



*Michigan's*

# *Messenger*

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

*Volume XXV, Number 2*

*Chartered June 24, 1884*

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*John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus*



*Department Orders #2*

*Series 2007-2008*

*Headquarters, Davison, Michigan*

1. The following Michigan Brothers attended the 126<sup>th</sup> Annual SUVCW National Encampment which was held in St. Louis, MO: Matthew L. Adair, Paul D. Arnold, Neal F. Breaugh, PCC, Richard E. Danes, PCC, Dennis C. Derr II, Edgar J. Dowd, Gary L. Gibson, PDC, J. Richard Greene, PDC, Robert C. Grove, Sr., PCC, Keith G. Harrison, PC-in-C, L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., William B. McAfee, PCC, Max L. Newman, PCC, James B. Pahl, PC-in-C, Donald W. Shaw, PCC, Ronald G. Shull and Brian J. Shumway, PCC.
2. Congratulations to Past Commander-in-Chief James B. Pahl on the completion of a very successful term as Commander-in-Chief. Your Michigan Brothers are proud of you and your accomplishments over the past year.
3. Congratulations to the Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20 of Kalamazoo, MI recipient of the Abraham Lincoln Commander-in-Chief Award for the most outstanding Camp in the Order.
4. Congratulations and thank you to Brother Rick Danes for an outstanding job as Editor of the Michigan Messenger. The Michigan Messenger, our Department newsletter was awarded the Marshall Hope Award for the Best Department Newsletter in the Order.
5. Congratulations to Brother Max L. Newman recipient of the Cornelius F. Whitehouse Award for the most outstanding Brother in the Order.
6. Thank you to Brother Dave Arnold for the outstanding job he has been doing selling Department of Michigan merchandise. Brother Arnold set a new sales record at the National Encampment.
7. I regret to report that on August 23, 2007 Brother John H. Peck of the William A. Kent Camp No. 83 of Greenville, MI passed away. All Charters are to be draped for a period of 30 days in honor of Brother Peck.
8. I am very pleased to report that based on the membership numbers presented at the National Encampment, the Department of Michigan is now the second largest Department in the Order. This is something that we can all be very proud of. Let's keep up the good work in recruiting and member retention and one of these days we will be the largest Department in the Order.
9. Brother Robert A. Mitchell is hereby appointed as the Department of Michigan liaison to the Detroit GAR Hall Committee.

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10. Brother James B. Pahl, PC-in-C is hereby appointed Department Counselor.
11. The time for Camp Officer elections is fast approaching. I would like to remind all Camps that in accordance to the Constitution & Regulations of the Order, Camp Officer elections shall be held at a regular meeting of the Camp between the first meeting in October and the first meeting in December, inclusive.
12. It is also not too early to be thinking about Camp Officer Installations. All Camps are reminded that in accordance to the Constitution & Regulations of the Order, Camp Officers shall be installed at a regular meeting of the Camp to be held between the first meeting in November, and the first meeting in the following January, inclusive, by a person designated by the Department Commander.
13. Camp Commanders and Camp Secretaries are reminded that Form 22, Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers is due to the Department Secretary by February 14, 2008. Please, be sure to use the current version of the form which is available on the National SUVCW Website at <http://suvchw.org/ftp.htm>.
14. I also want to remind Camp Commanders and Camp Secretaries that Form 27, Camp Annual Report is due to the Department Secretary by April 30, 2008. Please, be sure to use the current version of the form which is available on the National SUVCW Website at <http://suvchw.org/ftp.htm>.
15. Department Memorials Officer Douglas R. Armstrong, PCC has informed me that some Camps are not submitting Civil War Memorial Assessment Forms. He is aware of monuments that have been restored and rededicated by Camps in this Department, but has never received any Civil War Memorial Assessment Forms for these. All Camps that have not already done so please fill out the forms and submit them to Brother Armstrong. Brother Armstrong needs this information in order to fulfill his duties as the Department Memorials Officer.
16. Brothers are reminded that the 2007 Remembrance Day activities will be held on November 17, 2007 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. For more information, please visit the National SUVCW Website at <http://suvchw.org/RembrDay/index.html>.
17. By order of Commander-in-Chief Charles E. Kuhn, Jr., until further notice no more Juniors may be admitted into the Order. This is due to a conflict between the Constitution and the Regulations of the Order. National is working to resolve this issue as quickly as possible. For more information, please see C-in-C Kuhn's General Orders which are posted on the National SUVCW Website at: <http://suvchw.org/go/go.htm>.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,  
/s/  
Dennis C. Derr II  
Commander  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest: /s/  
Kevin J. Lindsey  
Secretary  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ



At National, Gary Gibson accepted the Abraham Lincoln on behalf of Camp 20 as the Outstanding camp in the Order (right), and left, Max Newman Received the Cornelius F. Whitehead Award for Outstanding Brother in the Order.



## Department Recording Secretary's Report

Kevin Lindsey, Department Treasurer

*I want to thank all of the camp secretaries and commanders who have been so responsive in my requests for information/forms/ etc. You have been a great help to me. I now have another request. One of the activities in the job descriptions for the Department Secretary states that he should be "maintaining a copy of the Order's Constitution and Regulations, the Department's Bylaws and a copy of the Bylaws of each Camp within the Department"*

*I currently do not have any copies of the camps bylaws, so I am asking each camp to send me, either electronically or by regular postal service, a copy of your current bylaws. If you are going to send it electronically, my email address is [klindsey@comcast.net](mailto:klindsey@comcast.net). My home address is 6890 Norton, Troy, MI 48085-1659. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.*

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## Department Treasurer's Report

Brian Shumway, Department Treasurer

*It may occur to you in a quiet moment of reflection, perhaps while driving home from a camp meeting or department encampment. Maybe it will strike you more forcefully while the Commander is opening the meeting or while your brothers are reciting the American's Creed all together. But for many of us, there will come a moment when they have an impulse to ensure that this organization they have sworn to, their Order, will survive on into the future working at its mission even when we have answered the final bugle call. Many of us, however, will pass by that moment believing that they aren't the kind of people who leave charitable gifts. That such is what only rich people do. Of course, it is not so. Everyone can have the satisfaction of knowing that they have left a gift that will live on in their camp for many years. It only takes planning now and a little good advice. I want to focus on types of charitable giving that might be considered in coming columns to give members some concepts they might consider. Please look for that moment in your life and resolve this time to act upon it. Resolve that you will seek out good advice and make a commitment now. Your camp, your department, your Order, will remember.*

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## An Open Letter to the Membership

Brothers:

*During the courtesy night activities at the 126th National Encampment in St. Louis this past August, I learned that each Camp within our great Department, contributed funds for the purchase of an Ames Sword Company - specially engraved Sons sword to commemorate my year as Commander-in-Chief. Due to a heart attack, the delivery was delayed - until last night. I met with Past Commander-in-Chief Keith Harrison, who presented me with this beautiful sword. Brothers, it is wonderful. I want to thank each one of you for your Camp's contribution to this wonderful and now heirloom sword. I deeply appreciate all of the support I have received from my Michigan brothers over this past year as Commander-in-Chief and my over 25 years as a member of this Order. Thank you all so much for your thoughtfulness.*

*Sincerely in fraternity, charity and loyalty,*

*James B. Pahl*

*Past Commander-in-Chief*

*Past Michigan Department Commander*

*Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

### 2007-2008

#### Department Officers

##### Commander

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##### Department Council

Max L. Newman, PCC  
Howard Streeter, PCC  
Kris Kuhlman

##### Chaplain

William B. McAfee, PCC

##### Patriotic Instructor

Charles Worley

##### Color Bearer

Edgar Dowd

##### Counselor

James Pahl

##### Chief of Staff

Guard

##### Eagle Scout Coordinator

##### Signals Officer

Matt Adair

##### Messenger Editor

Rick Danes

##### Historian

John R. Keith

##### Guide

John McFeaters

##### Graves Registration

Rick Danes

##### GAR Records

James T. Lyons, PDC

##### Civil War Memorials

Douglas R. Armstrong,  
PCC

##### Camp At Large

Coordinator

Robert Mitchell

**Brother Dale Kenneth Gubbe**

**86, of Blissfield, passed away peacefully on Friday, July 27, 2007, at his home.**

**He was born August 8, 1920, in**

**Blissfield Township to Paul and Clara (Nash) Gubbe.**

**Dale graduated from Blissfield High School in 1938. He married Genevieve McCreery of Adrian on January 4, 1942. They lived on their Laberdee Road farm all of their married life. She preceded him in death on June 17, 2002.**

**Dale was confirmed in 1935 and a life member of Immanuel Lutheran Church on North Blissfield Highway. He served on the church council and was president of the congregation. Dale worked at the Tecumseh Products for 37 years,**

**retiring May 1, 1987. He also farmed. Dale was a member of the Tecumseh Products Retirees and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.**

**Funeral services for Dale were held on Monday July 30 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1500 N. Blissfield Hwy., with the Rev. Gary Leking officiating. Burial followed in Pleasant View Cemetery in Blissfield. Memorial contributions are**

**Brother John H. Peck**

**96, of Greenville, MI, died Thursday, August 23, 2007 in Metron of Greenville. Funeral services are 11 a.m. Monday at the First Church of God and burial at Greenville (Marshall Funeral Home, Greenville). He was a member of William A. Kemp Camp No. 83.**

**Brother Basil McKenzie**

**a life member of Wa-Bu-No Camp No. 250, died at Masonic Pathways, Alma, MI, on April 25, 2007. He was born April 19, 1911 in Breckenridge, Gratiot Co., MI.**

*Editor's Note: Why Michigan's Messenger is now distributed electronically:*

*Two years ago the Department was faced with rising printing and mailing costs for the nationally recognized Michigan's Messenger. Very few options were available to Department Officers, so the issue was put on the floor at the Department Encampment.*

*The Members voted to publish Michigan's Messenger in an electronic format, with each edition being forwarded to one person in each Camp (thereafter called a Camp Signals Officer), who would then distribute the newsletter to Camp Members.*

*As a result of this action by the Membership, dues have not been raised.*

*I believe that the Camps have some responsibility to report changes, so that we can continue to serve you, so you must provide me with a current contact for electronic mailing.*

*I have tried to include every article that was sent to me prior to publication, so that all future issues will be timely. I welcome all constructive suggestions, and encourage all of you to submit relative news about your committees, your Camps, and your ancestors. This is your newsletter, and its success depends on you. Rick Danes, Editor*

## Department Historian Report

John R. Keith, Chairman

*There is a resolution (SCR 15) in the Michigan Senate that wants to change the statue of Senator Zachariah Chandler with a statue of President Gerald R. Ford in the National Statuary Hall, in Washington DC. This resolution remains in the Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee at the present.*

***The National Statuary Hall Collection in the United States Capitol is comprised of statues donated by individual states to honor persons notable in that states history. Each state is allowed two statues. The entire collection now consists of 100 statues contributed by 50 states.***

*The hall, also known as the Old Hall of the House, is the large, two-story, semicircular room south of the Rotunda. The meeting place of the U.S. House of Representatives for nearly 50 years (1807-1857), and now is the main exhibition space for the National Statuary Hall Collection; this room is one of the most historic chambers in the Capitol.*

*Not many will disagree that President Ford was a great man and helped our country, but he will always be remembered due to the City of Grand Rapids, MI and other municipalities honoring him.*

*We have the Gerald R. Ford Freeway, the Gerald R. Ford Museum, and the Gerald R. Ford International Airport, paying tribute to his legacy as well as the USS Gerald R. Ford that is to be the lead ship of the class of United States Navy super-carriers scheduled to sail in 2009. Not to mention various places throughout the United States that honored him also! And of course Gerald R. Ford's portrait hangs among the other Presidents at our Capitol.*

*Zachariah Chandler was born in 1813 in Bedford New Hampshire. During his life he attended common schools and later on he was a schoolteacher. He moved to Detroit in 1833 (before Michigan was a state) and engaged in the mercantile business. He was elected mayor of Detroit in 1851. He ran unsuccessfully for governor of Michigan as the Whig Party candidate in 1852. He was also a vigorous opponent of slavery and lent his assistance to the Underground Railroad.*

*He was prominent in the organization of the Republican Party in 1854 and was elected as a Republican to the United States Senate and served Michigan from March 4, 1857, to March 3, 1875.*

***During the Civil War, Sen. Chandler was a member of the congressional committee on the Conduct of the War, and he opposed Lincoln's Reconstruction program.***

*He was also chairman on the Committee on Commerce (Thirty-seventh through Forty-third Congresses); appointed Secretary of the Interior by President Ulysses Grant 1875-1877; chairman of the Republican National Executive Committee 1868-1876; again elected in 1879 to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Isaac P. Christiancy and served from February 22, 1879, until his death on November 1, 1879, in Chicago, IL. He is interred in Elmwood Cemetery, Detroit, MI.*

*If we allow the continuous deleting of important people and events of our past, to make room for the new; street names are changed and then historical names are forever forgotten, our future citizens will never know who the people were that made our country what is to today, STRONG and FREE!*

*Please do not let this happen to such an important part of the history of our state and the United States of America. Please be sure to look up more information on Zachariah Chandler and other great people of our State of Michigan's past! This will make sure they are never forgotten!*

*I ask you to not be silent, but speak out on this!*

*Please contact your State Senator and Governor Granholm and tell them your thoughts, and tell them to leave our history alone for future generations, and leave the statue of Senator Chandler where it is and belongs!*

## Department Graves Registration Committee

Rick Danes, Chairman

Five Camps were represented at the September Graves Registration Committee Meeting, a decided decrease in attendance from past quarters. Brother Williams presented me with a floppy containing 4700 out-of-state burials of Michigan men; Brother Hutchins gave up work that he and George Allen have completed in Livingston County; and Brother Jim Harris submitted a biographical write-up on veterans found in Royal Oak Cemetery, and Brother Tim Kolean layed out his plan to continue the work that Camp 1 id doing in Kent County.

As most of you know, due to budgetary cuts, we can no longer be assured that we will have a meeting place at the State Library. To fix that problem, Brother Dick Williams has arranged for us to meet at the Capital Area District Library, just four blocks from the State Library. Our new meeting time as voted on by the members is 10:00 AM, and looking ahead, our Meeting dates for 2008 are March 8, June 14, September 13, and December 13.

On another note, we now have over 57,700 records in the Department Database, and 1,000 more records submitted to the National Database. As of the National Encampment, Michigan now has 39,447 records, second only to Ohio, who has 51,368. I still believe that there are over 100,000 Civil War veterans buried in Michigan, we just need to get the documentation. I have received a package of field and investigative work from Brother Butch Miller at Nash-Hodges Camp 43 in Lenawee County. Thanks to them and good luck in completing your task!

I hope that this fall is productive for you and your Camp, and that you find many Soldier's burial locations to report On December 8.

Keep your pencils sharp and your shoes tied, and I hope to see you all at the GRO Meetings, and by all means, stay well.

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### Robert Finch Camp #14

Submitted by W. E. Skillman, Patriotic Instructor

Camp #14's roster shows 37 Members, 9 Associates, 1 Junior Member. Visiting Brothers and Auxiliary Sisters are cordially invited to attend our next meeting on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at the Elks Club 625 Bay St. (intersection Grandview Parkway/Division) in Traverse City. Our guest speaker will be 'History Detective' Chris Czopek.

New Member: Robert Finch Camp 14 wishes to extend a warm welcome to our newest Associate, Mr. Andrew Hopkinson, who recently transferred from the National Member at Large. Robert lives in England and is a descendent of George Poskitt, who in 1862 enlisted (at Hudson) in Company 'F' of the 4<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry; and later in the 6th Infantry (Heavy Artillery) until muster out. After the War, Mr Poskitt returned to Michigan to farm near Manistee. Mr. Poskitt's brother, Fred, served as a sharpshooter with Vosper's company in the 27<sup>th</sup> Michigan. We are looking forward to Brother Hopkinson's visit next May to the USA

Augusta Arsenal-Petoskey cannon project: In July, CC Clark and WMO Knodle with Iron Napoleon cannon in tow, made the long trip from Harbor Springs to the Karkadoulous Bronze Arts foundry in Cincinnati, Ohio. The cannon is undergoing restoration and will be returned to Petoskey next June for it's dedication at Arlington Park. In August, WMO Knodle.



Safe and sound: The Augusta Arsenal-Petoskey cannon and brothers Clark and Knodle are welcomed by Marcene and Kathy Karkadoulous after their long trip from Harbor Springs.

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PCC Skillman and Brother Bill Watson spoke at the Petoskey Historical Museum about the research they had uncovered on the origins of the cannon and how it came to Michigan.

July Picnic: Commander in Chief Jim Pahl joined over 50 Brothers, Auxiliary and friends at the annual Camp 14 picnic at PCC Al and Marge Pifer's home in Traverse City. The weather, food and fellowship were in plentiful supply.

Port Onieda: Camp 14 returned to participate in the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Port Onieda Fair this year. Brothers Slis, Watson, Aurand, and Chaplain Ted Mattis conducted the 1917 GAR ceremony to honor the veteran-homesteaders buried at the Kelderhouse Cemetery. They were assisted by author Len Overmyer, members of the 14<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Michigan infantry (reenactors) and a 'few pertinent remarks' made by visiting President Lincoln. One hundred visitors and Rangers were in attendance and afterwards they surrounded the Brothers to learn more about the SUVCW. Although tired and warm, all the Brothers unanimously agreed that the day had been a success.

Northwest Michigan State Fair: Brothers Watson, Aurand and Breaugh were invited by the Grand Traverse Area Veterans Alliance to be recognized as a 'special guest unit' among the veteran groups present. Afterwards, Brother Breaugh was greeted by an enthusiastic twenty-something man who "couldn't wait to meet a real Civil War soldier". Brothers Watson and Aurand were laughing too hard to ask Neal for his autograph.

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## Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427

By Rick Danes, CC



**Camp 427 co-sponsored the 2007 Dearborn Homecoming History Hill, which drew over 130,000 people the weekend before the National Encampment.**

**A working timeline of costumed (or uniformed) re-enactors participated in eras from a 1703 French Guard (Fort Ponchatrain) to World War II. At the right, Member Jon Reed demonstrates the firing of the Henry Repeating Rifle. The Camp provided a hands-on display of SUVCW information.**



In addition to History Hill, Camp 427 has provided service at the Dearborn Art on the Avenue by manning the 1833 Dearbornville Arsenal Commandant's Quarters for the two day event and by attending Flag day ceremonies as a group. In July, several members supported the Fort Wayne events, both as uniformed participants, and as workers. After Homecoming and National, members attended the Jackson Muster, and held a fundraising garage sale, raising over \$900 for Camp Programs. We anticipate staying busy during the fall, and hope to initiate several new Members soon.

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**Most of the Michigan Delegation got in the record photo on Friday Night, and on the right, Commander-in-Chief Elect Charles Kuhn accepts the vote of his peers and assumes office.**



## Curtenius Guard Camp 17

By JVC Dave Arnold

### **GAR Burial Section re-dedication, set for Sunday, October 14, 2007 at 2pm in Lansing**

The Lansing-Sunfield Curtenius Guard Camp #17 (Camp 17) has been conducting an extensive restoration of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) section located at Mt Hope Cemetery (1709 E. Mt. Hope) in Lansing Michigan. The project was started immediately following Memorial Day services held at the GAR burial section in May and has proceeded throughout the summer months.



**Members of Camp 17 raise a headstone at Mt. Hope Cemetery.**

To date, many phases have been completed. Camp 17 with help and equipment supplied by the Lansing Board of Water & Light was able to prime and paint a 55ft flag pole located at there, as well as power wash and clean the 35 ft GAR Monument located at the site. The monument erected to the Fallen Soldiers was originally dedicated in 1877 by the Woman's, Soldiers & Sailors Monument Association. Camp 17 also has raised, reset, and repositioned 38 of the 43 headstones located at the site. Recently, Camp 17 power washed all of the headstones changing them from their dirty moss and mold covered state to snowy white. A local turf grass management organization is assisting in restoring the grounds for the re dedication ceremony scheduled for Sunday, October 14, 2007 at 2pm.

In the process of researching the burials on the site, it was recently discovered that there are possibly five additional soldiers buried there in unmarked graves. Camp 17 is in the process of verifying this fact, obtaining burial information, and will be ordering and setting the headstones as they come in, to keep green the memory of these men who served our country. **The re-dedication ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, October 14, 2007 at 2pm.** We have located an extensive description of the original dedication ceremony and will be incorporating as many of the original facets as we can. Many Civil War reenacting organizations have been invited as well as other Sons of Union Veterans Camps from around the state, we hope to see there. Gentlemen, ladies and children in "Period Dress" also are encouraged to attend as well as members of all of the Allied Orders.

**We will be meeting at the Logan Monument at the entrance of the Mt. Hope Cemetery at 1:15pm for those wishing to participate** in marching in mass to the GAR Burial Section, hopefully lead by a Civil War fife and drum corps or Civil War brass band.

**We are trying to get as many uniformed members of the SUVCW's Sons of Veterans Reserve as we can, along with reenactment organizations to participate in the ceremony. Please contact PCinC Keith Harrison at [pcinc@prodigy.net](mailto:pcinc@prodigy.net) if your organization or reenactment group can participate. If you are a member or know of a Civil War fife and drum corps or brass band and would like to be part of the ceremony, contact PCinC Harrison as well for confirmation by September 15, 2007.**

Cake will be served following the ceremony. If possible, we would be most appreciative if some members of the Allied Orders to assist Camp #17 with this aspect of the program. We hope to see you there.

**General Benjamin Pritchard Camp # 20**

Submitted By John R. Keith CC

We at Camp 20 are happy to announce the initiation of two new members to our camp.

1. Bro. Clifford R. Burhans lives in Plainwell, MI and has joined the SUVCW in honor of his Great Grandfather R. M. Reynolds, who was in Company K of the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Cavalry.
  2. Bro. Gordon Carlton lives in Cassopolis, MI and joined the SUVCW to honor his Great Uncle Edwin Weston who served the Union in Company G of the 4<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry.
- Please join us in welcoming these new Brothers to our great organization!

On June 23, 2007 at Mountain Home Cemetery, Otsego Township, Michigan

We at Camp 20 conducted a gravestone dedication ceremony for Captain Henry Stark who was in Company G of the 6<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry and later in the 6<sup>th</sup> Michigan Heavy Artillery.

Henry Stark was a resident of the Otsego/Allegan, MI area since 1855, passing away in 1885; from the diseases he contracted while serving in the Civil War. He was born in Pawlet, VT.

Around 100 were in attendance including United States Representative, Mr. Fred Upton, Michigan State Senator, Ms. Patty Birkholz, Michigan State Representative Ms. Tonya Shuitmaker, Michigan State Representative, Mr. Fulton Sheen, C-in-C Brother James Pahl, Past National WRC President, Mrs. Marion Morgan and representing the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Mrs. Sally Redinger and Mrs. Marlene Hansen.

Brother Jon Reed of Camp 427 and Brother Blaine Valentine of Camp 22 were also in attendance.

On September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 11 am Camp 20 will sponsor the Private Robert Smith Gravestone Dedication. This is be at Lindsley Cemetery, Cheshire Township, Allegan County, Michigan.

Mr. Smith served our country in Co. F 102 USCT and has just received a new military gravestone. His grave has been without a gravestone for 107 years. Please mark your calendars to attend this event and honor a hero of our country's past!

The ongoing project by Camp 20 Brothers, Gary Gibson PDC and William Costello PCC of placing military gravestones at Riverside Cemetery, Kalamazoo, MI continues with over 25 more stones being placed this summer.

On July 14th and 15th the Portage District Library and the City of Portage sponsored a Civil War Reenactment held at the Historic Celery Flats village in Portage, MI. The Benjamin Pritchard Camp #20 manned a table for both days handing out information on the SUVCW. Thanks to those members that were involved in this!

Thanks also to Camp 20 Bro. Steve Rossio PCC who is on the staff at the Portage District Library who brought this to our attention.

**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  
[mimessrd@aol.com](mailto:mimessrd@aol.com) or to 2612 Burns Street,  
Dearborn, Michigan 48124-3204**

**ALL PUBLICATIONS WILL BE MADE ON TIME**

Submitted by Chris Czopek with permission of author Leroy Barnett

## LIST OF ARMY CAMPS IN MICHIGAN DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Most of these were rendezvous points and training camps, active only for a short time.

*This list was compiled by Dr. Leroy Barnett, Retired Reference Archivist, Archives of Michigan, and is used here with his permission.*

<b>Camp Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Named After:</b>
Anderson	Grand Rapids	1861	Major Robert Anderson
Backus	Detroit	1861-62	Henry T. Backus?
Banks	Detroit	1862	<i>Unknown</i>
Barker	Niles	1861	Rep. Richard P. Barker
Barns	Detroit	1861	Colonel Henry Barns
Blair	Detroit	1861	Governor Austin Blair
Blair	Jackson	1864-65	Governor Austin Blair
Butler	Mount Clemens	1863	Rep. Richard Butler?
Butterworth	Coldwater	1861	Ebenezer Butterworth
Chandler	Kalamazoo	1863	Sen. Zachariah Chandler
Douglas	Kalamazoo	1861-62	Sen. Stephen A. Douglas?
Doyle	Ypsilanti	1863	Colonel Edward Doyle?
Fountain	Ann Arbor	1861	General Jobey H. Fountain?
Fremont	Kalamazoo	1861-62	General John C. Fremont
Goodwin	White Pigeon	1861	<i>Unknown</i>
Harrison	Flint	1861	General William Harrison?
Instruction	Detroit	1861	Alternate name of Ft. Wayne
Jackson	Jackson	1860	President Andrew Jackson
Jackson	Jackson	1862	President Andrew Jackson
Kellogg	Grand Rapids	1862	Rep. Francis W. Kellogg
Lee	Grand Rapids	1863	Captain George W. Lee?
Lewis	Coldwater	1864	Henry C. Lewis?
Lyon	Hamtramck	1861	General Nathaniel Lyon
Minty	Detroit	1862	Colonel Robert Minty?
Mizner	Ypsilanti	1861-62	Captain Henry R. Mizner
Monroe	Monroe	1861-62	President James Monroe
Mulligan	Detroit	1861	Colonel James Mulligan?
Owen	Marshall	1861	<i>Unknown</i>
Pontiac	Pontiac	1862	Chief Pontiac
Richardson	Pontiac	1862	Israel B. Richardson
Sigel	Ionia	1862	Colonel Franz Sigel?
Stockton	Mount Clemens	1863	General John Stockton
Thomson	Flint	1861	Mayor Edward H. Thomson
Tilden	White Pigeon	1861	Captain Harvey Tilden
Ward	Detroit	1863-64	Captain Eber Brock Ward?
Willcox	Dowagiac	1862	Colonel Orlando Willcox
Williams	Adrian	1861	General Alpheus Williams
Wisner	Ypsilanti	1863	Governor Moses Wisner

**Following are three pages of ideas and formats for publicizing your camp activities. They are provided by Recording Secretary Kevin Lindsey, and created by PCC Bruce Miller of General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2.**

### SUVCW Interview Fact Sheet

*The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was organized in 1866 by Union veterans and became a social and political force that would greatly impact the course of the U.S. for more almost 70 years. Five U. S. Presidents were members of the GAR.*

*On May 5, 1868...three years after the end of the Civil War...GAR National Commander General John A. Logan issued a General Order that designated May 30 as Decoration Day...a day for honoring fallen comrades and decorating their graves with flowers.*

*The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery that already held the graves of over 20,000 Union dead...and several hundred Confederate dead. About 5,000 people attended and then, as now, small American flags were placed on each grave...a tradition that endures to today.*

*By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Decoration Day ceremonies were being held on May 30 throughout the country as state legislatures passed proclamations designating the day.*

*After WW I, the day was expanded from honoring Civil War heroes to honoring those who have died in all American wars.*

*In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by act of Congress and placed on the last Monday in May. As members of the SUVCW participate in the Monday observance of Memorial Day but also hold our own services on the 30<sup>th</sup> as designated by General Logan's original order.*

*In 1881 the GAR formed the SUVCW to carry on its memory and traditions after the GAR ceased to exist. GAR ceased in 1956.*

*Membership in the SUVCW is open to any man who can prove ancestry to a veteran who served in Federal service during the Civil War.*

*Nationally, there are 26 Departments of one or more states and over 6,300 members. The Department of Michigan dates to 1884 and has over 500 members in its 26 Camps including three in the Detroit area: Detroit, Dearborn and Oakland County.*

*The SUVCW is one of five Allied Orders of the GAR including: The Auxiliary to the SUVCW (not direct descendents); Ladies of the GAR; Women's Relief Corps; Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War.*

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At National, on the left, Danes accepts the Marshall Hope Award from Commander in Chief Jim Pahl for the best Department Newsletter in the Order, and on the right, Past Commander-in-Chief Pahl is "pinned" by the Missus.



## LETTERHEAD

Mr. Neil Munro  
Editor  
The Oakland Press  
48 West Huron Street  
Pontiac, Michigan 48342

Dear Mr. Munro:

I want to bring to your attention a story and/or interview opportunity for the upcoming Memorial Day holiday.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) traces its origin to 1878 when it was formed to perpetuate the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), the fraternal organization of Union Civil War veterans. Five members of the GAR were elected President of the United States. Today, membership is open to all that can trace their lineage to a Union veteran of the Civil War and our national organization has over 6,300 members. The Department of Michigan dates back to 1884 and today has over 500 members in its 26 camps that cover the state, including four in the Detroit area.

On May 5, 1868 the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, General John A. Logan, designated May 30 “for the purpose of strewing flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion (the Civil War).” The first service was held that year at Arlington Cemetery, already the site of over 20,000 burials. From that first “Decoration Day” to today, we honor all who served their country with Memorial Day.

If you would like our help in educating the public about the origin of Memorial Day, we would be pleased to help. Please feel free to contact me at my home at 248.258.9007 or [spartan70@sbcglobal.net](mailto:spartan70@sbcglobal.net) or at my office at 248.447.5909 or [bmiller@lear.com](mailto:bmiller@lear.com).

Sincerely,

Bruce W. Miller  
Senior Vice Commander  
Past Camp Commander

### Guidelines for Memorial Day Media Contact and Publicity

Memorial Day not only gives us the opportunity to fulfill our obligation as Sons but also to raise awareness of that obligation and the very existence of our organization. Over time, we can position our organization as THE local, state and national authority on the origin of Memorial Day and that we have the credentials substantiate that claim.

As a professional communicator, here are simple guidelines that I suggest local Camps follow to contact the media and secure interviews with television, radio and newspaper outlets that will spread the word of what the SUVCW is and that Memorial Day is more than a time for retail sales, a picnic or just a day off. We might just find a few new members in the process, too.

- Memorial Day ceremonies are local, hometown events. You will want to contact the media in your own local area. Larger markets will be the point of origin for television stations. Most smaller markets have at least one radio station and newspaper. "News/Talk" format radio stations are the best targets in most markets.
- Who do you contact: You are providing input for a news story. Specifically, a human interest story for a special occasion. You will want to contact the news director at a television or radio station and the editor at a newspaper. In larger newspaper markets you may also find that there is a "metro" editor and you'll want to contact them also.
- How do I find these contacts: Most media outlets have web sites and will list their staff and contact information. Smaller newspapers will have this information in the required publisher information area in the paper. Remember, you can always pick up the telephone and ask a receptionist for this information.
- How do I contact them: Attached is a copy of the letter that I have developed that you are free to adapt to your local situation. I suggest e-mailing it to your contacts and then following up a few days later with another e-mail inquiring as to their interest in discussing the story idea with you.
- If I'm interviewed for a story, what do I talk about: You will want to cover who we are and how we are the successor organization to the GAR (vets organization, powerful lobby, five Presidents, etc.), General Order #11, etc. Also, give a few statistics re the Department size and what your Camp is doing to observe the day. Make notes on all the important points to cover. The most important being the origin of the day, the first observance at Arlington and our duty as Sons.
- If you have a question: Feel free to contact me at [spartan70@sbcglobal.net](mailto:spartan70@sbcglobal.net) or 248.258.9007 .

***Important Reminder: You may get several story opportunities or you may get none. Do not be discouraged! As an organization we're in this for the long run. You will want to execute your publicity plan EVERY YEAR. We want to "own" Memorial Day by positioning the SUVCW as the authority on the day. Our Camp has been working this strategy since 2003 and it does pay off. For you information, attached is the first story our Camp secured.***

**May 30, 2003**

**For most people, Memorial Day was Monday.**

They've taken down the patriotic decorations and put them away until next year. The cemeteries, which were alive with people and the sound of bugles, have returned to their long slumbers. But that's not the case for the General Israel B. Richardson Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. For them, Memorial Day always falls on May 30. They'll be marking the occasion today.

They can trace the observance back to an order issued in 1868 by Gen. John A. Logan, commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, mandating that Memorial Day, or Decoration Day as it was called then, would be observed May 30.

The Grand Army of the Republic was a fraternal organization made up of Union veterans of the Civil War. Their May 30 Decoration Day, when they decked the graves of their fallen comrades with flowers and flags, evolved over the years into Memorial Day.

"The veterans wanted their good works to live on," Bruce Miller, 55, of Bloomfield Hills said. "So they created the Sons of Union Veterans in 1881."

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, now a national organization, has more than 27 camps in Michigan and about 500 members. Nationally, the group totals about 6,300 members. Miller, Director of Marketing Communications for Lear Corp., is the camp commander for Oakland County. Miller said members can trace their lineage back to Civil War veterans of the Union Army. They still follow the observances of their parent organization.

He said Memorial Day was always celebrated on May 30 until 1971 when the regular Monday observance was officially recognized by the federal government.

"We certainly don't have any prejudice against the Monday holiday," Miller said, "However, the original Decoration Day will always be, for us, May 30."

The organization will honor Gen. Israel B. Richardson, who was killed at the Battle of Antietam in September 1862, and others during a ceremony at 6 p.m. today at Oak Hill Cemetery, on University Drive just east of the Woodward Avenue Loop.

Richardson, namesake of the Pontiac camp, was a Pontiac resident, and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

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**"He Kept the Colors"**

*By Rick Danes*

*Some of you have seen the old Cavalry Flag that hangs in the basement of the Commandant's Quarters, part of the Dearborn Historical Museum. This flag played an important part in our nation's history, and in the life of the man whose job it was to carry it and protect it. Color Sergeant Thomas Henry Sheppard was the only man to have that honor, and along with the flag that he carried which saw 13 major battles – over 100 skirmishes – and survived 72 bullet holes returned home to Michigan. As it turned out, Sheppard was wounded and captured at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania and survived 505 days in the prisons of the south, including Libby, Belle Isle, Andersonville, Goldsboro, Macon, and others – all while protecting his flag.*

*In 2004, members Jerry Olson and Rick Danes of Sergeant John S. Cosby Camp 427 were summoned to the Commandant's Quarters to speak with Ms. Lois Johnson and Ms. Linda Moore one from Marlette, Michigan – the other from Florida.*

*Their quest was to see the flag that Ms. Moore's ancestor, Color Sergeant Thomas Henry Sheppard had carried during the Civil War. Adding information from the Museum Archives and various publications from the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and others, Johnson wrote and published a book – "He Kept the Colors" about Sgt. Sheppard and his family, Sanilac county and Marlette, Michigan, the Civil War, the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Cavalry, and has included many facts and figures about the War.*

*Limited copies of "He Kept the Colors" will be available for sale soon at the Dearborn Historical Museum.*