



Michigan's Messenger

The Newsletter of the Department of Michigan – Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Volume XV, Number 1

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Summer 2006

John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus



Department Orders #1



Series 2006- 2007

Department Headquarters, Mayville, Michigan

1. Having been duly elected and installed, command is hereby assumed.
2. Headquarters for the Department of Michigan, SUVCW remains at 9245 Willits Road, Mayville, Michigan, 48744. (989) 843-5967. Rgreene@tds.net
3. A profound "thank you" to the Brothers of the Department of Michigan and the 117th Annual Encampment for their continued support of this administration and their decision to allow it to continue the work of the Department for another year. Brothers, your support is, both, touching and gratifying. It is my endeavor to run an open administration. My contact information appears above. Similar information for the balance of the Department staff may be found elsewhere in this issue of "Michigan's Messenger". Feel free to contact any of us with your thoughts, comments, criticisms, or even a compliment. You have entrusted all of us to work for you and do the Department's work on your behalf. We all encourage you to let your thoughts be known to us.

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4. Standing Committees have been appointed and are set forth elsewhere in this issue of "Michigan's Messenger".
5. Special Committees are still being developed and will be announced at a later time.
6. Congratulations to Sister Joanne Bailey- Boorsma of the DUV, Sister Angela Aridi of the WRC and Sister Linda Kronberg of the Auxiliary to the SUVCW on their elections to the Presidency of their respective Orders. I look forward to working with each of you as we seek, to keep green the memory.
7. I regret to report the loss of Past Department Commander, Donald E. Hoch of the Austin Blair Camp #7, Jackson, MI. He was called to his final review on May 21, 2006. Brother Hoch's contributions to the Order and to the Department of Michigan are legendary and we all owe a great debt to him. A detailed remembrance of Brother Hoch's life and his many contributions may be found elsewhere in this issue of "Michigan's Messenger". All Charters will be draped for thirty days in his memory.

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8. While the Department web site will continue to offer a web page to all Camps who desire it, Camps are encouraged to develop their own web sites to better promote their own projects and mission. The Department web site will be glad to offer a link to any Camp's own web site upon request to the Department Signals Officer.
9. The Department Annual Reports have been filed with the National Organization within the prescribed time limit for the first time in recent memory. Congratulations, praise and thanks go to Department Secretary, Dennis, C. Derr II and the Camps who filed their Annual Camp Reports on time for making this come about. Brothers, well done!!!!
10. I wish to recognize the Camps who filed their Annual Camp Reports on or prior to the deadline date of April 30, 2006. Timely and accurate Annual Camp Reporting facilitates the on time submission of the Annual Department Report and enables the Department of Michigan to take its place of good standing with the National Organization. Filing on time were Camps #3, 7, 14, 17, 20, 22, 43, 139, 145, 160, 180, 250, 255, 259, 266, 427, and 462. Thanks and congratulations go to the Camp Secretaries, Commanders, and others who brought this about.
11. Effective May 20, 2006, the George W. Howe Camp #9 and the Ulysses S. Grant Camp #101 are suspended for failure to submit adequate Annual Camp Reports.
12. I am pleased to report 6% membership growth within the Department of Michigan. Membership, as of June 1, 2006 stands at 485 Brothers in good standing.
13. All Department Officers and Committees are reminded that copies of all documents generated in doing the business of the Department over the past year should be forwarded to the Department Historian, forthwith. It is suggested that, where possible, electronic copies be "burned" to a CD, which could be easily received and stored by the Historian.
14. I wish to thank the Department Officers and others who have, thus far, forwarded lists of Department property in their custody to either Department Historian, John Keith or myself. Department Orders #1, Series 2006-2007 call for all such officers or committee chairmen to participate in an inventory of all Department owned property by submitting a list of Department owned items that are currently in their care to the proper Department office. Items of an historical nature should be reported to Brother Keith. Currently used items should be reported to the Department Commander.
15. Brothers are encouraged to plan to attend the 125th National Encampment in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. To be held August 10-12, 2006, the National Encampment will offer a helpful insight into the "inner workings" of our Order. Michigan Brothers have an additional incentive to attend the Encampment this year, as a Michigan man will likely seek the office of Commander-In-Chief of the Order. Senior Vice Commander-In-Chief, Brother James B. Pahl. PDC has announced his intention to run for this lofty position. A large Michigan Delegation should be on hand to support Brother Pahl at this Encampment. Hotel arrangements should be made right away. Details are available in the "*Banner*" or on the National Web Site.
16. Brothers are encouraged to plan to participate in the Remembrance Day parade and services in Gettysburg, Pa. on November 18, 2006. Lodging should be arranged right away. It is hoped that we can improve on last year's small Michigan contingent. Please make every effort to adjust your schedules to allow your attendance and participation in this extraordinary experience. Pursuant to item #14, it is possible that the Michigan contingent will be called upon to escort and guard the Commander-In-Chief this year. Don't miss out on the chance to participate in this high honor. Assistance with finding car pool partners is available at Department Headquarters (info above).
17. All Brothers are encouraged to seek out and photograph Michigan monuments on Civil War battlefields. Copies of photos should be forwarded to Brother Jim Pahl, P.D.C.

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18. In events where the presence of any Department Officer is desired, please allow at least one month notice prior to the date of the event.
19. Camp Patriotic Instructors are reminded that their reports are now due. The blank form has been sent to the CPI's, of record, by Department Patriotic Instructor, Kevin Lindsey. It seeks information regarding your Camp's patriotic activities over the past year. If you are a Camp Patriotic Instructor and, have not completed this task please complete the report and return it to Brother Lindsey, forthwith. If you have lost the form supplied by Brother Lindsey or did not receive one, you may download it from the National web site. All Camp Commanders should check with Brother Lindsey to find out if their Camp might be delinquent in this duty.
20. I am pleased to report that Captain David W. Mann, son of "Michigan Messenger" Editor Emeritus and Brother John Mann has returned safely from military duty in Iraq. I have asked Brother Mann, to please convey the thanks of the entire membership of the Department of Michigan to Captain Mann for his service on our behalf.
21. I am pleased to announce the appointment of Brother David Arnold to the Office of Assistant to the Department Treasurer, effective July 1, 2006. Brother Arnold's duties will include but will not be limited to managing the purchase, sale and distribution of merchandise which is licensed by the National Organization for sale by the Department of Michigan. Brother Arnold is currently working to bring himself online. His e-mail information will soon be made available on the Department web site and in the next "Michigan's Messenger".
22. Applications have been filed with the National Secretary to renew our licensing of merchandise containing or presenting proprietary SUVCW logos. A decision is expected when the Council of Administration meets, next, in August, 2006.
23. Licensed merchandise will soon be available online. In one of the latest innovations to appear on the Department's website, the hat badges, breast pocket patches, mounting clips, Corp badge insignia, mouse pads and other merchandise that the Department sells will be available for sale, direct from the web site. All purchases may be made, using Pay Pal and, in most cases, shipment will be immediate.
24. Please join me in extending best wishes for a speedy recovery for Brother Al Pifer of Robert Finch Camp #14. Al would enjoy a card or other get well message from his Michigan Brothers. They may be addressed to him at: Mr. Al Pifer, c/o Tendercare Nursing Facility, 2585 LaFranier Road, Traverse City, MI 49633.
25. Department hospitality tent will be located in the "Step Back In Time" area at the Jackson Civil War Muster at Sparks Park in Jackson, Michigan again this year. All Brothers are invited to join us for camaraderie and refreshments. The CW Muster will be held August 26 & 27, 2006

Submitted in F, C, & L,
June 1, 2006

/s/
Richard Greene, Commander
Department of Michigan, SUVCW

Attest:
/s/
Dennis C, Derr II
Department Secretary

Editor's Note: I have tried to include every article that was sent to me prior to publication, so that all future issues will be timely. If your article was not published, it will be in the next available space. I welcome all constructive suggestions, and encourage all of you to submit relative news about your committees, your Camps, and your ancestors. This is your newsletter, and its success depends on you. Rick Danes, Editor mimessrd@aol.com.

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Rick Danes

GAR Records

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Civil War Memorials

Douglas R. Armstrong,
PCC

Eagle Scout Coordinator

Charles Worley

Camp At LargeCoordinator

Robert Mitchell

Department Secretary's Report

Dennis C. Derr, II

The Minutes of the 117th Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan were completed and distributed on May 2, 2006 to all of the attendees whom I have e-mail addresses for. They will also be posted on the Department Website.

The Department of Michigan's Annual Report has been completed and submitted to National Headquarters prior to the May 31st deadline.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those Camps and Camp Secretaries who submitted all of their properly completed Annual Reports before the April 30th deadline. You helped make my job easier, and I greatly appreciate your efforts, Thank You!

While accurate and timely reporting by the Camps improved somewhat this year as compared to last year, there were still a number of issues that several Camps seem to struggle with. I would like to take this opportunity to address these issues in the hope that they can be avoided next year.

Reporting Deadline

First and foremost, all Camp Annual Reports are due to the Department Secretary on or before April 30th. This deadline is mandated by the Constitution and Regulations of the Order, yet some Camps continue to fail to meet this deadline and offer a myriad of excuses as to why they cannot submit their reports on time. Simply put, and with all due respect, there are no acceptable excuses.

I would also like to point out that, while Camps have 4 months to complete and submit their Annual Reports to the Department Secretary, the Department Secretary has only 4 weeks to complete and submit the Department's Annual Report to the National Organization, SUVCW. It should also be noted that, the Department Annual Report cannot be started until ALL Camps have properly completed and submitted their Camp Annual Reports.

Also, when submitting reports, send them to the Department Secretary, not the Department Commander, as this will only delay their processing.

Form 22 Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers

The most common issues encountered this year on the Form 22's are as follows:

1. Missing EIN Numbers.
2. Missing Initiation Fees and Annual Dues.
3. Camp Secretaries and Treasurers also members of the Camp Council.
4. Audits of the Camp's Financial Records not being performed.
5. Missing signatures.
6. Installing Officers not making sure that the Form 22's are properly completed.
7. Incomplete Camp Rosters.

Camp Rosters

Per the National Organization SUVCW, Camp Rosters should include the following information on each dues paying Brother of the Camp (Do NOT include prospective members on the Camp Roster.):

1. Full Legal Name (Please, do NOT use nicknames, etc.)
2. Address (Including street address and or P.O. Box No., City, State and Zip code.)
3. Phone Number (Including area code.)
4. E-mail address
5. Status (Life Member and No., Member, Junior, Associate, Real Son, etc.)

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6. Date of Birth (especially for Juniors) Juniors will be automatically upgraded to Member in the National Database IF their date of birth has been submitted.

Forms 27 & 27A Camp Annual Report

The most common issues encountered this year with the Camp Annual Reports, Forms 27 and 27A are as follows:

1. Incomplete reports.
2. Missing pages.
3. Missing signatures.
4. Missing financial information.
5. Incorrect Per Capita Tax computations.
6. Incorrect reporting of Juniors.
7. Reporting of deceased Brothers, but not including date of death.
8. Reporting of Life Members, but not including Life Membership Numbers.
9. Not submitting 2 copies of new Member's Applications.

Form 30 Camp Status Report

Now that we have completed the Annual Reporting process, any and all changes in Camp Membership should be reported by using the Form 30, Camp Status Report. This form will be used from now until December 31st. Any changes in Camp Membership on or after January 1, 2007 will then be reported on the Camp Annual Report, Forms 27 and 27A.

In regards to Form 30, please note the following from the Constitution & Regulations:

Chapter V, Article I, Section 7: Effective April 30, 2003 the Camp Secretary must submit by the 15th day of the following month to the Department Secretary, two copies of a Camp Status Report form when one of the following changes occur: (1) A new Brother joins the Camp (2) A Brother is reinstated after being dropped for non payment of dues (3) A Brother dies (4) A Brother has a change of address (5) A Brother transfers in or out of the Camp. If the Camp Status Report form reports a new Brother, then a pro-rated per capita amount for the remainder of the year shall accompany the form. Such pro-rated amount shall be calculated on a quarterly basis. If the Camp Status Report form reports a Brother reinstated after being dropped for non payment of dues, then the full annual per capita for that Brother shall accompany the form.

Membership Applications

Please be sure to only use the current version of Form 3, Standard Membership Application Form and Instructions (Camp use only). This form is available on the National SUVCW Website at: <http://suvchw.org/ftp.htm>. Previous versions of the Form 3, Membership Application Form and forms created by Camps are not valid and must not be used as the National Organization will refuse them.

Per Capita Tax Computation

There still seems to be quite a bit of confusion on the computing and paying of Per Capita Tax among the Camps. Per Capita Tax is pro-rated quarterly and is calculated based on the date the applicant actually became a member (the date on the application), not when the Membership Application is submitted.

Also, some Camps have been withholding Membership Applications for several months, up to and over 1 year in an attempt to avoid paying Per Capita Tax on new Members. I respectfully remind these Camps that this is a direct violation of National Regulations and that they are still liable for the full Per Capita Tax owed on these new Brothers based on the date on the applications.

I've included the following Per Capita Tax Chart in the hope that it will help those Camp Secretaries and Treasurers who are struggling with per capita tax computation.

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<u>Application Dated In The Month Of</u>	<u>Application Fee</u>	<u>Department Per Capita Tax</u>	<u>National Per Capita Tax</u>	<u>Total Amount Due</u>
January	\$5.00	\$8.00	\$18.00	\$31.00
February	\$5.00	\$8.00	\$18.00	\$31.00
March	\$5.00	\$8.00	\$18.00	\$31.00
April	\$5.00	\$6.00	\$13.50	\$24.50
May	\$5.00	\$6.00	\$13.50	\$24.50
June	\$5.00	\$6.00	\$13.50	\$24.50
July	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$9.00	\$18.00
August	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$9.00	\$18.00
September	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$9.00	\$18.00
October	\$5.00	\$2.00	\$4.50	\$11.50
November	\$5.00	\$2.00	\$4.50	\$11.50
December	\$5.00	\$2.00	\$4.50	\$11.50

Please note the following:

1. Juniors pay \$5.00 Application Fee only, no per capita tax.
2. Reinstated Brothers pay \$26.00 regardless of the time of year.

Electronic Submission of Reports

Recently, the question of submitting reports and forms electronically has come up. The National Organization, SUVCW currently does NOT accept electronic submissions of reports or forms from Departments. In fact, National requires the submission of hard copies of reports and forms from Departments. Therefore, the Department of Michigan cannot accept electronic submissions of reports or forms from the Camps. Camps must submit 2 hard copies of reports, forms and membership applications to the Department. Of these copies, one is maintained at the Department while the other copy is forwarded to National Headquarters.

In conclusion, I strongly recommend that all Camps keep copies of all their reports, not only for their Camp Records, but to assist them with the completion of next year's Annual Reports. All SUVCW Forms are available for download on the National SUVCW Website at: <http://suvchw.org/ftp.htm>. I also, once again remind all Camp Secretaries to feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Dennis C. Derr, II
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Treasury Notes

From Department Treasurer Brian Shumway

Since we had no Mid-Winter Conference this year, I would like to make the *Messenger* serve a similar purpose by including a column of items of interest to camp secretaries and treasurers and anyone who might be interested in financial "stuff". I'll dub it my "Treasury Notes" column and I'll try to get something in each issue.

Pro Rating Per Capita Fees

Brother Shumway discusses the same methodology as Brother Derr did in this section....it has been omitted to avoid redundancy. ED

Reimbursement of Expenses for Department Officers:

Department Officers and Committee Chairs: Your budgets were approved at the Department Encampment and you have access to reimbursement for expenses for supplies required to do your work and the expenses you incur *in the line of duty*. Submit receipts for expenses you have had to Brian Shumway, Dept. Treasurer, 127 W. Walnut, Hastings MI 49058. If you have many small amounts to be reimbursed, for example a number of receipts for postage, I would urge you to submit these receipts as a group at least on a quarterly basis. Approved budgets are:

Department Officer Expenses	
Commander	\$ 200.00
SVC	\$ 150.00
JVC	\$ 150.00
Council	\$ 150.00
Secretary	\$ 150.00
Treasurer	\$ 140.00
Editor, MM	\$ 50.00
Historian	\$ 100.00
Eagles Coord.	\$ 125.00
Department Committee Expenses	
Graves Reg.	\$ 200.00
Membership	\$ 50.00
GAR Rec.	\$ 100.00
CW Memorials	\$ 100.00
Comm&Tech	\$ 200.00
Nominations	\$ 50.00
ByLaws	\$ 50.00

We know that many officers absorb their expenses as their contribution to the order and we very much respect and honor their sacrifice. Still, for those who do not have that ability, these budgets are made available and it is certainly appropriate to use them for their intended purpose.

If you require a large purchase that you do not wish to pre pay yourself and then be reimbursed, arrange to have the item billed directly to my address. I do not wish to send money on a pre purchase basis. I will do so by order of the Commander. Therefore, if you really must have an amount to "carry to the store", please request that of Commander Greene.

Contact me at bjis@iserv.net or 517-852-1870 with questions.

Signals Officer Matt Adair

Fraternal greetings to all the Brothers of the Department of Michigan! I hope all of you with access to the web have had a chance to visit the department's website and see the changes that have taken place over the past several months.

Some highlights of the new website include:

- Completely new look and feel
- An online photo album of past and current events, memorials, and historic photos. This area of the website could use some expansion. If any brothers have any photos they would like included, please contact me.
- An updated and dynamic events calendar which includes an events submittal form.
- In cooperation with the Graves Registration Committee, the Department's Graves Registration Database is now online and searchable with the data being updated every quarter. The current implementation gives researcher the opportunity to contact me appropriate GRO in order to request or submit additional information.

Additional improvements for the website are in the works, most notably:

- The scanning and conversion of all available proceedings from previous Department Encampments
- The scanning and conversion of all previous editions of *Michigan's Messenger*. (These first two items are courtesy of Brother Jim Lyons and his personal collection.)
- Updated historical information concerning the Past Department Commanders, courtesy of Brother Gary Gibson.
- The ability to order and pay for Department Merchandise online.

Individual camps are encouraged to examine their camp web pages under the Camps & Membership portion of the website. Since the website is the online, public face of our camps and department, we need to make sure that the information presented is as accurate as possible. If any brother has suggestions for improvements, constructive criticism, or notices problems with the website, please contact me. At the bottom of every page is a link for sending an email to the webmaster.

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Camp 2 News

by PCC Bruce Miller



The General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2, Department of Michigan, participated in the Memorial Day Service held at the City Hall in Birmingham, Michigan on May 29, 2006.

Members placed a memorial wreath at the Oakland County Civil War monument that dates to 1869 and two members were featured speakers. Chaplain Bill Nash (second from left) read "The Unknown Dead" and SVC/PCC Bruce Miller (fourth from left) addressed the crowd on the origin of Memorial Day.

A TRIBUTE
Don E. Hoch, PDC

August 14, 1908 - May 21, 2006



When Don Hoch signed his membership application on January 13, 1937 few of the members of Austin Blair Camp No. 7, in Jackson, Michigan could foresee what an important part he would have in coming years in sustaining both Camp No. 7 and the Department of Michigan.

In 1937 most of the Camps of the SUVCW still had what we called "True Sons" and in many parts of our state there were still actives GAR Posts and many surviving members of the GAR. He had known his Grandfather, Samuel E. Bailey, who enlisted in company H, 15th Michigan Infantry on Christmas Eve, 1863, when he was 17 years old. He served through the end of the war and was mustered out with his regiment on Aug 13, 1865. Don joined the SUVCW as the grandson of Samuel Bailey. Soon after Don joined the SUVCW he became active in many of the activities and held numerous offices within the Camp.

In 1949 the Michigan Department bestowed the highest honor it could on Brother Hoch by electing him Department Commander. At the time of his death Don was the Senior Past Department Commander in Michigan. Sixty nine years a faithful member of the SUVCW, more than sixty years of leadership after having served as Department Commander.

World War II took its toll on members of the Michigan Camps of the SUVCW almost as much as the passing of more and more members of the GAR. It was during the next few years that Don's dedication, resourcefulness and leadership abilities began to be more evident.

Not only was the GAR beginning to rapidly decrease in numbers but so were the "True Sons"! Just maintaining the membership was a constant battle as more and more of our members donned a uniform to answer our Country's call. Don had been too young for WW I and on the upper edge of those that Uncle Sam needed most during WW II. However our leaders wanted Don to stay at home and keep the railroads running, which he contributed to doing for more than 40 years.

But Don didn't just do his job at the rail yard! No doubt in his youth he had heard that as the Civil War soldiers were traveling to and from their homes the people along the way provided food and other necessities for them . Trains had no "Dining Cars" at that time and at many stops the town's people were on hand with food.

By WW II supplying troop trains with food had advanced considerably. However, Don and others of the Allied Orders of Jackson staffed and supplied coffee, cookies & etc., in our local station as the men and women were traveling via railroad.

After WW II membership in many fraternal and social organizations faltered. However Don had a number of family members in the local Allied Orders and was able to rally them together and keep focused on our real purpose..."keeping green the memory of the Boys who wore the Blue."

In 1947 the GAR disappeared from Michigan, now only a memory. And various local entities of the Allied Orders were disappearing also. In the early 1960's there were less than a dozen Camps of the SUVCW in Michigan.

From its beginning in 1882 our local Post No. 48, GAR, had been given free use to facilities in the County Court House. Never did they have to worry where they would meet or what the costs might be. However, the day after our last member of the GAR died the Allied Orders were ordered to vacate the room in just a few days.

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For Don and his long time friend and co-member of Camp No. 7, Thayne La Banta, fell the responsibility to remove all the furniture, records and miscellaneous property from the facility. The GAR left the SUVCW a great heritage... and a great challenge... "to keep green their memory".

Two men of our local Post left us some things to help fulfill those responsibilities. One left us a *complete set* of the Records of the Michigan Regiments in the Civil War, a.k.a., "The Brown Books".

Don and Thayne saw to it that they were preserved and today we enjoy the luxury of having one of the few *complete sets* in private hands. These help us "keep green" their memory. Another Comrade left each of the local Allied Orders shares of Consumer's Energy stock. Not much, but enough to help maintain the work to be done!

Upon losing their meeting place, under Don's leadership they formed a society and named it after the man whose action sustained the Camp in the unforeseen future. The Schofield Society, was formed by members of the SUVCW, DUVCW and the ASUVCW. They pooled the dividend proceeds of their combined stock, obtained a mortgage and brought an old church and it became their home. Used by all of the Allied Orders, they continued on.

Locally membership grew for a few years but by the mid to late 1950's it again began to dwindle. The ASUVCW, DUVCW and WRC all closed their local groups. Don and Thayne, combining their dedication and ingenuity again prevailed. They were able to keep Austin Blair Camp No. 7, as an active Camp, thanks in a large part to the proceeds of their two remaining shares of stock. It wasn't until approximately twenty years later that with the support of the Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17, in Sunfield, that new members were encouraged to join with Brothers LaBanta and Hoch and reactivate Camp No. 7.

Both Thayne and Don lived to see Camp No. 7 take on new life and they saw the Auxiliary to Camp No. 7 once again become active. Until the limitations of age overtook them they were again active in the Camp. Quite possibly Don was the last member in Michigan's Department to have Comrades of the GAR attend their meetings. He was Department Commander when the last Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic was held. He was held in great esteem by all who knew him, he will be missed.

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Robert Finch Camp #14 News

April-July 2006 Report

Submitted by W. E. Skillman, Camp Commander

The Camp #14 roster shows 48 Members with 10 Associates. We added our first Junior Member this year. Master Werdenhoff joined with his father. Visiting Brothers are invited to join us for our annual Summer Picnic on July 15th at Al and Marge Pifer's home. Guests are encouraged to prepare a vintage CW dish to pass. Al will be conducting his annual 'show and tell' of CW artifacts from his collection.

Commander Skillman accompanied by SVC Jeff Morse, JVC Robert Clark, Treasurer Jim Slis, Secretary Jim Ribby, Color Bearer Dale Aurand and Brother Bill Watson attended the 117th Annual Department Encampment in Grand Rapids, Michigan on April 30th. The Camp enjoyed the distinction of being the only one to have turned in its Camp history. It also enjoyed the reputation of having turned in all of its reports on time.

Commander Greene and Messenger Editor/GRO Rick Danes joined the Camp 14 table for fun and lively lunch. The hour passed quickly, as the Brothers enthusiastically told the Dept Officers of the various projects that they were involved in.

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Brother Fred Knoodel, representing the Camp 14 CSA/Petoskey Cannon Restoration committee, met with the Little River Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians on May 8th. To date we have raised nearly \$5000 for the project.

The May 13th meeting was a busy one. Brother LaBarr was presented with a Past Camp Commander badge in recognition of service with the Cadillac camp. The guest speaker was noted uniform historian and manufacturer, Dan Wambaugh. Dan not only has a comprehensive knowledge of uniforms worn by Union and Confederate regiments in the Civil War, but has learned the unique construction techniques used in each uniform. Dan told the Camp how some uniforms were entirely hand-sewn, while others were sewn by pedal sewing machines. Dan displayed his own authentic reproduction Federal uniforms and described his use of the identical patterns, materials and sewing techniques. Al and Marge Pifer thoughtfully provided a uniform for Dan to examine, which turned out to be an exquisitely hand tailored GAR uniform from Pennsylvania. Dan pointed out the various details of the uniform and how they compared to original CW garments. Christopher Skillman videotaped the presentation for Al and absent Brothers to enjoy.

Mr. George Ouvery and his wife Charlotte were guests of Brother Bill Watson. Mr. Ouvery discussed his solo project to document, identify and restore CW veteran graves in 3 Mancelona cemeteries. Mr. Ouvery described his visit to the local library where he was handed dozens of original newspapers. He methodically read each one to obtain vital information on when CW veterans died and which cemetery they were buried in (he generously donated photocopies of articles he had discovered to Camp 14's library). He arranged for U.S. Govt markers, to be placed on veteran's graves and secured the assistance of a local welder to repair surviving GAR markers. At the conclusion of his presentation, Camp 14 honored Mr. Ouvery with a standing ovation for his efforts. Brother Watson will continue to work with Mr. Ouvery about conducting a rededication ceremony in the early Fall.

Brother Morse informed the Camp that Traverse City has donated 13 acres of land to the Grand Traverse Veterans Coalition to establish a park. The land is located on the old State Hospital grounds, at the corner of Division and 11th Streets. War monuments from isolated parks around the community will be consolidated (upon approved by the representative veteran group) to this location. This should make it easier to conduct observances without the interfering noise and congestion presently experienced. The commander would like to congratulate Brother Morse for taking the initiative to add his voice in support of our brother veteran groups to expedite approval for this offer.

Memorial Day found a very busy Camp 14. In Traverse City, 8 members attended the Oakwood Cemetery observances (SVC Jeff Morse, Camp Council Neal Breough, Color Bearer Dale Aurand, Guard, Chuck Heffer, Joe Conger, Howard Byrne, Jim Johnson, Bill Watson), while in the neighboring communities of Long Lake and Lake Ann, Civil War veterans were honored by Brothers Jim Morse Sr. and Jim Slis. The Frances Finch Auxiliary (President Emily Breough, V.P. Marian Solem, Treasurer Mary Rose and Mary Lautner) placed crosses representing the major Wars Traverse City citizens fought in. Brother Howard Byrne attended the first Memorial Day observance at the new National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan. Howard observed that he was the only Son in attendance. He found the ceremony deeply moving. Commander Skillman and son Chris were in Gettysburg as guests of the Friends of Gettysburg NPS. They and 8 members of Co. B. 1st Regiment U.S. Sharpshooters educated visitors with uniform/weapon displays, informational talks, and shooting/drill demonstrations. The next day, Bill and author Mike Fahle led visitors on a walking tour of the Slyder Farm to review the pivotal encounter between the 2nd U.S. Sharpshooters and the 15th/47th Alabama on July 2, 1863.

Camp 14 will be participating in the Flag Day ceremony at the Elks Lodge in Traverse City. We have also been selected by the Cherry Festival Committee to march in the Heritage Day/4th of July parade. The Metis will honor Brother "Chief" Al Pifer at a special ceremony at the Heritage Center at noon the same day. Any 'out of town' Brothers wishing to participate in the Independence Day celebrations in the 'Queen City of the North' should contact CC Skillman, Sec. Jim Ribby or PCC Neal Breough.

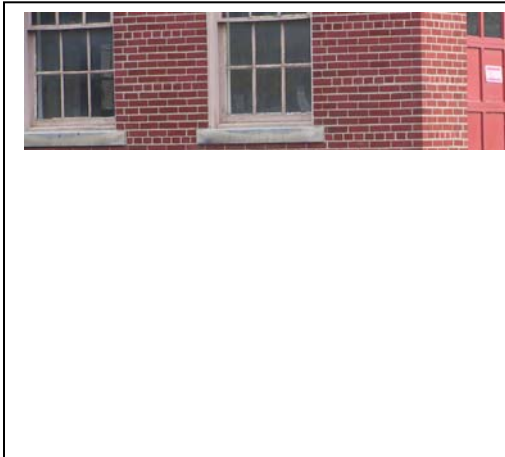
ANNOUNCEMENT
100th Anniversary Rededication Ceremony
Oakwood Cemetery, Fenton, MI
July 4th, 2006 - 2:30 PM

The Brothers of the Gov. Crapo Camp #145 invite you to attend the 100th Anniversary of the original dedication of the Solders & Sailors Monument in Oakwood Cemetery in Fenton, Michigan.

After the Civil War, many communities erected monuments in memory of those who served and gave so much to their country. Fenton was no exception. In 1897, the Col. Fenton Post #24, Grand Army of the Republic applied for a pair of obsolete cannons from the US Government. These were received in time to be installed in their present location in 1898. In 1905, the Fenton community once again rallied behind the post to purchase a large granite monument. This monument was installed in time for its dedication on the 4th of July, 1906.

Time took its toll on the cannon, and their current placement very near the road contributes to their deterioration. They have a significant amount of rust due to the salt and snow from the roads during the winter. The stone mounts of both of the cannons show considerable wear and deterioration, having chunks of stone missing, especially from the tops.

The soldier's monument needed cleaning and minor repair. In addition, the entire area around the statue was long over due for cleanup and improvement.



Gov. Crapo Camp and the Fenton Community have been hard at work finishing a major restoration and improvement project to Fenton's Veteran's Memorials. These improvements include:

- Sandblast and repaint cannons
- Purchase new bases for cannons
- Move the cannons in Oakwood Cemetery next to the Soldiers Monument
- New flagpole and light
- Replace steps at front of statue
- Re-point mortar joints on statue and clean statue
- Landscaping, sprinkling, and reseeding of the area around the statue
- Installation of a new monument which includes the names of all those soldiers from Fenton who gave the ultimate sacrifice

Just waiting for the cannons and new monument

For more information, visit the camp's website at <http://www.govcrapocamp145.org>

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Publication/Distribution

Franklin Township: Site Of The Oldest Civil War Monument In The State A Rededication Ceremony Planned for July 4, 2006 in Tipton Michigan

The Franklin Township Board has approved a rededication of the Civil War monument in the Franklin Township Cemetery at Tipton Michigan. The rededication ceremony is scheduled for July 4, 2006.

The names and brief stories of thirty-three men from Franklin Township are inscribed on the four sides of the monument. The inscriptions in the sandstone were so worn that the monument was disassembled and is presently being restored. In some places the erosion was so severe that a committee of historians and interested parties had to do some research to determine the original wording.

The restoration committee reported to the Franklin Township board recently and proposed the date of July 4, 2006, for the rededication ceremony. That date will be the-140th anniversary of the first dedication, which took place on July 4, 1866. As the date draws closer more details of the ceremony will be released.

The restoration committee is looking for anyone with connections to the men listed on the monument. It is hoped that the committee can find at least one relative of each man to take part in and be recognized during the ceremony. The names are as follows: George Marlatt, Amos Skinner, Edwin Cook, Consider Mapes, Frank Mason, George Mason, Harvey Warner, William Warner, Vergil Tripp, John Smith, Lorenzo Smith, Allen Smith, Sympert Elsasser, E.P. Hampton, Seymour Skinner, Alford Lamkin, Hiram Larrue, Hiram Slater, William Card, Jerry Burroughs (actual last name may have been spelled "Burrows"), Charles Eddy, John Barnum, William Penticost, John Ellis, L.F. Bunting, George Butrick, Benjamin Van Wert, John Jackson, William Mathews, Philo Mills, Franklin Halbert, J. Simeon Whelan, and Edwin Whelan. The spellings of these names are taken from the monument. There may be variations from present day spellings.

The committee members are also looking for information on the location of the very top of the monument. The stone piece, in the form of a spike 25 to 30 inches tall, was misplaced after the Palm Sunday tornado in 1965, when the staff portion of the monument toppled to the ground. The monument was restored but the top piece was never found.

If you have any information about the monument or you are a relative of one of the above named soldiers please contact Butch Miller, 311 Jipson St., Blissfield, MI 49228, 517-403-1227 or Marlin Klumpp at 517-431-2887.

General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 News*By John Keith, Camp Commander*

Camp 20 officers for 2006 were sworn in by PDC Bro. Gary Gibson in January at the Blackhawk Bar & Grill, Richland, Michigan they are-

COMMANDER JOHN R. KEITH
 SR. VICE COMMANDER BRUCE GOSLING
 JR. VICE COMMANDER JOHN C. KEITH
 CAMP SECRETARY JEFF BAKER
 CAMP TREASURER JOESPH ORBECK
 GUARD: DAVID GOSLING
 GUIDE: CHUCK WORLEY
 COLOR BEARER: RON BELLENGER
 HISTORIAN: GARY GIBSON
 CHAPLAIN: BILL BRENNAN
 PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR: GARY GIBSON
 BOY SCOUT COORDINATOR: MIKE STONE
 MEMORIALS & MONUMENTS: MIKE CULP
 GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER: BILL COSTELLO
 SIGNAL OFFICER: BRUCE GOSLING
 MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:
 BILL COSTELLO, RON BELLENGER AND STEVE REDINGER

Camp 20 meets on the first Tuesday of the month, March through November, at the Oshtemo Branch of the Kalamazoo Public Library, located at 7265 West Main Street. Please come and join us!

*Note the July camp meeting is on Monday July 3rd, due to the holiday!

Members of the General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 activities so far this year are as follows-

On Thursday, April 6th, 2006, which was the 140th Anniversary of the founding of the GRAND ARMY of the REPUBLIC, our own Camp 20 Charter Member Bro. Gary Gibson gave a presentation at the Otsego Historical Society. He spoke on the Grand Army of the Republic and it's influence on the country, as well as the SUVCW and the work we carry on in the G.A.R.'s name. He did a splendid job, held the interest of all-present. Great job Gary!

On May 13, 2006 the General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 SUVCW conducted the John G. K. Ayers



Medal of Honor Gravestone Dedication, Riverside Cemetery, Three Rivers, Michigan.

A private in Company H, 8th Missouri Infantry, Mr. Ayers earned the Civil War Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions on May 22, 1863, at the Battle of Vicksburg, Mississippi, he showed great courage in the charge of the "Forlorn Hope, Volunteer Storming Party" against the Confederates.

Speakers at this event were Michigan State Representative Rick Shaffer, Three Rivers Mayor Thomas Lowry, Senior Vice Commander in Chief Bro. Jim Pahl, President Lincoln and Camp 20 member Bro. David Gosling. The local VFW and American Legion Posts

participated also. We had the honor of being lead in the Pledge of Allegiance by Joseph Bates, Craig Hassenger, and Matt Holden; all three are Eagle Scouts of Troop no.410 in Constantine. Members from four Department of Michigan SUVCW Camps were in attendance.

Members of Camp 20 marched in the Memorial Day Parade, May 29th in Allegan, Michigan. We also conducted a short ceremony at the grave of General Benjamin Dudley Pritchard whom are camp is named after. He is interred at Oakwood Cemetery, Allegan, Michigan. Also that day in the same cemetery, we paid our respects to the late Del Farnsworth, past Camp 20 Commander who passed away while still holding the office of Camp 20 Commander, on January 4th, 2004.

Continued on page 14

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On the real Memorial Day, May 30th, Camp 20 conducted a ceremony at the G.A.R Monument at Riverside Cemetery, Kalamazoo. This follows a Camp 20 tradition that we have been practicing for several years at that monument

Also in the month of May, some members of Camp 20 placed flags on the veteran's graves in Mountain Home Cemetery in Kalamazoo; this also is turning into a tradition as Camp 20 has done this for the past 5- 6 years.

FUTURE EVENT

Starting at 11am, on July 1st, 2006, at Oaklawn Cemetery, Sturgis, Michigan, we are sponsoring another Medal of Honor Gravestone Dedication, this one is for Private Philipp Schlachter! Mr. Schlachter was born in Germany and served in the United States Army as a private during the Civil War in the 73rd New York Infantry, Company F. He is interred at Oaklawn Cemetery, Sturgis, Michigan.

He earned The Medal of Honor during the Civil War for heroism for his actions on May 12, 1864 at Spotsylvania, Virginia; he captured the flag of the 15th Louisiana Infantry!

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us! The local VFW Ladies Auxiliary will provide a luncheon afterwards!

Henry E. Plant Camp 3 News *By Daniel Grable, Secretary-Treasurer*

In January Camp #3 installed officers for the year 2006 at our 6th Annual Holiday Muster held at Vic's Restaurant in Spring Lake. Department Commander Richard Greene installed the following officers: Richard L. Scott, Commander; Donald Ogden III SVC; John C. Baldus JVC; Daniel Grable Secretary-Treasurer; John Baldus, Paul MacDonald, and Jon Scott Camp Council; and Paul MacDonald Patriotic Instructor.

In April the Camp sent three delegates to the Department Encampment and Allied Orders Banquet. In May, Don Ogden made a presentation at St. John's Lutheran School in Grand Haven. He showed the students part of his collection of Civil War artifacts and answered their questions.

On Memorial Day, the Camp joined the local Amvets in a parade and cemetery service, followed by a picnic.

This year we tried something different, curtailing meetings during the winter months, and planning more activities during the summer., like the annual Spring Lake Festival and Cemetery Walk, graves registration work, and in August the 150th Anniversary of Robinson Township in Ottawa County. We have also learned about several of our brothers and their wives who are in distress. During 2005 Brother Baldus suffered a heart attack, and has since recovered. Brother Lynn Hahn survived open heart surgery, and his wife back surgery. Brother Paul MacDonald is now on portable oxygen, and his wife lost her mother recently.

Please keep these Brothers and their families in your prayers.

Future Michigan's Messenger Publications Submittal Dates and Publication Dates

Spring - March 1 for a March 15 Publication

Summer - June 1 for a June 15 Publication

Fall - September 1 for a September 15 Publication

Winter - December 1 for a December 15 Publication

***Send all articles to Rick Danes, Editor, preferably at
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ALL PUBLICATIONS WILL BE PUBLISHED ON TIME

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Bill Skillman
Ed Dowd

Michigan, My Michigan - the 1862 Version

A popular song called "**Michigan, My Michigan**" is considered by many to be Michigan's "unofficial" state song. Winifred Lee Brent Lyster of Detroit wrote the lyrics for the first version of "**Michigan, My Michigan**" in 1862 to the tune of "O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum." Her husband, Henry, was a Civil War surgeon, and Mrs. Lyster was inspired to write the song sometime after the battle of Fredericksburg

Michigan, My Michigan—1862

Winifred Lee Brent (Mrs. Henry F. Lyster)

Home of my heart, I sing of thee!
Michigan, My Michigan,
Thy lake-bound shores I long to see,
Michigan, my Michigan.
From Saginaw's tall whispering pines
To Lake Superior's farthest mines,
Fair in the light of memory shines
Michigan, my Michigan.

Thou gav'st thy sons without a sigh,
Michigan, my Michigan,
And sent thy bravest forth to die,
Michigan, my Michigan.
Beneath a hostile southern sky
They bore thy banner proud and high,
Ready to fight but *never* fly,
Michigan, my Michigan.

From Yorktown on to Richmond's wall,
Michigan, my Michigan,
They bravely fight, as bravely fall,
Michigan, my Michigan.
To Williamsburgh we point with pride—
Our *Fifth* and *Second*, side by side,
There stemmed and stayed the battle's tide,
Michigan, my Michigan.

When worn with watching traitor foes,
Michigan, my Michigan,
The welcome night brought sweet repose,
Michigan, my Michigan.
The soldier, weary from the fight,
Sleeps sound, nor fears the rebels' might,
For "Michigan's on guard tonight!"
Michigan, my Michigan.

Afar on Shiloh's fatal plain,
Michigan, my Michigan,
Again behold thy heroes slain,
Michigan, my Michigan.
"Their strong arms crumble in the dust,
And their bright swords have gathered rust;
Their memory is our sacred trust,"
Michigan, my Michigan.

And often in the coming years,
Michigan, my Michigan,
Some widowed mother 'll dry her tears,
Michigan, my Michigan,
And turning with a thrill of pride,
Say to the children at her side,
At Antietam your father died,
For Michigan, our Michigan.

With General Grant's victorious name,
Michigan, my Michigan,
Thy sons still onward march to fame,
Michigan, my Michigan.
And foremost in the fight we see,
Where e'er the bravest dare to be,
The sabres of thy cavalry,
Michigan, my Michigan.

Dark rolled the Rappahannock's flood,
Michigan, my Michigan,
The tide was crimsoned with thy blood,
Michigan, my Michigan.
Although for us the clay was lost,
Still it shall be our broadest boast:
At Fredericksburg our Seventh crossed!
Michigan, my Michigan.

And when the happy time shall come,
Michigan, my Michigan,
That brings thy war-worn heroes home,
Michigan, my Michigan,
What welcome from their own proud shore,
What honors at their feet we'll pour,
What tears for those who'll come no more,
Michigan, my Michigan.

A grateful country claims them now,
Michigan, my Michigan,
And deathless laurel binds each brow,
Michigan, my Michigan;
And history the tale will tell,
Of how they fought and how they fell,
For that dear land they loved so well,
Michigan, my Michigan.

Source: Michigan Historical Center Web Site

www.michiganhistory.org.

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