

Minutes of the 111th Annual Encampment
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Saturday May 6, 2000
Kalamazoo, Michigan



The Encampment was called to order by Department Commander Kent Armstrong at 9:30AM.

Roll Call of Officers:

Department Commander Kent Armstrong - Present
Senior Department Vice Commander Gregory Hayes - Present
Junior Department Vice Commander Merle Carlson - Absent
Secretary/Treasurer Richard Lee - Present
Council Chairman Richard Williams - Excused
Council Vice Chairman Howard Streeter - Present
Council Secretary Richard Greene - Present
Counselor Michael McMillian - Present
Chief of Staff Mark Pangburn - Excused
Camp Organizer Merle Carlson - Absent
Historian Ty Streeter - Present
Patriotic Instructor Kim Altvater - Present
Color Bearer - Douglas Armstrong - Present
Chaplain William McAfee - Present
Guide Del Farnsworth - Present
Guard John Reaume - Absent
Aide de Camp Gary Holmes - Absent
Graves Registration Officer John Obermeyer - Present
Civil War Memorials Officer Douglas Armstrong - Present
G.A.R. Records Officer James T. Lyons, PDC - Present
Signals Officer David F. Wallace, PDC - Absent
Camp at Large Coordinator Kenneth Martin - Absent
Editor - "Michigan's Messenger" John Mann - Present
B.S.A. Coordinator Gary Ralston - Present

Commander Armstrong appointed Camp Commander Costello of the Benjamin Pritchard Camp as Junior Department Vice Commander for the Encampment and Neal Breagh as the Guard.

Chaplain McAfee invoked the Divine blessing.
The Colors were presented and the Pledge of Allegiance given.

The Encampment was then opened by Commander Armstrong.

The Guide presented Commander-in-Chief Danny Wheeler to the Department Commander. The Encampment welcomed Commander-in-Chief Wheeler.

The DC then recognized the other National Officers at the Encampment:

Keith Harrison, PC-in-C National Signals Officer
James Pahl, PDC National Treasurer, National Counselor
Gary Gibson, PDC National Council of Administration member

Brother Gibson spoke about the Department Encampment medal and recognized Brothers Farnsworth and Brother Micka for the efforts to produce the medal.

The DC then asked the Commander-in-Chief to address the Encampment. PC-in-C Harrison presented the C-in-C with his personal footstool so the entire Encampment could see the C-in-C.

The Commander-in-Chief related the thanks of the entire Order for the work that PC-in-C Harrison has,

and continues to be provided. He also praised the efforts of the Department of Michigan. C-in-C Wheeler hoped that the contract for a National Headquarters would be completed by the summer so the building would be open by November. He also discussed the work of the various National Committees.

The Department Commander asked the Department Chaplain for a memorial service for the following departed Brothers:

Kenneth Ferris, Curtenius Guard Camp. Died September 25, 1998
William Sharpe, Camp No. 85 June 2, 1999
Richard L. Gray, Nash Hodges Camp August 2, 1998
Jerry Friend, Colgrove-Woodruff Camp August 11, 1998
Don Carlos Pace Oct 20, 1998 Colgrove Woodruff Camp 22
Elwood Hawkins November 14, 1998 Wa-Bu-No Camp 53
Lowell Spry December 23, 1998 George W. Anderson Camp 58

The Chaplain asked for a moment of silence for the Brothers that have passed on.

The Department Commander asked the Commander-in-Chief to update the Encampment on the health of PC-in-C Richard Orr. The C-in-C had spoken to PC-in-C Orr's mother who said that he had a very rough time but was now recovering.

The Department Commander then asked Brother Leo Cohoon to speak about the health of PCC Don Workman of the Wa-Bu-No Camp. Brother Cohoon reported that Brother Workman was having chemotherapy. Brother Cohoon passed around a card to the Encampment to send back to Brother Workman.

Resolved by the 111th Encampment of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War assembled in the City of Kalamazoo, representing over 500 descendants of Soldiers and Sailors Michigan whose valor preserved our Union, that in this hour of our assembly that we send to our Brother, Donald H. Workman, our profound sympathies in his continued illness and extend our fraternal greetings for the past months of illness that he has faced with characteristic fortitude and earned the admiration of his Brothers in Michigan. We further direct that this resolution be entered into the proceedings of this encampment and be communicated to him with dispatch.

The DC asked for a motion to approve the resolution. A motion was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Brother Lyons moved that a similar resolution be given to PC-in-C Richard Orr. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Brother Cohoon was asked to transmit the resolution to Brother Workman.

Encampment Committee Appointments

The Department Commander appointed the following:

Officer Reports: PDC Gary Gibson, Howard Streeter, Brother Steve Rogers

Committee Reports: Kim Shaw, Mike McMillian, Leo Cahoon

Resolutions: John Mann, Bill Brennan, Bill Lowe

Approval of the 1999 Encampment Minutes

The DC asked for a motion to approve the 110th Encampment minutes as presented. The motion was

made, seconded and approved.

Communications:

Department Secretary Richard Lee read the following communications:

The Governor of Michigan, John Engler, sent his best wishes for a successful Encampment.

The Department of Michigan, Veterans of Foreign Wars sent their greetings and wishes for a successful Encampment.

Communications were received from several departments endorsing candidates for National offices. These were referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Report of the Credentials Committee

Camp Number	Delegates (including those with standing credentials)
3	1
7	5
14	1
17	7
20	6
22	2
53	2
58	3
120	2
145	6
160	1
180	4

There are 8 Brothers present that do not have credentials from their Camp Secretary

A Motion by PC-in-C Harrison that all Brothers present without credentials be admitted to the Encampment as delegates. The motion was approved.

Officer Reports

The DC turned control of the Encampment to the Department Senior Vice Commander.

DC Report. See Appendix

The Senior Vice Commander thanked the Brothers for their support and good wishes.

The Secretary thanked all the Brothers of the Department for their support and gave brief remarks.

Treasurers Report: The Treasurer reported that the Department was solvent.

Council Report: See Appendix

Historian's Report: See Appendix

Chaplain's Report: See Appendix

Graves Registration – The GRO reported 16,403 graves registered to date.

Memorial Officer report – The Memorials Officer asked that the Camps continue to work on the physical assessment of G.A.R. monuments and other Civil War related memorials within their assigned area of geographic responsibility. He also thanked the Signals Officer, PDC Wallace, for his posting of photographs on the Department web site and spoke of various projects throughout the state.

The Department Commander spoke of conversations he had with government officials and the ownership of cannons throughout the state. He was told that the cannons were donated to various G.A.R. Posts and local groups with the proviso that title to the pieces would reside with the Secretary of War. The Brothers need to write their elected representatives to keep them informed of that fact.

A Brother asked the status of the two cannons in Bay County. The Department Commander was informed that the cannons were sold and the new owners had not yet been identified.

G.A.R. Records Report – See Appendix

A motion was made and seconded for a five-minute break.

The Encampment was brought back to order.

The DC called attention to the Encampment's bible, which was the original bible that was used by the G.A.R. Post in his hometown. When the SUVCW Camp organized in DeWitt, they choose to honor the name and number of the G.A.R. Post - George W. Anderson No. 58. Thus, the Camp was recognized as their successor and the G.A.R. Bible was presented to the Brothers by the local library. The library has safely stored the bible since the Post disbanded.

The DC called the Secretary-Treasurer to give the Treasury report.

Assets of April 28, 2000:
Alger Memorial Fund: \$712.59
Checking Account: \$3145.65
Other Savings: \$5450.23
Total: \$9308.47

Liabilities as of April 28, 2000:

Camp at Large: \$203.30
Memorial Fund: \$1965.04
Total: \$2168.34

Ending Balance (A-L): \$7140.13

The Secretary-Treasurer reported that there was no proposed budget for presentation to the Encampment.

Signal Officer Report: See Appendix

Past Commander-in-Chief Harrison commented on the exceptional job that PDC Wallace had done on the Department web page and felt it was the best Department web page on the entire SUVCW server.

Editor of the Michigan Messenger Report: See Appendix

Commander-in-Chief Wheeler complimented the Department and the Editor for this outstanding publication.

Brother Mann brought an advanced copy of the National Encampment Program book and explained the fund raising aspects of the publication.

The DC told the Encampment that The Banner should be in their hands by May 12.

Boy Scout Coordinator Report: Brother Ralston thanked all the Camps that have been handing out certificates. Five years ago, the request rate was less than one a month; two years ago we gave out 85 certificates; last year we gave out over 200 certificates with 40 going to the Upper Peninsular. He recommended that an assistant be appointed for the position due to the volume of requests. The program has become very successful. He further recommended that information packets be sent to troops in Michigan.

The Commander-in-Chief echoed Brother Ralston comments and wished to see a program as described put in place at the National level.

The Department Commander spoke of the form letter he sent to the Camps for Boy Scout certificates. The C-in-C requested that the letter be forwarded to the National Council of Administration for their review and subsequent endorsement before the National Encampment.

PC-in-C Harrison made a motion to endorse Kent Armstrong, DC, for the position of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief for the term beginning in 2001. The motion was seconded. DC Armstrong asked Department SVC Hayes to take command of the Encampment for the discussion of that resolution. SVC Hayes asked if there was any discussion of the resolution. Hearing none, the motion was approved by a voice vote. A motion was then made and seconded that the preceding resolution be forwarded to the other Departments and the National Secretary. SVC Hayes asked for discussion. Hearing none the motion was approved by voice vote.

Committee Reports

G.A.R. Records Committee
Grave Registration Committee
Memorials Committee

DC Armstrong asked the Committee Chairs of G.A.R. Records, Grave Registration and Memorials if they had any further reports. There were none.

Bylaws: SVC Hayes reported for the Bylaws committee. Due to the assumption of Office at a late date, there were no recommendations of the committee.

Weekend of Remembrance: PC-in-C Harrison spoke of the upcoming event which would be one day at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. The program will consist of an opening ceremony, a memorial service for the Veterans and a battle with a pig roast in the evening. He further related how the veterans at the home enjoy the festivities and enjoy talking to the participants.

DC Armstrong asked PC-in-C Harrison to approach the Commander's station.

The DC presented Harrison with a certificate of recognition for his work above and beyond the call of duty for the Department and the memory of the soldiers and sailors of the Civil War.

The Encampment was recessed for luncheon.

The Encampment was reconvened at 1:15PM.

The DC thanked the Department Council for their work.

Rick Greene, PCC, was called upon to introduce the members of the credential committee:
Greg Hayes, Max Neuman, and Ed Dowd .

There was no other unfinished business.

The DC placed the SVC in command and left with the C-in-C to visit the Allied Orders in Encampment.

PDC Pahl pointed out to SVC Hayes that one of the stations was unoccupied. Brother Pahl declined to fill the position. PCC Gary Ralston was appointed by the SVC to fill that position.

Encampment Committee Reports

Committee on Resolutions:

PDC Brennen presented the recommendation that the Encampment endorse the candidacy of SVC-C Kreizer for the position of C-in-C. The motion to do so was approved. It was then moved and seconded to endorse the candidacy of JVC-C George Powell for the position of SVC-in-C. The committee recommended no action be taken for an endorsement of the Encampment for the position of JVC-in-Chief. A motion to that effect was seconded and approved.

Committee on Officer Reports:

The committee reported that it endorsed the proposals outlined by the Department Signals Officer. A motion to accept the recommendation was made, seconded and approved, except the adoption of the National Policy on Electronic Communications. Brother Pahl recommended tabling this final proposal as the National Organization is changing said policy and adoption by the Department, at this time, would necessitate revising the policy when changed. The motion was seconded and approved. (See Appendix)

The DC and the C-in-C returned. The command of the Encampment was restored to the DC.

The President of the Department of Michigan, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War was presented to the Encampment. She spoke of the fraternal ties between our organizations. The Brothers gave her a standing ovation upon her retirement from the Encampment.

New Business

The DC presented proposed changes to the Constitution portion of the Order's Constitution and Regulations (C&R). These proposed amendments were approved at the 1999 National Encampment and require a subsequent ratification by not less than 50% of the Departments before becoming effective.

Article VI Formation and Disbandment

The new language would read "A Department consisting of at least three Camps May be formed by the C-in-C."

A motion was made and seconded to endorse the new language. The motion carried.

Article VI Section IV Formation and Disbandment

The new language would read "Reserved."

A motion was made and seconded to endorse the new language. The motion carried.

Article VIII Section II Permanent Fund

The new language would substitute the words "New York Stock Exchange, American Stock Exchange, or NASDAQ" in place of the current wording "or are registered under the so-called Blue Sky Laws in the states where such organizations or corporations are located."

A motion was made and seconded to endorse the new language. The motion carried.

A motion was made by PDC Gibson to have the Department give \$25.00 to the SVC-C fund was made. The motion was seconded and approved.

There was no other new business.

Awards

The DC asked Brother Lyons, PDC to accept an award of recognition fro Brother Richard Williams.

Brother Lyons was also given a certificate in recognition of his work on the G.A.R. Records Committee.

Brother Obermeyer was given a certificate for his work on the Graves Registration Committee.

Brother Douglas Armstrong was given a certificate for his work on the Civil War Memorials Committee.

The DC also recognized Brother Richard Danes for his work on Graves Registration.

Brother Gary Woodman was recognized for his work on Memorials in Jackson County.

Brother John Mann was given an certificate of recognition for his work on the *Michigan Messenger*.

Brother Jim Pahl was recognized for all his work for the Department.

Brother David Wallace was recognized by the Commander for his work on the Department web site.

Brother Richard Lee was recognized for his work as Department Secretary.

The Orland LeValley Growth Award was presented to the Brothers of the Robert Finch Camp No. 14 for the largest percentage growth during the past year.

The Gov. Austin Blair Growth Award was presented to the Brothers of the Carpenter Welch Camp No. 180 for the largest number of new Brothers in the past year.

The Abraham Lincoln Award was presented to Brother Gregory Hayes for his article on the G.A.R. Encampment in Detroit in 1914, as published in *Michigan History Magazine*.

Brother Richard Micka was also given the Lincoln Award for his work in Monroe County and his efforts to get funding for the flags placed in Gettysburg for Michigan soldiers.

Department Secretary presented the Nicolay-Hay award for completion of quarterly reports accurately and on time to the following Camps:

Curtenius Guard No. 17
Henry Wallace No. 160
Russell Alger Camp No. 462
Albert and James Lyons No. 266
Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145
Colgrove-Woodruff No. 22
Archibald-Stewart Camp No. 259
U.S. Grant No. 101
Frederick H. Hackman No. 85
George W. Anderson No. 58
Phil Kearney Camp No. 67
Wa-Bu-No Camp No. 53
Nash Hodges No. 43

Good of the Order

Brother Brown spoke of the need for funds to help relocate and restore a Civil War related plaque in Ionia County..

Brother Lyons, PDC, spoke of the upcoming ceremony in Sunfield on May 21st to rededicate the G.A.R. Hall on the 100th anniversary of it's construction.

Brother Bill Lowe spoke of Thayne LaBanta, PDC, now in Florida. Thayne is not feeling great, but hopes to attend the National Encampment. A card, provided by Brother Mann, was circulated among the Brothers to be sent to Thayne.

Brother Lowe also spoke of the planned re-interment for Daniel Pine on September 23.

The Encampment was adjourned until 3:15.

Election of Officers

The Nominating Committee made the Following recommendation to the Encampment:

For Department Commander: Gregory Hayes
For Department SVC: Merle Carlson
For Department JVC: Phillip Parks
For Department Secretary: Richard Lee
For Department Treasurer: Del Farnsworth
For Department Council: Keith Harrison, PDC
William Lowe
Howard Streeter.

The recommendations were accepted and the Officers nominated. By motion all were elected to their Offices.

Department Commander-Elect Hayes then announced his appointments:

Chaplain: William McAfee
Patriotic Instructor: Neil Breaugh
Chief of Staff: Richard Greene
Grave Registration Officer: Rick Danes
Memorials Officer: Douglas Armstrong
Historian: Paul Hodges
Guard: Gayle Steele
Guide: Ed Dowd
Counselor: Michael McMillian
G.A.R. Records Officer: James T. Lyons, PDC
Signals Officer: David F. Wallace, PDC
Camp at Large Coordinator: Kenneth Martin
Editor - *Michigan's Messenger*: John Mann
B.S.A. Coordinator: Gary Ralston
Camp Organizer: Richard Lee

The Officers were installed by the Commander-in-Chief.

DC Hayes thanked the Encampment for the honor of serving as their Commander and dedicated his term of service to his ancestor, Anthony Slay, 34th Indiana Volunteers and to the memory of his father, Oliver W. Hayes

The DC asked Brother Douglas Armstrong to present the Past Department Commander's badge to his father, Kent Armstrong, PDC.

The Encampment was closed in due form.

Appendix - Submitted Reports

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN - SUVCW

Encampment of May 6, 2000

I have the honor to report again that it has been a privilege to work with another outstanding team during my second administrative year. I am referring to each and every Camp's membership, as well as our Department Officers. As I've said before, the work of the Order (that the public sees and remembers) happens at the local level. To witness and/or take part in various Camp and Department related functions, I again managed to travel over 5,000 miles in the past 12 months.

I am proud of all the things that we have done together, to honor the memory of the G.A.R. and the soldiers and sailors who *Saved the Union*. The years ahead will continue marking the 100th Anniversary of the original dedication date for various G.A.R. Monuments and other Civil War related memorials. It is my hope that our Department and our Camps will seize every opportunity to call attention to these occurrences and commemorate them with appropriate public services, and media attention.

I am pleased to announce that after the printing of our April, 2000 Department newsletter, we have put into motion the organization of another new Camp in Michigan. If all goes well, we will see the opening of the **A. C. VAN RAALTE Camp No. 262** in Holland, sometime this fall. The Camp will give new life to the name and number of the G.A.R. Post that existed in Holland between the years 1884 and 1932.

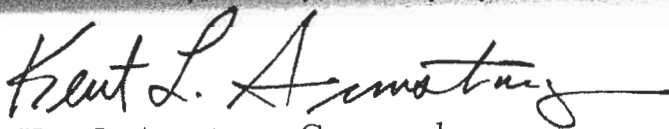
Several individuals gave their time and talent to various outstanding efforts this past year and it is my pleasure to recognize them by separate certificate.

Looking back, it was an honor to coordinate the planning for a Department Encampment, two Dept. Mid-Winter Conferences, and a *Central Region Conference*. Looking ahead, all is "on track" for this year's National Encampment of the SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR in Lansing. I hope to see our maximum number of delegates attend.

In conclusion allow me to say once more, that it has been a privilege to take another turn in this role. I leave the post extending to all, the most sincere and fraternal wish for countless Memorial Days ahead – as we march into the new century. God Bless the "Boys in Blue," and all who honor them.

Respectfully submitted,

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



Kent L. Armstrong, Commander
Department of Michigan - SUVCW

REPORT of the DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

May 6, 2000

Commander Armstrong,

After my re-appointment as Department Chaplain, effective May 1, 1999, I concentrated on continuing to try to improve the reporting of the deaths of our brothers. We opened communications with both the National Chaplain and the Editor of "The Banner" to expedite getting the information to them in a timely manner, resulting in the majority of our submissions being printed in the appropriate issues during the year. Those submitted, by date of death, in this fiscal year were:

6/2 Wm. L. Sharpe, Frederick H. Hackman Camp No. 85, Bridgman.
8/2 Richard L. Gray, Nash-Hodges Camp No. 43, Blissfield.
8/11 Jerry S. Friend, Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22, Marshall.
8/15 Richard J. Estep, Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17, Sunfield.
10/20 Don Carlos Pace, Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22, Marshall.
11/14 Elwood E. Hawkins, WA-BU-NO Camp No. 53, Shepherd.
12/23 Lowell E. Spry, George W. Anderson Camp No. 58, Bay City.

We tracked down a 1998 death date for Bro. Ken Farris, late of Camp No. 17, from Sterling Heights.

Working with you and Bro. David F. Wallace, we helped establish a method designed to facilitate and expedite the reporting of brothers' deaths with more complete information. The new form and procedure were made available to the camps at the Mid-winter conference and on our departmental website.

As time would allow, we participated in various ceremonial activities that honored those who served the Union from 1861-1865. Specially, they were:

1. 5/2/99: Monument rededication of PVT L. Blount w/ Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp No. 427.
2. 9/12/99: Memorial Service for the late Bro. Friend in Tekonsha.
3. 11/7/99: Memorial Services in Concord, sponsored by Camp No. 7.
4. 11/13/99: Memorial Services and Monument Dedication for Medal of Honor recipient PVT Frederick Alber in Lapeer Co. This was a joint effort, coordinated by one of our Order among the different groups involved. It has been highly publicized and reported.

We responded to inquiries from outside the department on two occasions:

1. In April, Bro. John Obermeyer passed a query to me from the Historian of the SUVCW, Dept. of NH. This involved researching and responding about one of their native sons, a Civil War Medal of Honor recipient who settled in Michigan and is buried in Highland Cemetery in Ypsilanti.
2. In April, we received a query from a descendant in Iowa who was looking for an organization that would hold services on the dedication of a stone for her CW ancestor in Wayland, MI. This was passed to me from a member of the Ann Arbor CWRT who was aware of our work through our presence at those meetings. We will be passing our research on this on to the appropriate camp for implementation.

We entered a column in each edition of the department newsletter.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

William B. M^éAfee, Chaplain

"Serve the Lord with gladness."



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Kent Armstrong, Department Commander

Department Council: Dick Williams, Howard Streeter, Richard Greene

May 1, 1999

Report of the Council at the Department Encampment

This has been a busy and enjoyable year working on the Council with the two other members Howard Streeter and Richard Greene. Our Department Commander, Kent Armstrong, has consulted the Council on many occasions during the year and kept us busy. It's been a pleasure working with such a leader during the last year as well as a pleasure working closely with the Department Treasurer, David T Wallace, and the Department Secretary, Richard Lee.

One of the functions of the Council is to insure the financial stability of the Department inbetween encampments. Several fundraisers have been started which required the Council to authorize expenditures of Department funds up front before we received a return on our expenditures. I'm pleased to report the money expended and the current projection of the income from our expenditures are encouraging.

Recently, the Department was able to send a check in the amount of \$300.00 to the re-internment of Dale Calkins in the Mio area in Michigan.

We've also donated \$500.00 in conjunction with the \$1000.00 donated from the National organization for the scanning and indexing of the Civil War photos in the Michigan State archives. Those photos will eventually be available through computer retrieval.

In F., C. & L.,

Richard A Williams

Richard A. Williams
Department of Michigan, Council chair

Since becoming Dept. Historian I have attempted to organize and catalogue the Departments archives located at the GAR hall in Marshall. I have a list of items located in the archives and I will submit them to the banner for all to see. I would like to encourage all camps to send any materials they would like stored or displayed to the Marshall camp. Thank you for your time and
In F. C. & 1.
Dept. Historian
Ty Streeter



**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**



John R. Mann
EDITOR, MICHIGAN'S MESSENGER
2495 Washington Road
Lansing, MI 48911-7216
(517) 694-1440 / Jrm7suvchw@aol.com

Report of the Department Newsletter Editor

Volume 8, Issue 2 of the Messenger saw two changes. In order to enhance the quality of our newsletter, it was proposed to the Department Council and Commander that all photographs be processed into halftones by the printer. The additional cost for this amounted to \$7.50 per photo. The Department Council gave their consent and the results speak for themselves. At the same time, the commercial printer was changed, resulting in a savings of \$50.00 to \$70.00 per issue to the Department.

As to the total cost of the Messenger for the year, we spent approximately \$2000.00 on printing, \$420.00 on postage and \$226.00 on mailing, for a total of \$2644.00. This was for an average press run of 22 pages per copy, 535 copies per issue and 4 issues for the year. The average cost per member for the year amounted to \$5.28.

This year I am pleased to report that contributions to the newsletter by our Department Officers and Committees, Camps and individual members are much getting better. When I started editing the newsletter in August of 1993 (Volume II, issue 1), the four newsletters for that year totaled 48 pages. Each succeeding volume, save for volume VI, saw an increase in the number of pages and corresponding information being published for our membership. The just completed year, Volume VIII, Issues 1 through 4, contained a total of 88 pages.

I am also pleased to report that the job of editor is getting easier with each succeeding issue of the Messenger. Most of the submissions now come to me electronically and this saves many, many hours that were formally spent at the computer keyboard entering text. Several of our members are sending in a variety of articles and I no longer find it necessary to go into a last minute panic trying to find something to fill a blank page or part of a page with. In addition, nearly every submission for the past several issues has been received before the deadlines for those issues.

In an effort to further improve our newsletter, a survey concerning Michigan's Messenger has been given to each member attending this Encampment. Please read it, fill it out and return it to me by the end of the Encampment.

Before closing this report, I would like to extend my thanks to all of the Department Officers, Camp Officers and individual members who have made contributions to our Department newsletter over the past seven years. Many of you have done so on a regular basis and deserve the thanks of the entire membership for your contributions. Without your contributions this Department would not have a newsletter.

Submitted this 6th day of May, 2000,
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

John R. Mann, Editor
Michigan's Messenger

CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN – S.U.V.C.W.
ENCAMPMENT OF MAY 6, 2000

Douglas R. Armstrong, Chair

Chris P. Czopek Michael W. McMillan William R. Morris Richard A. Williams

The committee is proud to report continued progress by our Department's Camps to assess and record Civil War Monuments and Memorials in their area. We have received completed assessment forms for all memorials in the counties of Washtenaw, Jackson, Clinton and Ionia. Many more have been returned from Camps across the state.

While assessing the physical condition of the memorial, enter as much information as possible. We would request that pictures be taken from all sides and included with the forms. In addition, further research of the memorial's installation and dedication ceremony could be done by the Camp Civil War Memorials Officers and Committees. Local historical records, newspaper archives, and County Historical Societies could be utilized for this research. We also encourage periodical visits to the monument after the initial inspection, to assess its condition.

We are pleased to report that our Department Signals Officer, David F. Wallace is continuing to add the submitted pictures of these monuments and memorials to the Department's Web-site. The pictures are arranged by the county which they are located and include a description of the monument.

The Cannon Inquiry Project is still ongoing, with several more communities being contacted. The condition of the Civil War era cannon that rest in the cemeteries, courthouse lawns and town squares within these communities is being brought to the attention of the local government. It is our hope that they will consider these as pieces of their history and heritage and take efforts in preserving them for the appreciation and education of future generations. Some communities already contacted have included local histories of the cannon with their reply. We encourage all Camps to assist us in this effort.

Respectfully submitted,
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Douglas R. Armstrong, Civil War Memorials Officer
Chairman, Department of Michigan Civil War Memorials Committee (1999-2000)

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Department of Michigan

G.A.R. Records Committee

6 May 2000

Dear Commander:

It is a pleasure to again present the report of our Committee. Work has slowed this year due to the unavailability of many Committee members because of work and other commitments.

We continue to develop a comprehensive listing of possible repositories of records on a county by county basis. This will allow us to mount an orderly and complete search of the state by counties. Discussions continue on the best means to reproduce or copy the materials found. Multiple methods may be needed to accommodate different circumstances.

On the basis of volunteered information from a variety of sources we now know the location of some records for nearly fifty different Posts.

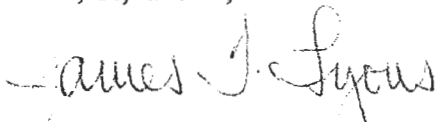
During the past year we have fielded more than fifty requests for research assistance related to G.A.R. records. Most of this work has been accomplished at the State Archives.

We were successful in providing the seed funding for an imaging project at the Archives which has placed their photo biography file into their computer base. Eventually this material will be available on the Internet as well as for local research.

The project to record the activity shown on Post Muster Reports now has over 5000 records in the data base as well as 949 annual officer rosters. We are working on Post 17 at present.

On behalf of the Committee, we thank you for the opportunity to work on this project during the past year and hope to continue in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
In F., C., and L.,

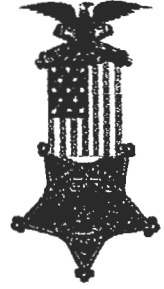


James T. Lyons, PDC, Chairman
G.A.R. Records Committee



Department of Michigan
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS

David F. Wallace
Past Department Commander
7017 Granada Lane
Flint, MI 48532-3023
(810)635-2602 - voice
JMW1200VI@aol.com - e-mail



4 May 2000

Fraternal Greetings to the Officers and Delegates of the 111th Department Encampment of the Department of Michigan. I have the honor to report on the activities of the Department Signals Officer and the Communications and Technology Committee.

I accepted this position at the request of Commander Armstrong after Brother Chuck TenBrink requested to be relieved of his assignment due to personal circumstances during this previous Winter. Brother TenBrink has very ably guided the Department's Communications and Technology aspects these past several years and is to be highly commended for his efforts and contributions.

In Brother TenBrink's final message to Commander Armstrong and myself, he expresses his anticipation to seeing the continued development of the Department's Web site. To that end, the following updates and additions have been made to the Department's site:

1. An online search engine has been added encompassing all 297 pages of the Department's site.
2. An ongoing effort is being made to ensure that all pages are reviewed for accuracy of content and validity of coding.
3. Graphic enhancements have been added to various pages.
4. Elements of Dynamic Hyper Text Markup Language (DHTML) have been added whenever updates are required.
5. A "motivational" quotes script has been added to the Home Page of the Department's web site.
6. An online form to notify the Department Chaplain of the Passing of a Brother has been added to the "Department Headquarters" page.
7. "*Michigan's Messenger*" is now available in electronic format. Archives of previous editions will be added.

There remains much work to do. The bounds of cyberspace are continually expanding.

Recommendations:

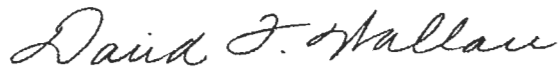
1. That this Encampment resolve to recognize the efforts and contributions of Brother Charles TenBrink during his tenure as Department Signals Officer and Chair of the Communications and Technology Committee through an appropriate expression of appreciation.

2. That this Encampment adopt the following web site standards as part of the Department Guidelines:

- Each Camp is entitled to one page on the Department web site.
- A Camp may petition the Communications and Technology Committee for two additional pages for special events only (defined as special, nonrecurring events). If approved, Special Events pages will be active for a period not to exceed 6 months. A request for one additional 6-month extension may be presented to the Communications and Technology Committee.
- The Department include the Policy on Electronic Communications as approved by the National Organization.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation for the support given to me by Commander Armstrong, the Members of the Department Council, Past Commander-in-Chief Harrison, and Brother Dan Doyle, the other member of the Communications and Technology Committee.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,



First Signals Officer - Deluxe