



Michigan's

Messenger

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN ~ SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

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Summer 2004



GARY GIBSON ELECTED

James T. Lyons, PDC

The 115th Encampment of the Department of Michigan, SUVCW, was held at the Airport Hilton in Grand Rapids on April 24, 2004. The host Order this year was the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861 - 1865.

The business sessions began, as usual, at 9:00 am and proceeded with the customary reports from Officers and Committees. There was some vigorous discussion on several points and a number of referrals were made to the By Laws Committee for study and reports at the next Encampment. The Department is in sound financial condition and the budget was approved with a few modifications. There were no increases in fees or per capita for the coming year.

A highlight of the noon Luncheon was the joint celebration of 90 years of operation by both Robert Finch Camp 14, formerly of Grand Rapids, but located in Traverse City since 1988, and Austin Blair Camp 7 of Jackson. Appropriately decorated cakes were shared by all present.

The afternoon session concluded with the election of officers for the year 2004-2005. For the first time in a number of years there were multiple candidates for two offices. PDC Gary Gibson challenged Commander Butgereit, who was seeking a third term. Brother Gibson prevailed in a close (31 - 27) vote. Brother Butgereit presided over many ceremonies and programs during his two terms in office.

Brother Gibson, a twenty-five year member of the Order brings a wealth of experience and background to the Commander position. He was an organizer and Charter member of Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 in Kalamazoo. He served previously as Department Commander in 1990 and 1991. He was elected to a term on the National Council of Administration and has held many positions of responsibility in the Department and at the National level.

The other contested position was for the office of Junior Vice Commander. Incumbent Rick Greene prevailed over Mark Heath, the selection of the Nominating Committee, by a vote of 38 to 17. Brother Greene has served in a variety of capacities at both the Department and National level with great distinction.

Others serving this term include James T. Lyons, PDC as Senior Vice Commander; Richard Lee as Secretary; David F. Wallace, PDC as Treasurer; Max Newman as Chairman of the Department Council along with Council members Howard Streeter and Brian Shumway.

The Encampment attendance remained at a good level with 62 Brothers representing 17 Camps. (See list on page 6) The Treasurer reports income of \$473.00 in fees paid.

We are pleased to send our congratulations to Nancy Newman, elected as Department President of the Daughters and to Lucille "Peaches" Streeter on her reelection as Department President of the Woman's Relief Corps. We look forward to working with both as we make this a great year for the Allied Orders.

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**DEPARTMENT
OFFICERS AND STAFF
2004/2005**

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Chaplain

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Ed Dowd

Guide

Robert Grove

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Michael Nick

Principle Musician

Blaine Valentine

Counselor

Kim Shaw, Esq.

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Historian

John Keith

Graves Registration Officer

Rick Danes

Civil War Memorials Officer

Doug Armstrong

BSA Coordinator

Dennis Derr

Communications & Technology

Eric Kirchberg

Rituals & Ceremonies Officer

Vacant

GAR Records Officer

James Lyons

Aid de Camp

Michael B. Culp

Commander's Group

Gary L. Gibson

A FEW FINAL THOUGHTS

I hope this issue finds you and yours doing well. With the whirlwind of activities at the Department Encampment, I did not have the opportunity to say farewell, as I would have liked.

I served two wonderful years and would like to thank each of you for your part in making the memories that will last forever. I enjoyed working with each of your Camps. Much has been achieved because of your efforts and desires in doing the work of the Order.

I looked forward to visiting each Camp with the hope that I could provide support or assistance in your endeavors. I went to encourage you, but instead you encouraged me. I thank you for your hospitality and your companionship.

Another benefit of this past two years is the forming new friendships with one another. Sometimes the hard work and frustrations would be a bit discouraging but the camaraderie of our Brotherhood dispelled the shadows and spurred me to forge ahead. Because our friendship was not based upon my title, I will still look forward to visiting your Camp when time permits or duty calls. Who knows, maybe Brother Breaugh will want to have dinner at one of our favorite restaurants and you can join us there?

I encourage you now to continue the good work you are doing in your Camps; continue to press forward in accomplishing the goals of our Order. Through all the events that have occurred, we must always remember that we are here to honor the Boys in Blue who did so much to give us the freedoms we enjoy today; to preserve their history for future generations and to teach patriotism and love of country to our youth...communicate, dedicate and appreciate.

In short, I will always cherish the memories of your hospitality and caring. Michigan can be proud of her sons.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Bruce B. Butgereit, PDC

PHOTO SUBMISSIONS

WHY ACTUAL PHOTOS ARE NECESSARY

Briefly, the reason electronic photo files are not used is three fold. 1st, my printer is not of a high enough quality to print a photo that is good enough to be "shot" by the printshop to make a halftone for offset press printing. Unless an inkjet or laser printer can print at very high quality or TRUE photo quality, 2400 dpi (dots per inch) or higher, the result looks muddy when converted to halftone.

2nd, the quality of electronic files varies tremendously, especially those taken with digital cameras.

A minimum resolution of 3 mega pixels should be used for 4 x 6 photos, especially if they are to be cropped and the cropped area enlarged. What looks acceptable on a computer screen doesn't necessarily look good in print.

3rd, the printshop can take the electronic file and convert it directly to a halftone, but that doubles the processing cost per photo. The Messenger already consumes a major portion of the Department's budget and by having everyone snail mail their photos, the result is the Messenger is a higher quality product and costs the Department (you, our members) less to print.

DEPARTMENT ORDERS #1 SERIES 2004-05

1. Upon election and installation at the 115th Encampment of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, command is hereby assumed and headquarters established at 2339 Harmon Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49004-1527, (269) 345-3827, glgsuvcw@aol.com

2. I wish to thank Bro. Bruce Butgereit, PDC for his service during his tenure in office. His successes are something we can all be proud of.

3. The resignation of Treasurer Richard Williams has been received by this office, due to employment and personal obligations. The Department Council has elected David F. Wallace, PDC, to fill the vacancy.

4. Please see the list of appointed staff and committee assignments elsewhere in this issue of the Messenger.

5. The resignation of Department Council member Keith Harrison, P-C-in-C has been received by this office. The Council has elected Brian Shumway, Commander of Curtenius Guard Camp 17, to fill the vacancy.

6. The resignation of Michigan's Messenger Editor John Mann has been received by this office. John has wanted to step down for the last few years, and has now made it official. I'm sure I speak for the entire Department when I say how much we have appreciated the work and dedication to the Messenger John has shown for the last 10 years. Thank you, John.

In the mean time, SVC James Lyons has been appointed Interim Editor. Mrs. Jenny Snover has been appointed Assistant to the Editor. To submit articles for a future issue, please see box on page 4 for information. If any brother, or team of brothers would be interested in taking over the Messenger, please contact Bro. Lyons directly.

7. I wish to congratulate Sister Lucille "Peaches" Streeter upon her re-election as President of the Department of Michigan, Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic. Congratulations also go out to Sister Nancy Newman, President of the Department of Michigan, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865. Incidentally, the presidents are also the wives of Brothers Howard Streeter of Camp 22, and Bro. Max Newman, Camp 145. The utmost courtesy and respect will be extended to these sisters by all brothers of this Department.

8. I regret to report that Gen. Phil Kearny Camp #67 of Bay City has been suspended. The Camp has not met, elected officers, nor has it collected dues. Department JVC Rick Greene has been working with some of the members, and some prospective members, to try to reorganize the camp.

9. Given the above, my focus this year will be building the membership of the Department. Membership in the Department has dropped from 560 down to 501 in the last few years. Our goal will be for each camp to increase its membership by 5 new members. This does not include associates, only hereditary members. So, if you reported a total of 25 members on the annual report, you will show a total of 30 next April. Keep in mind that if you lose members during the fiscal year, you will need to replace them, as well as bring in 5. If each camp will bring in just 5 new members, we will reach the 600-member mark. I encourage you to exceed this goal.

10. Congratulations are extended to Bro. Robert Hoffman of Austin Blair Camp #7, for the outstanding job he has done in coordinating the effort to place a bronze plaque on the G.A.R. Hall in Eaton Rapids. I was very privileged to attend this unveiling ceremony. Bob is also leading the effort to have the name "G.A.R. Park" restored to the current "Island Park", also located in Eaton Rapids. There will be a ceremony held at the Park on Saturday, June 26, to officially rename the park. For more information on this program, you can contact Bob at roberthoffman1947@yahoo.com Bob's hard work and dedication to the purposes of our Order should serve as an example for all of us. Great work, Bob!

11. It is not too early to start thinking about attending the Remembrance Day events at Gettysburg, PA. On November 20 & 21. It is a great time to visit the battlefield and renew old acquaintances, and make new friends. Watch for more information in The Banner.

12. The resignation of Department Sr. Vice Commander Neal Breaugh has been received by this office. The Council has elected James T. Lyons, PDC, to fill the vacancy.

13. Camp Secretaries are reminded, if they have not done so, to please forward the names of Brothers who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II to the Commander-in-Chief. Bro. Armstrong wishes to recognize those brothers with a special certificate.

14. I would like to appoint a special committee to explore the possibility of sponsoring an official Boy Scout Trail. We will be looking at finding a several-mile stretch of U.S. 12, also known as the Iron Brigade Memorial Highway. The ideal, safe stretch of highway would pass by a cemetery where Civil War Veterans are buried, and/or a G.A.R. monument. The possibilities are endless. I have mentioned this idea to the Scout Executive in Kalamazoo, and his response was "how soon can we start?" If this is successful here in Michigan, we can look at encouraging the other Departments, through which the highway traverses, to do the same. If you would be interested in working on this project, please contact this office.

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Department Orders #1 continued from page 3

15. During the Spanish-American War of 1898, brothers of the Department of Michigan volunteered en masse. Company L, 33rd Michigan Infantry, and Company B, 35th Michigan Infantry, were made up exclusively of members of the Sons. I am looking into the possibility of the Department of the Army permitting us to display the campaign streamer of the Spanish-American War on the Department flag. If anyone has or knows of information pertaining to the Son's involvement in Michigan's regiments, please contact this office.

16. On Tuesday, July 13th, the official observance of the 125th Anniversary of the Michigan Capital Building will take place. The date has been changed from the 14th to the 13th, according to Kerry Chartkoff, of the Michigan Capital Committee. The program will begin at 6:00 p.m., with a concert by the U.S. Air Force Band. The ceremonies will begin at 7:30 p.m., following the concert. This celebration coincides with the R.E. Olds 100th Anniversary. There will be a display of vintage Oldsmobiles, Reos, and other automobiles produced by the car company.

Civil War re-enactors are requested to act as escorts, an Honor Guard and a Color Guard. Dave Downing a member of the 7th Michigan Infantry, Inc., (and a brother of Camp 17), is coordinating this aspect of the program. If you are interested in participating as a re-enactor, please contact Dave at (517) 676-5998, dd1710@lois.lansing.cc.mi.us

By the order of:

Gary L. Gibson
Commander
Department of Michigan

Attest:

Richard Lee
Secretary
Department of Michigan

The **Deadline** for the Fall 2004 Issue
of Michigan's Messenger is

September 15th

All articles and photos must be in the hands of the editor by this date to ensure inclusion. Text files may be submitted by e-mail (attached file preferred). Please use the subject line, *Messenger Article*. Photos **MUST** be mailed (**actual photographs only**). Include a SASE if photos are to be returned. No electronic photo files accepted.

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SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

James T. Lyons, PDC

On the surface the job of the Senior Vice Commander appears to be rather simple and straightforward. You serve as the "back-up" to the Department, or Camp, Commander and preside at meetings in his absence. It seems very easy because it is not often that one is called upon to perform that function.

A closer look at the job description for this office, at both levels, shows that there is considerably more to be done. The activities of Camp Senior Vice Commanders provide some of the information needed by the Department Senior Vice Commander to do his job effectively.

Item number 5 in the Department SVC Job Description is "Forward information about Department and Camp activities to the Editor of the BANNER". The source of that information, at least from the Camps, should come from the Camp SVC on a regular basis as noted in Item 3 of the Camp SVC Job Description, "Gathering appropriate data about Camp activities and forwarding to the Department Senior Vice Commander".

Both the Department and the Camp SVC are charged with the important task of promoting Department and Camp activities to the media outlets whenever necessary. This is accomplished by developing contacts with the folks in the media who can get out advance notices and follow up stories on programs, ceremonies and other activities. These things do not just happen, they need to be the specific responsibility of one person. In our structure, that person is the Senior Vice Commander at all levels.

Newsletters are the responsibility of this office although it is stated in a slightly different way for Camps and Departments. For Camps it is noted as (5) "Publishing a Camp newsletter." For Departments it is stated as (2) "Preparing a Department newsletter." The important thing to note is that the responsibility for seeing that this happens rests with this particular officer. He may not need to do the actual task himself, but it is his duty to see that it happens.

The other major task assigned to this office through our By Laws is to serve as Chairman of the By Laws Committee. The important thing is to make sure that as changes are made to the National Constitution and Regulations, that this Committee updates the Camp and Department documents to be current and in compliance. The use of proper procedures in this activity is essential.

In summary, the job performed by this officer is essential in terms of making the public aware of our existence and activities. The office is responsible for maintaining internal communications in the Camp and Department. The Senior Vice Commander is responsible for assuring that the governing documents of the Department or Camp are current and up to date, and in the case of Camps that a copy is on file with the Department.

Camp Commanders; do you know what your Senior Vice Commander is doing?

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER*Rick Greene*

I wish to take a moment to thank the Department Encampment for returning me to the office that I enjoy so much. Your support was gratifying and inspiring. A number of you devoted an extraordinary amount of time and energy to help me in my bid for re-election. For your assistance and encouragement, I am profoundly grateful. On a final note in this direction, I applaud our worthy Brother, Mark Heath, for his energy and enthusiasm and for his efforts in conducting a clean and honorable campaign. Best of fortune in the future, Mark. I look forward to working with you in the future at the Department level.

The Department Encampment of last month has brought about a new administrative year and a new administration at the Department level here in Michigan. With the loss of three Camps and nearly ten percent of the Department's membership in the past two years, building membership within the Department has assumed a very high priority for the year to come. Department Commander Gary Gibson has challenged each Camp in Michigan to add five new members to its enrollment this year. This is modest, and yet, if each Camp accepted the challenge and brought about a net gain of five members the Department would reverse the trend of the recent past and enjoy a gain of over 100 members.

As the Department Junior Vice Commander and unofficial "recruiting officer", I wish that I could offer a magic bullet that would always work in recruiting new members. Unfortunately, there "ain't no such animal." The constants in successful recruiting remain commitment, hard work, and persistence. It is paramount that Camps get themselves out into the public view to publicize our Order and its mission. From there it is easy to put forth the notion that you are seeking new membership and would like to include those who see and admire our work in that membership. Skillful use of local media, willingness to spend time in meet-and-greet events, and participation in "teaching events" at local schools, historical societies and the like all serve to facilitate recruiting.

Most of all, recruiting is promoted by doing what we do best. Seeing you and your Camp Brothers fall in to honor a fallen hero, to repair or rededicate a memorial to those who served or to perform some other act of community service prompts people to ask who we are and what we are all about. The next question from many will be, "How can I help and where can I join?"

Finally, in previous messages I have mentioned that the Department recently purchased a Civil War officer's style A-frame tent which it is happy to lend to any Camp for use in recruiting events. All the Camp has to do is take good care of it and agree to convey it to the next Camp that wants to use it. Call me at (989) 843-5967 or e-mail me at rgreene@tds.net to make arrangements to borrow the Department tent.

G.A.R. RECORDS COMMITTEE*James T. Lyons, PDC*

Recent finds of G.A.R. Post materials have provided some insight into Post operations and the men who were members of the Grand Army of the Republic. Much of this material is not recorded elsewhere and is not available in the reports filed with Department Headquarters.

The Quarterly Muster Reports provide basic information for members at the time they joined a Post. As the years went on and the frequency of reports moved from quarterly to semi-annual and finally to an annual format, the forms were revised and less information was requested. Unfortunately, as the men aged, less information was noted on the reports. Sometimes only a name is given or the statistical report just indicates that three men were mustered and that six had died.

While we can make a list of those who were accepted into membership, not all applicants were accepted. There was no requirement for the Post to report rejected applicants. These actions were recorded in the minutes of the Post meetings, however. From the Minutes of the J. T. Jones Post 252, of Howard City, on July 16, 1884 we find the following; "Ballot was spread for Wm. Tracey for Muster and he was declared rejected three Black balls appearing and less than twenty white balls. "

Later in this same meeting we find action to change the name of the Post recorded. "There being another Post by the name of Zach Chandler Post in the state, on motion duly adopted the name of this Post was changed to J. T. Jones Post 252." The heading of the minutes page show the Post opened as the Zach Chandler Post 252, but closed as the J. T. Jones Post 252. While names on report forms changed, there was nothing in the reports accounting for the change in name.

Insights into the experiences and background of the members of Posts are found in the pages of Memorial Books. Usually presented to a Post by citizens of the Community, it was the responsibility of a Post Historian to gather and enter information from each member. Each member was assigned a page in the book based on the order in which they joined the Post as reflected by their Consecutive Number in the Post Descriptive Book. Some Posts did a better job on this work than others.

An example of the depth of the war experiences is found in the Memorial Book of Farragut Post 32 of Battle Creek. On page 37, we find the information from Sgt. James G. Cleveland who served in Co. C, 10th Illinois V. V. Infantry from August 17, 1861 to January 1, 1864. He lists the 32 battles he was engaged in and his six closest friends during his service. He indicates that, "The most important events in my military history - Are 1st Crazy to go, awful homesick, glad I went. Ready for duty on vidette post Always had a good cry after a battle. Was in the

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G.A.R. Records Committee continued from page 5

grand movement around Chattanooga, was chief of one of Sherman's bummers squads on Sherman's march to the sea. Was in the last battle of the war and in the grand review in Washington, D.C."

From the Memorial Book of the Charles T. Foster Post 42 of Lansing we find this on page 1. This is the record for Private Rush J. Shank who served in Co. C, 148th New York Volunteers; "Comrade Shank was the first White child born in the City of Lansing and attended the public schools of Lansing until his sixteenth year. He wished to Enlist but his Father objected and sent him to New York State to school from which he enlisted and was sent to the front and participated in the battles of the Wildon R.R. and the seige of Petersburg and Richmond and was present at Appomattox and the surrender of Gen'l R. E. Lee. He was appointed a Cadet to West Point but did not serve long - preferring the Medical profession and graduating from the University of Mich, and followed that profession till his death. He was the first Commander and succeeded himself of this Post and was elected and served as Department Commander 1884."

Private Waldo W. Palmer served in Co. H, 21st Michigan Infantry and was a member of the Sterling Post 74 of Wayland. On his page of the Memorial Book he tells us, "The most important event of my military history was the battle of Chicamauga. We were a few against many and so near we could see the whites of their eyes, an order came to fall back which I did not hear and my Regt. left me alone. I retreated alone the Rebs calling halt and shooting. I saluted & went on."

Three different stories showing the diversity of experiences, attitudes and actions of men who served during the war. The only place that this information is found is in the Memorial Books of the various Posts. As this material is found we need to copy the original, to preserve the appearance of the records and then transcribe the text so that it can be shared with others by electronic means. This activity also provides a backup to these "one of a kind" records.

If you know the location of any of these records, please help us in this quest by reporting your findings to the Chairman, James T. Lyons, PDC, 14650 Willowbrook Drive, Lake Odessa, MI 48849-8491 or email at jtcof@voyager.net - phone 616 - 374 - 7847.



**DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN - SUVCW
DELEGATES TO THE 115TH ENCAMPMENT
24 APRIL 2004**

Last Name	First Name	Camp No	Status
Butgereit	Bruce	1	DC
Butgereit	Bruce II	1	D
Butgereit	Colin	1	D
Kolean	Timothy	1	CC
Woodward	Edward	1	D
Lindsey	Kevin	2	D
Conklin	Dan	7	AD
Griggs	Robert	7	D
Heath	Mark	7	D
Hoffman	Robert	7	D
Lewis	Ronald	7	D
Lowe	William	7	D
Mann	John	7	PCC
McFeters	John	7	D
Tyler	Ron	7	D
Breaugh	Neal	14	D
Clark	Robert	14	D
LaBar	Charles	14	D
Slis	James	14	D
Harrison	Keith	17	PC-in-C
Lyons	James	17	PDC
Neese	Michael	17	D
Pahl	James	17	PDC
Shumway	Brian	17	CC
Williams	Richard	17	D
Brennan	Brandon	20	D
Brennan	William	20	PDC
Costello	William	20	PCC
Gibson	Gary	20	PDC
Keith	John	20	D
Rossio	Steve	20	D
Worley	Charles	20	D
Cuyler	Louis	22	D
Lohrstorfer	John II	22	AD
Lohrstorfer	John, Sr.	22	PCC
Streeter	G. Russell	22	PCC
Valentine	Blain	22	D
Felton	Dennis	58	AD
Hutchins	Richard	120	D
Lee	Richard	120	PCC
Londo	Donald	139	D
Adair	Matthew	145	D
Derr	Dennis	145	D
Dowd	Edgar	145	D
Graves	Daniel	145	PCC
Greene	Richard	145	CC
Holmes	Thomas	145	D

Continued on page 7

Delegates to the 115th Encampment continued from page 6

Last Name	First Name	Camp No	Status
Lindsey	James	145	D
Newman	Max	145	PCC
Shaw	Kim	145	PCC
Thompson	James	145	AD
Wallace	David F.	145	PDC
Wallace	David T.	145	PCC
Calder	Dale	160	CC
Hilliker	David	160	PCC
McMillan	Michael	160	PCC
McAfee	William	180	PCC
Grove	Robert	250	D
Kuhlman	Kris	250	CC
White	Gary	266	CC
Danes	Richard	427	D
Mitchell	Robert	462	D

AWARDS

PRESENTED

Recognitions continue to accrue to PDC Bruce Butgereit and his wife Marcia as a result of their successful 3 1/2-year quest to restore the G.A.R. Monument and fountain in downtown Grand Rapids.

The Grand Rapids Historical Society presented the couple with the 25th Annual Baxter Award, its highest honor named for Albert Baxter, who wrote a definitive 840-page history of Grand Rapids in 1890.

The Grand Rapids Historic Preservation Commission with its Outstanding Preservation Project Award for 2003 honored the Butgereits.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS 2004 - 2005

G.A.R. RECORDS

James Lyons, PDC, Camp #17, *Chair*
J. Douglas Park, PDC, Camp #17
Paul Hodges, PDC, Camp #17
Fred Knoodle, Camp #14
Charles Harthy, Camp #22

MEMBERSHIP

Richard Greene, Camp #145, *Chair*
Includes all Camp JVCs

CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS

Douglas Armstrong, Camp #58, *Chair*
Includes all Camp Civil War Memorials Officers

GRAVES REGISTRATION

Richard Danes, Camp #427, *Chair*
Includes all Camp GROs

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Robert Hoffman, Camp #7, *Chair*
Mark Pangburn, Camp #58
James Appleton, Jr., Camp #20
Kris Kuhlman, Camp #250
William Hart, Camp #180

BY-LAWS

James T. Lyons, PDC, Camp #17, *Chair*
Mark Heath, Camp #7
Kim D. Shaw, Esq., Camp #145
Charles Worley, Camp #20
Warren Gidley, Camp #58

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

Eric Kirchberg, Camp #20, *Chair*
John Lohrstorfer, Sr., Camp #22
Dennis Felton, Camp #58
Donald Londo, Camp #120
Dan Grable, Camp #3

RITUALS AND CEREMONIALS

To Be Announced

ANOTHER HALL FOUND

James T. Lyons, PDC



Leads for discoveries of things like this come from all over the place. In May of 2003 Steve Michaels, then serving as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, sent me a packet of material from an applicant for membership. The ancestor of Dale H. Leach, of Houston, Texas, was a member of the James Bradley Post 194 of Clio, Michigan.

Included in the packet were pictures of Sylvester Leach and his wife, their home and their place of burial. There was also a photo of Leach and a few of his Comrades with rifles, bayonets fixed, dated 1921.

The real gems in this collection were two pictures of the G.A.R. Hall. The first appears to date from the 1890s and shows nearly fifty members as though ready for a parade or possibly Memorial Day activities. The Hall has a double porch running the length of the building and there are two ladies and two young boys on the second level. A flag flies from the second floor. These porches were on the East Side of the building.

There is a second picture of the Hall, probably taken some time in the 1940s or thereabouts. It appears that the two porches along the East Side of the building have been removed. A double deck porch has been built on the front of the building.

Mr. Leach also included a transcription of a "Down Memory Lane" article written by Lloyd A. Carr in the January 9, 1985 edition of the Clio Messenger Newspaper. The article chronicles the history of the Hall and also a profile of Sylvester Leach who was the color bearer of the Bradley Post until his death.

Mr. Carr tells us that the Hall was moved from Pine Run in about 1870. It had been used by the Vienna Lodge No. 205 F. & A. M. from 1866 until the move. It became the home of the James Bradley Post 194 of the Grand Army of the Republic. The Post operated from 1883 to 1926. It appears that the Post stopped meeting at the Hall in 1912 due to declining membership.

The building stood empty for a number of years until purchased in 1930 and converted into an upper and lower rental unit. At this time the two story front porch was added. In about 1950 the building was sold again and the new owner converted the first floor into a flower shop. He remodeled and continued to rent the upper floor apartment. In 1955, when the new high school was being built arrangements were made to fill the area west of

the building to create a parking lot where a steep bank ran down to the river.

The lot was filled to the top of the foundation. About the same time, the two-story porch was removed and replaced with the colonial style pillars that remain on the front of the building even now.

At the time this article was written (1984), it is noted that the building had been boarded up and was not being used.

In September, I drove to Clio to see if the Hall was still there. The building, just east of the Vienna Street Bridge, no longer resembles the old photos in the packet. A one-story addition has been built on the West Side of the building and the parking area has been paved with blacktop. There are three rental units in the structure now, but the venerable core of the building still stands.



JOHN A. LOGAN CAMP 1 ~ GRAND RAPIDS

Tim Kolean, CC

John A. Logan Camp No. 1 has had a busy last few months. On March 27-28, a Civil War show was held in Grand Rapids. Camp 1 sponsored a booth along with Champlin Corps. 41 of the WRC. Our table featured information about the SUVCW and Camp 1. We also presented information about our work on the Kent County Civil War Monument and had a computer set up with Graves Registrations and Civil War Soldier data. We were received well by the general public. In fact, quite a long line developed at times during the show from people wanting to know information on possible Civil War ancestors or grave site information. We gave out many brochures on the SUVCW, which hopefully will turn into some potential new members someday.

Camp 1 has begun a renewed effort in our Graves Registration activities. At our March camp meeting, Graves Registrations Officer Bill Johnston gave a seminar on the proper methods of doing graves registrations work. Topics covered were filling out the forms correctly and how to gather graves registration data. Lists of all cemeteries in the three counties that Camp 1 is responsible for are being made available to Camp Brothers to sign out a cemetery and take responsibility of all graves registration work for that cemetery.

John A. Logan Camp 1 sent five brothers to represent it at the Department Encampment on April 24. The Five brothers include: Bruce Butgereit, Bruce Butgereit II, Colin Butgereit, Tim Kolean and Ed Woodard.

Currently plans are underway for activities for Memorial day observations, Michigan Monument at Andersonville, GA dedication and a dedication of a Civil War Memorial in Ferrysburg Michigan in late May. A picnic with Camp No. 3 is also planned on May 31, 2004.

HENRY E. PLANT CAMP 3 ~ GRAND HAVEN

Daniel Grable - Secretary

Congratulate us, we did it. We finally did it. We came up with our Camp's first set of By Laws. This project has taken us 11 years of on and off work. I would like to thank the committee of Daniel Grable, Donald Ogden and Richard Scott for all their work over the past

few years. They came up with the most up to date version when we turned it in to the Department for approval.

The Camp also participated in the rededication of the Michigan monument at the Andersonville Prison. We participated by sending three different bags of dirt down to the event. The largest came from our Brother Paul MacDonald. Brother MacDonald's great grand uncle, Robin B. Douglas, who served in the 6th Michigan Cavalry, was a prisoner at Andersonville. He is buried there having died on March 21, 1864. Mr. Douglas came from the Fremont area where Brother MacDonald currently lives. The Camp also sent some dirt from our Camp's namesake, Henry E. Plant's grave site and the Ferrysburg area.

Meanwhile, while Daniel Grable was doing some research for his book on Henry E. Plant and local Civil War veterans he found out about Medal of Honor recipient First Sergeant Ivers Calkin. Calkin, of Co. M, 2nd New York Cavalry, on April 6, 1865 at Sailor's Creek, Virginia, captured the 18th Virginia Infantry Regimental flag. Later he was buried in the Oak Grove Cemetery in Montague, Michigan. Brother Grable saw pictures of 1st Sergeant Calikin's grave site which had no indication of his Medal of Honor. So Brother Grable took this information to the Camp in hope of rectifying the situation The Camp turned the project over to Brother Lynn Hahn of Whitehall, a neighboring city to Montague. Brother Hahn has done much work on the project and is currently trying to find out about 1st Sgt. Calkin's military record. We will keep you informed on this project.

Also this spring we have been very active in preparation for future events. The events include involvement in the Memorial Day parade and ceremonies in Spring Lake, plus participation that day along with the John Logan Camp 1, of Grand Rapids, in the dedication of a new Tri-Cities (Northwest Ottawa County) Civil War monument. The monument includes a listing of local area men that served in the Civil War. This monument was an Eagle Scout project of Michael Brower, a local Civil War reenactor. Michael is a member of the 4th Michigan reenactors to which our Commander Richard Scott and Jon Scott belong. Following these events the Camp held a picnic.

Late in June the Camp is scheduled to present a program at the Loutit District Library in Grand Haven and the Spring Lake District Library in Spring Lake. The program will

cover Civil War soldiery and how Henry E. Plant earned his Medal of Honor.

Then on July 1st the Tri - Cities Historical Museum, where we hold our Camp meetings, is opening a new main location in downtown Grand Haven. We are planning to be involved in their grand opening, and starting in September we will be meeting in the new building. The retail building was originally built by Healey Ackley, a local lumber baron and Civil War veteran from Grand Haven.

In July we are planning to go up to Ludington to a large cemetery to conduct some graves registration work.

Information on these events will follow in our next article. Til then have a safe and productive summer.

ROBERT FINCH CAMP 14 ~ TRAVERSE CITY

Wm. E. Skillman, SVC

During the March 13th meeting the Camp welcomed three new members: Bill Hewer, Ted Mattis, and Jon Phillips. Ed Bardy received an honorable discharge and will be missed. Four members were initiated; Bill Giegerich, Dale Aurand, Ted Mattis, and Bill Hewer.

The Camp was informed of Commander Breaugh's attendance at the Mid-Winter Meeting. The Camp was also informed of the progress of the Grand Traverse Soldier Restoration Committee. The Camp voted to support the efforts for this fund-raising project is to cost \$80,000.

The 90th Anniversary Dinner for Robert Finch Camp #14 was held at the Elks Lodge in Traverse City on March 26th. Commander Breaugh presented 25-year pins to original members: Clint Kennard, Clarence Rabach, and a 30-year pin of service to Gary Clark. The 35 attendees had the opportunity to view photos of Sgt. Finch during his service as a sharpshooter with Co. B. 1st Michigan Sharpshooters, and post-War GAR. These were donated to the Camp by his descendent and JVC Robert Finch Clark. Mr. Frank Burken donated to the Camp the original Descriptive List for the Acme, Michigan GAR post. The descriptive list was turned over to Jim Lyons GAR Records Committee. Marge and Al Pifer were in attendance, Al

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having 'run the guard' at Tendercare Nursing Facility. He has wished to convey his deepest thanks to his many friends and comrades who have wished him well during his recovery.

Commander Breauh presented Marge with the laser-copy of long awaited Women's Auxiliary charter. Neal described the long and at times amusing twists on how the Charter was discovered and how Mr. Sam Bravata (owner of Sam's Joint restaurant) was instrumental in arranging for the photo-copy and framing of the Charter. Marge reported that she had names of 17 women who wish to be part of the Women's Auxiliary, and has sent out applications. The Women's Auxiliary will be formally 'mustered in' during the July picnic 2004.

Camp #14 enjoyed visits by two gifted speakers. In March Brother Pat McCleary gave a fascinating talk on of his Civil War era ancestors based upon his genealogical studies. On the May 8th meeting, the Camp was entertained by speaker Julia Cramer. Ms. Cramer acted the role of Mrs. George Wilcox, and presented the fascinating life of Major Wilcox, a Civil War hero and post War entrepreneur. After the War Major Wilcox lived for a time in Traverse City and founded one of the newspapers. Ms. Cramer's supply of books; Across the Bloody Chasam: the Legacy of Lyman "George" Wilcox were sold out to enthusiastic Camp members.

On April 15, Brothers Bill Lowe, Max Miller of Camp 7, with Dept Commander Butgeriet came to Traverse City for a presentation to the Grand Traverse Genealogical Society on how to access and use the SUVCW data base that he and Camp/Department volunteers have developed. Both Camp and community attendees were amazed at Brother Lowe's grasp of the subject matter and the ease he answered so many genealogical questions. Even this old researcher learned some very useful tidbits.

On May 5th, the Restoration Committee, Camp officers, and reenactors of Co. A. 26th Michigan Infantry were interviewed by Jack O'Malley to be featured in his May 24th "Journal" TV spot. Additional media interest in the Soldier Restoration was by reporter Lisa Dornen (TV 9&10) whose interest was piqued by the large signs describing the fund raising project on the Court house lawn.

Not to rest on his laurels, Brother Al Pifer entertained the Young Marines (at Tendercare Nursing facility where he is recovering from a

stroke), by putting on a presentation of his Civil War artifacts.

The 'Kick-Off' for the Grand Traverse Soldier Restoration fund took place on May 25th. Attendees were Committee members Margaret Underwood, Peter Strom, Chuck Lerchen, Jim Slis, and Skillman. Poet Jim Ribby recited the "Boys in Blue" and Skillman delivered a short speech to the attendees. Mr. Sylvester Penny, the first person to contribute funds towards the restoration of the Soldier was also present. At noon, SVC Skillman spoke at the Rotary as Chuck handed out brochures to the members. The amount of funds generated to that date was \$1800. We have a long way to go to reach the restoration goal of \$80, 000 but we have every confidence that we will succeed.

Memorial Day was a busy time for members of Camp 14, with representatives attending memorial services from Cadillac to Harbor Springs, from Traverse City to Northport and Lake Ann. Commander Breauh represented the Camp at the rededication of Michigan's POW monument at Andersonville.

CURTENIUS GUARD CAMP 17 LANSING & SUNFIELD *James T. Lyons, PDC*

The Camp again assisted the Helen M. Edwins Tent 30 in the commemoration of the Sunday before Memorial Day. The program on May 23, 2004 was held at the Sunfield United Brethren Church on M -50 at 3:00 P. M. Brother James T. Lyons served as Emcee for the Program. He also served as the speaker for the event talking about the origins of Memorial Day. Another topic of the presentation was the need to capture the first hand recollections of veteran's experiences, particularly those of World War II who are leaving us at record rates.

The Memorial weekend found the Camp participating in the Lansing Memorial Day Parade on Saturday May 29. The parade was followed by the traditional ceremony conducted by the Camp at the G.A.R. plot in Mt. Hope Cemetery and the ceremony at the Little Arlington section of Evergreen Cemetery.

The May 30th ceremony at the Hall in Sunfield was canceled due to inclement weather. The Camp held its regular meeting as scheduled.

Condolences are sent to Sister Eunice Black, and her family, on the death of her husband of nearly 55 years, Edward J. Black who died on June 7 at age 80. A veteran of World War II, Ed served in the Army Air Corps, and flew 27 missions over France and Germany as a member of the 8th Air Force. He spent nearly a year of internment in Sweden after his disabled B-24 landed there and was released at the end of the war. Sister Eunice is a Past Department President of the Daughters and has been a mainstay of this Order and Tent 30 for many years.

COLGROVE - WOODRUFF CAMP 22 ~ MARSHALL *Howard Streeter, PCC*

I thought everyone would be interested in some of the things that Colgrove -Woodruff PCC Ty Streeter chose to do while home on a short leave. His choice at Fort Custer National Cemetery on Memorial Day was to work with the 3rd Battery, Light Artillery to fire a three gun shot salute rather than to be introduced on the stage for his part in Iraqi Freedom. He said the honor was to the veterans buried there, not to anyone else.

Department Commander Gary Gibson asked Ty and our Camp members to attend a service at Riverside Cemetery in Kalamazoo, if we could make it. We rushed from Fort Custer to Kalamazoo in time to attend Camp 20's lovely ceremony. Well done guys !

On Thursday, June 3, at our own Camp meeting we were honored to have Commander-in-Chief Armstrong attend. Department Memorials Officer Doug Armstrong traveled down with his father. It was great to have them there. Brother Bill Lowe also arrived with a sizable group from Jackson, so the attendance was more than we usually have.

CinC Armstrong had an award to present to Brother John Lohrstorfer for his distinguished service in WW II. After he read the citation, he asked Ty to present it to John. He felt it was proper for a present serviceman to honor one of our past heroes. Thank you John. We all owe all our veterans recognition for preserving our freedom and our way of life.

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On Monday, May 7, I returned to the G.A.R. Monument in Union City to complete the work for the July 3rd rededication. Ty chose to spend one of his last days home helping me work on it. As his grandfather I reserve bragging rights. The Sons have quite an asset in this young man.



John Lohrstorfer, holding his certificate, is flanked by PCC Ty Streeter and CinC Kent Armstrong. Other camp members and guests surround Brother Lohrstorfer.

INVITATION

120 Years ago the village of Union City dedicated the Civil War Monument to the veterans of that war.

Now, with hard work and perseverance on the part of Colgrove-Woodruff Camp 22 members and the completion of the restoration, a rededication will be held on July 3rd, 2004.

Reenactors of the 3rd Battery, 1st Michigan Light Artillery, will set up a small living history camp on the grounds at the park and will fire a salute at the end of the ceremony.

All are invited to join us at the park on North Broadway at Allen Street. The program will start at 4:00 P. M. on Saturday July 3 in Union City.



GOV. CRAPO CAMP 145 ~ FLINT

Rick Green, CC

Shortly after the birth of the Gov. Crapo Camp #145, in 1992, the Camp "adopted" a cemetery! Long ignored by the responsible caretaker- the City of Flint- Aventine Cemetery was overgrown with weeds, brush, downed tree limbs and overwhelmed by the litter and vandalism of decades of neglect. At rest, in the midst of this unsightly mess were fifty to sixty veterans, including 35 who served the Union cause in the American Civil War. Most of the Civil War Veterans had been members of the Gov. Crapo Post #145, Grand Army of the Republic, for which we are named.

Months of intense clean up and restoration resulted in a delightfully placid little island in the city; the stuff from which idyllic water colored postcards from a century ago might spring. To culminate the project civic and SUVCW leaders and dignitaries, along with the press joined the Camp in the dedication of twelve replacement, military headstones, provided by the US Government.

Since that time, for over a decade, Camp Brothers have regularly gathered to mow, trim, clean and, otherwise care for this little cemetery. Though the Camp may support other Memorial Day activities in various communities, May 30, the true Decoration Day is reserved for Aventine and the Comrades buried there. A guard is mounted for six hours, beginning at twelve, noon. At 5:00 P.M. Camp Brothers begin reading the Roll of Honor; the names of our forebears, the men of Post #145. At 6:00 P.M. we conduct an appropriate and reverent ceremony in remembrance of all veterans who are entombed there. In the past we have included dignitaries and musical presentations, though recent gatherings have been more subdued. The services are always concluded by rifle volleys by the Camp Guard and taps. Often we march down to the water near historic Camp Thompson to offer floral tributes upon the waves to our naval heroes.

As in other years, Camp Brothers met on Sunday, May 30, 2004 to perform this time honored rite. While fulfilling our civic and sacred responsibility to "keep green the memory" of our fallen heroes, we enjoy the camaraderie and fellowship of our Camp Brothers and reaffirm our commitment to preserving the memory of those who sacrificed so much

for all that we hold dear "so long as the light and warmth of life remain in us".

We will meet to do many things over the course of the next year, but reaffirmation of this solemn trust is paramount and enduring.



COMING EVENTS

JULY

3rd **Union City**
G.A.R. Monument rededication at 4:00 p.m. - see Camp 22 article on page10 for details.

4th **Independence Day**
228th Anniversary of the founding of our Country.

27th **Korean War Ends**
51st Anniversary of the signing of the Truce ending hostilities.

AUGUST

13th - 14th **Cedar Rapids, Iowa**
123rd National Encampment - see THE BANNER for details.

19th - 22nd **Sunfield**
Sunfield Farmers Picnic - Parade at noon on Saturday, August 21st - G.A.R. Hall open 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. August 21st.

28th - 29th **Jackson**
Civil War Muster at Cascades Park.

SEPTEMBER

6th **Labor Day**

15th **MESSENGER Deadline**
Submissions for the Fall Issue must be in the hands of the Editor by this date. Please note that all photos must be mailed via USPS. Electronic photos cannot be used.

OCTOBER

11th **Columbus Day**

NOVEMBER

11th **Veterans Day**

20th - 21st **Gettysburg, PA**
Remembrance Day parade and ceremonies.



HELP WANTED



NEEDED - One Newsletter Editor

Computer skills needed, newsletter experience helpful, but will arrange training for a willing applicant.

NEEDED - Several Assistant Editors

Computer skills needed to provide assistance to the newsletter Editor. Assist in the preparation and updating of Recruiting Flyers, various Certificates and Forms.

A key aspect of the Assistant Editor position will be to prepare to be a "back-up" and/or potential replacement for the newsletter Editor.



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY PLEASE CONTACT:

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The Department of Michigan is on the Internet at: <http://suvcw.org/mi/deptmi.htm>

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