



# Michigan's

# Messenger

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

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Summer, 2012

John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus



Richard E. Danes, Editor

Recipient of the Marshall Hope Award for Best Department Newsletter of the Order 2002, 2007, 2011

## Commander's Comments

Paul "Dave" Arnold DC

Department of Michigan , Brothers and Camps:

With the Memorial Day Holiday now behind us. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all of your hard work in regards to holding or participating in Memorial Day events in you local communities.

I think a passage from the address "The National Day of Memorial" given by a post commander in 1917 says it best, and reminds us of our duties on and to Memorial Day.....

***"This is the national day of memorial - the time when in mind and thought our glorious past is made to live again, and the noble men who molded and shaped its destiny, though dead, are to memory once more instinct with life and being. It is the hour when a nation awakes to the remembrance of deeds of heroism performed in its defense; the day when a loyal people grateful for service rendered to their country, unite to honor their patriot dead, to enrich and ennoble their own lives by recalling a public valor and a private worth that are immortal, and to encourage, by their solemn services, a more zealous and abiding patriotism in the heart and life of every American citizen."***

Gentlemen: You can be proud of your efforts of "Keeping Green the Memory" of the Grand Army of the Republic, our ancestors and all those that have served our country and are now departed.....

It has been a busy time since the Department Encampment. The most important issue to arise is that of charitable donations to subordinate groups of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. This includes Departments, Camps and SVR units operating within the Department of Michigan. In brief, the IRS has ruled that although still still holding 501 C (4) tax exempt status, that charitable donations to subordinate groups of the SUVCW are no longer tax deductible regarding the public or private sector donations.

That expenses incurred by Department and Camp Officers, Camp Members and Sons of Veterans Reserve Units are no longer tax deductible. This includes mileage, vehicle and travel expenses, hotel rooms, uniforms, meals and other associated expenses.

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13<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry

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We were also instructed by the National Organization to place a disclaimer on all Department and Camp Websites. *"Although having 501 c (4) Tax Exempt status. Donations to the Department of Michigan – Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, its Camps or Sons of Veterans Reserve Units operating within the Department of Michigan. (Are Not Tax Deductible)"*.

If your camp website is managed by the SUVCW Department Web master, this has been done for you. For those Camps managing their own websites. A directive was sent out instructing camp signal officers to post this as soon as possible. A more in depth summation of the IRS ruling was sent out to all camp commanders & secretaries, requesting it be distributed to all members either electronically or by conventional mail, as well as covered in the next camp meeting. Please refer to Department Correspondence of April 20, 2012 and National Counselors Opinion IV of 4-19-2012. This issue is being vigorously addressed by the National Organization in regards to finding a resolution. As of this writing I have received no other updates from the National Organization. As updates become available they will be sent out to all members.....

**I am excited to announce that the New Department Membership Brochure has been printed and is now available for distribution.** This is a wonderful opportunity to pick up a high quality, 2 sided color brochure, printed on 80 lb glossy paper at an incredible price of approx 11cents per brochure. They will be shrink wrapped to assist with storage. This is the same brochure that was distributed at the Department Encampment or sent to your camp to share and view with your membership.

(I might add that the final copy turned out even better than the proof that was furnished to you).

Gentlemen, to put it in perspective. This is within a penny of the price that many big box printers charge for a one sided, black and white copy. Our intent was to make this as affordable as possible so camps, no matter what the size or budget could afford to purchase and distribute these. They will be offered for sale in quantities of 100. At this incredible price, why not order at least 100 and give it a try. If it is not within your Camp budget, maybe a *Pass the Hat* would be appropriate.

**The cost will be, \$11.00 per hundred brochures, plus shipping.** As mentioned they will be shrink wrapped.

**Shipping costs** will be as follows;

**100 brochures = \$5.15**

**300 brochures = \$9.50**

**500 brochures = \$11.35**

**Orders and Payment** should be sent to:

**Bruce Gosling  
20388 E. US, Hwy 12  
White Pigeon, Mi  
49099**

An email was sent out to Camp Commanders containing the promotional flier and order information.

A flier is also included in this months Michigan's Messenger.

**There is an order form attached to the lower part of the Flier**

(Please fill it out and include it when sending in your order to Bruce Gosling).....

An update regarding House Bill 5404 - Access to Land Locked Cemeteries. The bill would prohibit a land division or plat that isolates a cemetery so that it is not accessible and instead require that cemeteries be served by easements that provide vehicular access." As of this writing, the bill has passed the Michigan House of Representatives and now is being forwarded to the Michigan Senate for further action.

**2010-2011  
Department Officers**

Commander

Paul D. Arnold, CC  
710 Mitchell Ave, #10  
Lansing, MI 48917  
(517)321-6013

[arnoldsuvcwmi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:arnoldsuvcwmi@sbcglobal.net)

Senior Vice Commander

Paul Davis  
535 Mayflower Drive,  
Saginaw, Michigan 48638  
[pdmarcomm@aol.com](mailto:pdmarcomm@aol.com)

Junior Vice Commander

Dale Aurand  
321 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
[Daurand321@yahoo.com](mailto:Daurand321@yahoo.com)

Recording Secretary

Dennis Fyke  
4966 Pelham  
Dearborn Heights, MI 48125

Treasurer

Bruce Gosling  
20388 US Hwy. 12  
White Pigeon, MI 49099  
[bgosling@charter.net](mailto:bgosling@charter.net)

Department Council

Rick Greene, PDC  
Tom Jenkins  
Kevin Lindsey, CC

Chaplain

William B. McAfee, PCC

Patriotic Instructor

Gary Granger, PCC

Color Bearer

Edgar Dowd

Counselor

James B. Pahl, PCC, PDC,  
PCinC

Guard

Chris Cox

Eagle Scout Coordinator

Jerry A. Olson, PCC

Signals Officer

Messenger Editor

Rick Danes, CC

Historian

Matt Adair

Guide

Bruce Benedict

Graves Registration

Rick Danes, CC

GAR Records

Gary Gibson, PDC

Civil War Memorials

Bruce B. Butgereit, PCC, PDC

Chief of Staff

Keith Harrison, PCC, PDC,  
PCinC

Camp At Large Coordinator

L. Dean Lamphere



**Department Orders #1**

Series 2012 – 2013

*Paul "Dave" Arnold, Commander*

*Headquarters, Lansing, MI*

*2 April 2012*

- 1) Having been duly elected and installed as Department Commander, I hereby assume command of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
- 2) Department Headquarters is transferred to 710 Mitchell Ave, #10, Lansing Michigan, 48917.
- 3) **General correspondence regarding Department issues should be sent to Department of Michigan Secretary, Dennis Fyke, 4966 Pelham St., Dearborn Heights Michigan 48125.**  
*Email correspondence the same at: [suvcw-secretary@comcast.net](mailto:suvcw-secretary@comcast.net)*
- 4) I would like to congratulate our new slate of elected and appointed officers, and sincerely thank the outgoing officers for the time and energy that they have devoted to our Order during their terms in office..
- 5) I would like to thank outgoing Commander, Donald Shaw for the superb job he has done in guiding our Department over the past two years. I would also like to thank all of the Department of Michigan brothers, who took time out of their busy schedules to attend and carry out the work of the order at the 123rd Department of Michigan Encampment held in Lansing, Michigan on March 31st, 2012.
- 6) A reminder of the 56th annual **Lincoln Tomb Ceremony**, sponsored by the SUVCW and MOLLUS commemorating the 146th anniversary of President Lincoln's death. The ceremony will be held at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield Illinois at 10am on **Saturday, April 14th, 2012**..Further information is available on the National website under SUVCW National Events.
- 7) The **2012 National Encampment** will be held **August 9th - 11th, 2012** at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott, in Los Angeles California. Registration is now open. Further information is available on the National website under SUVCW National Events.
- 8) In closing, **Memorial Day, (May 30th, 2012)** will soon be upon us. I would like to encourage all camps and brothers to participate in events and ceremonies in your respective communities, "Keeping Green the Memory" of our Civil War ancestors, the Grand Army of the Republic, as well as other service members who are now departed.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty:

Paul D. Arnold

Department Commander

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest: Dennis Fyke

Secretary,

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Department Orders # 2



Series 2012 – 20133

Paul "Dabe" Arnold, Commander

Headquarters, Flint, MI

5 May 2012

1) Department of Michigan, Brothers and Camps. At the 123rd Department of Michigan Encampment held in Lansing on March 31st, 2012, a Bylaws change was approved creating a position of Department Aide in regards to ceremonies, protocols and procedures. **The new Article XX, section 6 reads as follows. "Section 6. The Department Commander shall appoint a Department Aide who has knowledge of Civil War infantry drill and of the various ceremonies used by the Order wherein uniformed Camp Guards participate. The Department Aide shall serve as a coordinator between various Camp Guards as they participate in Department functions and shall serve as Commanding Officer of the combined Camp Guards at Department functions. The Department Aide shall also coordinate uniformed activities with any SVR units participating in Department activities and shall place himself under the authority of the senior SVR officer present at such events. The Department Aide may offer instruction to the various Camp Guards in practices, protocols and procedures in conducting public ceremonies of all types."**

I would like to announce the appointment of Keith Harrison, PCC, PDC, PCinC to fill this position. Brother Keith's experience in major leadership positions within the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Sons of Veterans Reserve and also in the area of military procedure, protocol and drill will serve the Department well as we move forward this position.

2) As you know, one of the most important holidays that we as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War participate in, is that of **Memorial Day, on May 30th** of each year. Created by General John Logan with the issuance of General Order #11, our ritual book is quite clear in regards to our responsibilities as members of the 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 manner 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."*

I would encourage Camps and Members to honor those that have served our country and have gone before us, by participating in Memorial Services in your local communities. An address that puts things in crystal clear perspective of the true meaning of Memorial Day is located on our Department website. It is entitled "**The National Day of Memorial**" I would recommend highly, that you take the time to read this address and share it with others.

3) Just a reminder that submissions to **Michigan's Messenger** for Department Officers, Camps and Members are due June 1, 2012 for a June 15th publication date.

4) The next **Graves Registration Meeting** is on June 9th at 10am at the downtown branch of the Capitol Area District Library located at 401 S. Capitol Ave, Lansing Michigan.

5) The new **Department Membership Brochure** is finalized and has been sent to the printer. As soon as it arrives and is available for ordering and distribution, information will be sent out in the form of a Department Correspondence as to the final price, shipping costs etc, as well as who to send your order information to.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty:

Paul D. Arnold, PCC, Commander  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Dennis Fyke  
Secretary  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Senior Vice Commander's Quips**  
**By Paul Davis**

Brothers of the Department of Michigan. I would first like to express my appreciation to you for your confidence in selecting me to be your DSVC.

We have hit the road running.

Department Commander Arnold has given me several assignments already and we are busy fulfilling his requests and representing the Department at events where he has been otherwise obligated.

Among the projects assigned, is the development of a training program for Camp Guards to ensure the accuracy and consistency of execution during the various activities of the Order where Camp Guards are utilized.

As your DSVC, we have attended a number of events representing the Department of Michigan. Among these were the Memorial Service on Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Cambridge Cemetery adjacent to the St. Michaels and All Angels Church which dates to the Civil War era. We remembered and honored 15 Civil War soldiers interred there. The salute was rendered by the Sons of Veterans Reserve, 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan Company A and re-enactors participating in the Walker Tavern event that weekend in Brooklyn, Michigan. Gary Naugle, Commander of Nash-Hodges Camp 43 presided.

On Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, we attended a Headstone Rededication Service for William Meaker, 5<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry and Abram Polley, 6<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry at the Fairview Cemetery in Linden. The ceremony was organized by the Daughters of Union Veterans and performed jointly with the Daughters and Brothers of Crapo Camp 145, Robert May, Camp Commander. The SVR was also present to fire a musket salute.

If I may be of assistance to any Camps, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Yours in F. C. & L.

Paul Davis  
DSVC  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Junior Vice Commander**  
**By Dale L. Aurand**

As your Dept. Jr. Vice Commander one of my responsibilities is promoting Camp membership. At the 2012 Encampment the Dept. authorized the printing of a blanket brochure for use of the camps. The new brochure has already been distributed to some of the Camps for their use at various functions. I urge all Camps to pursue getting this new, helpful and affordable item for their use.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you in the course of this next year

*Editor's Note: I have included all officer's and Camp reports in this volume. Because of the wonderful interest in providing articles to publish, not all items that were sent could be printed. I will include them in future editions of Michigan's Messenger as space allows.*  
*Thank you for your interest. RD*

## **Civil War Memorials**

**By Bruce B. Butgereit, PCC, PDC**

At the dedication of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Grand Rapids, Michigan on September 17, 1885, Major Charles W. Watkins of the 10th Michigan Cavalry spoke the following words –

*“...Most nations erect monuments to their great leaders; but today in this memorial we recognize no one above the other, and in ages hence, when every person here has been laid in his final resting place, the stranger within the city's gates, or the prattling child, as they pass by, may ask, Whose monument is that? And the response will be – That monument is erected in honor of the soldiers of Kent County, whose valor made it possible for us to live today in this beautiful, peaceful and prosperous city, under the stars and stripes, fitting emblem of a Union of States and a Nation's authority....”*

*...that so long as grass grows and water runs, the deeds of the soldiers will be kept fresh and green in the hearts of the people....”*

One can imagine that similar words were spoken at each of the countless dedication ceremonies for other Civil War Memorials that occurred across the United States.

As a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the words of Major Watkins and others are a challenge to each of us to ensure that we are fulfilling the duties of the Memorials Officer – locating and assessing the Memorials erected in honor of the Grand Army of the Republic and those that helped preserve the Union in 1861-1865 and when necessary, notifying local authorities of the need for restoration or preservation.

To assist each Camp Memorials Officer, I have created a Handbook of Instruction that will be sent out in June. This handbook is not the definitive answer to every question but created to serve as a “help” in the duties of the Camp Civil War Memorials Officer.

As in all things, effort must be applied for its success. The content of this handbook should not be read as another demand on your time, but a guide to what can be done as a Memorials Officer of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

In assessing where the Department is in regards to our CW Memorials program, we have some work to do and together we will accomplish it. I will be sending out email communication to each Camp Memorials Officer and Camp Commander as it is the Commander's responsibility to ensure his Memorials Officer is fulfilling the duties of his position. If your Camp does not have such an officer, it is the Commander's responsibility to assign one per our Ritual.

In case you need a refresher as to the Job Description of the Camp Memorials Officer, here they are:

### **Purpose -**

The purpose of the Camp level Civil War Memorials Officer is to coordinate the locating, physical examination of, and recording of all memorials dedicated to Union Civil War soldiers and sailors (outside the care of the National Military Parks, and the U. S. Departments of Defense, or Veterans' Affairs) within their respective geographic boundaries. This includes all sizes of monuments (with or without sculpture), those with Civil War era cannon and inert ammunition, memorial fountains, memorial buildings, memorial windows (stained glass), historical markers, and even small plaques.



*Continued on page 7*

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### Activities -

To prevent a duplication of effort on the part of a Camp's membership, the Camp Civil War Memorials Officer should: 1) coordinate the search for, physical examination of, photographing of, and recording of Civil War Memorials (as described above) located within the confines of the Camp's geographical boundaries; 2) maintain observation of care and upkeep for "local" Civil War Memorials - and bring any shortcomings to the attention of the property owners and community government where the memorial is located; 3) provide documentation of location and condition of Civil War Memorials (via SUVCW Form CWM 61) to the Department Civil War Memorials Officer.

**Note:** As these Job Descriptions have not been updated for many years, I am requiring **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS** of each memorial rather than hardcopies or photocopy images. The quality we will need for the online database requires digital images.

I will be updating the description and purpose of the Memorials page on the website in the next several weeks.

I look forward to working with you in this worthy and necessary project. Thank you.

Please direct any questions, concerns, or ideas to me at:

1691 Summerfield St. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49508-6499  
(616) 827-3369  
[civil-war@comcast.net](mailto:civil-war@comcast.net)



***The SVR at Walker's Tavern***

**Chaplain's Corner****By Bill McAfee PCC**

PDC Paul Hughes first appointed me Department Chaplain in 1997. I have been honored that succeeding Department Commander-candidates have also asked me to be their chaplain. Each one, when asking the question, got basically the same answer, "Unless you have an ordained minister who wants the job, I'll be honored to serve.", or words to that effect. Fifteen years is a long time for anyone to serve a Department position. It has been a privilege to participate in all the activities in this capacity. Some of the highlights of my service include the camp installations for Dearborn, Monroe, Centreville and Litchfield, funerals for (first) PCC Jack Patch, Camp 7, True Sons PDC Thane La Banta and Ed Blakely, then PDC Jim Lyons and the (re-)marriage of Howard "Rocky" & June Lloyd at the Jackson Muster, etc.

Now it is time for me to retire from this position, at the end of the current fiscal year. Therefore, I am reaching out to someone who might be interested in working with me for the rest of this year as Assistant Department Chaplain with the intent of making himself more eligible for appointment in 2013.

You may ask, "What does the Department Chaplain do?" Well, here's what he IS SUPPOSED TO DO:

**Camp Chaplain** . The activities of the Camp Chaplain should include: (1) Conducting prayer at all meetings; (2) Conducting grave site services for Brothers and important dignitaries; (3) Conducting memorials for grave dedication or rededication ceremonies of veterans - especially Union veterans; (4) Serving as custodian of the Camp Bible unless assigned to another Camp officer; (5) Preparing an annual necrology of Camp Brothers and submitting the list to Department Chaplain; (6) Serving as coordinator for the Camp's Memorial Day ceremony; (7) Becoming familiar with the duties of the office as set forth in the Order's Rituals and Ceremonials.

**Department Chaplain.** In addition to the duties of the Camp Chaplain, the activities of the Department Chaplain should also include: (1) Conducting annual memorial service at Department Encampment for deceased Brothers; (2) Providing each Camp Chaplain with information pertinent to their position; (3) Composing articles for Department newsletters as desired by the Department Commander; (4) Preparing an annual necrology of Department Brothers and submitting the list to National Chaplain; (5) Conducting memorial services for current and past officers of the Department; (6) Becoming familiar with the duties of the office as set forth in the Order's Ritual and Ceremonials.

I can't say that I have done all of them. If you are interested in the above-mentioned appointment, please send me an e-mail ([thistleis@sprynet.com](mailto:thistleis@sprynet.com)) or letter (9080 Dorado Ct., Milan, MI 48160) stating your reasons and qualifications. I will make a recommendation to the Department Commander for the appointment.

Bill M<sup>c</sup> Afee, Chaplain,  
"Serve the Lord with gladness."

**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**



## TAPS

*By Bill McAfee PCC, Department Chaplain*

Brother Robert "Bob" Mulvihill, D.D.S., died at home (10501 N. Meridian Road., Pleasant Lake, MI 49272) on May 21, 2012. He had been hospitalized since mid-April following a fall at home. Born in Chicago April 11, 1936, Bob attended Kalamazoo College and WMU before receiving his degree at the University of Detroit. While at Kalamazoo, he met and married his life-long friend and companion, Roxie Lou Linderman. They have four sons, eight grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Not only did he perform in many community theaters, barbershop choruses, quartets and his church choir, he and Roxie performed living history as Gen. (and President) U.S. Grant and Julia Dent Grant. They were familiar personae at many area Civil War activities.

Bob joined Austin Blair Camp No. 7 March 11, 1998, by virtue of his Great Grandfather Pvt. Charles F. Mulvihill, Co. B, 110<sup>th</sup> New York Vol. Infantry, who served August 13, 1862-August 28, 1865.

Much can be written about Bob including his service in the U.S. Navy, his work as a dentist at the Southern Michigan Prison and his volunteering at Allegiance Health (formerly Foote Hospital) in Jackson. But his pleasant, hale-fellow-well-met personality made him stand out in any crowd, no matter what role he happened to be playing at the time.

A memorial service will be held later this summer.

<http://obits.mlive.com/obituaries/jackson/obituary.aspx?n=robert-william-mulvihill-bob&pid=157826126> and <http://www.austinblaircamp7.com/> and [Robert Mulvihill, beloved area stage performer and singer, dies at 76 | MLive.com.](#)

### **Department Graves Registration Committee**

*by Rick Danes, Department Officer*

Your Department Graves Registration Committee met on June 9 at the Capitol Area Library in Lansing. Those attending were, Dave Arnold DC, Matt Adair Camp 145, Chris Czopek, Dick Hutchins and George Allen from Camp 120, Jim Jackson Camp 22, Charles Waters Camp 7, Tom Bruce, Camp 20, Tom Jenkins of Camp 14, Jim Petrimoulx Camp 67, Jerry Jacobs of Camp 427, Bruce Butgereit PDC, Dick Williams of Camp 58, and Gary Copenhaver from Camp 17. At that time I reported that the current database contains 63,529 records, including 60,148 Civil War and 3,381 other war entries.

Of special note was a discussion about changes in the requirements established by the VA in ordering headstones.

Future 2012 meeting dates are set for September 8 and December 8. I hope that even if you cannot attend our quarterly meetings, you and your Camps are starting or continuing the work started by our forefathers in documenting the last resting places of the heroes of the War of Insurrection 1861 - 1865.

What better way to honor them and bring attention to the work of the Order!

Stay Safe!!

## General John A. Logan Camp No. 1

Submitted by; Bruce B. Butgereit, Secretary

The Purpose and Objects of our Order state in part: "To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union 1861 to 1865...to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war; to teach patriotism, and the duties of citizenship, the true history of our country, and the love and honor of our Flag..."

In aligning ourselves with that charge, the members of our Camp have participated in or sponsored the following events –

**January 14 – Civil War Saturday.** Sponsored by the Public Museum of Grand Rapids. Event included displays from Camp 1, the WRC Champlin Corps No. 41, and the Michigan Commandery of MOLLUS and living history interaction as provided History Remembered, Inc.

**January 21 – The Civil War in Person.** Sponsored by History Remembered, Inc. Event at the Michigan Historical Center included displays from Camp 1, WRC Champlin Corps No. 41, Michigan Commandery of MOLLUS and the Department of Michigan SUVCW. Living history interaction provided by History Remembered, Inc and members of the 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co. B, Inc.

**February 27 – In Their Words – The Story of Annie Etheridge, Civil War Nurse.** Program sponsored by Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17. Presenters included members of Camp 1 and Corps No. 41.

**March 3 – In Their Words – The Story of Annie Etheridge, Civil War Nurse.** Program sponsored by West Michigan Genealogical Society. Presenters included members of Camp 1 and Corps No. 41.

**April 12 – The Michigan Soldier in Our Civil War.** Living history program sponsored by the Cub Scouts of Woodcliff Elementary School. Presenters were members of Camp 1.

**April 14 – Lincoln Death Day.** Program sponsored by the SUVCW and MOLLUS. Attended by Bruce B. Butgereit of Camp 1.

**April 16 – In Their Words – The Story of Annie Etheridge, Civil War Nurse.** Program sponsored by West Michigan Genealogical Society. Presenters included members of Camp 1 and Corps No. 41.

**May 4 – The Michigan Soldier in Our Civil War.** Living history program sponsored by the City of Grand Rapids Sister Cities Committee. Presenters were members of Camp 1 and shared information about the 102<sup>nd</sup> USCT with representatives from Ghana.

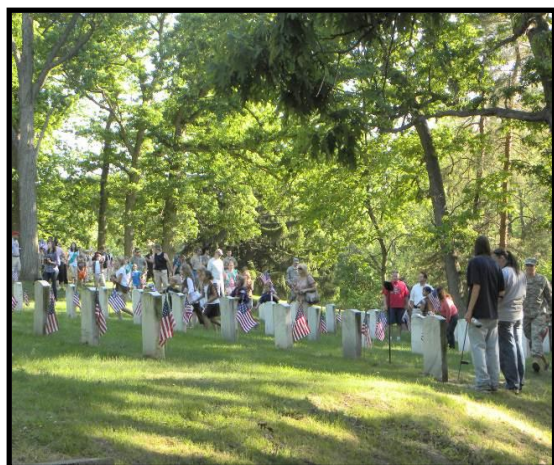
**May 10, 16, & 17 – Junior ROTC Presentations.** One cadet from Union, Creston and Ottawa Hills High Schools received the SUVCW JrROTC award. Commander Truss presented two awards and Memorials Officer Bruce B. Butgereit presented the other.

**May 23 – Flag Placement.** Sponsored by the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. Over 5,000 graves are decorated with a flag by hundreds of Boy and Girl Scouts in less than 15 minutes. Each headstone receives a salute from the youngster. Commander Truss and Brothers Chet Trybus and Bruce B. Butgereit were joined by Sisters Wenda Fore, Jeannine Trybus and Marcia Butgereit in placing flowers at the Civil War monument in the cemetery and posting a Color Guard. The kids enjoy having their photo taken with the "soldiers." It is an emotional moment when at 7 PM, Taps from multiple trumpets echoes across the grounds.



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### The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans Over 5,000 soldiers buried there; 2,412 from the Civil War



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**May 28 – “Keeping Green the Memory” Memorial Tour.** Memorial Day found the Camp conducting 5 ceremonies in 4 cemeteries with assistance from Corps 41 and the Michigan Commandery of MOLLUS. Each man had never before received a headstone. Linda Haney of Pillars of Honor conducted the research for Olive Township.

#### Blain Cemetery –

**Pvt. John Isaac Cutler** (3<sup>rd</sup> Michigan Infantry, Co. G) Following the Third's stint in Troy, NY to guard over the draft, John Cutler wrote an open letter to the citizens of Troy, dated September 16, 1863. The part I thought the most defining of the man was as follows: *“We came cheerfully to your city, and you are well aware we came cheerfully away; we are now going cheerfully to the field of battle; and, led by our noble commander, I trust we will, if need be, go cheerfully to our graves in defense of our much afflicted country.”*

#### Olive Cemetery – (Participant photo below)

**Pvt. Enoch L. Rhoades** (4<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry, Co. K) I never knew that the entire Fourth Michigan Cavalry went after Confederate President Jefferson Davis but the Col. Benjamin Pritchard hand-picked 128 men to take on this task. Enoch Rhoades was one of them.

**Pvt. Lewis D. Rhoades** (1<sup>st</sup> Michigan E&M, Co. E) The maximum age of enlistment in the Union Army was 44 years. Lewis Rhoades enlisted at the age of 52.

#### West Olive Cemetery –

**Pvt. George Hyde** (9<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry, Co. E)

**Pvt. Cornelius Claus** (1st Michigan Lt. Artillery, Co. E)

#### Oakhill Cemetery –

**Pvt. Richard Soy** (106<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry, Co. A) This man claimed his age was 36 at the time of enlistment although he was 49 years old. The record stated gray hair and gray eyes. (Photo to the right).



**Pvt. Orrin Potter** (Dixon's Regiment, Captain Jonathan Prentis Jr.'s 2nd Co. of Infantry, Vermont Detached Militia, War of 1812) The Stephen Preston Chapter of the United Daughters of 1812 participated in this ceremony.

#### Cascade Cemetery –

**Pvt. Thomas Henefrey** (3rd Michigan Infantry, Co. B)

**Pvt. William Henry Marr** (44th Illinois Infantry, Co. B) At the time the Michigan regiments had reached their quota of enlistments, over 220 men from southern-middle Michigan went to Chicago to enlist. Companies B and H of the 44<sup>th</sup> Illinois were men from Michigan.

**Pvt. Charles M. Nobbs** (21st Michigan Infantry, Co. B and 14th Michigan Infantry, Co. I)



**May 28 – Memorial Day in Poplar Hill and Monterey Cemeteries.** Near Hopkins, two members of Camp 1, Chaplain Comer Skinner and Cleon Duryea participate in these community ceremonies.

**May 30 – Memorial Day in Grand Rapids.** Camp 1 conducted the traditional GAR Memorial Day ceremony at the Kent County Civil War Monument. Following this, the Allied Orders of Grand Rapids – the Camp, Corps 41, and Eva Gray Tent No. 2, DUVCW – marched in the parade. The evening closed with a service in Veterans Memorial Park. Past National President of the WRC, Marcia Butgereit is annually called upon to give the benediction and to keep the Civil War connection alive.

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#### **Other business –**

The Camp serves as a stakeholder on the City of Grand Rapids committee that oversees **Monument Park** and **Veterans Memorial Park**. Commander Truss and Bruce B. Butgereit represent the Camp at the meetings. We have just begun a series of meetings to rehabilitate these two Memorial parks. While it seems there is support for keeping these historic parks sacred and respectful, one member of the Grand Rapids Historical Commission made the statement that, "...*These parks should not be elevated to such a high status.*" Amazing how ignorant some people can be.

The Camp also serves on a committee to protect our **cemeteries** from being turned into playgrounds, dog parks and green space. We have our work cut out.

We have renewed our efforts in compiling the history of Camp 1 as well as our work in the Civil War Memorials project. We are also still involved in the restoration of one Civil War plaque and the design for two new Civil War/Veteran related memorials in Byron Center and Dutton, MI.

The next several months will be busy ones.

### **NEW DUVCW PRESIDENT RECEIVES GAVEL**



**GAVEL TRADITION** – On April 4, 2012 David Hilliker of Corunna (far left) continued a 10-year tradition by presenting a new wooden gavel and knocker to Daughters of Union Veterans of The Civil War incoming president Theresa Graves of Owosso. Hilliker has made the presentation twice before in the past decade to Nancy Newman of rural Owosso (second from right) and to his wife Carol Hilliker (far right). All three are members of the DUVCW Juliette Stevens Tent 14, located in Corunna.

Hilliker has also been experimenting with different woods. His wife's gavel set was made using walnut while Graves' set is made from bubinga wood and Newman's is from zebra wood. Those woods come from Africa. It took him approximately two days to complete each set including finishing. (Courtesy Photo)

## General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2

Submitted by Bruce Miller, SVC/PCC

### Michigan's Camp 2 presents Annual ROTC Award

The General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, recently recognized a local U. S. Army Junior ROTC cadet with the presentation of the ROTC Award, given for outstanding achievement. The recognition came at a March 8, 2012 awards ceremony for Abe's Battalion at Lincoln High School, Warren, Michigan. This year's award winner was Cadet Colonel Joshua Henning of Warren, a junior at Lincoln High and the most decorated cadet in school history. Cadet Colonel Henning is the Battalion Commander, a member of the drill team and both an exceptional leader and student. In addition to the SUVCW award, Cadet Henning has also many additional awards this year including the VFW Achievement Award, Scottish Rite Patriotism Award and the Daughters of the War of 1812 Award for scholastic and military excellence.

SUVCW Camps selectively present the award to deserving cadets that **"show a high degree of patriotism to his/her Nation and has demonstrated a high degree of academic performance and leadership."** The General Israel B. Richardson camp, a longtime proponent of this program, surveyed several local high school level ROTC programs and has made its award to a member of "Abe's Battalion" at Lincoln High, one of the areas finest organizations.



U. S. Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Cadet Colonel Joshua Henning displays the SUVCW ROTC Award he received from the General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2. The award was presented by Camp 2 ROTC Awards Committee member Jim Harris (left).

The Brothers of General Israel B. Richardson Camp #2 had a busy and fulfilling Memorial Day. 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 CC Bill Nash's address on the origins of the day; SVC; PCC Bruce Miller delivered a dissertation on the Gettysburg Address; and Chaplain Don Koch delivered the invocation.

At the conclusion of the service, the Camp moved to historic Oak Hill Cemetery in Pontiac and highlighted the grave of Camp namesake General Richardson. The memorial service was highlighted by a stirring biography of the general delivered by PCC Kevin Lindsey, taps played by Kevin's daughter Lisa, and the placing of floral tributes.

Memorial Day 2012 was our duty and honor and we had fun doing it!



### Henry E. Plant Camp 3

Submitted by Daniel Grable, Secretary/Treasurer

For Memorial Day this year Brother Daniel Grable attended the Memorial Worship service sponsored by the Grand Haven Memorial Day Association. It was held at the Spring Lake Presbyterian Church. Rev. Daniel Anderson of the church preached on "Who is my neighbor?" based on the story of the Good Samaritan and how good can come out of dislike of others and bad situations.

On Memorial Day the camp participated in the Spring Lake parade and Memorial Day ceremonies. In the parade the camp was the color barriers for the entire parade. We were assisted by the honor guard of the Sgt. Alvin Jonker VFW Post 2326 of Grand Haven. The VFW Post also had their military ambulance and trailer in the parade. During the parade from downtown Spring Lake to the cemetery on the east side of the village the combined Honor Guard stopped periodically and the VFW played taps from their trailer. This was a very nice touch. We marched right behind the Grand Marshall Porter Fletcher.

During the ceremonies coordinated by the Spring Lake Heritage Festival Committee at the Spring Lake Cemetery the camp posted the camp's flags on the platform following the welcoming and introducing of the Grand Marshall. Later Asst. Chaplin John Baldus read GAR Commander-in-Chief Gen. Logan's order #11 which started Memorial Day in 1868. Then Brother Daniel Grable officially placed the memorial wreath on the speaker's platform in honor of the deceased veterans.

Following the reading of the list of the local veterans who died in the last year the camp's Honor Guard of John Baldus, Donald Ogden, Jonathan Scott and commander Richard Scott fired the gun salute. This was followed with taps played by trumpeters from the Spring Lake High School Marching Band.

After the ceremonies the camp held their annual Anniversary Picnic for our brothers and their family members. It was held in the nearby Central Park. We had nine brothers and family members who enjoyed our good food and camaraderie.

Also we had members of Camp in the Fruitport Old Fashioned Days Memorial Day Parade. They were PCC Max Riekse (Past Commander of Fruitport VFW Polar Bear Post 3734) and Jr. Member Richard Riekse.

Our next activity is a Civil War Presentation on June 16th, which includes the life stories of several Civil War veterans from the Spring Lake area. The presentation is part of the Spring Lake Heritage Festival in June. Meanwhile our Camp Commander Richard Scott has had a rough year so far. On Christmas Eve his Mother-in-law died. This was followed by his wife Karen having conjunctive heart problems and wound up in the hospital. She was there for a long time. Since her arrival home Commander Scott and his son Brother Jonathan Scott have been taking care of Karen. The camp requests that you please keep Commander Scott, his wife Karen and their son Jonathan, a brother of our camp, in your prayers. We were pleased that she was in attendance at the camp's Memorial Day activities.

*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 [mimesrd@aol.com](mailto:mimesrd@aol.com).*