC and Eva Gray Tent No. 2, DUV are already planning to carry on our program of "Together...we CAN do it!" The City of Lowell is looking to us for direction now to replace a long lost artillery carriage to put their tube on and to replace about 30 WRC flag holders in just one cemetery. To assist us in our efforts, the sexton of the cemetery has researched the Civil War men buried there and has obtained the obituaries for most of them.

Our work in cemeteries will show better results as we get more of the Camp involved and out there walking the cemeteries. By meeting for a second night each month, we hope to concentrate our efforts more.

A highlight for the Grand Rapids Allied Orders, took place on July 26 at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. For the first year, we participated in their annual Carnival, a day where the families of the residents visit and over 50 various groups and veterans organizations set up a booth with games and prizes for all. Literally thousands of people attend and the men and women of the Home really enjoy themselves. While we've been volunteers in years past, this year we had a booth with a banner titled Allied Orders of the GAR and we had a ring toss game and many great prizes.

HENRY E. PLANT CAMP 3 ~ GRAND HAVEN

Daniel Grable, Sec./Treas.

The Henry E. Plant Camp this year marked a big anniversary. On May 25th we turned 10 years old. The Plant Camp held their first meeting of the Camp (an informal one) on December 29, 1992 at the Fruitport V.F.W. Hall. On May 25, 1993 the Camp initiated its first five members and installed its first officers. They were: Commander, Max Riekse; Senior Vice Commander, Herman DeHaan; Junior Vice Commander, Paul MacDonald; Secretary/Treasurer, Charles Harthy; Camp Council Members, Herman DeHaan, John Baldus and Paul MacDonald; Chaplain, John Baldus; patriotic Instructor, Paul MacDonald; Historian, Charles Harthy; Guide, Douglas Sittser; Color Bearer, Herman DeHaan; and Guard, Philip Zinn. For these past 10 years we have been working to honor the memories of our Civil War ancestors in the area along the Lake Michigan shoreline from Holland in the South to Fremont and Oceana County in the north.

Our Camp was named after Henry E. Plant of Crockery Township in Ottawa County. Mr. Plant was the only Civil War veteran to serve from Ottawa County and to be living in the county when he received his Medal of Honor. He served in the 14th Michigan Infantry, and on March 19, 1865 during the Battle of Bentonville (North Carolina) he rescued the 14th Michigan's flag after the Color Bearer was killed. Following this, Plant was made Color Bearer for the 14th and promoted to Sergeant, serving in that capacity for the duration of the war. Sgt. Plant, being only 5' 3" in height, was the shortest Color Bearer in the entire Union Army. Our Camp was numbered after the 3rd Michigan Infantry which was primarily raised from the same west Michigan area our Camp originally covered.

To celebrate the anniversary the Camp had a potluck picnic following their participation in the Spring Lake Memorial Day Ceremonies. The picnic was held at Spring Lake's Central Park and was open to all our Brothers and their families. The delicious food was great and it included an appropriate American Flag cake.

Earlier that day the Camp participated in the Memorial Day Ceremonies in Spring Lake conducted by the William A. Zimmerman Post 1994 of the AMVETS. The Plant Camp provided the firing squad for the event. We used period rifles and gave a three4 gun salute by having each Brother fire once in succession. During the ceremonies our Camp Chaplain (and AMVETS Post Chaplain) John Baldus explained the background of Gen. John A. Logan's General Order #11, which he then read. The next day a picture of the Camp's firing squad appeared in the Grand Haven Tribune.

On the Department level the Camp sent three Brothers to the Department Encampment in April. We are proud to mention that our Commander, Richard Scott, is a member of the

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Department's Bylaws Committee.

This summer many of our Brothers have been involved in re-enacting. I personally have been conducting research on my book concerning Henry E. Plant and other Ottawa County Civil War Veterans.

I would like to take this opportunity on the behalf of the Brothers of Henry Plant Camp to say that we are very proud of our former Camp Commander Max Rieske, who since April has been serving active duty in the Army Reserve in Kuwait. I would also ask that all our Brothers across Michigan pray for Brother Rieske's daily safety and his final safe return home

AUSTIN BLAIR CAMP 7 ~ JACKSON

Mark D. Heath, CC

Greetings from Jackson. Camp No. 7, has survived yet another summer full of activities. From our presence at Flag Day in Lansing, to our participation in the Parade and Ceremony in Jonesville and numerous individual efforts by members of the Camp, has shown that, Austin Blair continues to be committed to "keeping green the memory" of all Civil War Veterans.

The quick, impromptu response of the Camp and "our" wonderful Auxiliary, to partake in the 150th Jackson County Fair Parade on August 3rd, also helped to show the community, that Camp 7 and it's Ladies are alive and active. This is also demonstrated by the addition of four new Members over the summer, along with a new Junior. All had said that they had seen us at various events and decided that "this was for them". It should also be noted that the Auxiliary put on one heck of a "Fashion Show" at the Napoleon Library on the 4th of August. Their presentation was well received by all who attended and talk of doing future programs with District Library is already in the works.

The Camp had another successful outing at the 19th Annual Cascades Civil War Muster on Aug. 23rd and 24th. The location of the Tent in the "Step Back in Time" Education Activities area, proved to be an asset. With the focus of the area being educational and our working relationships with the Ella Sharp Museum and the Cascades Inc. Education Committee we were able to interact with the public and showcase the Department's Graves Registration Database. Which by the way, was featured in the local newspaper here in Jackson. Along with our various displays showing what we do as Sons, also helped to attract visitors to the area. The "Join the Army" activities for the kids would not have been a success without the participation of Austin Blair Camp members.

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the



Group gathering at the Henry E. Plant Camp 10th Anniversary Picnic held Memorial Day 2003 at Spring Lake's Central Park. Left to right are Mrs. MacDonald, Paul MacDonald, Donald Ogden, Camp Commander Richard Scott and Jon Scott. Missing from the picture is photographer Daniel Grable.

Camp's success so far this year.

ROBERT FINCH CAMP 14 ~ TRAVERSE CITY

Wm. E. Skillman, CC

Department Commander Butgereit and Brothers. The membership roll for Robert Finch Camp 14 show a total of 30 Members, 8 of those being Associates. Our next meeting is scheduled on Saturday September 20, 2003 (12 noon), at the South City Limits restaurant.

On September 19th members of Camp 14 have been invited to participate in a candlelight ceremony honoring the POW/MIA's of America's wars at the small park at the junction of Front and Railroad streets. Mr. Robert Cole (U.S. Army, retired) will be the speaker. A candle light vigil is scheduled for the rest of the night. All SUVCW members are invited to attend. I encourage members who will attend wear SUV attire (blue blazer and kepi).

I would like to thank Mr. Mike Masberg who donated 14 Civil War books through Jim Johnson of our Camp. The Camp has worked with contributors and the Traverse City Public Library to provide Civil War literature to the wider community. Secretary Breaugh has arranged with the Chief Librarian to include a notice in each book that it was contributed by the Sons of Union Veterans.

Our July Summer Picnic was a rousing success by all who attended. I would like to recognize Al and Marge Pifer, and Neal Breaugh for their many hours of work behind the scenes to make this possible.

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Due to a rain storm, the July 26th picnic was held at our alternative site, the (Traverse City) Presbyterian Church. I brought the Camp to order by playing "Attention" on the bugle. I explained to the members that I would play the same bugle calls to signal events as those used during the Civil War. We had a few moments of silent reflection for all of the brothers and friends who requested our prayers. Due to the number of individuals cited in Commander Butgereit's prayer list, Secretary Breaugh compiled a list and distributed it among the members before the meeting started.

Secretary-Treasurer Breaugh informed us that the Camp had a balance of \$985.77 in checking and petty cash balance of \$42.35, for a total of \$1028.30.

Vice Commander Jim Johnson presented the 17 books donated by Mr. Masberg. Any of the books that the Public Library doesn't need will be added to our growing Camp library to be available to members. Monuments Officer, Fred Knoodle showed photographs of several monuments in Northern Michigan. Brother Jeff Morse presented to historian Goodrich an 18x24 inch laminated 1900 newspaper article on Traverse City's original GAR McPherson Post 18. Jeff pointed out the young drummer boy in the photograph was his great grandfather.

The meeting at this point was suspended by the sound of "Supper Call" on the bugle. The members filed past three long tables filled with food that was made using Civil War recipes (provided by Marge Pifer). While not on the menu, I provided a few campaign favorites of the original soldiers. One was skillygalee; hardtack soaked in water and then fried in bacon fat. Another was the U.S. Grant "power lunch" (sliced cucumbers doused with apple vinegar), and the old standby: hardtack, bacon (sowbelly) and roasted and crushed beans for coffee with a dollop of condensed milk for sweetener. I was surprised that our members relished the soldier fare as equally as the finer 'camp fare'.

A poll was taken from among all of the dishes prepared by the Camp members. Best salads were artificial oyster (by Artis Galnares) and Faux Lobster (read chicken) salad (by Mary Rose). Best main dish was Pea Soup (it really had peas in it!) by Neal Breaugh. And best desserts were peach cobbler (Jeff Morris) and Jefferson Davis pie (Geo. & Christine Goodrich). Al Pifer presented each winner with an authentic Civil War sutler's token.

"Recall" was sounded and the Camp returned to business with introductions of members and their guests. We unanimously endorsed combining Camp 14's 90th anniversary with Austin Blair Camp 7 at the Department Encampment in April 2004. We also hope to have a special celebration on March 26th in Traverse City for our own Robert Finch Camp.

I had the esteemed pleasure to award our own Al Pifer with the SUVCW War Medal for his years of service with the United States Marine Corps during the Korean Conflict. The members and guests all gave Al a standing ovation. I also presented Summer Picnic ribbons to each of our members who were in attendance.

The members were alerted that nominations for Camp positions will be held at our September meeting. Brother Knoodle reports progress with networking with recognized cannon experts on how to proceed with the restoration efforts. We have lent our support to the City officials looking to restore the soldier statue. Commander Butgeriet has discussed our needs with the woman who assisted his Camp in restoring the Grand Rapids monument.

The Camp made a \$50 donation to the Presbyterian Church in appreciation of making their facility available to us on such short notice. Most of us then moved down the street to Al Pifer's home where he entertained us by showing a small portion of his collection of Civil War uniforms, weapons, books, and instruments. Al had a story behind each and every article that was just as entertaining and educational as the object itself.

The Camp was well represented by members who participated in the Forth of July, Cherry Festival parades in Traverse City, and the Harbor Days festivities in Elk Rapids.

In August I was invited to assist Mr. Pat Price, (member of George H. Thomas's Invincibles and) organizer for Save Fort Wayne weekend. Fort Wayne is located within a stones throw of the Ambassador Bridge in Detroit. Built in 1844 to protect the City from a possible conflict with Great Britain, it served as a military mustering and training post from 1847 until 1970. Tens of thousands of Michigan residents passed through Fort Wayne's gates before being sent off to battle from the Civil War through Vietnam. After being decommissioned as a military post, it was donated to the City of Detroit. Despite efforts by the Historical Museum to maintain the Fort, time and decay are seriously threatening the integrity of the Fort and many of the building on the 90-acre grounds. I was tapped to play bugle for the weekend, but also lend my hands in helping to uproot some of the hundreds of sumac trees lining the ramparts and moat area. Mr. Rapai (of Chelsea) had researched original Fort documents to obtain dimensions and construction techniques for the casemate covers (made of wood and canvas, these covers protected the dungeon-like ammunition storage positions placed at intervals around the Fort). By Sunday, most of the work on recreating one of the casemate covers was completed, and it will serve as the prototype for future covers. All of the materials and labor were donated by Mr. Rapai and the GHTI. Mr. Price arranged to have the Civil War barracks opened so we could sleep there. The floors were covered in a fine black dust the consistency of photocopier toner. On Sunday a detail of 8 of us (using period mops and brooms) spent 2 hours cleaning up this single room. When finished we were exhausted, and looking out the window there seemed so much left to be done. If there are SUVCW members who wish to help out with the ongoing restoration efforts, they can reach Pat at pprice@gv2.com

Finally, We of Camp 14 look forward to attending the Kent County Civil War monument rededication in October.

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CURTENIUS GUARD CAMP 17 ~ SUNFIELD

James T. Lyons, PDC

In 1898 the A. S. Williams Post 40, of Charlotte, dedicated a 100 pound Parrott gun on the grounds of the Eaton County Courthouse. The inscription reads, in part, "In service of Civil War from 1861 – 1865 – This Post dedicates them to the memory of the Soldiers and Sailors of Eaton County".

Time and the elements had taken their toll by March 2002 when PDC James Lyons completed the Civil War Monument survey form for this memorial. A corner of the tablet on which the gun rested had parted from the main slab. The mortar around the stones was in poor condition and mostly missing in some places.

Later that spring he asked Brother LaVerne Aves, Curtenius Guard Camp 17 Hall Restoration Committee Chairman to meet him in Charlotte to assess the work that needed to be done. Brother Aves had done quite a bit of work on the guns in front of the G.A.R. Hall in Sunfield.



Ron Aves removes the corner for repair.

Brother Aves then approached his nephew, Ron Aves, a masonry contractor, for his assistance. He agreed to assist with the project. Brother Lyons then discussed the work that needed to be done with Mindie Dings, Executive Director for Courthouse Square Association, Inc. This group now owns the old Courthouse.

Ms Dings agreed to take the matter to her Board early in the summer. The Board unanimously accepted our offer to do the work but decided to refer the details and final approval to their Grounds and Maintenance Committee. The discussions on details of the project ran on into the fall and were finally approved in late fall. We had run out of suitable weather for this type of work so things were postponed until 2003.

Ron Aves schedule was packed until Tuesday, September 2, when he did the preliminary work. He returned the next afternoon and by evening the project was completed with the assistance of Brother LaVerne Aves.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to Ron Aves who donated both his labor and the material necessary to complete this important project

GEN. BENJAMIN PRITCHARD CAMP 20 ~ KALAMAZOO

Chuck Worley

The Summer of 2003 is almost past, and the Sons of Camp 20 are looking ahead to a Fall calendar penciled in with special events. As the days grow shorter by the minutes we remember the just about perfect weekend at the Jackson Cascades. Where there was a chance to stop by Camp 7's tent to meet and chat with Brothers from around the Department, eat some good food, do some shopping and story swapping with the sutlers, and watch the re-enactors play out their forefathers heroic battles.

As for Camp 20 news I must first mention that Camp Commander, Del Farnsworth, was set back with a heart attack in late August. He is now home recuperating and improving. With a reduced schedule for September, we hope to find him stronger and ready to join us for the October meeting. Our prayers go out for Brother Del, and we hope for strong recovery. We also extend a warm welcome to Brother Al Harper of Benton Harbor, who joined Camp 20 in August as an associate member. Brother Al is also a member of the 102nd Michigan USCT. Then in September, we had the pleasure of voting into our membership Brother Robert Johnson of Kalamazoo, a descendent of Pvt. Elijah Brown of the 3rd Michigan Cavalry, Co. A. As a side note, Brother Johnson, found us and started the membership process through the National web site.

Our September meeting was full of interesting reports that included an update from the National Encampment, the replacement of sixteen grave memorials in Allegan and

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Kalamazoo Counties that include ten unknowns. Secretary and Brother Geoff Baker reported back about the memorial service in Highland, MI and replacement stone for his great-grandfather, who served with the 1st Michigan Light Artillery. The by-laws committee members brought forward the first reading of the proposed updated Camp by-laws. For us new guys, this discussion was informative and insightful about the organization and its traditions. We bring this proposal back to the Camp for a membership vote on October 7th.

Also on the calendar for October 25, 2003, the David D. Porter Camp 116 of the Department of Indiana has invited interested members to a program on "George Barnard's Civil War Photography." This will be held at the Snite Museum of Art on the Notre Dame Campus in South Bend, IN at 11:00 EST. A lunch will follow the program. Then Camp 116 will host a Gravestone Dedication at Rolling Prairie, IN at 3:00 EST, for Pvt. Benjamin Franklin Williams, who served with the 21st Battery, Indiana Light Artillery. For more information and reservations to attend, you can email Brother John and his wife Jan Keith at jkeith3668@aol.com or at 950 106th Ave. Plainwell, MI 49080.

Of special interest and scheduled for December, is Camp 20's twentieth anniversary of its Charter. We encourage and would enjoy seeing Brothers and their wives from around the Department of Michigan to join us on December 2, 2003 for a celebration. The specifics are included in a special notice in this issue of the Messenger.

(Ty is Past Camp Commander of Camp 22.)

GEORGE W. ANDERSON CAMP 58 ~ DEWITT

Douglas R. Armstrong

Camp 58 was proud to welcome a new member into our Camp at our last meeting. Brother Duane Smith is the sixth Brother to join from Colorado who has decided to honor their mid-west ancestors with membership in the Department of Michigan. Brother Smith's Great Grandfather Silas Dexter Wesson served in Co. K, 8th Illinois Cavalry and was mustered out as 1st Sgt. on July 17th, 1865. Duane is a colleague of another Colorado Brother, Jerry Crawford, and teaches history at Fort Lewis College, specializing in U.S. history and especially the Civil War and Colorado History.

Our Western Brothers have been very active in their area, participating in Memorial Day ceremonies, living history demonstrations and school presentations. This summer, they have reset veteran's headstones in local cemeteries as well as registering over 2,000 Civil War Veteran's graves and submitting these to the National Graves Registration Officer, with photos. They have also presented eight Eagle Scout Certificates to deserving scouts in the last two months. Brother Crawford arranged for a tour of the Durango and Silverton G.A.R. Posts' artifacts and papers held at the Center for Southwest studies at Fort Lewis College. Brother Crawford has also traveled east to join his Michigan Brothers during Memorial Day services here. Most of the six Brothers are also

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COLEGROVE-WOODRUFF CAMP 22 ~ MARSHALL

Howard Streeter, PCC

Lance Corporal Ty Streeter arrived home from duty in Iraq. He was recouping from a wound he received in action. Ty arrived in Kuwait with his unit, the 1st Marine Recon Company, 4th Platoon on February 3, 2003. On March 2nd, they crossed the Iraq border and entered Nassarea for 10 days, then started the march to Baghdad. Enroute to Baghdad, he was involved in the P.O.W. rescue that included Pvt. Jessica Lynch. The mission involved British Royal Marines, Australian Special Forces, Navy Seals, Army Rangers and Ty's Marine Recon Unit.

On disembarking his helicopter Ty received a gunshot wound to the upper leg. He didn't realize he had been shot until he was back on the copter after the successful raid. The wound was a "clean" one and the round was extracted from his leg. The round proved to be from an AK-47. The surgeon gave Ty the round as a "souvenir".

As a member of the rescue mission, Ty received the Navy Cross along with the Purple Heart for being wounded in action.



Lance Corporal Ty Streeter and a fellow Marine from California.



Western Brothers of Camp 58 during Memorial Day exercises in Durango, CO. Left to right are: Bob Foisel, Tom Wiseman, Michael Kots and Jerry Crawford.

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members of the SVR and the Gettysburg Blues.

The membership of Camp 58 would like to congratulate our Brother Kent Armstrong in being elected Commander-in-Chief at the National Encampment on August 10th in Fort Mitchell, KY. Two Brothers from Camp 58, Douglas Armstrong and Dennis Felton, attended the encampment to support our Michigan Delegation.

Our July meeting marked our 8th year of honoring the Boys in Blue from Clinton County as well as our ancestors. We have been busy completing graves registrations in the remaining cemeteries of Gratiot County. We hope to have them done before snowfalls and submitted to the department.

On September 6th, we held an informational display and recruiting tent at DeWitt's Farmer's Market in celebration of DeWitt History. There were many visitors through our display and some with an interest in joining the S.U.V.C.W. It was interesting to hear the family histories that some visitors shared with us about their ancestors.

Four Brothers of Camp 58 will make the trip to Gettysburg for this year's Remembrance Day Ceremonies. We hope to have the honor of once again assisting with the placement of the Michigan flags on the graves of the Michigan men buried in the National Cemetery. It will also be an honor to carry our Camp's Colors through the streets of Gettysburg

during the parade.

ALBERT AND JAMES LYON CAMP 266 ~ MARQUETTE

John Gorto

Now that our country is at war, we are reminded of the cost that must be paid in full by the privations of those who serve, and if need be, with their lives of those who serve. Through out history there have been wars on every continent inhabited by mankind. We in the United States have been blessed by the two World Wars being fought off our soil. But there was a time when Americans were at war with each other here on our home soil.

It was known by many names "The War of the Rebellion", "The War Between the States" and the most popular name "The Civil War".

Six hundred thousand people died in that four-year war from 1861 to 1865. More losses than all the wars America fought up to that time. The City of Marquette and Marquette County were not immune from the losses of this terrible struggle.

The Upper Peninsula had only 20,000 people, about 3% of the state's population when the war broke out in April 12, 1861. And yet the men of the region readily went to the defense of the Union cause.

Joining a military unit was no small thing back in the 1860's and especially from the U.P. There were no roads to Detroit and points south where the "Camps of Instruction" were. The men had to either leave by ship for Detroit or travel by foot or horse across the border and enlist in a unit being formed in Wisconsin.

In the Civil War for every man killed in battle 3 died of disease. These men were forced to share cramped quarters with hundreds of other men where disease ran rampant. Medical help was minimal back then. Men routinely died of Bronchitis, Pneumonia and even the Measles and Mumps. Malaria and Yellow Fever hit those in the southern swamps. These volunteers knew the risk and went in spite of the hazards to serve the Republic.

According to the "Civil War Research and Genealogy Database" which uses the reports written from several states' Adjutant. General's Office after the war, Marquette supplied 117 citizens to the cause. These are men who served in Michigan units only. Others may have gone to differing states to enlist. Of those 117 men 17 were KIA, 3 died in Confederate prisons. Marquette resident Pvt. James Moore of the 27th Michigan Infantry, Company B, died in the infamous "Andersonville" Prison Camp in 1864. He is buried there in Georgia, his loved ones never to see him again. Eight others died of disease; fourteen were disabled and were discharged for those disabilities.

Marquette County supplied 66 men: six died in battle and

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HENRY MULKINS
PRIVATE
COMPANY F
12TH MICHIGAN INFANTRY

*Great, Great Grandfather
of
Bob Griggs
Austin Blair Camp 7*

I really don't know much about my great-great grandfather Henry Mulkins. He, like most Volunteers from what now is known as the Mid-West, was a farmer. He was born October 4, 1840 in Ledgertown NY. He joined the 12th Regiment Michigan Infantry December 9, 1861 at Adrian, and was mustered in December 19th. He was assigned to Company F under Capt Russell Weston of Niles, 1st Lieutenant David Reeve of Jackson, and 2nd Lieutenant Samuel Graves of Adrian. By today's standards he was a small man at 5' 3" tall, having blue eyes and red hair. If he was anything like his great-great-great red headed grandson Joshua, 5'3" was probably about all

the Regiment could take. He was mustered out December 30, 1863, and was mustered back in as a Veteran Volunteer December 31st. He stayed with Company F of the 12th at that time and was there until the 12th was disbanded in March of 1866. He was promoted to Corporal May 1, 1864, then demoted per his own request back to Private May 8, 1865.

The Regiment itself was mustered into service on March 5, 1862 at Niles Michigan and left the state March 18th for St. Louis, Missouri. From there they moved to Pittsburgh Landing, Tennessee where they were assigned to Colonel Peabody's Brigade of Prentiss' Division, Army of the Tennessee, arriving just in time for the battle of Shiloh. The 12th was with Prentiss in the "Hornets Nest". Other engagements include:

Corinth and Iuka, Mississippi; Metamora and Middlebury Tennessee (*where they were complimented by General Grant in General Order No. 3 for gallant and efficient services on successfully defending their post against a force of 3000 Confederates under General Van Dorn.*); Mechanicsville and the Siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi; Siege of Little Rock, Clarendon, Devall's Bluff, Gregory Landing, Bayou Fourche, Pine Bluff and Helena, Arkansas.

When mustered out, February 15, 1866, the 12th returned to Michigan arriving at Jackson on the 27th. At that time the unit was paid off and disbanded March 6, 1866. During their term of service the 12th had a total enrollment of 2357 men. Of these 29 were killed in action, 26 died of wounds, 17 died in Confederate prisons, 316 died of disease and 221 were discharged for disabilities. This places the total Casualty Rate for the unit at 25.8%.

ALBERT & JAMES LYON CAMP NEWS

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only one from disease. But there were 21 men who came home physically broken by their service at the front. No person leaves the battlefield unscathed; they carried all they saw and did for the rest of their lives

These men often went days with out food, adequate clothing or shelter. Marching twenty miles a day with a 60-pound pack, rifle and equipment during a campaign was the norm.

Knowing this, I wonder why there are no monuments in Marquette County to honor the sacrifices these men made to save the United States, as we know it today? I did not notice this until I joined the Son's of Union Veterans of The Civil War. Camp 266 of the S.U.V.C.W. was formed by Mr. Patrick Kennedy of Menominee. The Camp is named after James and Albert Lyon, brothers who served in the war and had a Post of the Grand Army of the Republic named in their honor in Menominee after the war.

The Sons of Union Veterans was formed, as the veterans put it, "To Keep Green the Memory" of their sacrifices. But it seems we have forgotten the sacrifices these men made. There are no monuments, no memorials, their graves go untended and in many cases unmarked.

Having volunteered as Graves Registration Officer for the Camp, one of my responsibilities is to find and catalog all Civil War veterans graves in Marquette County. In the last seven years I have found over 1,700 possible, probable, and definite veteran graves. In just about all cases none have been attended to and in some cases the stones have been broken or knocked down.

Camp 266 volunteers will be at the "Iron Ore Industry Museum" for "Civil War Days" on the ninth and tenth of August. We will also be putting in two new Government head stones in Negaunee Cemetery for two Veterans who up to this week had no markers.

JEROME N. WHITE
PRIVATE
COMPANY B
27TH MICHIGAN INFANTRY

Great, Great Grandfather

EDMOND R. REMINGTON
PRIVATE
COMPANY B
27TH MICHIGAN INFANTRY

Great, Great, Great Grandfather

of
Paul N. Herbert
Albert and James Lyon Camp 266

As you enter Marquette, Michigan on Route 41, there is a monument to the Civil War veterans from Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The monument, erected in 1924 by the Daughters of the American Revolution, bears the following moving inscription:

*"Ever in the Realms of glory,
 Shall shine your starry fame;
 Angels have heard your story,
 God knows all your names."*

The Angels may know the stories of all the Marquette's veterans of the 27th Michigan, also known as the "Lake Superior Regiment," but I only know about the two of them who were my ancestors. Jerome White was a twenty-one year farmer when he signed up on August 15, 1862 with his thirty-eight year old father-in-law, Edmond Remington. Jerome was born on November 24, 1841 in Peru, Clinton County, New York. Ed was born in 1824 or 1825 in Wallingford, Vermont.

Both Jerome and Ed came from a long line of ancestors who had fought in American wars. Jerome's grandfather, Basil Bishop, served in the War of 1812 in Plattsburgh, New York. Basil traveled from upstate New York to upstate Michigan in 1849 for the mining opportunities. Basil's father, Elijah Bishop, served in the American Revolution, and Basil's grandfather, John Bishop, served in the American Revolution and in the French and Indian War. Ed's father, Rufus Remington, served in the War of 1812. Ed's grandfather, Jonathon Remington, served in the American Revolution, and Rufus's father-in-law, Jerathmiel Doty, served in the Revolution. Doty served in the Navy and was aboard the ship that returned Lafayette to France after the Revolution was won.

But back to the Civil War, where the news of the attack on Fort Sumter, which had started the war eighteen months earlier, reached Jerome, Ed and the other residents of Marquette:

"by the overland mail, the dog mail that came up from Green Bay, but the first authentic news was brought a little later when the first boats came in. Five steamers arrived in

Marquette together. Then there was excitement. Business was practically suspended. Banks did nothing, storekeepers did nothing. Everybody talked of war and was anxious to have it prosecuted to the most vigorous extent. Political parties made no difference. Everybody was filled with patriotism."

It took two years and more than a thousand miles for Jerome and Ed to go from the wilderness of Michigan's Upper Peninsula to the Wilderness of Virginia's battlefield, and the journey started with enthusiastic feelings of patriotism as the soldiers left Marquette to go downstate:

"I remember in 1862 when the soldiers came down from Marquette and the Copper country on all the passenger boats, the band playing all the patriotic music and the boys in blue full of pep and ginger."

The soldiers were called to Detroit to quell a race riot. In an eerie precursor to racial tensions of the twentieth century, Jerome, Ed and their comrades of Company B were sent to Detroit on March 8, 1863 to break up rioters that were intent on burning and killing over a racial issue. The March 9, 1863 edition of the New York Daily Tribune blared the following headline:

"The Great Race Riot in Detroit. Thirty-Two Houses Destroyed. 200 Innocent People Rendered Houseless. Terrible Scenes of Fiendishness. Innocent Persons Murdered in Cold Blood. Quiet Restored by Military Power."

"With commendable promptness, at nine o'clock, a detachment of the 27th, consisting of Companies A,B, C, F and G, numbering about 400 men, under command of Colonel Fox and Lieut. Colonel Richardson, arrived and reported at headquarters. They were immediately sent to the scene of the riot to disperse the crowd"

The riot occurred as a black man named Faulkner, who ran a saloon on Cadillac Square was being transported from the jail cell to the courtroom. Unfortunately, Faulkner was

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convicted and served jail time based on evidence that was recanted years later by the main witness.

Eventually the regiment left Michigan to fight the war. The Regiment fought in Knoxville and briefly guarded Vicksburg. In the spring of 1864, the 27th was sent east in to participate in the wilderness campaign in Virginia. The following described the emotions of the soldiers at the time:

“They (the 27th Michigan soldiers) appeared cheerful and happy, though very much tattered and torn by the hardships and privations they had to encounter in the Tennessee campaign. They were very much embrowned, and looked like they are real old veterans. The paymasters are gone forward to pay the troops up to March 1st. What is to be the next destination of the corps is not certain. One thing, however, is certain, that be they wherever they may, there may be no doubts entertained as to their fighting qualities, for they have already come out of a dozen hard-fought battles, “covered all over with glory.”

This spring campaign would be the campaign to end the war once and for all. The war had been ongoing for three years and President Lincoln had finally had enough. Once the troops headed to Richmond, they weren't coming back until the war was decided once and for all. Lincoln brought General Grant in to take over; early in the campaign Grant sent the famous telegram to Washington saying he was going to fight it out, if it took all summer. Of course it took all summer, and in fact took until the following spring until the war ended.

After taking a train to Annapolis, Maryland, the 27th marched to Fredericksburg, Virginia. Along the way, they passed in front of President Lincoln, who was remarked to look “pale and careworn.”

The regiment was heavily involved in the many battles of the Wilderness, including Spotsylvania Courthouse, Bethesda Church, North Anna River, and Petersburg.

The 27th Regiment, as well as all Michigan regiments showed themselves as hearty fighters and impressed all those who saw them. One soldier's journal entry for May 25, 1864 includes a statement of how highly General Orlando B. Wilcox felt about Michigan troops. Wilcox was the commanding general under Ambrose Burnside. “General Wilcox offered to take this position if they would give him Michigan troops.”

For a brief period on May 12, 1864, the soldiers of Company B found themselves in the unenviable position of being exposed on three sides as the regiment on either side of them retreated but the 27th did not. A regimental report filed two weeks after the event explains the situation:

“With no cover the men were exposed to the enemy, to a murderous fire, and the loss bid fair to be a fearful record. I ordered the men forward to the first line of the enemy's works, which was carried, and jointly occupied by the Sharpshooters and the Twenty-seventh Michigan Infantry. After a few moments the whole left of the line gave way, and we became exposes to a murderous cross-fire of shell, grape, and canister. To advance was impossible; to retreat difficult. Our brigade

commander was wounded and temporarily left the field, and our ammunition was nearly exhausted, but on consultation with Major Moody, commanding the Twenty-seventh Michigan, it was decided to hold the ground until the last possible moment in hopes the lines would be organized or some support sent to our aid. For a full hour the men in this position fought with a determination and gallantry unsurpassed. Twice the rebels charged to obtain our colors, and were as often met and driven back by our bayonets. We at length received the order to retire, being the only regiment of the brigade who remained to contest the field.”

“On the right stood the 27th - fighting with unparalleled coolness and bravery; everything on the left side of the sharpshooters had been swept away, and the attack on their front and flank, with both infantry and artillery, pouring in shot and shell, was terrific, but they gallantly held their ground.”

A telegram from the field during the battle explains the urgency of the situation:

GENERAL WILLCOX:

Will you send us re-enforcements immediately, or give us an order to withdraw. Major Moody and Captain Schwenk, with detachments of the Twenty-seventh and Twentieth Michigan and Fiftieth Pennsylvania and a portion of my regiment are here. They will be captured, I am afraid, but we will hold as long as possible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I.S. CATLIN,

Lieutenant Colonel 109th New York Vols., Comdg.

P.S.—We are out of ammunition.

Jerome and Ed were both severely wounded in June 1864 in the bloody Virginia wilderness campaign. Jerome was shot on June 19th outside Petersburg by a musket ball that entered his left side below the ribs and exited over his liver on the right side. The attending surgeon wrote *“This is a most peculiar wound that it did not either kill or paralyze this man at once.”* Jerome was transferred to Washington DC's Columbia College Hospital and later to Mt. Pleasant General Hospital aboard the steamer “New World.” After the war Jerome applied for a pension, which was initially granted in the amount of \$6 per month, and included the following: *“When he was well, he was one of the best soldiers I had in my regiment,”* wrote Captain Nelson Truckey in support of Jerome's application.

On June 3rd Ed received a *“gunshot wound of the left leg by Minnie ball”* at Cold Harbor and recuperated at Mt. Pleasant General Hospital.

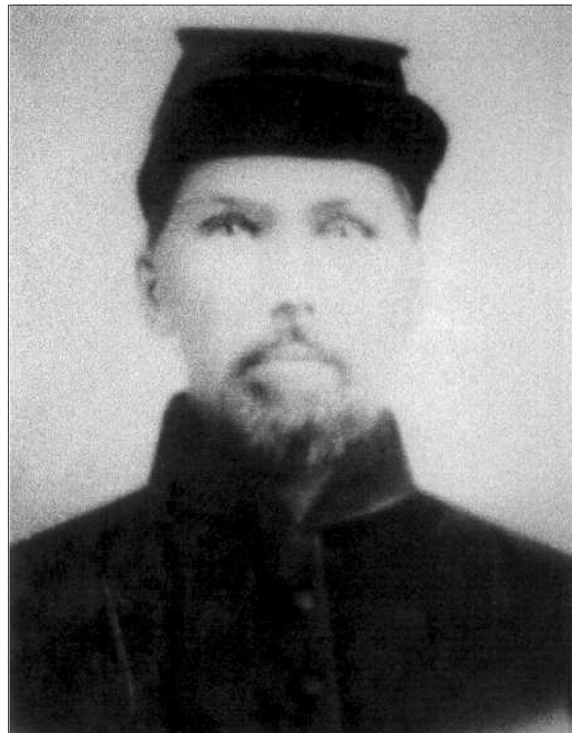
In a book entitled Regimental Losses in the Civil War, William F. Fox described 300 Fighting Regiments which had the highest casualty rates. According to Fox, only nineteen regiments in the entire Union Army had a higher casualty rate than the 27th Michigan's 15.1%; The only other Michigan regiment with a higher casualty rate was the 7th Michigan Infantry.

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WILLIAM COFFEY

PRIVATE
107TH ILLINOIS INFANTRY
COMPANY K
AND
5TH VETERAN RESERVE CORPS
COMPANY C

Great, Great Grandfather
of
John R. Keith
Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20



Private William Coffey enrolled for duty at Roberts, Illinois on August 9th, 1862. He mustered in and joined the 107th Illinois Regiment, Company K, at Springfield, Illinois on September 4th, 1862. On March 10th, 1865 he was transferred to Company C, 5th Veteran Reserve Corps, serving under Captain James H. Rice. By order of the War Department, on July 5th, 1865, he was discharged by reason of "Close of War."

The 107th Illinois Company K muster rolls show Private Coffey was present for duty for 12 months and absent due to sickness for 20 months. William Coffey had chronic diarrhea and scurvy in June 1863 at Glasgow, Kentucky as stated on the muster roll of his regiment.

Private William Coffey was born July 4th, 1928 in New York State. His parent's names are unknown to me.

He had 4 siblings that I know of:

1. Adeline, (she married a Pinkney & lived in Montcalm County, Michigan).
2. Nelson, (lived in Livingston & Oceana Counties, Michigan).
3. Levi, (lived in Fowlerville, Livingston County, Michigan).
4. Eliza, (she married Joseph Doty, they settled in Woods County, Oklahoma).

Private Coffey's first wife was Margaret Knickerbocker. To this union were born 4 children.

1. Abel, born in July of 1856 in Michigan.
2. Henry, born around 1859.
3. Emma (Emmie), born around 1862.
4. Charlie, born around 1865.

On April 2, 1866 William's wife died. She passed away in Livingston County, Michigan. After Margaret died, William moved to Sidney Township, Montcalm County, Michigan. This was where his sister Adeline Coffey Pinkney lived. He moved there so his sister could take care of his 4 children. While living in Montcalm County, he was introduced to the William Mesler family. He lived quite close to them. Both him and Mr. Mesler were farmers. William Mesler, my 3 Great Grandfather, served in the 41st Ohio Infantry during the Civil War.

On March 29, 1868 he married the eldest of the Mesler daughters, Emma. He was 38 years old and she was 16. Emma suddenly was not only a wife, but also the stepmother to 4 children. The oldest one only 5 years younger than his new step mom! I can only wonder about the trouble the family had adjusting to this.

William Coffey's second marriage was blessed with 4 more children:

1. William Jr., born March 1869, in Montcalm County, Michigan
2. Luvena, born September 1872, in Montcalm County, Michigan (she married George Amasa Smith. They are my Great Grandparents).
3. Alvin, born December 1877, Isabella County, Michigan
4. Ernest, born September 1885, Galena, Kansas

Now he has HUNDREDS of descendants to carry on his name and memories!!!

The Coffeys moved around a lot the next several years.

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(Continued from page 17)

The places they called home were Sidney Township, Montcalm County, Town of Montcalm, Montcalm County, then to the Town of Lincoln (near Mt. Pleasant), Isabella County, Michigan. After two years there, they moved to Fowlerville, Handy Township, Livingston County, Michigan. This is where Private Coffey lived after the Civil War until his first wife died, also his brothers Nelson & Levi and their families lived there.

They next pulled up stakes and moved to Benton County, Arkansas. They received their mail at Wager. While here, they lived near Joseph & Eliza Coffey Doty, William's sister & brother-in-law. Next the two families moved together to Wabaunsee Township, Wabaunsee County, Kansas. They lived 3 miles from Pavilion and got their mail there.

Family stories passed along tell of the Coffeys living in a sod house while in Kansas. They traveled in Kansas and Oklahoma when Oklahoma was still Indian Territory. Once William Sr. caught a 72 lb. catfish out of the Mississippi River using a setline. While they slept in their covered wagon sometimes the coyotes were howling so loud that Mr. Coffey had to go out and scare them away. I want to thank my cousin Pastor Keith Coffey of Marshall, Michigan for these stories passed on down from his father, Alvin Coffey.

Their next and final move was to Diamond Springs, Allegan County, Michigan. This move was in November of 1887.

William Coffey was looked upon as man who suffered greatly from his afflictions he received from his service during the Civil War.

Several reports from friends and relatives describe a healthy, robust young man who could do a full day of heavy work before his military service, to a man who suffered constantly from diarrhea, heart trouble and the effects of scurvy. These symptoms of scurvy lasted well after the war. Bleeding gums and swollen legs with open sores were with him till the day he died. For his remaining years he was coughing up blood due to the problems in his stomach. At times his stomach was bothering him so much he could only have a small glass of milk for a meal.

The cause of death listed from his personal doctors was Stomach Cancer caused from years of stomach problems and diarrhea from his hardships in the service of our Union! He did receive a military pension. He received only \$4 a month. He tried for several years for an increase, but none was to come!

At age 61 he was described as dark complexion, 5' 11" tall, weight 145 lbs., light hair and blue eyes.

He died on February 4th, 1892. He is buried next to his wife, Emma in the Diamond Springs Cemetery, Allegan County, Michigan.

Rueben R. Frazier, who was in Company K, 107th Illinois Infantry with William Coffey wrote "every man in the Regt., had scurvy and was ordered off the field on that account. That was in the Georgia Campaign beginning in Chattanooga, Tennessee. We were inspected and fed raw potatoes and

vinegar, they were sliced up and pickled and came to us in barrels. The Regt. did not leave the field, but some of the men had to leave."

This essay doesn't show a soldier with several battlefield experiences. Private Coffey was on duty at Elizabethtown, Louisville, Lebanon, Kentucky and Chattanooga, Tennessee. There the rigors of military life and military sustenance took their toll. They slowly caused his death. I can't begin to imagine the physical suffering he lived with for 29 years.

I believe his fate was a common fate for the majority of the Civil War soldiers, North & South. They are as great a hero as any other and should be remembered as such! All who served our Country deserve our complete respect!

WHITE & REMINGTON

(Continued from page 16)

Jerome had two first cousins in Michigan regiments. Francis Marion Bishop was in the 1st Michigan and was wounded at the Battle of Fredericksburg in December 1863. After the war, Francis served in Major J.W. Powell's expedition and survey of the Colorado River. Francis dies in Salt Lake City, Utah on May 22, 1933. Charles Bishop was in Company F of the 27th Michigan and was taken prisoner in Knoxville in November 1863. Charles died in Georgia's Andersonville Prison Camp on May 31, 1864.

After the war many Upper Peninsula veterans joined the Albert T. Jackson Post 300 of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). The Post was formed in 1885, and on Decoration Day (now known as Memorial Day) of that year, four hundred school children joined in a solemn ceremony at the Protestant Cemetery where "the band played the dead march and the school pupils rendered the national hymn in a very acceptable manner." The speaker talked of patriotism and honor and mentioned a very important order that George Washington had received the when given command of the Army during the Revolutionary War: "*See to it that the liberties of America receive no detriment.*"

The last public activity of the Jackson GAR Post was in June 1930, when three of the remaining veterans dedicated a memorial plot and flag to all the Marquette veterans of all wars. The last annual encampment of the Jackson GAR Post was in June 1948, but alas, no veterans were left to attend. The last member of the Post, Orlando LeValley of Caro, Michigan, had died two months earlier, on April 19, 1948.

Ed Remington ended up moving to Elk Point, Union County, South Dakota, after the war where he died on November 12, 1882. Jerome White died from injuries received by getting hit by a cart on a bridge over the Carp River in Marquette. Jerome White's obituary of October 20, 1900 ends with an invitation to G.A.R. members:

The funeral will be held at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon from the home of Almet White, 411 Marble street (sic). The Albert Jackson post of the G.A.R. and all old soldiers are

DAVID WOODHULL MILLER
PRIVATE
COMPANY G
137TH OHIO INFANTRY
(7TH OHIO VOLUNTEER GUARD)

Great Grandfather
of
Bruce W. Miller, CC
General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2

David Woodhull Miller (born November 3, 1846; died September 9, 1927) was my great-grandfather. He was the grandson of George C. Miller, who founded the first carriage works in frontier Cincinnati in 1805. Through innovation and successful management, the family business prospered for many generations. At the age of 70, David W. Miller began work on an autobiographical journal of his colorful life. The complete leather bound, handwritten journal is in the possession of my father.

The following is an excerpt from that journal that covers David W. Miller's service in the Union Army during the Civil War:

"At the end of my second year in high school, I knew I could pass entrance to college and asked my father to send me. He discouraged me, calling college graduates 'educated fools'. I then made an application through Senator George H. Pendleton (Ohio), going to his house on the hill at the head of Liberty St., to see him personally, for admission to West Point. However, he was a Democrat, and I of Republican affiliation, and on a second visit, by appointment, I was informed that another young man had secured the prize. I knew the young fellow and knew he did not possess my abilities, but his affiliations were Democratic. I was, however, very much disappointed and when the call for more soldiers came in 1864, I begged my father to let me go for I was but 17.

"He finally gave his written permission and I went to see Colonel Len. Harris, whom I knew well, who was to command the new regiment and got what I thought was his promise to put me on his staff. However, in a few days, he informed me that pressure had been brought to bear and he would have to disappoint me, being compelled to choose another young man, whom I knew well. However, I volunteered anyway as a private in Company G, of the 137th O.V.I. or 7th O.V.G.*

"We left in May for Camp Denison where we spent two weeks in drilling, then took cars for Baltimore, where on arrival we lay two days in the depot waiting to be sent to the front down in The Wilderness where the Army of the Potomac was then fighting.

"We had a fine band (Menter's) and being well drilled made a fine show as we marched through Baltimore. General Lew Wallace saw us as we thus marched and noting the youthfulness of our regiment, said to our Colonel that it would be 'simply murder' to send us down into that 'hell'; but there being a regiment of regulars at Ft. McHenry who were inured to hardships, he would exchange. So we were marched out there, the regulars going to the front on the train we had expected to take. It was fortunate for us for the 8th O.V.G. which went out with us and being older men, went to the front, only half got home alive. The peaceful capture of Ft. McHenry was our only triumph.

"We took complete charge of this large fortress with its many heavy guns which we learned to handle. We were the only forces in Baltimore during the Maryland raid and had to move all the government stores to ships in the harbor, guard all the banks and take care of 300 prisoners.

"One day as I stood guard at the main prison entrance, a distinguished looking man was brought in. He was said to be Reverdy Johnston (sic)**, a noted secessionist. He was in his shirt sleeves, hatless, hands tied behind his back. After three months, we moved to Fort Marshall across the bay where we remained a month, then back to Camp Denison, to be mustered out. Technically, we were mustered in in Cincinnati and not Camp Denison, but the reverse is true.

"I wanted to keep my musket, but the Government wanted \$40.00 for it, so I gave it up. I had saved up just \$40.00 which my father afterwards took away from me, on

(Continued on page 20)

DAVID W. MILLER*(Continued from page 19)*

the ground that it was not good for me to have so much money. I intended on buying books. I thought a young man who could go through all the temptations thrown around me in Baltimore not only by my comrades, but by the lewd women who exhibited themselves in their carriages and threw out their cards of invitation everyday and come out unscathed as I did, could be trusted to handle \$40.00 of his hard earned money. However, I hold no grudge. They seemed to be proud to welcome me home."

~ ~ ~

*Legislation of April 14, 1863 created the "Ohio Volunteer Militia" which was redesignated the "Ohio National Guard" in March 1864. These units were raised primarily in reaction to raids by Confederate John Hunt Morgan throughout Kentucky – uncomfortably close to Cincinnati.

The Ohio National Guard did not have to wait long before being activated. As part of a plan reached in April 1864, 30,000 of its men were called into Federal service for 100 days on the 23rd in order to release other regiment from duty in rear areas for Grant's spring campaign that began in the Wilderness in May. The National Guard regiments and independent battalions proved to be too unequal in strength for muster into Federal service, so they were shuffled and reformed into 43 provisional regiments numbered 130 to 172. These units guarded the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad from the Ohio River to the sea, manned forts in Baltimore (McHenry among them), guarded the banks of the Ohio opposite Kentucky, the prison camps and garrisoned the fortifications around Washington. Some were sent to the front and many were in battle.

David W. Miller's unit was federalized as 137th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment. It was formed from two existing units – the 98th Battalion and the 7th Ohio National Guard (i.e. "O.V.G."). The 7th was originally formed in the Cincinnati area. Source: *American Military Equipage*, by F. Todd, Vol. II State Forces, (1983).

**Reverdy Johnson was not a secessionist, but an ardent Constitutionalist who looked upon secession as treason. Born in Maryland in 1796, Johnson was a lawyer whose defense of Dred Scott in the landmark Supreme Court case was unsuccessful. He was U.S. Attorney General under President John Tyler, and was later elected to the U.S. Senate as a moderate. In 1864, he supported George B. McClellan for president. He favored reconciliation toward the rebellious states, and was ardent in his opposition to arbitrary imprisonment and other violations of personal liberty found in several Reconstruction era acts of Congress. He died in 1876.

MARVIN E. HALL*(Continued from page 21)*

them.

On a final note, I would like to share my favorite Marvin Hall quote:

"The Commandery-in-Chief is a great legislative body. It has always found, and always will find, plenty upon which to legislate."

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Charter of State Camp #1, Detroit, MI. 1910. Copy of photo of charter obtained from James T. Lyons, PDC. Lake Odessa, MI.

Notes:

*The building in which Hall's business was located still stands, and is now (July, 2003) the location of "The Hunt Club" restaurant and pub. While visiting Hillsdale to research this article, Jim Lyons and myself asked one of the research librarians at the Mitchell Research Center to recommend a place for lunch. she recommended the Hunt Club. It was not until after lunch and looking through the last of the material for information that we discovered that it was, in fact, Brother Hall's building. Coincidence? Fate? Something else?

*The house at 75 S. Howell still stands and is currently undergoing restoration.

*Special thanks to James T. Lyons, PDC, for his assistance in the research for this biography.

MARVIN E. HALL
PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
SONS OF VETERANS, USA (1892)

Gary L. Gibson, PDC
 Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20

In the 119-year history of the Department of Michigan, there has only been five men to hold the highest office in the Order, that of Commander-in-Chief. The first of those was Marvin E. Hall, from Hillsdale, Michigan. After several years of wondering about him, I decided to see what I could find out about him. As you will see, he was quite a well traveled, experienced and remarkable man. I am still looking for a photo of him. If anyone has a lead on one, please contact me.

Marvin E. Hall was born in Calhoun County, Michigan, September 1, 1853. He was the youngest of the four children of Horace and Lucetta (Faurote) Hall, the mother, a native of New York State and of French ancestry. Horace Hall was born in Essex County, New York in 1819, where he lived until the age of 21. He then made his way to Michigan Territory, locating in Tekonsha Township, Calhoun County, where he was married. Here he was engaged in the sawmill business until sometime in the 1850's. His wife died in 1855. Horace enlisted in Battery D, (Church's Battery), 1st Michigan Light Artillery at Burlington, Michigan, on August 28, 1862 as a private. He was 43 years old. Horace was discharged for disability on April 25, 1863 at Triune, TN. In 1877, he moved to Hillsdale, Michigan. He died in 1902, and was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery.

Marvin's mother's death took its toll on the family. When he was 14, he was sent to live with an uncle in DeKalb County, Indiana. After receiving his education in the local school, he went to St. Louis, Michigan, and worked as a farm hand. Within the next few years, he attended Hillsdale College.

At the age of twenty-five, he left Michigan and made his way to Boston, MA, and engaged himself in the wholesale furniture business. After a time, he moved to Springfield, and opened a wholesale establishment for the sale and production of photographer's supplies, being the first to manufacture dry-plate negatives for commercial use. This business soon flourished, and he opened a branch in Montreal, Canada. A few years later, he moved to and resided in Montreal.

In April 1883, Hall arrived in Hillsdale as the representative of the Edison electric light, heading the state agency. He temporarily engaged himself in the nursery business. In 1884 he sold his interest in this venture and became a dealer in military and society supplies, specializing

in G.A.R. and Sons of Veterans uniforms, flags, equipment, etc. This enterprise closed its doors in 1893. About 1888, he also opened a men's clothing establishment. In 1902, he took on the Perry brothers as partners. A few years later, Marvin sold his half of the business to the Perry's. This established clothier was operated until the 1950's at the same location at 24 N. Howell Street. Mr. Hall's professional practices and his energy and abilities won him the favorable notice of the community. He was a Republican and cast his first presidential vote for Gen. Grant. He served as Secretary of the Hillsdale County Republican Committee and later as the Chairman. In 1887 was appointed to the staff of Michigan Governor Cyrus Luce, holding a Colonel's commission, during Luce's tenure in the Executive Office. He was elected Mayor of Hillsdale in the spring of 1887, and served until 1890. He had a warm interest in public education and had served as School Inspector. Socially, he was Chancellor Commander of Hillsdale Lodge No. 45, Knights of Pythias, and was a Knight Templar in the Masonic fraternity. He also belonged to the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A., and was a member of George Lombard Camp #5 in Hillsdale. Marvin served two terms, from 1886 to 1888, as Colonel, commanding the Michigan Division, and Inspector General of the Order. He was elected Commander-in-Chief at the National Encampment held in Helena, Montana August 8 – 12, 1892. A few years following his term as Commander-in-Chief, his name disappears from the roster of Past Commanders-in-Chief, and membership entirely. His name does re-appear on the charter for State Camp #1 of Detroit, in 1910. It is not known why he had left the Sons of Veterans. No mention of it appears in the Proceedings of the Commandery-in-Chief.

The marriage of Marvin Hall and Miss Lena Haas was celebrated at the home of the bride in Rome, NY, in 1880. They began the journey of life together in a modest home in Cambridge, MA. Mrs. Hall was born in New York City in 1853. In Hillsdale, the Hall's resided in a large frame house at 75 S. Howell Street. Lena died on February 6, 1903, of Diabetes Millitas. She was 49 years old. Marvin left Hillsdale in 1906, moving to Detroit, where he became a bond salesman. On September 25, 1928, at the age of 75, Hall died suddenly, while in the law offices of Barthel and Flanders. The cause of death was noted as "Acute Indigestion". The *Hillsdale Daily News* reported that he was brought back to Hillsdale on Friday, September 28, on the 11:30am train from Detroit. The body was taken to the Dutcher funeral parlor, and graveside services were held at one o'clock at Oak Grove Cemetery. Funeral arrangements and services were under the direction of the Knights of Pythias. He was laid to rest beside his wife Lena. A small granite headstone over his grave simply says "Marvin E. Hall 1853 – 1928". The graves are located two sections due west of the G.A.R. Monument. The Hall's had no children of their own, but adopted a daughter, Marie, who survived

(Continued on page 20)

MRS. MARY BLAKE: DEAR MADAM

John R. Keith

Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20

This is an actual letter from the Civil War Military Files of Sergeant Columbus Blake. Sergeant Blake served in Company F, 12th Michigan Infantry. He had a farm in Gun Plains Township, Allegan County, Michigan. He enlisted in December 1861 and died May 12, 1862. He saw major action at the battles of Shiloh and Pittsburgh Landing before becoming ill.

A letter like this was sent to virtually 100's of thousands of wives and mothers during the years of 1861 thru 1865. When you read this letter, put yourself in the place of Mrs. Blake. The grief she felt must have been unbearable. The Blake's had no children, she suddenly found herself, all alone!

*United States Marine Hospital
Pittsburgh PA
May 12th, 1862*

Mrs. Mary Blake.

Dear Madam

On yesterday May 11th, 1862 a kind friend of your Husband named John Stagle wrote to you at the request of Mr. Blake expressing the desire that you would come in at once to Pittsburgh to be with him. A few days ago the surgeons thought it would be but a couple of weeks until he would be able to travel and thinking it would take the most of that time for you to be advised by mail and reach here we thought it not best to address you. In this opinion Mr. Blake concurred. But on yesterday seeing his anxiety I prepared to send for you and at Mr. B's request Mr. Stagle wrote. That letter should reach you one day before this. I have painful news to communicate. God's ways are not as our ways. Man prepares but God deceives. Just when we were hoping that you could and would be brought here to attend your husband and minister as only a wife can minister. God had ordered very differently.

Early this morning it became evident that he was sinking rapidly. This tendency could not be arrested and at just half past one o'clock he died. He had every care that could be bestowed kind nursing and skillful medical treatment but in vain. His time had come. As soon as I discovered that his end was approaching I communicated freely with him in relation to his spiritual interests his hopes and fears. He rested alone upon the merits of Jesus Christ for salvation. He was entirely resigned to the will of God and quietly submitted to the Divine Call. He was entirely conscience up to within an hour or two of his death and calm and peaceful. And thus he passed away. You have lost my dear madam a kind husband; the church has lost a member on Earth; the country has lost a brave soldier but he has gained a crown heaven a new harp and the country pays a grateful tribute to his memory. He died the death of a Christian the death of a Patriot Soldier and while you weep bitter tears at your loss you can always dwell in memory upon your departed loved one as having died nobly and well.

His remains will be carefully interred here and the grave marked so that if you ever desire it and intimate the wish it can be raised and sent to you. Not knowing your wishes on how to transport the body with absolute certainty and safety to you we thought more advisable to bury him. I will be glad to hear from you in relation to this matter. A few little things that you might save as mementos are here left by him and will be kept and held subject to your order. Address me at U. S. Marine Hospital Pittsburgh PA.

Deeply sympathizing with you in your bereavement and expressing the sympathies of the kind and generous Ladies and Gentlemen who have done so much for the sick and wounded soldiers. I am most sincerely your friend.

D. P. Lowery

INTERNET INQUIRY FINDS ANCESTOR'S GRAVESITE

William Nash, Gen. Israel B. Richardson Camp 2

At our March 2003 meeting, I had the pleasure of participating in the initiation of my son, Nathan Nash, as a hereditary member through our ancestor, William A. Nash, who had enlisted in the 8th Tennessee Mounted Infantry late in the war, February 20th, 1865. He died at age 18 while in the service on August 5th, 1865 at Sparta, Tennessee.

We had no idea where he was buried, but "suspected he was laid to rest somewhere in White County, Tennessee, where the city of Sparta is located. An extensive document search and many visits to libraries were made to no avail. Finally, I decided to post an inquiry on an ancestor internet site. Two months later, I received an e-mail from a person who turned out to be a cousin I never knew. He had located the whereabouts of OUR lost Civil War ancestor. Private William A. Nash's grave was located in Perkins Cemetery in what is now Putnam County, but used to be a part of White County. He has a G.A.R. marker on the gravesite.

My new-found cousin didn't know anything about our ancestor, which gave me the opportunity to share information, as well as tell him about the S.U.V.C.W.. So Brothers, please avail yourselves of the wonderful opportunity that using the internet can provide. You just never know what you might find!



MONUMENTAL RENEWAL

Bill M^cAfee, SVC, Carpenter-Welch Camp 180

In 1866, the small farm community of Sharon Township in southwestern Washtenaw County erected a monument honoring Abraham Lincoln and the 24 local soldiers who gave their lives defending the Union during the Civil War. The original cost of \$1500.00 was paid for by subscription. This tall monument consisting of a base and column topped with a symbolic American eagle is considered to be the second one erected in Michigan. Standing at the corner of Pleasant Lake and Sylvan Roads in front of the township hall, it has become weathered to the point that the words and names are hard to decipher.

The Stewards of Sharon and the Manchester Historical Society have obtained a bronze plaque that preserves the information on the original monument. (Contributions toward the cost would be greatly appreciated.) It is attached to a large stone from the farm of Dick Irwin, whose great-great grand uncle is one of those commemorated on the original. The new memorial will be placed near the township cemetery, on the east side of the township hall. The old one will be moved close to it to protect it from road traffic. A re-dedication ceremony was held on Sunday, September 7, with presentations from township and historical society officials. We were invited to participate with remarks and a benediction. A rifle salute was offered by a member of the 24th Michigan Infantry Association and Taps by a local student. Other members of our Order present were Brothers Dr. Weldon Petz and Roger Heiple (Mr. GAR).

We can all be grateful that there are groups such as these who take enough pride in their community and their heritage to take on these projects so dear to our hearts. We realize that it is going to take more than our own humble efforts to maintain and restore all these precious memorials around the county, the state and the nation. We offer our thanks to the Manchester Historic Society and the Stewards of Sharon for their work.

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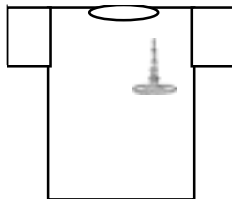
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All Profits go Towards Phase two of the Civil War Monument Project

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Dan is a Life Member of Austin Blair Camp 7 in Jackson, MI. Here is his story as remitted to select Ontario publications.

MYSTERY SOLDIER FROM CANADA HAS BEEN FOUND

Guelph Ontario Man Fought for the Union Army
During the American Civil War

Later became a Prominent Citizen of Hamilton
Mystery Solved Through a Web Site Created by the
Author

by Dan Doyle

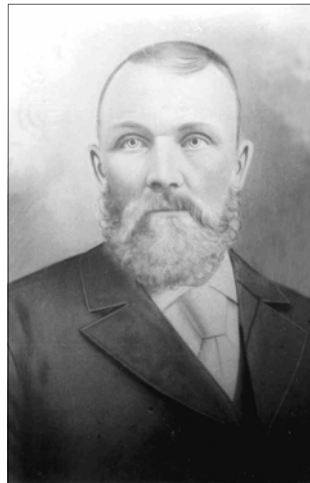
The search for a mystery soldier from Canada began in 1997 when a marksman's medal linked to Guelph was unearthed along with other Civil War artifacts during the construction of a new highway in central Virginia. The work crew was excavating in the area where the Battle of the Wilderness had taken place in May 5 & 6, 1864. This historic battle was the first time that Union General Ulysses S. Grant confronted Confederate General Robert E. Lee. The fighting became so fierce that the dense woods caught fire and by the end of the second day almost 30,000 were killed or wounded.

The spot where the artifacts were found appeared to have been a staging area or campsite. The round silver marksman medal looks like it was fashioned from a coin. The inscription on one side is "1st Volunteer Rifle Comp. Guelph" followed by "presented by Capt. Higinbotham to the Best Marksman". On the back is the date "1858" but the name of the marksman is missing.

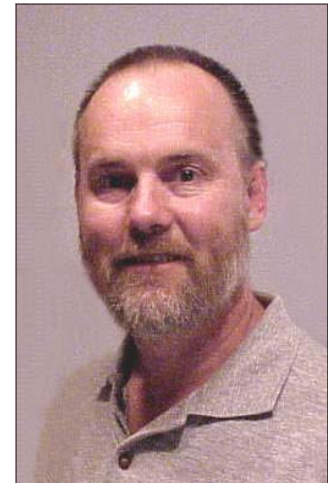


The medal was placed in the custody of the National Firearms Museum in Fairfax, Virginia, and Doug Wicklund, senior curator at the museum, has been searching for its owner ever since. He contacted the National Archives in Ottawa and also made inquiries of local museums in the Guelph area. Eventually Wicklund contacted the Guelph Mercury and the story appeared in the October 31, 2000 edition of the newspaper. My sister Nora Groenendyk, who lives in Guelph, sent me the article knowing of my interest in the Civil War and the web site I created that is devoted to locating the graves of the Civil War veterans buried in Canada. One name on my list of veterans stood out and after months of research, in the final

analysis it was determined that the mystery soldier from Canada had to be Thomas Smith Anderson.



Thomas Smith Anderson



Albert Scouten

Born in Guelph, Ontario, on April 12, 1842, Thomas Smith Anderson dropped the Anderson from his name and enlisted as Thomas Smith into the Union army with the 6th New York Cavalry, Company H, on March 4, 1864. He was severely wounded in the chest at Loudoun Valley, Virginia, on January 18, 1865 and was honorably discharged on August 9, 1865. Thomas died February 13, 1913 and is buried in Hamilton City Cemetery, Hamilton, Ontario.

How Was He Found? - The Anatomy of a Search

Many wonderful things are happening because of the Internet. Informational web sites are being created by the thousands and provide an arena wherein everyone in the world can be a participant. My web site, which I created in 1997, provides a platform for the descendants of the Civil War veterans buried in Canada to document the location of their ancestors' graves and tell their story.

After reading the newspaper article I went to my list of Civil War veterans and found that in 1998 Albert Scouten of Ancaster, Ontario, had sent me the grave location and a short biography of his great great grandfather, Thomas S. Anderson. What stood out was the fact that Thomas was born and raised in Guelph.

For the moment this made him a prime candidate but there were other men from the Guelph area that also took part in the American Civil War. They were Henry Jackson who served with the 17th Michigan Infantry and Joseph B. Tolton who served with the 4th Michigan Cavalry.

The following questions then needed answers. Were any of these men at the Battle of the Wilderness? Where were their units during the war? Were they ever connected with the Guelph 1st Volunteer Rifle Company in 1858?

For help with the answers I asked my good friend Bill Lowe. Bill and I are members of the Sons of Union Veterans of

(Continued on page 26)

the Civil War, Austin Blair Camp No. 7, Jackson, Michigan. Bill is a past Camp Commander and a recognized Civil War historian in Michigan.

He discovered that Henry Jackson, 17th Michigan Infantry, was killed in action at Campbell Station, Tennessee, on November 16, 1863, 6 months prior to the Battle of the Wilderness. He also discovered that the unit in which Joseph B. Tolton served, was engaged only in the states of Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia.

Regarding Thomas Smith, Bill first confirmed that the roster of the 6th New York Cavalry, Company H, listed Thomas as a member of that unit. Further he found that Frederick Dyer's Compendium of the Civil War confirmed that the 6th New York Cavalry not only took part in the Battle of the Wilderness but was also camped and on patrol in the nearby counties just days before the battle.

What remained was the most difficult task of all and that was to link Thomas Anderson with the Guelph 1st Volunteer Rifle Company. It was learned from the newspaper article, that the present Guelph's 11th Canadian Field Artillery Regiment can trace its roots to the rifle company of 1858. Further, it was learned from old records still in existence that there was a Robert Anderson in the Guelph 1st Volunteer Rifle Company at that time.

In early 2002 Albert Scouten concentrated on researching his family roots in the Guelph and Hamilton areas. What he found would make anyone proud to be a descendant of these hard working early pioneers.

The Historical Atlas of the County of Wellington, Ontario, described them in these words: "Thomas Anderson Sr., (grandfather of Thomas S. Anderson) a respected Guelph Township pioneer, was born in Fifeshire, Scotland, in 1772, where he was raised. He married Margaret Kidd. They came to Guelph Township with their family in 1832 and set on lot 16, concession 1B where he purchased 100 acres at \$3.00 per acre. Two or three years later he purchased 50 additional acres at \$6.00 per acre. He cleared these farms with the help of his sons and there he died in 1869."

The Anderson family migrated from Scotland with their nine children, six boys and three girls. Their second oldest son was John who was born in 1817 and died very young at the age of 37, leaving behind his wife Janet and six children. Thomas S. Anderson was the oldest of the six children and at the age of 12 became the man of the house. However the clan immediately stepped in and the grandparents with all the uncles and aunts helped raise John's children. One of these uncles was Robert Anderson.

The link to the medal and the Guelph 1st Volunteer Rifle Company is this: The date on the medal is 1858. That year Thomas S. Anderson was 16 years old and his youngest uncle, Robert, was 29 and a member of the Guelph 1st Volunteer Rifle Company. It is natural to assume that these two men spent a lot of time together. Census records of that time also indicate that Thomas remained with his family on the farm until 1864 when he went to New York to enlist in the Union Army.

In conclusion: We will probably never know who the marksman was. Maybe it was his Uncle Robert, or Thomas himself. However there is little doubt that Thomas was the soldier who lost the medal as he sat around that campsite 139 years ago.

After the war Thomas moved to Lockport, New York, and began learning the trade of confectioner. In 1870 he returned to Canada, changed his name from Thomas Smith back to Thomas Anderson and settled in Hamilton, Ontario. That same year he married Mary Jane Chapple.

In a short time Thomas opened a confectionery store on James St. North, specializing in baked goods and candy. The business prospered and was a landmark for over 35 years. He also ventured into real estate and became very successful, owning several properties on Oak Ave. Thomas was a highly respected and recognized member of his community. People who knew him described him as a religious and fun - loving person whom all the children wanted to be around. Family lore has it that children would coax him to part his long white beard and show them the chest wound he received at Loudoun Valley, which they said was big enough to hold a golf ball.

It was evident Thomas was proud that he had served in the Union Army. He was very active in the William Winer Cooke, Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Post No. 472 in Hamilton, becoming Aide de Camp on October 7, 1901.

Thomas Anderson died on February 13, 1913 at his home on 22 Oak Ave. He was survived by his wife and seven children.

Excerpt from the Hamilton Spectator – February 17, 1913

"The funeral of Thomas Anderson took place from his late residence and was largely attended. Rev. D. A. Moir officiated at the house and grave. Richard Butler, American Vice-Consul, spoke feelingly of the past life of the deceased. The pallbearers were: Three members of the G.A.R.; Henry Clark, James Melody and A.C. Fletcher, and three members of the Sons of Veterans of the G.A.R.; E.B. Bell, John Pett and George Elville."

Internment was in Hamilton City Cemetery, the same cemetery where William Winer Cooke was laid to rest and for whom the G.A.R. post was named.

William Winer Cooke was born in Mount Pleasant, Ontario, and became the most famous Hamiltonian to serve in the Union Army. He remained in the Cavalry after the war and fought and died with General George Custer at the Little Big Horn. He was buried three times. Once on the battlefield where he died, then in a military cemetery near the battlefield and finally in Hamilton.

The author, Dan Doyle, created a web site in 1997 that he dedicated to his great grandfather, Stephen Hadfield, who served during the American Civil War with the 53rd Pennsylvania Volunteers and is buried in Guelph, Ontario. His web site is also dedicated to finding the grave locations of all the Civil War veterans buried in Canada.

Visit his site at: <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/>

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

15th Gettysburg, PA

Remembrance Day parade and Military Ball. The parade forms up at 12 noon and steps off at 1:00 pm. The Military Ball begins at 9:00 pm at the Eisenhower Inn Cost is \$15 per person. Please see the National website for further parade/ball information and to purchase tickets to the ball.

DECEMBER

2nd Kalamazoo

Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20's 20th Anniversary celebration dinner. All are invited. See details at left.

10th Messenger Deadline

FEBRUARY

21st Lansing, MI

Mid-Winter Conference at the Midway Motor Lodge. Details to follow in the Winter issue of Michigan's Messenger.

APRIL

24th Grand Rapids, MI

Department Encampment at the Airport Hilton Hotel. The Encampment will be hosted by the WRC. Details to follow in the Winter issue of Michigan's Messenger.

MAY

30th Andersonville, GA

Memorial Day ceremony to rededicate the Michigan Monument.

JUNE

24th Detroit

Grand opening/rededication of the Michigan Soldier's and Sailor's Monument in Detroit.

AUGUST

12th, 13th & 14th Cedar Rapids, IA

123rd National Encampment.

Correction

The photo caption on page 15 of the Summer issue should have read: Camp 58 members, along with Brothers from Camps 17 and 160 assembled before the GAR monument in St. John's Mt. Rest Cemetery, May 30th.

ANNIVERSARY INVITATION

We at the General Benjamin Pritchard, Camp 20, want to invite everyone to a celebration of the 20-year anniversary of our Camp's Charter. On December 2nd, 2003, (Tuesday) at 7:00 pm, we will meet at the Old Country Buffet on West Main Street in Kalamazoo to honor our Camp's 20 years of existence. Price of Dinner is \$9.32. Everyone is invited, bring your spouse or a friend! We hope to see you there. The address for the Old Country Buffet is 5220 West Main Street, Kalamazoo, MI, Phone is 269-344-6212.

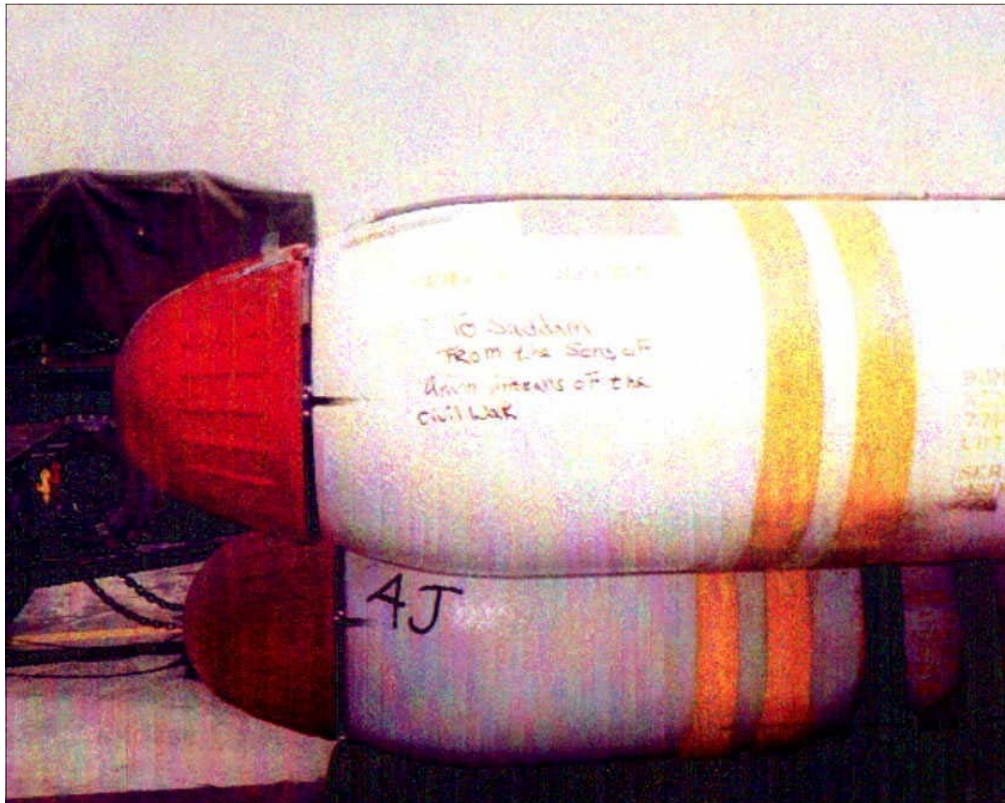
Any questions? Please contact:

John R. Keith
950 106th Ave.
Plainwell, MI 49080
Email- Hardtackcw@aol.com
Phone – (269)-685-5192 after 6 pm.

The
Deadline
for the next issue of
Michigan's Messenger
is
December 10th

Articles and photos must be received by this date to assure their inclusion in the Winter issue. Computer text files, either as a part of the e-mail body or attached file method, may be sent to the editor at:

jrmsuvcw@comcast.net
Photos must be mailed to:
John Mann, Editor
Michigan's Messenger
2495 Washington Road
Lansing, MI 48911-7216



“FROM ALL OF US”

The bomb Lance Corporal Ty Streeter signed showing he let “all of us” be involved in the Fight for Freedom with him in Iraq.

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

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