

**Michigan Department - Sons of Union Veteran of the Civil War  
102st Annual Encampment 8 June 1991**

The 102ed Annual Encampment of the Michigan Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (S.U.V.C.W.) was held on 8 June, 1991 at the Holiday Inn (West), Lansing, Michigan. The encampment was opened per ritual by Department Commander Gary Gibson at 9:15 A.M. Department Secretary/Treasurer Richard Williams read the roll of Officers and Staff:

Commander Gary Gibson - present  
SVC James Pahl - present  
JVC Douglas Park - present  
Secretary/Treasurer Richard Williams - present  
Council - Don Everett, Chair - present  
          William Brennan - present  
          Jack Patch - absent  
Chief of Staff Keith Harrison - present  
Patriotic Instructor Bernard McCarthy - excused, will be late; present  
Chaplain - James Neely - present  
Counselor James Pahl - present  
Guide Leo Cohoon - present  
Guard Milton Foster - absent  
Color Bearer Howard Nunemaker - present

**Camp Members Present:**

**Austin Blair Camp # 7:**

James Neely

**Benjamin Pritchard Camp # 20:**

Ron Bellenger  
Bill Brennan  
Herbert Gage  
Gary Gibson  
Chris Johnston  
Phil Johnston  
Howard Nunemaker  
Dean Parker  
Steve Redinger

**Curtenius Guard Camp # 17:**

Don Everett  
Keith Harrison  
Paul Hodges  
Charles Longworthy  
James Lyons  
James Pahl  
Doug Park  
Richard Williams

**Ulysses S. Grant Camp # 101**

Bernard McCarthy  
J. R. Schroeder

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WA-BU-NO Camp # 53  
Leo Cohoon

Five dollars each was collected from the attendees for a total of \$105 to be placed in the treasury to offset costs for the encampment.

**Committee Reports:**

The following assignments were made by Commander Gibson:

Officer reports: Chairman Hodges, Nunemaker, McCarthy, Longworthy.

Resolutions: Chairman Harrison, Neely, Brennan.

By-laws. No changes are being considered, therefore no committee assignment were made.

Credentials. Chairman Mitchell. 18 delegates were present and paid.

**Minutes of the 9 June 1990 Annual Encampment.**

Correction of Theodore Barnea's name in the minutes of the 3 June 1989 Encampment.

Under old business:

*emblem* was replaced by *coat of arms*.

In the second paragraph, *Motion by Harrison* was corrected to say *Motion to table by Harrison*.

In the third paragraph, *SUVCW* was changed to read *G.A.R.*

Under Resolution Committee:

In item 3, Dean Parker's name was corrected.

Under visitation Committee:

The word *Commander* was changed to read *officer*.

Under resolution 1:

Wording was changed to read that James Lyons served three years as Camp Commander and two years as Department Commander.

The word *ceremoniously* to *unanimously*.

Brother Harrison moved the minutes be accepted as corrected. Seconded by Brother Brennan. Motion passed.

**Officers Reports:**

Commanders Report - see attachment.

Senior Vice Commanders Report - see attachment.

Junior Vice Commanders Report - see attachment.

Treasurer's Report - see attachment.

Historian's Report - see attachment.

**Communications:**

1. A letter was received from the Department of Indiana SUVCW explaining that in commemoration of the 1st National Encampment of the G.A.R. held in Indianapolis in 1886, the five Allied Orders

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have agreed to raise a total of \$1000 to place a plaque on step 125 in the Soldiers and Sailors Monument at the center of Indianapolis. They asked for a \$10 donation from each Department of the SUVCW. Commander Gibson sent a personal check covering the request.

2. Request for endorsements for positions in the National Organization were received from the Departments of Indiana, Wyoming and Maryland and from the Anna M. Ross Camp #1 of Philadelphia. Requests were sent to the resolutions committee for action.
3. The background and reasons for the per-capita increase from the National Organization was received in March 1991. Also in the letter were increases in the life time membership fees and a new fee for National Registration of all new members. All of these items were covered in the BANNER earlier this year.
4. An invitation from the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony Committee asked all organizations to participate in ceremony at the Lincoln tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois, Monday, April 15, 1991.
5. Request to participate in the Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival on August 3, 1991. The Department will be represented.
6. A letter was received from the National Secretary explaining the procedures and responsibilities of Department Secretaries in reporting additions, changes and deletions to their membership to the editor of the BANNER. Michigan has been following those procedures.
7. Communication was received from the Grant Camp protesting the per-capita tax increase from the National Organization. Complaint was referred to the resolutions committee.
8. A letter from the Daughters telling of the installation into their Camp of a real Daughter. Plans were made to have representatives from the Department attend the ceremony.
9. Brad Long, from the V.F.W., has added two more wars to the list of valid war participations for members to receive the war medal. They are Grenada and Panama. Desert Storm will be added later.
10. Brother Harrison has represented the Curtenious Guard, Camp # 17, in writing to the State of Michigan Representative and Senators to restore May 30 as Memorial Day. Representative Dillingham responded that the public will not accept loosing a 3 day weekend.

**Council Report:**

Brother Everett reports the books have been audited and are in order.

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**Old Business:**

Brother Pahl moved the position description for the Chief of Staff as presented under old business at last years encampment be incorporated in the Departments revised by-laws. Seconded by Brother Lyons. Motion passed.

With cuts in the Detroit budget it is unlikely the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall will be restored by the City. There would be a large cost to upgrade the building to present day standards. Many legal points were discussed in regard to ways to restore the building. Because of the cost to the Department if we were to take any actions, it was moved by Brother Pahl and seconded by Brother Lyons to forgo any further actions to take position of the structure. Motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Officer Reports:**

Officers reports are in order. Motion by Paul Hodge to accept, second Dean Parker. Nay, Brother Pahl.

**Resolution Committee:** (see enclosed)

1. National endorsements - Motion to endorse all recommended endorsements passed.
2. Add two new wars to the list of acceptable engagements that members can apply for a war metal. Motion passed.

**New Business:**

1. Send a letter to Ft. Wayne asking for a list of items taken out of the Soldiers and Sailors Hall. Motion by Brother Harrison, seconded by Brother Hodges. Motion passed.
2. Information from SVR was turned over to Keith Harrison for review/action.
3. Participation in the Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival should be attended by the Department. Brother Harrison moved, seconded by Brother Gage. Motion passed.
4. Members are encouraged to attend the ceremony of Helen M. Edwards Tent #30 Daughters of UVCW to receive into their Camp a real Daughter, Mrs. Beatrice H. Hancock. Installation will be on June 9 at 3:30 P.M. at the White Hills Nursing Center in East Lansing.
5. Communications between Camps are encouraged. A list of Camp officers will be sent to the Camps as a means of keeping each Camp up todate on contacts in each Camp.

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All annual minutes should have a list of key personnel. Moved by Brother Park, seconded by Brother Nunemaker. Motion passed.

6. Brother Park talked about the adopt-a-highway program and the interest it has sparked in the Sons. He also encouraged other Camps to gain recognition. The Pritchard Camp has gained one member because of the program. Brother Gage also talked about getting the Son's name in the forefront for people to know we exist.
7. Brother Gage commented on the burial ceremony he attended for Brother Barnea. Brother Gage obtained a U.S. flag from the government for the burial.

## Election of New Officers:

Nomination and election of 1991-1992 Officers. Brother Lyons moved the sitting officers be re-elected for another term. Seconded by Brother Harrison. Motion carried. Officers are:

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Department Commander | Gary Gibson      |
| Senior VC            | James Pahl       |
| Junior VC            | Douglas Park     |
| Secretary-Treasurer  | Richard Williams |
| Department Council   | Don Everett      |
| Department Council   | Bill Brennan     |
| Department Council   | Jack Patch       |

## Staff Appointments.

Commander elect Gibson announced the following appointments:

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Chief of Staff       | Keith Harrison  |
| Patriotic Instructor | Bill Brennan    |
| Chaplain             | James Lyons     |
| Counselor            | James Pahl      |
| Historian            | Paul Hodges     |
| Guide                | J. R. Schroeder |
| Guard                | Phil Johnson    |
| Color Bearer         | Steve Redinger  |

## Installation of Officers.

Officers and staff were installed by James Lyons per ritual.

## Delegates to the National Encampment:

The National Encampment will be held in Indianapolis 11-15 August. Past and current Department Commanders have outstanding invitations. Our members nominated as delegate are:

J. R. Schroeder, Jeff Mattix, Mike Culp, James Pahl, Doug Park, Herb

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Sage. All other members were nominated as alternate delegates. Motion given by Brother Harrison, seconded by Brother Park. Motion passed.

**Visitations:**

Visitations will occur at the banquet tonight.

**Adjournment:**

The encampment adjourned.

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**Resolution #1:**

Whereas the Michigan Department has a keen interest in the well being and continued prosperity, and notoriety of the National Organization - Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and

Whereas the Michigan Department is aware and very familiar with several Brothers whose qualifications and interest in the Order would greatly benefit and enhance the Order both in terms of experience running the day-to-day affairs of the Order and in terms of their serving as our highly public representatives of the Order,

Now, therefore be it resolved that the Michigan Department does hereby unanimously recommend and endorse Brothers:

Lowell Hammer from Maryland for Commander-in-Chief, and  
Elmer (Bud) Atkenson of Pennsylvania for Senior Vice Commander-in Chief

Unanimously approved by Department Encampment, 8 June 1991

**Resolution #2**

In order to recognize the contribution and involvement of members of the SUVCW in the armed forces of the United States of America during times of war, the Order has established the war service medal.

Whereas three recognized war efforts have transpired since the end of the Viet Nam War, and

Whereas these efforts have been recognized by the major veterans organizations,

Be it resolved that the dates for Granada (Aug. 24, 1982 - July 31, 1984), and Panama (Dec. 20, 1989 - Jan. 31, 1990) be added to the list of actions recognized for the award of the War Service Medal, and

Be it further resolved that as dates are formally established for Operation Desert Shield/Storm that they too be added to the accepted list.

Unanimously approved by Department Encampment, 8 June 1991

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Gary Gibson:

Once again, as the Department comes together in annual encampment, we pursue to look back over the past year and reflect upon our accomplishments, and our un-accomplishments. And during this past year, I have had the pleasure of serving as your Department Commander. It has been a learning experience that I feel has not only benefited myself, but the Department as well.

In August, I traveled to Des Moines, Iowa to the 109th National Encampment. There, I completed my term as National Chaplain. As you know, the Encampment voted to raise the per-capita tax. This was necessary to the continuance of our organization programs and services. I am pleased to report the Michigan Department membership has responded positively and is very supportive of the Order. The Department currently has three brothers serving on the National level. Brother Jim Lyons, P.D.C., continues to serve as the National Secretary. Brother Keith Harrison, P.D.C., is the National Membership at Large Coordinator. I currently serve as the National Chairman on Programs and Policies. As you can see, Michigan is well represented Nationally.

In October, I attended the Central Region Conference in Chesterton, Indiana. The weekend was spent renewing acquaintances with Brothers and Sisters from the mid-western Departments, and most importantly learning from each other about activities and programs currently on going.

The Michigan Department will be hosting the 1991 conference in Lansing in October. It is hoped the entire membership will take an interest and take part.

The department was also represented at the annual Lincoln tomb ceremony at Springfield, Illinois. Here again, by meeting with Brothers from other Departments, we learn by exchanging ideas and information.

During the past year, several camps have experienced success with certain recruiting techniques. Participation at gun shows, book fairs, genealogical gatherings, and other events has afforded the S.U.V.C.W exposure to the public, while talking to prospective members. The Pritchard Camp has experienced a great influx of new members, and they are interested and active. In one quarter, eleven new members were taken in as a result of this type of activity. It is hoped that all Camps can somehow take part in similar programs. It was hoped that visits to all Camps could be made this year, but conflicts in schedules prevented it.

Our Department seems to be running on an even keel once again. Some things remained un-accomplishments, but none important. Those things that have been accomplished have contributed to our original goal - to preserve the memory of our Grand Army of the Republic.

Thank you for your help and support during this past year.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty.





**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT**  
**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**  
 GARY GIBSON - DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

OFFICE OF JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

8 June 1991

REPORT OF THE JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER - 102nd ENCAMPMENT

The undersigned appreciated the opportunity to serve the Department and engage in activity related to membership recruitment. These included recruitment activities at the Jackson Cascades and the GAR Museum during the Marshall Home Tour. Approximately 39 follow up letters were mailed to individuals indicating interest in the SUVCW during the 1989 and 1990 events.

In addition, the National Secretary notified this office of persons responding to the ad placed by National in Civil War Times. From this and other sources, an additional 27 letters were sent to interested parties. Copies were forwarded to appropriate camps.

It is expected that membership gains will result from camps contacting these individuals. These gains should begin during the rest of this year. All camp Junior Vice Commanders should ensure each individual indicating interest in the Order is contacted.

During the last year, the Department has, overall, lost a total of two members. This change, however, is best reflected in the table below:

| Camp                | 31 Mar 1990<br>Membership | 31 Mar 1991<br>Membership | %   | #   |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----|-----|
| Austin Blair #7     | 12                        | 13                        | +8  | +1  |
| George Howe #9      | 5                         | 5                         | -   | -   |
| Robert Finch #14    | 13                        | 13                        | -   | -   |
| Curtenius Guard #17 | 69                        | 57                        | -17 | -12 |
| Ben Pritchard #20   | 24                        | 35                        | +46 | +11 |
| Wa Bu No #53        | 4                         | 3                         | -25 | -1  |
| U.S. Grant #101     | 20                        | 19                        | -5  | -1  |
| Total               | 147                       | 145                       |     | -2  |

As a result, I am pleased to announce the winner of the 1990-91 membership awards as follows:

Governor Austin Blair Membership Award:  
 Ben Pritchard Camp #20 - 11 new members

\*Orlando LeValley Membership Award:  
 Ben Pritchard Camp #20 - 46% increase in membership

\* Ben Pritchard Camp #20 won this award last year with a 50% increase

Certificates have been prepared and will be awarded this evening. I wish to thank all those who participated in recruitment activities this year and those who entrusted this office in my care. It has been pleasurable to serve.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

*G. Douglas Gibson*  
 G. DOUGLAS GIBSON

## Secretary-Treasurer

Year End Financial Statement  
 2ed Quarter 1990 - 1st Quarter 1991  
 8 June 1991

| Account            | Beginning<br>Balance | Receipts | Disbursements | End Balance | Liability |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------|---------------|-------------|-----------|
|                    | 872.10               |          |               |             | 95.00     |
| Receipts:          |                      |          |               |             |           |
| Per Capita Tax (2) |                      | 292.50   |               |             |           |
| Per Capita Tax (3) |                      | 497.50   |               |             |           |
| Per Capita Tax (4) |                      | 505.00   |               |             |           |
| Per Capita Tax (1) |                      | 332.50   |               |             |           |
| Flag Fund (2)      |                      |          |               |             | 37.00     |
| Encampment (2)     |                      | 1,297.00 |               |             |           |
| Misc (2)           |                      | 120.00   |               |             |           |
| Disbursements:     |                      |          |               |             |           |
| Per Capita Tax (2) |                      |          | 170.00        |             |           |
| Supplies (2)       |                      |          | 75.00         |             |           |
| Encampment (2)     |                      |          | 1,224.90      |             |           |
| Misc (2)           |                      |          | 30.00         |             |           |
| Bounced Checks (3) |                      |          | 192.50        |             |           |
| Encampment (3)     |                      |          | 61.36         |             |           |
| Per Capita Tax (3) |                      |          | 176.25        |             |           |
| Nat. Org. (3)      |                      |          | 125.00        |             |           |
| Flag Purchase (3)  |                      |          | 330.00        |             | -132.00   |
| Supplies (4)       |                      |          | 163.53        |             |           |
| Central Region (4) |                      |          | 5.00          |             |           |
| Per Capita Tax (4) |                      |          | 177.50        |             |           |
| Per Capita Tax (1) |                      |          | 167.50        |             |           |
| Supplies (1)       |                      |          | 69.68         |             |           |
| Totals             | 872.10               | 3,081.50 | 2,968.22      | 985.38      | 0.00      |

Report of the Historian  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
at the Department Encampment  
Lansing, Michigan

June 8, 1991

The Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, participated in a variety of activities at the national, state, and local camp levels this year. The Historian collected several written articles which illustrate them. The items cover only a limited number of the functions, but they do show the life of the Department in 1990 - 1991.

Those articles of current history constitute a section of a bound report where they are readily available for review. The section begins with a list of the national officers of the Order, as published in "The Banner." It includes our own James Lyons as National Secretary, Keith Harrison as Member at Large Coordinator, and Gary Gibson, Chairman of the Program and Policies Committee.

Next are lists of the Michigan Department Commanders through the years and the 1991 camp officers. Among the other items are copies of published articles about camp projects.

The other section of the bound report pertains to the Department of Michigan of a few decades ago. It lists the names of some of the members in the 1920's, 1930's, and 1940's, grouped according to their camps. The Historian compiled the lists from a membership card file of the Department.

The names of more than 1,600 members, belonging to 25 camps, are presented. The listings also name the Civil War ancestors of the members whose cards had that information.

This bound report is produced with the hope that it will interest, inform, and assist Department of Michigan members over the years to come.

Respectfully submitted in  
Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

Paul D. Hodges  
Department Historian

## Corrections to Proceedings.-

Headings - 102nd -

Opening line - 102nd

Old Business -

last line - "take position" should read "take possession"

Committee Reports -

Resolutions Comm. -

Item 2 - second line - "war metal" should read - "war medal",

New Business

Item 4 - 1st line - Helen M. Edwins.

Staff Appointments -

Chaplain - Leo Cohoon -

Delegates to National Encampment -

Top of page 6. - Gage rather than Seger -