



Michigan's

Messenger

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

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Summer 2010

John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus



Richard C. Danes, Editor

Commander's Comments

By Donald Shaw

If you go as fast as you can in a given direction, you will eventually reach an end. It's just that you may not end up where you want to be, unless you have an idea of where you are going when you start. In other words, setting goals at the beginning of a term will pay immense dividends at the end. To that end, I have been thinking about where I would like to see our Department a year from now. What can we do to make this a stronger, more vibrant organization than it already is? Given the fact that we are already darn good in a number of areas, that's a pretty tall order. We owe it to ourselves however, to set a course that hopefully will make us that much better at doing the ultimate work of our Order, to "Keep Green the Memory of the Soldiers and Sailors" who gave so much to keep us a strong and undivided nation.

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Over the past month, I have had the opportunity to review the Constitution and Regulations of our Order, and the Bylaws of our Department, to re-read past Encampment minutes, to talk with Past Department Commanders, to re-read and consider the Strategic Direction Report generated for the 117th Encampment, to consult with various current Department Officers, and review job requirements for those who do the work of the Order. I have asked myself what more can we do to make the Department of Michigan best able to carry on the work of the Order? Our Strategic Direction Report noted that, "the work of the Order happens in the Camps. The Department's function is to make available the tools necessary for the success of the Camp." That being the case, the main objectives of the Department become clear. It needs to be able to aid and assist the Camps in doing their work. Further, the Department needs to be as organized and efficient as it can be, so that it may perform this duty with as little expenditure of energy as possible, leaving more time for the Camps, and ultimately the brothers, to do the work of our Order. The goals I would like us to achieve during the next year focus on promoting those two ends.

First, it is my intent to see to it that those duties required of the Department are met. We have numerous reporting and activity requirements that we are called on to perform by certain times according to the C & R and our own Bylaws. While they are too numerous to list here, they are all necessary to the proper functioning of the Department and our obligations to our members, our Camps, and the National Organization. In many organizations these matters are referred to as "Housekeeping." My first goal is to make sure we keep our house in Order.

Second, over the past couple of years we have expressed concern at the Encampments that our Department Records have needed attention. We are an old Department and our

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**2010-2011
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GAR Records

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Civil War Memorials

Douglas R. Armstrong, PCC

Chief of Staff

William Morris

Camp At Large Coordinator

L. Dean Lamphere

records go back many years. They have been stored in a lot of different places, with some of them being transferred annually from Department Commander to Department Commander. These records need to be centralized, catalogued, and in some cases preserved. In that way we can not only safeguard our own history, but can end concerns about problems that arise when you are wondering where all these things are, and what is going on with them. We have the work of the Order to do, and by properly seeing to our records, we free up time that would better be spent in doing that work. My second goal is to see that our Department Records are properly cared for.

Third, we have a Ceremonies and Rituals Committee which for several years has been inactive. This committee can help to promote the proper use of the Ritual in our Camps and at our ceremonies. Using technology we can produce a DVD that explains and encourages the use of our ritual at meetings and memorials we engage in. Said DVD would be distributed to the Camps for their use. Our rituals are one of the things we share in common with one another and one of the things that bind us to the veterans who used such rituals in the Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic. As such, we need to encourage their use as our link to each other and to our heritage. Further, as more and more Camps act with one another on joint projects, it would be of benefit to have them all familiar with the same way of doing things. Proper use of the ritual and support for Camp Guards, which are part of the charge of this Committee, will go a long way toward making this happen. My third goal involves the revitalization, at least to some extent, of the Ceremonies and Rituals Committee.

Fourth, the Department needs to facilitate the ability of Camps and Camp Officers, especially camps close to one another which may have the occasion to work on joint or regional projects, to easily communicate with each another. There have been several instances where Camps have joined together to take on regional projects or ceremonies, and support one another in their endeavors. My intent is to see to it that Camp Commanders and Secretaries have an up to date list of contact information for each other and have access to the news from their neighboring Camps. That way, if you wish to work on projects of regional importance, you have the tools at your fingertips to do so. My fourth goal involves increasing communications between neighboring Camps.

Fifth, the Department needs to help in the training of those Camp Officers who ask for it, on how to properly fulfill the duties of their offices. In the past, we have had a mid winter conference that was meant, in part, to achieve this goal. One of the problems we ran into with the mid winter was that very often the time demands or travel requirements on the people who needed the assistance the most, were such that they were unable to attend, and thereby take advantage of the advice of those who had performed the jobs before. Last year, we began exploring the possibilities of using teleconferencing to put our officers from all over the state in touch with one another. This worked well. In fact, so well that I propose using the same method to act as a training opportunity for those who are entering into a new job at their camp with which they may not be familiar. It will use current technology to overcome a problem presented to us before regarding time and distance. My intent is to start slowly and, if this appears to work, use it more and more to assist the new officers of our Camps in the discharge of their duties. I propose to start with the area in which we often have confusion, the job of the Secretary and how to deal with all those darned forms. My fifth goal is to use the technological

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resources available to us to be sure the Camp Officers are comfortable in the duties they need to perform because they have been properly instructed.

Sixth, I would like to see all of our Camps with Web Sites keeping them current. If our Camp web sites are months or years out of date, it hinders others who may want to contact us to further the work of the Order, and makes us appear as a group that just doesn't care too much. This is one that we will be depending on the Camp Officers for the most help with. We can, at the Department level, offer assistance to you in keeping up this task. If you need expertise, we have people in the Order that can provide that. You need only ask. My sixth goal is to properly maintain our web sites.

Seventh, I intend to put together a mid term gathering. I would want to couple this gathering with an event or project of statewide importance to the task of helping to keep green the memory of the soldiers and sailors. Ideally such a gathering would be in the fall, would be to promote an event central to our commitment as Sons, and would involve time to be set aside to socialize with one another and catch up on what old friends from other areas of the state are doing. It is not exactly a revitalization of the old mid winter conference, but it contains many of the same aspects. My seventh goal is to put together such a gathering.

Eighth, I would like to see the Department support the Canadian Union Veteran's Civil War Monument currently being planned as a tribute to those soldiers and sailors who fought to preserve the American Union but who came in from Canada to do so. This is a project that is being pursued at the National Level of the Order. We, here in Michigan, share a long border and an even longer history with our Canadian cousins. Many of the men of this Department trace their ancestry to Canadians who fought for the Union in the Civil War. We are in a rather unique position among the Departments of the Order in this regard, and we should be doing something to help in the creation of this memorial. Our intent would be to offer assistance, such as we can, to further the aims of the National Committee working to help create this monument. My Eighth and final goal is to support the Canadian Union Veteran's Monument Project.



*Department Commander Shaw
takes the gavel*

Various work of the Order goes on as well. The foregoing are new initiatives I intend to address this year. The fine work of the other offices within the Department, notably our GAR Records, Graves Registration, Monument Preservation, and Editing and Publishing of the Messenger, among others, continues. Those efforts are in the hands of capable Department Officers whose work is very much appreciated.

None of these goals happen without the work of the men of this Department. To that end, I am asking you to let me know if you have any special interest in any of these projects. If you have any special skills that would further these goals toward completion, your service to the Department in that respect would be appreciated. In short, I am asking for volunteers in carrying the Department forward in these areas. If you can help, please contact me. My email is p31713@aol.com.

I know it looks a bit ambitious, but brothers, there are over 500 of us and we've got a year. I'll keep you posted in the Messenger of the progress we are making. Come along and lend a hand and we'll make that progress happen faster than anyone could imagine.

It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause. Who, at the best, knows the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat.

Theodore Roosevelt

Department Orders #1*Series 2010 – 2011*

*Donald Shaw, Commander
Headquarters, Flint, MI
15 May 2010*

1. Having been duly elected and installed as Department Commander, I hereby assume command of the Department of Michigan, SUVCW.
2. Headquarters for the Department is transferred to 3914 Larchmont Street, Flint, Michigan 48532. General correspondence to the Department should be sent to the Secretary for the Department of Michigan, Paul Davis, 535 Mayflower Drive, Saginaw, Michigan 48638.
3. I offer the thanks of the Department to all of the outgoing officers who served the Department so well and so faithfully over the last term. I particularly thank Chuck Worley, PDC, for the fine job he did as Department Commander in the last term. It is very much appreciated Brother Chuck.
4. I offer the thanks of the Department to the Women's Relief Corps, who took the lead among the Allied Orders in giving us a fine Encampment program this year. I also thank C in C Kennedy who took time out of an incredibly busy schedule to be with us at the Encampment and install our officers for the coming term. Finally, I thank all the brothers of this Department who took the time and trouble to attend that Encampment, helping us to do the business of the Department. Brothers, decisions are made by those who show up. Thanks for being there to help.
5. I offer the thanks of the Department to all those brothers filling elected and appointed offices for the current term as well as all of those who are currently serving the Order on committees.
6. Web Sites – I urge each Camp Signals Officer and Camp Commander to check your Camp's Web Site. If it needs to be updated, please do that. Brothers, some of these haven't been updated for months or years. If someone needs to find out about your Camp or how to contact a particular officer, it can be frustrating to say the least if they are getting bad information from our own on line services.
7. The National Encampment will be held this year in Overland Park, Kansas, which is in the greater Kansas City area. Dates for the Encampment will be August 12-15, 2010. As many brothers as can make the Encampment are encouraged to go. Pre-registration materials are now available at the National Web Site, www.SUVCW.org. To facilitate carpooling and hotel accommodations, our Senior Vice Commander, Dave Arnold, will be happy to see if he can't pair people up to drive out together, who may be interested in sharing expenses and the riggers of the drive. Dave can be contacted at SUVCW@hotmail.com or at (517) 321-6013. Please use the subject title SUVCW National Encampment when writing him. He tells me he will be more than happy to help.
8. Lastly, and certainly most importantly, Memorial Day will be celebrated on Sunday, May 30th with the "day off" happening on the 31st. All brothers are encouraged to do something to mark this important day. If you can do an activity with your brothers from your camp, so much the better. If you can't do something with your camp brothers, then I offer a suggestion. Find a civil war veteran, one whose grave has not been previously strewn with flowers, and appears to have been forgotten. Make it your business to see that the grave has been tended, a flag has been placed, and the soldier beneath the stone has been honored. Memorial Day is a date that is central to our obligations as Sons of Union Veterans. Don't let it pass without doing something to keep green the memory of those soldiers and sailors of 1861 to 1865.

I wish you all a happy summer.
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

/s/
Donald W. Shaw
Department Commander
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest: /s/
Paul Davis
Department Secretary
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Senior Vice Commander's Quips

By Paul David Arnold

Greetings Department of Michigan Brothers & Camps;

I would like to thank everyone that attended the 121st Department Encampment held in Lansing on April 24th, 2010. I appreciate the work that each of your camps have put forth during the last year in helping to keep green the memory of the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and members of the Revenue Cutter Service that served our nation during the Great War of the Rebellion.

As I sit putting these words on paper, Memorial Day is quickly approaching. During this time of year, the words written in our Ritual book have always held special meaning in regards to what our obligations are as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

“ Each member has a special obligation on and to Memorial Day. He shall use his influence in every possible manor for the proper and general observance of this day. That Memorial Day, instituted by the Grand Army of the Republic, shall ever be held sacred by the people of our country.”

For our new members and members not familiar with it, I would like to encourage you to take the time to go to the Department website www.suvcwmi.org. In the left hand column, you will find a heading: *Miscellaneous*, open this and go to the *Ceremonies & Ritual* link. After opening this, you will find a heading listed under *Memorial Day* entitled **“The National Day of Memorial”**

This *very powerful address* written by a Post Commander in the early 1900s puts things in crystal clear perspective of the sacrifices our forbearer's made while serving our country, and the reason we should hold Memorial Day so sacred. The address is as pertinent today, as it was when given almost 100 years ago. In the future, take the time to sit down with your children and grand children, family or friends to read and discuss this wonderful address and the true meaning of Memorial Day. Hopefully in doing so, it will help Memorial Day become much more than just another long holiday weekend for current and future generations.

It has been a pleasure to visit a number of your camps and have you update me on things going on in your respective communities. As Department Senior Vice Commander, I would like to encourage your Camp to take the time to write and forward articles and pictures about special events and projects to both our Department newsletter ***Michigan's Messenger*** and our national publication ***The Banner*** .

Also, just a reminder that the kick off of the Civil War Sesquicentennial is only seven months away. **Now** is the time to start thinking about programs and projects that could be included as official State of Michigan, Civil War Sesquicentennial events, and promoted in your local community newspapers. A quick look at the recently distributed *Department Membership Initiative*, might be helpful in this regard. Please keep your Department, Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee informed of projects that your camp is doing, so they can promoted as “Official”, State of Michigan Sesquicentennial events. *PCinC Keith Harrison*, is your Department chairperson of this committee. His e mail address is pcinc@prodigy.net

In closing, keep up the great work in representing the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War within your respective communities. If you have any questions that I can assist with, please feel free to contact me at suvcw@hotmail.com



Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17

Submitted By Jim Pahl, PCinC

Memorial Day at the GAR plot, Mt. Hope Cemetery in Lansing

Left to right: Past Camp Commander Ron Shull, Camp Chaplain David R. Bankhead, Camp Commander George Roux and Department Senior Vice Commander Paul David Arnold.

Department Patriotic Instructor's

By LTC Max Riekse (RET)

As I write this, Memorial Day 2010 is upon us. I've just finished with seeing to it that American Flags are placed on Veterans graves at our local Fruitport Cemetery; I'm the current Post Commander of our Fruitport VFW post # 3734; a position that I've held several times in the past, we had the assistance of our Gerald R. Ford Council Boy Scout Troop # 1023 assisting us. As our post Veteran membership ages, the help of the Boy Scouts in seeing that veteran's graves are properly decorated is greatly appreciated.

I recall that at an early age my mother used to take me to the local Coopersville Cemetery to make sure that Veterans' gravesites had flags on them year round. She had worked out with the local sexton that flags placed for Memorial Day would be left on our family graves throughout the year.

When I came back from Iraq, my son was 2 and I started to take him along with me to follow in my Mother's footsteps. He's been by my side in this act of love ever since. In the Coopersville Cemetery is a veteran of the War of 1812; three from the Civil War (two from the 3rd Michigan Infantry and one from the 10th Michigan Cavalry); and two from WWII. My mother's grave is decorated with a bronze DAR marker, and she and my grandmother both have DUVCW markers (both members when my grandfather was alive and a member of the Coopersville GAR Post. My mother remembered telling her two brothers of my grandfather's Civil War service. As a member of the 3rd Michigan Infantry, he was at First Bull Run. My uncle, 1st Lt Max Reynolds was killed during the Battle Of the Bulge in 1945. He earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge and two Bronze Stars – I am named after him.

I relate the above as the basis in part for my strong feelings towards Memorial Day and what it means to us in the SUVCW; it is up to us, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, to do our part to keep alive the memories and service of those Veterans who have preceded us in life.

Seeing to it that American Flags are placed on graves, especially on Memorial Day, but also year round is one way that we can do that. I spent 32 years in the military; two wars – Viet Nam and Iraq; and someday the time will come when it will be someone else's turn to pick up where I and others have left off. Think about installing in your children and other youths the importance of Memorial Day and what it means; ask them to continue the tradition of placing flags both now and in the future. And don't forget to mark the grave sites of the DAR, the SAR, the DUVCW, and those other patriots who have served their country in their own manner. God bless them all, and long live our Constitutional Republic!

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

In 2005 the Department was faced with rising printing and mailing costs for the nationally recognized Michigan's Messenger. Very few options were available to Department Officers, so the issue was put on the floor at the Department Encampment.

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

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

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

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

Department Historian

By John R. Keith, PCC

Brothers of the Department of Michigan:

I have been asked by Department Commander Shaw to continue as Department Historian, I have accepted his offer humbly and I am honored to hold this office another year.

I want to thank those that have sent me items in the past and I hope I will receive more items from all camps in the future.

We must remember we are responsible to continue the legacy of the Grand Army of the Republic. This legacy for our Nation and future generations;

“For if a Nation forgets its heritage it forgets everything”

“Lest We Forget!”

If we do not save our actions of today, they will be lost forever!

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty!

Please send your files and things of interest to-

Department of Michigan Historian
Bro. John R. Keith
950 106th avenue
Plainwell, MI 49080
Email Hardtackcw@aol.com

Department Graves Registration Committee

by Rick Danes, CC

Greetings to all.

Well, with the winter-time excitement with the new VA and National guidelines behind us, it seems that all Camps are “back to business as usual” in ordering headstones. We must remember, **all headstones that are ordered by SUVCW Brothers, and not by a descendent or a cemetery manager, sextant, or township official must be approved by me.** Send a copy of the documentation that you are sending to the VA, and I will respond asap by e-mail so that we do not hold up your program. The full Headstone ordering policy can be found on the National website under Policies.

The Department Database contains a little over 62,000 records as of today. Because Brother Adair is up north on a degree study trip, we will not update our on line site until September. At that time I will ask Matt to create two databases – one for Civil War veterans only, and a second for “other wars” veterans that we record (Rev War – Span Am). The Committee has discussed this issue many times, and it is a good way to retain our Excel database and not cause our committee members a hardship in that they would otherwise need to purchase and learn how to use an alternative software.

We welcome new CGRO Mike Christiaens to the Committee. Mike is from Camp 180 in Wastenaw County, and can be reached at mccsc2@gmail.com or mccsc@verizon.net.

The June Committee Meeting was postponed until July 17, same place, same time as in the past.

I will be presenting the Graves Registration Program to the Calhoun County Genealogical Society at 7 PM on July 22.

Let's get in the spirit and get out of our seats to find those last Civil War Veterans gravesites. What a wonderful goal it would be for the Sesquicentennial celebration if we could “complete” all of our remaining counties!

Stay well, and keep your pencils sharp!

Budget Cuts Shut Down Another Historic Treasure

Submitted by Keith Harrison, PcinC

Date: Friday, June 4, 2010, 9:41 PM

Dear Historic Fort Wayne Coalition Membership,

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your efforts in helping to voice your opinions to the Detroit City Council about the recently proposed budget cuts. I am aware that there was difficulty for some of you to get through the complaint link on the City of Detroit website. Many were able to get their messages through to support the Fort we love so much and our partners in the City of Detroit Parks and Recreation Department. Thank you again for all of your time and efforts doing this.

Unfortunately, Tom was not able to speak directly to the City Council as hoped. Tom did run into several friends and supporters along the way which helped get him as close to the Council chambers as possible. There were very few people allowed into the Council chambers before the voting had taken place. Rest assured Tom did his very best to represent your voices and Fort Wayne.

Equally unfortunate, the Detroit City Council had the majority votes needed to override Mayor Bing's veto of the proposed FY2010/2011 City Budget. This included the additional \$1 million reduction in funding to the Parks and Recreation Department. Without much choice left to be had, cuts will be made and Fort Wayne Detroit will most likely be closed to the public as of July 1, 2010.

Now this is certainly saddening news for all of us. We will be seeking further guidance and clarification of our role on site at Fort Wayne. Maintaining a positive relationship with our partners in the City of Detroit, we do not anticipate to be asked to vacate the site due to this imminent closure. However, we intend to continue to offer our services on site in helping the City maintain Fort Wayne.

We must keep our chins up and stay the course. It is important now, more than ever, to not give up hope. I will continue to keep you updated with further news and information as I receive it.

Regards,

*Thomas Steele
Secretary
Historic Fort Wayne Coalition*

Governor Henry Crapo Camp #145

*Submitted by David F. Wallace, PDC
Secretary*

The Brothers of the Gov. Crapo Camp have been busy since our officer's installation earlier in the year. The Camp has welcomed two (2) new Brothers into our Order: Robert Cook and Gregory Havrilsack. At the April camp meeting, the Brothers of the Camp observed "Annual Muster Day" with all present renewing their obligation to our Order. The Camp supported the restoration project of a Civil War cannon located at the Mayfield Township Cemetery and participated in a rededication ceremony for the Veteran's Memorial located at the cemetery on May 15th. The Camp continues its relationship with the Junior ROTC program from Northwestern High School in Flint, financially sponsoring two (2) members of the unit to attend Basic Leadership Training at Camp Perry, Ohio. The Saturday before Memorial Day, Brothers of the Camp along with members of the UAW 599 Veterans Committee placed flags on 200 veterans graves at Aventine and Glenwood cemeteries in Flint. Memorial Day found the Camp participating in ceremonies with Brothers from the LaValley-Husted Camp of Mayville and the U.S. Grant Camp of Bay City, including a ceremony at Aventine Cemetery in Flint, and a ceremony at the Flushing City Ceremony in Flushing. A Camp picnic is planned in June along with a "Dignified Disposal of Unserviceable Flags" ceremony. Commander May has granted everyone leave in July for rest and relaxation.

IN MEMORIAM

William E. Lakey, 15483 Dunn Drive, Traverse City, MI 49681, died May 25, 2010 at his home. Born July 15, 1925 in Muskegon, MI, Brother Lakey was an Associate member of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 in Traverse City. Burial was at Oakwood Cemetery in Muskegon.

Brother Bill was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Muriel Kooistra. He is survived by his wife, Pat, four children, four stepsons, four grandchildren and one step grandson.

A math professor at Central Michigan University, he was also a dedicated Boy Scout leader, traveler and avid fan for the teams of his alma mater, the University of Michigan.

Memorials may be made to the online guestbook at <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>

Past Department of Michigan Secretary(PDC) and Gilluly-Kingsley Camp No. 120 Past Camp Commander **Richard F. Lee** died May 28, 2010 in Fenton, MI, following a lengthy illness. Brother Lee was born in Detroit on Feb. 17, 1931 and spent most of his adult life in the Howell, MI area, where he taught school.

Brother Lee was a veteran of the US Air Force. He was a charter member of Camp No. 120 and a long term secretary for the Department for which he was awarded the rank of PDC.

Cards may be addressed to his wife, Betty at 304 Pineknoll Ct., Brighton, MI 48116

A memorial service for Brother Richard F. Lee, honorary PDC, has been scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at St. Agnes Catholic Church, 855 E Grand River Ave., Fowlerville, MI.

General Israel B. Richardson Camp #2

Submitted by SVC Bruce Miller

The brothers of General Israel B. Richardson Camp2 had a busy and fulfilling Memorial Day 2010. The City of Birmingham is home to the Oakland County Civil War monument and the camp is an active participant in that city's Memorial Day Service. The SUVCW was highly visible with Commander Gary Grout's address on the origins of the day; SVC/PCC Bruce Miller's dissertation on the Gettysburg Address and Chaplain/Patriotic Instructor Bill Nash's reading of "The Last Camp." As always, the camp placed a wreath at the Civil War monument.



At the conclusion of the service the camp moved to historic Oak Hill Cemetery in Pontiac and the grave site of namesake General Richardson. The memorial service was highlighted by the stirring biography of the general delivered by Brother John Bowker and the placing of appropriate floral tributes. Memorial Day 2010 was our duty and honor and we had fun doing it.



Robert Finch Camp No. 14
Submitted By Neal Breough, P.C.C.
Secretary/Treasurer

Our Camp is saddened by the passing of Associate Brother Bill Lakey who died on May 25th after a long battle with cancer. Brother Bill joined our Camp in 2003. In 2004, he was presented with a Certificate of Recognition by Commander-in-Chief Kent Armstrong for serving during World War II in the United States Air Force from 1943 to 1945. Many of us also knew Bill from his active participation with the Michigan Association of Retired School Personal, an Organization that several of our Camp Members also are active. Bill will be missed by many.

With a Delegation of 9, our Camp enjoyed the Department Encampment last April in Lansing. We were very pleased to have one of our Grave Registration Officers, Tom Jenkins elected to serve on the Department Council. We are also pleased to have Department Commander Don Shaw appoint Camp 14 Commander Dale Aurand as Department Guide. We are especially pleased because this is the first time in recent history that this has happened. We are also happy to have two of our Camp serving on the Michigan Department's Special Sesquicentennial Committee.

As usual, Memorial Day found our Camp Members and Associates spread out over the 11 Counties we represent. Actually, we went outside our boundaries as GRO Tom Jenkins was asked to participate in the Ceremony at Hart, Michigan where his ancestors are buried. Our main contingent and Colors participated in the Ceremonies in Traverse City, but we were also in Manistee, Lake Ann (the Morse Family from our Camp actually conduct the Ceremony there), Boyne City, Petoskey, Ludington, and those are the only ones I know of at this moment. Our Ladies Auxiliary join us at as many of these events as they can.

On June 12th, we will be hosting Tucson, AZ author Richard Hamilton in between his presentations to Camps 20, 22, 135, and 58. Mr. Hamilton will don his Civil War uniform and take on the character of his Great Grandfather Sgt. George Thomas Patten who served in the 6th Michigan Cavalry Regiment that rode with General George Armstrong Custer at Gettysburg. Sgt Patten was killed at Gettysburg. Mr. Hamilton will be selling paperback and CD versions of his novel: "Oh! Hast Thou Forgotten, Michigan Cavalry in the Civil War: The Gettysburg Campaign" The Traverse Area District Library is co hosting this event with us and it will be in the McGuire Room from 1:00 to 4:00. Our Ladies Auxiliary, Francis Finch No. 9, will be providing refreshments and supporting us in this event.

July 4th promises to be a very special day. We have been invited to participate in the Haggerty Family Car Show, which helps kick off the National Cherry Festival. We will have a tented booth at the corners of Union and Sixth Street right across the street from Lay Park that is where the headquarters are located and where the Opening Ceremony will take place. We will march with the 85 piece National Marine Corps Marching Band and serve with our Colors as part of the Color Corps for the opening ceremony. We will have 2 or 3 computers at our booth to help people with Civil War research and to show some of the videos of events we have performed. We will also have posters depicting where all our Michigan Camp's are located so we can refer our downstate visitors to our sister Camps. We expect thousands of people at this event—especially as the Blue Angels will be performing on that day. It is our intention to do a lot of promoting for the Department of Michigan and the SUVCW.

We will definitely be doing a Grave Stone Dedication on August 7 overlooking Lake Charlevoix and could be involved with a couple of other events and dedications before the "snow" falls.

2010 Department Encampment

Photos by J. Pahl



Lockwood Camp #139

Submitted by Don Londo, CC

Memorial Day- Due to a declining number of Brothers who are unable to march a small group of Brothers will march with the local Boy Scouts' At Little Flanders Field Bro. Bruce Beckeney and Sister Lauren Beckeney will place a wreath at the Civil War Cross in honor of Civil War soldiers George Guild and Charles Kniling, Alpena's 2 Civil War casualties. Charles Kniling (age 34) died of disease in Evansville, Indiana in August 1862. George Guild (age 40) was critically wounded at the Battle of Poplar Springs Church, Virginia. He died at a military hospital in Washington D.C.

On September 18, the Lockwood Camp plans to conduct a headstone dedication in honor of Pvt. John H. Waters Pvt. 1st Michigan Sharpshooters. The ceremony will take place at Springport Cemetery , Harrisville, Michigan. The Robert Finch Camp #14 SUVCW has been invited to participate as an Honor Guard at the ceremony. After the Ceremony Ray Herek will give a short talk about the history of the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters. Ray is the author of the book, "These Men Have Seen Hard Service" which is the story of the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters.

Rick , Would you please add the following to our article : The Robert Finch Camp SVR has been invited to participate as an Honor Guard at the ceremony.

Anyone wishing to travel to Harrisville can obtain information on hotel and meal accommodations from the Harrisville community, which is gathering information at cwalcona@gmail.com.

U. S. Grant Camp 67

By Paul Davis, Commander

On Monday, May 31, members of the U.S. Grant Camp No. 67 performed Headstone Rededication Ceremonies for James McCormick and Thomas Wilson at the Pine Ridge Cemetery in Bay City, Michigan.

Officiating at the Ceremonies were Grant Camp Commander Paul Davis and Camp Chaplin Rev. Charles Buckhahn. Grant Camp was assisted in the laying of the wreath, rose, and laurel by Rick Greene and Brothers from the LeValley-Heusted Camp No. 255.

The SVR, Commanded by Brother Dean Lamphere included Brothers, Bill Morris, Ken Martin, Jack Frost, Len McInerney, Jonathan McInerney and Rick Greene. Junior Member Jonathan McInerney also assisted with the placing of the two new headstones as part of a school project.

Department Commander Don Shaw addressed ceremony spectators and participants with a few words as the ceremony opened.

Grant Camp GRO, Jim Petrimoulx was instrumental in obtaining the headstones for James McCormick and Thomas Wilson and also seeing to their placement.



Henry E. Plant Camp #3

*Submitted by Daniel Grable
Secretary/Treasurer*

This spring the Henry E. Plant Camp #3 of Grand Haven has been busy with activities and planning for a very busy time this summer.

We have been busy on Grave Registration work in several cemeteries in Ottawa and Southern Muskegon Counties. The organization Pillars of Honor which conducts grave registration work and obtains necessary replacement tombstones has asked us to conduct re-dedication ceremonies for Civil War Veterans in cemeteries north of Coopersville in Muskegon County where they obtained new tombstones. We agreed to conduct the rededication ceremonies. But we also wondered due to all the new more detailed SUVCW regulations to obtain replacement tombstones if our camp and the Pillars of Honor could work together on this project. So we have asked a member of the Pillars of Honor to attend one of our meetings this summer to talk about their organization and discuss this proposal.

We also have been looking into the condition or lack of tombstones in the cemeteries of Eastmanville, Lakeshore and Nunica in Ottawa County and Norton Shores in Muskegon County.

Meanwhile Brother Daniel Grable, a member of the Spring Lake Heritage Festival Committee, while conducting historical research for the committee found minutes of the parent organization mentioning the actual vandalism of the Noah Perkins GAR Post #279 of Spring Lake monument and the cemetery it was located in. The Township replaced it with a tombstone style stone with the same information as the original monument. The footing is still there and the Camp would like to replace the old monument with a new monument in the style of the original monument. Work on this will continue.

Also two brothers of our camp and members of the Charles A. Conklin American Legion Post #28 in Grand Haven Ken Kelly and Max Rieskie are co-chairing the committee to erect a Fallen Veterans Monument for the area north of the Grand River/M-45 in northern Ottawa County covering the wars of World War II to Iraq-Afghanistan Wars and any in the future. It will be placed in Central Park in Grand Haven with the Ottawa County World War I monument. Also on the committee is our Camp Commander Richard Scott. They are currently working on raising funds for the monument and if you would like to contribute or know of any names needed to be included on the monument please contact any of our brothers involved in this project. On May 9th Brothers Daniel Grable, Donald Ogden, Cliff Owen, Jon Scott, Richard Scott made classroom presentations to the eighth graders in the Harbor Lights Middle School of the West Ottawa School District in the Holland area. Brother Grable presented a talk on the camp's namesake Henry E. Plant, Brother Richard Scott gave a presentation on general facts concerning the Civil War, military weapons and styles, Brother Owen showed slides from his trip to Historical Naperville Days, and Brother Ogden showed a portion of his archival collection and explained the purposes of the items. After the presentations the students had a question and answer session with presenters. The Brothers also made a joint presentation to the advanced students class of seventh graders. The reports back from the teachers said that the presentations were very well accepted by the students. The students especially liked the Civil War artifacts.

This year on Memorial Day Weekend the Brothers of the camp were very active in many memorial activities. On Saturday several brothers of the camp traveled out to the gravesite of our namesake Henry E. Plant to pay our respects to Henry and those of his family buried there. On Sunday Brothers Daniel Grable and Kenneth Kelly attended the Memorial Sunday Service held at the First Presbyterian Church in Grand Haven. Kenneth Kelly is the Adjutant for the Grand Haven Memorial Association and the local American Legion Post.

On Monday there was severe weather in the Ottawa County area where some of our members live except for the Camp's home area of Northwestern Ottawa County. So the Memorial Day activities in Spring Lake went on in sunny weather. The parade kick off at 10:30 A. M. with the camp's Color Guard leading off the parade just behind the Spring Lake/Ferrysburg Police car with his sirens sounding. The Color Guard consisted of Brothers Daniel Grable (American Flag), Ronald Bellenger (Camp Flag), Cliff Owen and Jon Scott (Color Guards). We were followed by the Parade Marshall Korean War veteran and AMVETS member Bob VanBurgel (former organizer of the parade for the Spring Lake AMVETS). The parade ended at the Spring Lake Cemetery where the Spring Lake Heritage Festival Committee conducted the local ceremonies with the Camp's assistance.

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They started out with the presenting of the Camp's colors. Brother Grable placed the memorial wreath for the ceremonies. Assistant Chaplin John Baldus explained and read Grand Army of the Republic Commander-in-Chief Gen. John A. Logan's General Order #11. The camp provided the 3 Gun salute by brothers John Baldus, Donald Ogden and Jon Scott. Camp Commander Richard Scott commanded the salute. The salute was preceded by the playing of Taps by members of The Spring Lake High School Marching Band. Brother Grable raised the cemetery's American Flag from Half Staff to Full Staff concluding the services. Also attending the ceremonies was Camp Chaplin Mike Boschaert.

Following the Ceremonies the camp held their annual picnic at Central Park next door to the cemetery.

Also on Memorial Day we had members participating in other local events. PCC Max Rieskie, Commander of the Fruitport Polar Bear Post #3735, VFW, marched in the Fruitport Old Fashioned Days Memorial Day Parade and Brother Kenneth Kelly marched in the parade held in Grand Haven and participated in the ceremonies conducted there following the parade.

In June the Camp will make its annual Civil War presentation during the Spring Lake Heritage Festival. This year they will conduct a Cemetery Walk talking about local Civil War veterans, local GAR Post and presentation of Civil War archives.

The weekend following the Heritage Festival the Camp will be hosting a recruiting table at the Holland Civil War Muster put on by the Holland Museum. At the event they will have a reenactment of the Battle of Utoy Creek (Georgia) with our Honorary member and Associate member of the General James B. McPherson Camp #1, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, SUVCW as the Military expert.

At this time the camp would like to publicly thank Brother Clifford Owen for the donation of a flag pole, Eagle flag pole topper and cords for the Camp's American Flag.

More 2010 Department Encampment

Photos by J. Pahl



Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427

By Rick Danes, CC

Camp 427 continues to over achieve in the work of the Order. Since the March edition of Michigan's Messenger the Camp has represented the Department at the Kalamazoo Living History Show with a static display and live interpretive presenters.

We have met every month, attended the Grass Lake Headstone Dedication and attended the Department Encampment. We have presented an Eagle Award, provided service to the Dearborn Historical Museum, and, with the 17th Michigan Infantry Re-enactors planned the refurbishment of all Civil War Gravesites in the City of Livonia.

With the Northwest Territory NSSA and the newly formed ACWSA marched in the Dearborn Memorial Day Parade, and the next day held a public Decoration Day Ceremony.

In May the Camp welcomed two new members – Bob Montgomery and Gary Pritchard.

The Camp has also been honored to be selected as an "Oversite Camp" in State Section 8 for the Libraries, Historical Societies, and Genealogical Societies Sub-Committee for the Department's Sesquicentennial Committee. As such we will be working with Camps in Livingston, Oakland, Washtenaw, and Lenawee Counties to develop a contact list of all Libraries, Historical Societies, and Genealogical Societies in the Section. In this manner two way communication can be set up to advertise and support Sesquicentennial events to the rest of the Department and state.

**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 or to 2612 Burns Street, Dearborn, Michigan 48124-3204

ALL PUBLICATIONS WILL BE MADE ON TIME

**Please do not send me photos without the names of persons in the photo and a suggested caption.
Thanks for your support!**

Sons of Veterans Reserve – Co. A 14th Michigan Infantry “The Irish Guard”

Submitted by Dean Lamphere

The SVR detail serving within the boundaries of the Department of Michigan has emerged from its routine trips to Springfield and Gettysburg with a larger mission starting last year with a call to support the Lockwood Camp No. 139 at a headstone rededication service in Harrisville, Michigan on Oct. 9, 2010.



Harrisville Headstone Rededication Ceremony – Oct. 9, 2010. (L-R: Dean Lamphere, Len McInerney, Bill Morris, Duaine “Badger” Phillips, Don Shaw, Paul Davis)



Quartermaster Shop – Kimball, Michigan – Feb. 19, 2010. (L-R: Rich Myers, Jack Frost, Jonathan McInerney, “Sailor” Bob, Len McInerney, Quartermaster Shop Tailor, Lloyd Lamphere, Don Shaw, Ron Shull, Duaine “Badger” Phillips)

Then as a unit we scheduled an appointment with the tailors of the Quartermaster Shop and some of the members purchased new elements for their uniforms to prepare for our future events.

We then returned to the Harrisville, Michigan for a training camp that we held with the cooperation of the community and our Brothers and Sisters from the Alpena Area. It was a great training session for the troops and excellent bonding experience with the community. We are working into our planning for the coming you to have a training session in early May on an annual basis and offering it open to all re-enactors and members of Camps interested in participating with the SVR or their own Camp Guards.

The company then participated in the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, Illinois as part of the SUVCW and MOLIS combined service. Later the unit visits local historical sites and this year it was the New Salem State Historical Site, the proceeded to Petersburg, Illinois to participate with our Brothers from the State of Illinois in the Dr. Benjamin Franklin Stephenson ceremony one of the founders of the Grand Army of the Republic. We stated overnight in the city of Springfield and then visited the Lincoln Home and Lincoln Presidential Museum and Library before returning home.

Normally as a unit we leave our membership to participate with their local camps for Memorial Day services, this year several of the Camps (LeValley-Heusted Camp No. 255, Gov. Henry Crapo Camp No. 145 and U. S. Grant Camp No. 67) within the Department worked together and pulled in the SVR to assist with their Memorial Service plans. Members of the SVR attended a church service in uniform in Mayville, Michigan before proceeding to the Fremont Cemetery and with the members of church performing a memorial service. On observed Memorial Day those same Camps again came together to support the Headstone Re-Dedication Service at Pine Ridge Cemetery in Bay City Michigan.

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SVR Training - Firings Mar. 26-28, 2010 Lincoln, MI

Our mission has grown from participating in Gettysburg and Springfield each year and representing in uniform the men from Michigan. That new mission being supporting when possible various services across the state of Michigan; however with that new mission we need new members so that we can support where possible those requests.

Our membership includes Brothers who are reenactors and those who are not. If you are interesting in preserving the memory of those who wore the blue, by wearing blue yourself then contact Unit Commander L. Dean Lamphere, Jr at email address artiebuddy@sbcglobal.net. If you have a service where the SVR might be able to assist please let us know through our Unit Commander at the email address listed previously in this article.

Membership in the Sons of Veterans Reserve requires that you be a member or associate in good standing with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Our annual dues are \$5.00 and a new member application fee of \$12.50 for your Sons of Veterans Reserve membership badge.

Together the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Sons of Veterans Reserve can work together to support the needs of the order and provide another avenue for our members to preserve the memory of our Union Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Cutter Service during the Civil War from 1861 to 1865.



Lincoln Tomb Ceremony – Springfield, IL Apr. 17, 2010 (L-R: Dean Lamphere, Ed Dowd, Rich Myers, Ron Shull, Rich Laarman, and Don Shaw)

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Lincoln's New Salem Historic Site – New Salem, IL Apr. 17, 2010. (L-R: Dean Lamphere, Ed Dowd, Don Shaw, Ron Shull, Rich Laarman, Rich Myers)



Decoration Day Memorial Service Fremont Cemetery Mayville, MI – May 30, 2010. (L-R: Dean Lamphere, Don Shaw, Ken Martin, Bill Morris, Sailor "Bob", Paul Davis, Ed Dowd and Matt Adair)



Memorial Day Headstone Rededication Ceremony/Memorial Service Pine Ridge Cemetery Bay City, MI – May 31, 2010. (L-R: Paul Davis, Dean Lamphere, Bill Morris, Ken Marin, Jack Frost, David Reid, Len McInerney, Jonathan McInerney, Rick Greene, Charles Buckhahn, and Don Shaw)

7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment

Submitted by James B. Pahl, PCinC

Our next installment of the regimental history series is the 7th Michigan. This regiment was gathered together in Monroe, MI and left for the eastern theater of the war on September 5, 1861. The regiment consists of the following companies: Co A., Union Guard of Port Huron, Co B, Curtenius Guard of Mason, Co C Jonesville Light Guard of Jonesville, Co D Monroe Light Guard of Monroe, Co E Tuscola Volunteers of Tuscola, Co F Blair Guard of Farmington, Co G Lapeer Guard of Lapeer, Co H (name unknown) of Pontiac, Co I Prairieville Rangers of Prairieville and Co K Burr Oak Rangers of Burr Oak. My Camp is named from Company B from Mason, the Curtenius Guard.

The original commander was Col. Ira R. Grosvenor, who resigned following the battle of Bull Run. The regiment was the commanded by Col. Norman J. Hall of Michigan, a captain in the 5th US Artillery, a graduate of West Point. His commission was dated from July 7, 1862.

The regiment followed McClellan to the Peninsula in the spring of 1862 and suffered severe loss while participating in the engagements at Yorktown, West Point, Fair Oaks, Peach Orchard and Savage Station, White Oak Swamp and Glendale and then Malvern Hill. The regiment was also engaged at 2nd Bull Run.

In the battle of Antietam, more than half of its force engaged was disabled. At Fredericksburg on December 13, while serving in Col Hall's brigade, the regiment volunteered to dislodge rebel sharpshooters who were impeding the construction of the bridges. They crossed the Rappahannock for that purpose and with the aid of the 19th Massachusetts, drove the enemy from their hiding places, capturing nearly as many prisoners as they numbered themselves. The 7th Michigan Volunteer reenactment group has erected a monument at the point where the 7th Michigan crossed the river, the only Michigan monument at Fredericksburg.

The regiment served provost duty for some time at Falmouth. While they were present at the second battle of Fredericksburg, they were not engaged. They suffered light casualties at Chancellorsville.

The regiment engaged in a number of forced marches in it's attempt to reach Gettysburg, rendered more arduous by the intense heat. They marched 75 miles in three days marching, one march being 32 miles in 12 hours. They arrived on the field July 2 and immediately went into line in front of Cemetery Hill, where they remained through the 4th. They were heavily engaged on both the 2nd and 3rd and among their losses was their commander, Lt. Col. Amos E. Steele. His grandson is a member of Curtenius Guard Camp 17.

The 7th Michigan engaged in the chase of the rebel army, crossing the Potomac, through the London valley to Manassas Gap. On August 20, they embarked on steamers to New York city, returning to the Army on September 7. After engaging in light skirmishing with the enemy through their time into winter quarters at Barry's Hill. 162 members of the regiment reenlisted, whence the regiment returned to Monroe, arriving on January 2, 1864, where they received a 30 day furlough. The regiment returned to the Army of the Potomac in time to be engaged at the Wilderness and Spottsylvania Court House.

After enduring all of the marches of the Army of the Potomac, they then endured the trenches at Petersburg. They were involved at various posts and then took part in the chase of Lee's army as it fled west. After the surrender, the regiment was ordered to Richmond and then to Washington, where they participated in the grand review. The regiment was then transferred to the Army of the Tennessee, where they did provost duty at Louisville, KY until July 5, when they were mustered out. The regiment traveled back to Michigan, arriving at Jackson on July 7, where they were paid off and disbanded.

There was a total of 1,393 men in the regiment, losing 6 officers and 123 men killed in action, died of wounds 5 officers and 47 men. 3 officers and 154 men died of disease.