

## Sons of Veterans Reserve

Submitted by L. Dean Lamphere, Commander

### The SVR....At Your Service



The Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) is the uniformed, ceremonial military component of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). The SVR consists of seven geographical Military Districts across the nation. SVR Units participate in SUVCW ceremonies and rituals, other Civil War related ceremonies, parades, and living history programs.

In the Department of Michigan, our SVR Unit is known as the 14th Michigan Infantry, Co. A, the Irish Rifle. We are part of the SVR 3rd Military District that includes the Departments of Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio.

The Sons of Veterans Reserve is available to assist any Camp within the Department with regard to presenting a uniformed military presence for activities such as Honor Guards, displaying the Colors and rendering salutes using blank rounds fired from Civil War replica muskets during memorial, dedication or rededication ceremonies. This type of support may be especially beneficial to Camps that do not have a Camp Guard. SVR members are trained and drilled in the proper performance of their duties and the safe handling and use of firearms. Camps may, if they desire, maintain their own independent military organization as a Camp Guard for parades, services and ceremonies under the auspices of the Camp with which the unit is associated.

The SVR is available to perform services upon request by a Camp Commander or other elected Camp Officer to support any given Camp's activities desiring a military presence. The SVR does not take it upon itself to attend an event or ceremony without an invitation or request for support from proper Camp authority.

The SVR supporting the Department of Michigan is a very active organization providing support services for Camps located throughout the state. The SVR also participates in ceremonies, programs, and parades such as the Annual Remembrance Day in Gettysburg, the Lincoln Birthday, Memorial Day, Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, Illinois.

Membership in the SVR is open to Sons who are also members in good standing of the SUVCW.

For more information or to request support for your event or activity, please contact:

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**Austin Blair Camp 7**

Submitted by Robert Griggs, PCC



Left to right Rexine Cockroft, Howard Lloyd, Brenda Walters, Bob Griggs, June Lloyd, Ron Tyrl, Mike Maillard

March was a very busy month for members of Camp 7. On the 19<sup>th</sup> members were at East Jackson Memorial Elementary School where they spoke with 2<sup>nd</sup> graders about the Civil War. PCC Ron Tyrl worked with part of the students on making a poster for the Adopt the Eagle program at Potter Park Zoo. Camp 7 and the second grade classes at Memorial have done this since 2002. Members of the Auxiliary talked about what ladies and children wore during at the time of the war and the men talked about communications in the 1860's and how it has changed since that time. Both the ladies and men answered many questions about the war and the men and women who fought in it.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> Brother Chris Cox put on an excellent Power Point presentation at the Carnegie Branch of the Jackson District Library. He presented this show two different times. He also had many displays on hand for visitors to look at and answered questions about his presentation and displays.



Brother Cox talking about his displays



Dept Officers; Chris is 3<sup>rd</sup> from left. Photocourtesy of Jim Pahl PCinC.

At the Department Encampment on the 31<sup>st</sup>, Brother Cox was appointed to a second term as Department Guard and PCC Bob Griggs was awarded the Abraham Lincoln Award. Camp 7 was also awarded the Austin Blair Award for the Camp with the most new members. Congratulations to all.



PCC Griggs with Abraham Lincoln Award.



Sister Liz Lloyd with Mrs. Thelen's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class.

Moving right on into April we did not slow down at all as on the 10<sup>th</sup> members of the Auxiliary visited Mrs. Thelen's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class at Explorer Elementary School in Williamston where the class signed and decorated squares for *Comfort Quilts*. These squares are sewn together and sent to hospitals as part of care packages for wounded U. S. Soldiers.



SVC Howard Lloyd & Sister Lloyd at Lincoln's Tomb

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Four days later members were in Springfield where they took part in the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Ceremony at Lincoln's Tomb.



Matt VanAcher (center) showing us the Battle Flags

Moving right into May, the Austin Blair Camp did not slow down at all. Starting with the first Saturday when members, along with members of the Auxiliary and the George W. Anderson Camp No. 58 met at the Michigan Historical Museum with Matt VanAcher in Lansing to view the Michigan Battle Flags.

Matt started off by telling us the history of attempts to conserve the flags and then we went into the "vault" where members were able to choose the flags they wished to view.

Our next stop for the month of May was on the 19<sup>th</sup> where members of both the Camp and Auxiliary gathered at the Historical Grosvenor House in Jonesville for a Civil War living history day. Members were able to speak with many visitors and talk to them about their ancestors and how Civil War soldiers lived.



Auxiliary and Camp members at the Grosvenor House.



Brothers Maillard and Lloyd showing students at Paragon the workings of a rifled musket.

Not taking to much time for a break the Auxiliary and Camp members showed up at the Paragon School the following Monday the 21<sup>st</sup>. There they set up camp and talked to students from the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades about of soldiers from both sides in the war got along. The students were able to get a "hands on" experience about what marching was like with full equipment and musket. They were also told how wounded soldiers would have been treated for their wounds. The ladies of the Auxiliary showed the students how to make rag dolls and each girl who attended was given one of these dolls. They also had students sign squares for Comfort Quilts to be given out to wounded soldiers.

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**Auxiliary and Camp members at the grave site of "The War Governor", Austin Blair in Jackson.**

Even before the Memorial Day weekend started members of Camp 7 were busy cleaning headstones in Mt. Evergreen Cemetery in Jackson. One of those cleaned was that of Governor Austin Blair.



**Members of the Auxiliary and Camp at the Civil War Monument in Concord.**

Over the three day Memorial Day weekend members of Camp 7 and its Auxiliary were at many different locations. Some members were in Greenfield Village to help with the living history there. Some assisted Camp 17 with their Memorial Day celebration while others were in Jackson and Concord to partake in celebrations and parades in those areas.

### ***Grand Army of the Republic Building (Detroit)***

*Bruce B. Butgereit, PDC, Department Memorials Officer*



The restoration of the GAR Building in Detroit is underway. The first task was to remove any hazardous environmental debris (mainly barrel after barrel of pigeon droppings). The next project was to replace any damaged floor joists in the turrets as a result of explorers and the residentially challenged leaving the doors open to the elements. Minimal work to the exterior is required and will be done by an expert in such restoration going so far as to chemically test the mortar to ensure a proper match. Currently, the roof is being replaced and the windows are being restored – not replaced – as they are in good shape. A specially designed safety room has been erected to capture all of the lead paint. The window people were amazed at the quality of the windows.

A logo is being designed to help advertise the building restoration. Other exciting plans include some video to be shown through the building windows.

The current plans are to have the building complete by November 11, 2013. I have suggested several ideas for a rededication.

To follow the progress on the building, please visit:  
<http://gardetroit.posterous.com/>

If you have any questions, please contact me:

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## Robert Finch Camp 14

By Wm. E. Skillman, Signals Officer

As of June 1, 2012, Camp 14's roster shows 45 Brothers present. 39 are Members and 6 are Associates. Our next meeting will held on September 8th at the Elks Lodge at 325 Bay Street (at the intersections of Grandview Parkway and Division) in Traverse City.

Despite a late March storm of wet snow and freezing rain that made traveling treacherous, nine Camp 14 Brothers (PCC's Aurand, Breaugh, Skillman; CC Goodrich, SVC Bryant and delegates JVC Conger, Sec Jenkins, WMO Grieve, Don Gray and Jim Ribby) traveled to Lansing to participate in the 123<sup>rd</sup> Department Encampment. Their dedication did not go unnoticed by departing Commander Don Shaw, who informed the gathering: "*these gentlemen drive over 200 miles, each way*". Early arrival, Brother Skip Bryant, found himself unexpectedly 'volunteered' to man the reception desk to process arriving Brothers. Skip did a fine job bringing 'order out of chaos' to ensure all attendees were processed in a timely manner.



Front rank: SVC Skip Bryant, Neal Breaugh, Jim Ribby, CC Geo. Goodrich, WMO Gerry Grieve, Don Gray. Rear rank: JVC Joe Conger, PCC Dale Aurand, Wm. Skillman, Sec. Tom Jenkins

4 Brothers were asked by Dept. Commander Shaw to serve on committees; Brother Bryant (with Matt Adair) was tasked with reception, Skillman on Officers Reports (Gary Gibson chair). Brothers Gray, Conger, Ribby all stood to voice their opinions during deliberations—their comments reflected their heart-felt commitment to the Order. When proposals were being offered, Brother Breaugh was quick to add a loud and hearty "*Second!!!*" that always drew a hearty chuckle from the assembly.

Among the new Dept officers and staff who will be assisting new Dept Commander Dave Arnold in 2012 are: Tom Jenkins (Dept Council) and Dale Aurand (Junior Vice Commander & Ceremonies and Rituals Committee). Congratulations Brothers!

Camp 14 received one of six Sesquicentennial Awards bestowed by the Department for their tribute to Native American's John Jacko and William Isaacs (Company 'K' 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Sharpshooters) with a GAR grave dedication in May 2011. We also received a ribbon to be attached to the colors in recognition for participating in the 2011 Veterans Day parade in Detroit.

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*A very busy DCC Don Shaw takes a moment to congratulate CC Geo. Goodrich on Camp 14's Sesquicentennial Award*

WMO Gerry Grieve is quickly garnering a reputation as the 'Canon Detective of the North'. In April, he was contacted by the Manistee American Legion Post who had been storing a 6 pounder brass howitzer cast by Cyrus Alger & Sons. The cannon had been on display in front of the Legion hall for many years until some youngsters decided to roll it into the Manistee River. Brother Grieve inspected and photographed the disassembled cannon as a preliminary step to determine what will be needed to restore it to its former glory. The American Legion plans to make it the center piece for their new Veterans park. On March 14<sup>th</sup>, Gerry stopped in Thompsonville for lunch and discovered a Model 1861 8 inch siege howitzer. Like the Manistee cannon, the howitzer was also cast by Alger and Son's in 1864. Neither cannon is listed on the Dept. Registry. Camp 14 is in the process of talking with Thompsonville officials to learn of the cannon's history and ownership.



GRO Tom Jenkins extended a helping hand to Pennsylvania Brother, Jeffery J. Smith (of Gen. Hartranft Camp No. 15 of Harrisburg). Brother Smith's ancestor was Martin J. Sehl, who served in Battery 'A' of the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Light Artillery. Pvt. Martin and his battery fought in some of the most famous battles of the Western theater: Perryville, Kentucky (1862), Stones River, Chickamauga, and Lookout Mountain, TN (1863). Following the War, Pvt. Sehl moved to the wilds of northern Michigan to homestead a farm and raise a large family. In 1910, at the age of 74, Pvt. Sehl died of kidney failure. 102 years later, Brother Smith located the final resting place of his ancestor; lying in an unmarked grave in a cemetery near the town of Vanderbilt, Michigan. Brother Smith searched the Dept. of Michigan's website and discovered Camp 14 to be the closest to Vanderbilt. He contacted GRO Tom Jenkins, and together they obtained a headstone.

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On April 18<sup>th</sup>, Brother Jenkins put the grave marker in the back of his truck and transported it the 75 miles to Vanderbilt. He was greeted by sexton, Ron Bus, who with assistance by Larry Sehl (a descendent of Pvt. Sehl) and friend Al Raycroft, they placed the headstone on Pvt. Sehl's grave.



*Unmarked no more: Sexton Ron Bush, GRO Tom Jenkins, descendent Larry Sehl and friend Al Raycroft set the headstone for Pvt. Martin J. Sehl of the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Light Artillery*

On Saturday, August 18th, we will conduct a GAR grave service for Pvt. Sehl that is scheduled to coincide with the Sehl family reunion. Attending will be Pennsylvania Brother Jeffery Smith and his daughter, Ilsa Mae Smith, (a member of the Daughters of the Union Veterans). Camp 14 extends an open invitation to all Brothers who wish to join us in this unique event.

SVC Skip Bryant is working with the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Park to have Camp 14 be part of the annual Port Onieda Fair, (scheduled on Friday & Saturday-August 10 & 11). Camp 14 will be conducting an abbreviated GAR service on Saturday for Civil War veteran-homesteaders buried at the Kelderhouse Farm cemetery in the Rural Historic District. Those Brothers wishing to come up to 'God's country' to join us please contact SVC Bryant.

Our May meeting was a busy one. Brother, John Sawyer was installed by CC Goodrich. Commander Goodrich, who in turn was presented with a 15 year membership pin, while PCC Dale Aurand pinned a 10 year badge on PCC Jan White. Our guest speaker was Mr. Jim Newkirk of Battery 'D' 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Artillery. Jim gave a fascinating talk on the role played by both the original and reenacting artillery. He is a nationally recognized expert on cannon safety and has been involved in movies like *Gettysburg* and dozens of regional and national Civil War reenactments.

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*John Dyle pins SUVCW badge on new Brother, John Sawyer CC Goodrich and PCC White show their badges*

Memorial Day found Camp 14 Brothers participating in numerous observances throughout the region. GRO Tom Jenkins was keynote speaker in his hometown of Hart, Michigan. He gave an address originally presented by GAR Post Commander J.W. Montgomery over 100 years ago. Brother Breugh and Leelanau Sherriff Michael Oltersdorf hurried from west to the east side of the county so they could attend ceremonies at the Veterans Memorial in Lake Leelanau and Northport. The Morse family presided over ceremonies in Lake Ann, and Skip Bryant was active in Elk Rapids. PCC Aurand, JVC Conger and new Brother, John Sawyer were present at Traverse City's Oakwood cemetery.

### ***Images of the Department Encampment***





## U.S. Grant Camp 67

Submitted by Submitted by Ken Martin, Grant Camp SVC

U. S. Grant Camp 67 as part of its Adopt A School Program made five living history presentations to 8<sup>th</sup> grade history classes at Freeland Midland School on March 14.

At the conclusion of the school presentations, Grant Camp announced an Essay Contest open to all members of these 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes. Students were to write a 1,000 minimum word essay on the topic: "What Does The Civil War Means To Me And How Does It Affect My Life Today." The contest did not generate the level of participation that was anticipated, but the entries that were received were well written and very insightful.

One student wrote that they were from North Carolina and wondered where they might be and what their situation would be today if the Confederacy had won the war.

On May 24<sup>th</sup>, three winners and one honorable mention were selected.



As part of its Memorial Day activities, U.S. Grant Camp 67 from Bay City, Michigan performed a Rededication Service on May 28<sup>th</sup> to keep green the memory of Peter LaChance at the Oak Ridge Cemetery. Peter served in the 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Company G.

After the war, LaChance worked as a ships carpenter at the Ballentine Ship Building Company in Bay City. His residence was at 603 State Street, just a few blocks away from his final resting place at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

Grant Camp members in attendance for the ceremony included from left to right: Paul Davis, Department Senior Vice Commander and Grant Camp Commander; Don Shaw, National Chief of Staff and Past Department Commander; Rev. Charles Buckhan, Bob Boquette, Len "Irish" McInerney, Jack Frost, Jonathan McInerney, Ken Martin, Grant Camp Senior Vice Commander; and L. Dean Lamphere, Commander, 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan Company A, SVR. Not pictured is Grant Camp GRO, Jim Petrimoulx who located Peter LaChance's resting place.



## Gov. Henry Crapo Camp 145

Submitted by Submitted by



Camp Thomson was a Civil War training facility occupied by the Tenth Michigan Infantry Regiment from November 1, 1861 until April 22, 1862. Camp Thomson was situated on the east bank of the Flint River from what is now Richfield Road to Robert T. Longway Boulevard, encompassing the areas of both Avondale and Aventine cemeteries. named in honor of prominent Flint citizen and then president of the state military board, Edward H. Thomson, the "camp of instruction" included a drill-ground, barracks, and mess and cook-rooms. A field hospital was established in the area now occupied by the Durant Hotel. The Tenth Michigan Infantry Regiment was reviewed by Gov. Austin Blair at Camp Thomson on February 5, 1862, and was mustered into United States service the next day under command of the following field officers: Col. Charles H. Lum, Lt. Col. Christopher Dickerson, and Maj. James Scarri. At a ceremony on April 22, 1862 Edward Thomson presented the regiment with its National colors on behalf of the citizens of Flint. On April 22, 1862 the Tenth Michigan Infantry Regiment departed Michigan, joining General Pope's Army of the Mississippi at Pittsburg Landing, Tennessee. During its winter tme training at Camp Thomson\_ six members of the regiment died of disease and were interred in the old Flint city cemetery. Their remains were removed to Elmwood Cemetery in Detroit after the War.



Camp 145 and supporters at a Linen Cemetery Memorial Day ceremony.

### Henry F. Wallace Camp 160

Submitted by Mike McMillan, PCC and Helen Granger, ASUVCW Department of Michigan Press Correspondent/Newsletter Editor

FIVE military monuments -- three Civil War, Korean War and Vietnam War -- are tended each year by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Henry F. Wallace Camp 160 and the Allied Orders of Shiawassee County. Shown above is the Civil War Monument (as of May 26, 2012) that was originally dedicated Memorial Day, May 30, 1916 and in 1996 moved from the City of Corunna Pine Tree Cemetery to the historic Shiawassee County Courthouse lawn and re-dedicated that same year. The monument was erected in memory of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and those from Shiawassee County who served in The Civil War. There are 828 Civil War veterans buried in Shiawassee County cemeteries.



Of note, there were 10 GAR Posts located throughout Shiawassee County. Posts included: 11 Roberts of Bancroft, 117 David G. Royce of Byron, 128 Thomas C. Crane of Henderson, 160 Henry F. Wallace of Corunna, 172 Harlow P. Niles of New Lothrop, 192 Henry Deming of Laingsburg, 205 Louis B. Quackenbush of Owosso, 310 Crawford of Perry, 438 Harlow P. Niles of New Lothrop and 440 Charles F. Beard of Morrice. The last Post closed in 1924.

The GAR Henry F. Wallace Post 160 was reactivated in 1996 as the SUVCW Henry F. Wallace Camp 160. Also in 1996, the SUVCW 160 joined with the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War (DUVCW) Juliet E. Stevens Tent 14 to assure that flowers were planted annually at the recently moved and very visible monument. The following year, a Grand Army of the Republic (Quackenbush Post) monument -- located on the lawn of the Owosso City Hall, Owosso -- and another large Civil War Monument located in Oak Hill Cemetery, Owosso, were added to the list of monuments to be tended.

Helen Granger of Corunna coordinates the donations and flower planting. She is an DUVCW Tent 14 Honorary Member, and Auxiliary SUVCW Nash-Hodges 43 member and is currently serving as the ASUVCW Department of Michigan Press Correspondent/Newsletter Editor.

Because two other military monuments -- Vietnam War and Korean War -- were also located on the courthouse lawn, Sister Granger works with the county buildings and grounds superintendent Phil Heavilin to coordinate planting efforts. She and husband, Brother Gary Granger, also donate their time to tend the entrance/historic marker garden and a larger island flower bed at the courthouse.

Donations make the flower planting possible. Meijer, Inc. of Corunna has donated since 1996 as has DUVCW Tent 14. Farmer's Garden of Corunna has also been a longtime donator. (Courtesy Photo)



On the parade float from left: Camp Commander Greg Huckins and members Max Newman, David Hilliker and Gary Granger. (Courtesy Photo by Mike McMillan)

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MEMBERS of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Henry F. Wallace Camp No. 160 of Corunna and Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865 Eva Gray Tent No. 2 of Grand Rapids as well as members of the DUVCW Juliet Stevens Tent No. 14 gathered April 28 at St. Paul's Catholic Cemetery in Owosso to dedicate the headstone of Civil War veteran James Delaney of Shiawassee County. Delaney served from 1864 to 1865 with Company A, 15th Michigan Under Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman. Approximately 40 members of the Delaney family gathered at the cemetery. (Courtesy Photo by ASUVCW Press Correspondent Helen A. Granger)



When Bethany Hoover of Dowling, formerly of Owosso, found out that her great-great-grandfather and Civil War veteran James Delaney did not have a headstone, she began working with the Veterans Administration to obtain one.

Helping Hoover coordinate the event were members of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865 (DUVCW) Eva Gray Tent No. 2, Grand Rapids where Hoover is currently serving as its president and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Henry F. Wallace Camp No. 160, based in Shiawassee County. Also present were members of the DUVCW Juliet Stevens Tent 14, based in Shiawassee County, including its president Theresa Grace of Owosso and a state-level representative of the ASUVCW. Hoover is also a Civil War re-enactor and several re-enactors attended the service.

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MEMBERS of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Henry F. Wallace Camp 160 and the Allied Orders of Shiawassee County attended five Memorial Day parades. Attending numerous parades is an annual activity for the Camp and Allied Orders.

This year parades in Perry, Corunna, Vernon, New Lothrop and Owosso were attended by one or more members.

At the Owosso closing ceremonies, held at the Civil War Monument in Oak Hill Cemetery, Owosso, SUVCW members were part of the Honor Guard and fired a cannon salute. Helen Granger represented the Department of Michigan Auxiliary to the SUVCW and was a featured speaker -- asked to read Logan's Order.

Gathered here (from left) are: Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War Juliet E. Stevens Tent 14 Secretary and Past President (PP) Carol Hilliker, SUVCW 160 Past Commander (PC) David Hilliker, DUVCW 14 President Theresa Grace, SUVCW 160 PC Max Newman, SUVCW PC and SUVCW Department of Michigan Patriotic Instructor Gary A. Granger, Helen Granger and SUVCW 16 Flag Guard Leston Curtis. Missing from photo is SUVCW 160 PC Mike McMillan. (Courtesy Photo)

### **Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427**

*By Jerry Jacobs, Camp Secretary*



Camp 427 remains a leader in the east. After a very successful spring, the Camp made an annual visit to the John Dingell VA Hospital in Detroit, making donations of books and personal supplies, and a check. Shown are (from the left) Camp Members Aaron Schrader, Jerry Radloff, Howard Fite (who coordinated the event), Rick Danes, VA Hospital Chief of Voluntary Section Wayne Snyder, and Jon Reed.



In May, the Camp was honored to provide a Color Guard and Eagle Commendation to Scout Tyler Moore of Boy Scout Troop 547 in Monroe. His Eagle Project was helping to clear and upgrade Potter Cemetery, a subject that caused the Landlocked Cemetery Law currently being considered in the Michigan Senate.

## Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans

Submitted by Helen Granger



GATHERED here are the 2012 Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans Frances Finch officers (seated from left): President Mary Rose and Vice-President Judy Jenkins. Standing (from left) are: Guide Marcia Burgereit, Trustee Jane Prebble, Chaplain Dorothy Roush, Patriotic Instructor Marian Solem and Secretary Emily Breaugh. Missing from the photograph is Treasurer Karen Goodrich, Treasurer. (Courtesy Photo)

**NATIONAL VISITORS** – The ASUVCW Michigan Department was visited March 31 by two honored guests: ASUVCW National President Anne Jaster (third from right) and SUCVW

National Commander Donald Palmer (fifth from left).

Gathered here at the March 31 convention held in Lansing are ASUVCW Michigan officers (from left): Chaplain and PDS Emily Breaugh, PDP/Council #1 Linda Kronberg, Patriotic Instructor Mary Rose, Secretary Karol "KZ" Bolton, Palmer, Treasurer Vicki Weiss, Department President Karen Hamann, PDP/Council #2 Dorothy Lowe, Jaster, Vice-President Marilyn Kay Smith, Council #3 Judy Jenkins. (PHOTO: David Sosnowski)



**PASSING THE TORCH** – SUCVW MI Commander Don Shaw (right) passed the symbolic "torch" to ASUVCW MI President Karen Hamann to signify the ASUVCW will host the 2013 Department of Michigan Encampment scheduled for April 19-20, 2013 at Great Lakes Christian College, Lansing. (PHOTO: David Sosnowski)

JAMES "Sister Jimmy" Pahl (left) who serves as the ASUVCW Department of Michigan Counselor and is a SUCVW member and PDC and who is a faculty member at Great Lakes Christian College welcomed visitors and guests at the March 31 evening banquet. SUCVW MI Commander Don Shaw (center) and SUCVW National Commander Donald Palmer (seated right) joined him at the podium. Pahl was made an honorary "sister" in 2011 as a thank you for all of his work and effort for the ASUVCW. (PHOTO: David Sosnowski)



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ANYONE WANT A VERNOR'S – The five national officers who attended this year's 2012 Encampment and Conventions received gifts of Michigan made products like Vernor's ginger ale.

Gathered here from left are: ASUVCW National President Anne Jaster of Pennsylvania; Women's Relief Corps National President Cindy Norton of Ohio; SUCVW National Commander Donald Palmer of Missouri; Ladies of the GAR National President and Department of Michigan LGAR President Judy Rock of Michigan; DUVCW National President Barbara Stone of Indiana. This is the first time that all five Allied Orders have been together at the Michigan Encampment and Conventions. (PHOTO: David Sosnowski)



DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT RE-ELECTED - Karen Hamann of Adrian was elected to serve a second term as the 2012-2013 ASUVCW Department of Michigan President. She is a member of the Nash-Hodges and Austin Blair auxiliaries. Sister Karen has served as president of both Austin Blair and Nash Hodges and held several offices within the auxiliaries. She is married to Dan Hamann. She has one daughter and two sons. Both sons are in the SUCVW. Serving with her are the same officers as last year: Treasurer Vicki Weiss, Secretary Karol "KZ" Bolton, Patriotic Instructor Mary Rose, President Karen Hamann, Council Member No. 1 Linda Kronberg, Council Member No. 2, Dorothy Lowe and Council Member No. 3 Judith Jenkins. Officers were elected at the March 30-31 Department Convention held in Lansing. (PHOTO/Helen A. Granger)

ESCORT – Linda Kronberg (right) PDP/Council #1 escorted SUCVW National Commander Donald Palmer (left) for his official visit to the March 31, 2012 ASUVCW convention.

The ASUVCW was also honored with visits by ASUVCW National President Anne Jaster and LGAR National President Judy Rock. (PHOTO: David Sosnowski)



**NATIONAL COUNSELOR'S  
OPINION IV  
4-19-2012**

I have been asked by the National Council of Administration to examine a letter recently received by the National Treasurer from the United States Internal Revenue Service. And issue a formal opinion as to how this impacts the status of the Order's Departments and Camps. Our National Treasurer was seeking to confirm the status of the Order as an exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, based upon a request from the State of Texas for a copy of our original determination letter issued on June 11, 1941. Neither the IRS nor the Order has a copy of this letter any more. In 1967, then National Treasurer Chester S. Shirver sought to clarify the status of the Order. The Internal Revenue Service responded by letter issued August 14, 1967. This confirmed the Order was indeed tax exempt under IRS Code Section 501(c)(4) and also confirmed that all donations to the Order and it's subordinate units were tax deductible.

The state of Texas was not willing to accept the August 14, 1967 letter. (This letter can be viewed on the Order's web site at: <http://www.suvcw.org/irs.htm>)

Responding to the request of Richard Orr, the Internal Revenue Service issued a letter dated April 5, 2012. This letter confirmed the tax-exempt status of the Order per the original determination letter of June of 1941. The letter went on to state:

"Because you're subordinate organizations are not an organization described in section 170(c) of the Code, donors may not deduct contributions made to them. They should advise their contributors to that effect."

Based upon this letter, it is my formal opinion that gifts made to the Departments and Camps of this Order, including all levels of the Sons of Veterans Reserve are NOT tax deductible on the part of the donor. If anyone has made a donation to any Camp or Department (or any unit of the SVR) where a receipt was issued by the Order, where it is suspected the donor may be desiring the receipt for the purpose of deducting the donation on their personal income tax return within the last three tax years, the donor needs to be made aware of this change in policy on the part of the IRS, so the donor may consult with their tax professional as to the possibility of needing to file an amended income tax return.

It is my opinion that each Camp and Department of the Order, including all levels of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, need to place an affirmative statement on their respective web site, that any donation to the subordinate unit of the Sons of Union Veterans is not tax deductible.

I have done some additional research into the Internal Revenue Code and it is my further opinion that officers and members of the various Departments and Camps of this Order, including all levels of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, may not deduct any of their expenses incurred in supporting the activities of any of the Camps or Departments of the Order, including mileage and other vehicle and/or travel expenses, hotel rooms, uniforms and the like. Any brother who has made such a deduction in the past three tax years should consult with a tax professional as to the possibility of filing an amended income tax return.

Respectfully submitted in fraternity, charity and loyalty,

James B. Pahl, PCinC  
National Counselor



## 13th Michigan Volunteer Infantry

by James B. Pahl, PCinC

*(The account is based upon and quotes frequently from "Michigan in the War" compiled by J. Robertson, Adjutant General.)*

Former US Senator from Michigan Charles E. Stuart was authorized to organize the 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment, with rendezvous at Kalamazoo. The regiment was mustered into service of the United States on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 1862, with now Colonel Stuart in command.

The regiment was recruited in the western portion of the state as follows: Company A, Galesburg; Company B, Gun Plain Township (Plainwell); Company C, Kalamazoo; Company D, Battle Creek; Company E, Kalamazoo; Company F, Pewamo; Company G, Kalamazoo; Company H, Portage; Company I, Otsego; Company K, Mattawan.

Colors were ordered by the citizens of Kalamazoo, but by the time they arrived, the regiment had already departed for Kentucky. They were presented to the regiment while on dress parade on February 12, 1862. The colors carried the inscription in gold letters, "Presented by the citizens of Kalamazoo to the Thirteenth Michigan Infantry." When the regiment returned to Kalamazoo on veteran furlough in February, 1864, the flags were formally returned to the donors, having thereafter been delivered to the State for deposit with the other flags in the State Capital. These flags were present with the regiment during several battles, baptized with fire at Perryville, in blood at Stone River, glorified at Mission Ridge and riddle at Chickamauga, where three color-bearers fell and over 50% of the regiment.

Before leaving for the south, Col. Stuart resigned and command was given to Col. M. Shoemaker of Jackson. They traveled through Kentucky to Nashville. Assigned to General Wood's division of General Buell's army, they forced marched from Nashville to reinforce General Grant at Shiloh, arriving on the battlefield near the close of the second day's fight. They were thereafter engaged in picket duty.

During Buell's retreat along the line of the Nashville & Chattanooga railroad, the 13<sup>th</sup> was cited as behaving in splendid style, repulsing attacks of overwhelming numbers at Stevenson and Anderson's station and although entirely isolated and exposed to pursuing enemy, accomplished their rearguard assignment in a most creditable manner.

At the battle of Stone's River, the regiment was originally posted on the left of the army, but with the collapse of the Union right, the brigade was moved to the right and took up line with a battery. The other regiments retreated when faced with an assault by two rebel brigades, but the 13<sup>th</sup> held its ground and with great marksmanship, was able to check the confederate advance. The Union battery was withdrawn and the 13<sup>th</sup> fell back a short ways, but then charged back to reclaim the lost ground. While fighting desperately, the 13<sup>th</sup> aided much in turning the tide of affairs in favor of the Union, losing 35% of the regiment in the process.

The regiment engaged in the building of fortifications at Murfreesboro and then moved with the army into Georgia, being in the 1<sup>st</sup> brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> division, 20<sup>th</sup> corps. As the army moved south, the 13<sup>th</sup> was the first to enter Chattanooga. They participated in the engagements of September 19 and 20 at Chickamauga, losing 14 killed, 68 wounded (of which 11 eventually died), and 25 missing.

On November 5, the regiment, along with the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Infantry and the 18<sup>th</sup> Ohio Infantry, was organized into a brigade of engineers and assigned duty at Chattanooga, being attached to the headquarters of the Department of the Cumberland. They participated in the battle of Chattanooga (or Mission Ridge) on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. In January of 1864, they were stationed at Chickamauga on picket duty and cutting logs for building warehouses.

The regiment reenlisted 173 on January 17, 1864, becoming a veteran regiment. They received orders February 5<sup>th</sup> to proceed to Michigan for furlough of thirty days and arrived in Kalamazoo on February 12. While in Michigan, over 400 recruits were added to their ranks and they arrived back at Chattanooga on April 20. They continued in their engineer duties until September 25, building military hospitals.

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Relieved from engineer duties, they were assigned 2<sup>nd</sup> brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> division, 14<sup>th</sup> corps, finally joining the corp. and General Sherman at Kingston. They were part of the army that "marched down to the sea", reaching Savannah on December 16. They were engaged frequently during the advance of the army and fought the entire day at Bentonville, with 110 killed, wounded and missing, including their commanding officer, Colonel W.G. Eaton.

Pending negotiations attending the surrender of Johnson's army, the regiment was stationed at the Cape Fear River, 26 miles south of Raleigh. On April 30, they began the trek home, reaching Richmond on May 7 and Washington on the 19<sup>th</sup>. They participated in the grand review of Sherman's army on the 24<sup>th</sup> and then went into camp near Washington until June 9. They then traveled via the Baltimore & Ohio railroad to Louisville where they were mustered out July 25. They arrived at Jackson, Michigan on the 27<sup>th</sup>, were paid off and disbanded.

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