



MICHIGAN'S MESSENGER

SUVCW ROTC AWARD PRESENTED AT MICHIGAN TECH

Submitted by Dept. Patriotic Instructor Terry McKinch, PDC

On Tuesday April 15, 2025, Department of Michigan SUVCW, Boy Scout Coordinator, Lloyd Lamphere, Sr., PCC, and I made a trip to Houghton. Our mission was to present the ROTC Cadet Award to Air Force Cadet Travis Crigger at the annual spring ceremony.

Little did we know that our drive to Michigan's Upper Peninsula tip into Lake Superior (Keweenaw Peninsula) would involve such a harrowing adventure. First, I got sick, then we had a flat tire, which took us back about 90 minutes. Next, we faced a white out snowstorm that created multiple car accidents which we were successful in avoiding. The ceremony was to be at the ROTC gym on the Michigan Technological University campus at 1600 hours and we arrived at 1530 hours. Brother Lloyd had worn his SUVCW pants, tie, and jacket, while I expected to change once we arrived. I did, however, wear my Air Force leather jacket and insignia, so Brother Lloyd convinced me to wear that for the ceremony. We met with Ms. Shannon Eddy, Administrative Assistant for Air Force ROTC Detachment 400, to find out more about the ceremony and where we should sit. When we sat down, we met Brother Dewey Jones, PCC from Albert & James Lyon Camp 266 who was there to present the ROTC award too. Well since it was in Camp 266's area, we were happy to have Brother Jones present the ROTC award. When the time came to present the award, Brother Jones, Brother Lloyd and I presented it to Cadet Crigger.

We found out that Brother Jones and Camp 266 had been presenting the ROTC award to both an Air Force and an Army cadet for over 20 years. Brother Jones asked if we were staying for the Army ROTC award on Thursday, to which we replied we were unaware of another award, so we were unable to stay. I did however suggest that we come up for a week next year. We spent the night in a hotel, which I paid for and we ate at a Subway. Our trip back home was uneventful and really quite a nice ride with lots of sunshine and warm weather. Brother Lloyd is a real trooper driving the entire way over 1030 miles, even though I offered to drive. Once I got back, the Commander for Camp 266 - Jim Strain, and I talked about the Camp and its ROTC activities. I gave Department Commander David Kimble a report, since Brother Lloyd and I are the Departments ROTC Coordinators. I think I will become a dual member with Camp 266, and hope they have a summer meeting so I can ride my motorcycle up there.

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"TO HER MARTYRS &
HEROES WHO FOUGHT IN
DEFENCE OF LIBERTY AND
UNION"

TUEBOR



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

SONS OF UNION VETERANS
OF THE CIVIL WAR

VOLUME XXXIII, ISSUE IV
SUMMER 2025

ROTC AWARD AT MICHIGAN TECH CONT'D



TOP LEFT: PCC Dewey Jones of Albert & James Lyon Camp 266 presents AFROTC Cadet Travis Crigger with the SUVCW ROTC Award Certificate along with Department ROTC Coordinators Terry McKinch, PDC and Lloyd Lamphere, Sr., PCC.

TOP RIGHT (L-R): PCC Dewey Jones, PDC Terry McKinch, Cadet Travis Crigger, and PCC Lloyd Lamphere, Sr.

BOTTOM: Several Cadets of Michigan Tech Air Force ROTC Detachment 400 (Ed. Note: believe this is the 400 class).



SUMMER 1865: GOING HOME

Submitted by PCC Mark Hoffman – Camp No. 17 and Camp 444

One hundred-sixty years ago the fighting was over. Federal authorities had begun in earnest the process of discharging most of the one million men in the US Army. The vast majority of them volunteer soldiers itching to return to family and home. The bulk of occupation duty in the southern states would fall on Black and Regular Army units, though a largely volunteer force of some 50,000 men was heading west in a show of force against French operations in Mexico.

Soldiers were discharged according to a War Department plan approved on May 11. Discharging those in military hospitals, returned prisoners of war and men with a short time left on their enlistment was the top priority. They trickled home individually or in small detachments as health permitted over the next several months. The next priority was to begin mustering out entire units. This complicated process required moving the men by rail and steamer from wherever they were serving to the military centers in their home states. Since units from all regions were serving in all military commands, this meant hundreds of thousands of men crisscrossing the country.

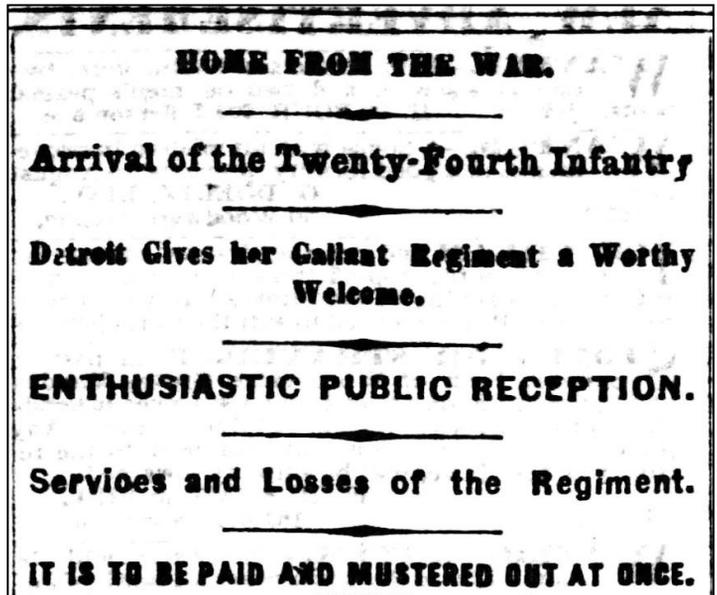
Most units first travelled to the cities designated for the army and corps they belonged to and then waited their turn. Generally, they were mustered out in the field but not actually released from military service to civilian life until reaching their

home state. The men were paid off as the very last step in the demobilization process in order to maintain some leverage over their behavior enroute.

Though it could never be done quickly enough for the men in uniform, federal and state authorities performed an amazing task in a fairly orderly and effective manner. Between May 1 and late November 1865, more than 800,000 Union troops were mustered out and discharged, some 640,000 of them before August 7.

Detroit and Jackson were the two designated discharge points in Michigan. Detroit had long served as a major depot for troops leaving and returning to the state. Many soldiers had already been discharged from there since 1861, especially those the surgeons deemed too disabled for further service. Eventually about 20,000 Michigan soldiers were discharged at the Detroit Barracks and Harper Hospital between June 1865 and June 1866. Camp Blair in Jackson was no longer needed as a rendezvous point for drafted replacements and more than 10,000 men were discharged there beginning in June 1865.

Units would travel through many Michigan communities on their way to Detroit and Jackson, especially



ABOVE: Return of the 24th - The return of the hometown heroes of the 24th Michigan was major news in Detroit and its citizens provided a rousing welcome. (Source: *Detroit Free Press*, June 21, 1865)

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SUMMER 1865: GOING HOME CONT'D

towns located along the railroads. With the emphasis on recruiting units by region, each town would also host groups of local men making their way home after discharge at Detroit or Jackson.

In anticipation of the compressed arrival of so many returning soldiers, Michigan Adjutant General John Robertson issued General Orders No. 8 on June 3, 1865. Given the imminent return of so many units to the state, Robertson noted it was:

“Earnestly hoped and expected that the citizens in every locality where Michigan troops, either as regiment, companies, detachments, or as individuals, may temporarily sojourn while in transit to their homes, will extend to them every attention and kindness that circumstances will admit of.... These gallant men are returning after having performed fully their part in the war that has secured us a nation and the generous and patriotic people of the State will not fail to recognize their services and sacrifices in their behalf and will cheerfully extend to them a cordial welcome.”

Communities across Michigan and the Union scrambled to give the soldiers a grand welcome as they returned, even though there was often little notice of their pending arrival as hundreds of thousands of Union soldiers were moving along the same transportation corridors. Detroit and Jackson bore the brunt of welcoming the units and officials there were pleased with how their citizens took to the challenge.

For example, Detroit was especially proud of the tremendous welcome given to the local men of the 24th Michigan, heroes of Gettysburg and other battles. As the June 21 Detroit Free Press reported:

“As the train rolled into the depot cheer on cheer went up which made the echoes ring again. After little delay the regiment formed in line and proceeded up Brush street.... The sidewalks, roofs of building, and every available place for seeing was densely packed with spectators, and cheer on cheer went up as the regiment passed along....”

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Jackson could also boast of the great welcome given to arriving units. The Jackson Daily Citizen reported on the unexpected arrival of the 20th Michigan on June 6: “The dinner given at Union Hall yesterday afternoon to the gallant 20th Regiment was a fine affair. Although the notice had been given but a few hours, the work was taken hold of by the people in earnest, and the affair ... reflects much credit upon Jacksonians.” Local Jackson resident Austin Blair was often present to greet the returning troops, men he had sent off to war and visited in their camps as the state’s Governor.

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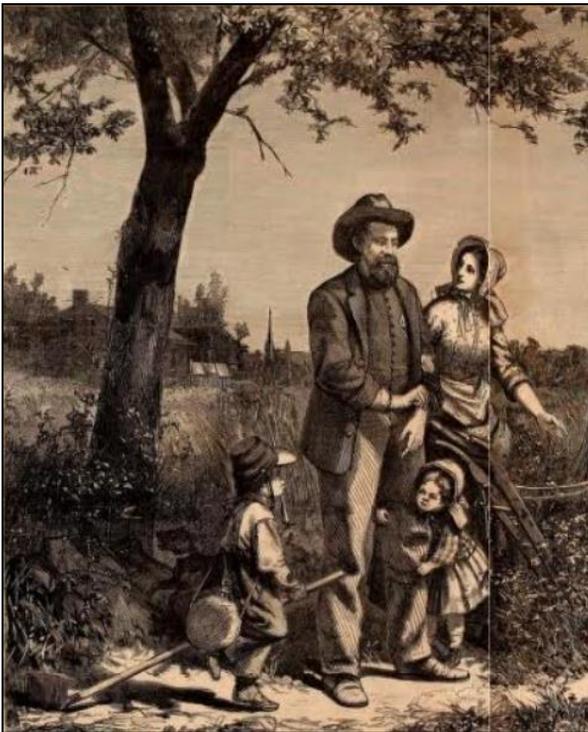
SUMMER 1865: GOING HOME CONT'D

Many officials were concerned about what would happen when this mass of armed men anxious to get home was pushed so quickly through the transportation system and military infrastructure. The discharge process would take time to determine what was due each soldier and the rendezvous camps often received little advance notice on when and what units were on their way. There were fears that the men would grow especially impatient for discharge once back in their home state and largely ignore the orders of their unit officers and camp officials.

With that in mind, camp commanders often relied on the soldiers' goodwill and desire to keep the reputation earned on hard-fought battlefields. Gen. Lysander Cutler, wounded war hero and once leader of the famous Iron Brigade, commanded at Camp Blair through June. He issued an order that the men awaiting discharge could not leave the camp without permission from his office but also promised to do his best to quickly settle the final pay due them so they could be discharged. He reminded them:

“Let every one endeavor to show that while they have been good soldiers, they are also gentlemen. Let them leave all irregularities to those who have not had the patriotism or courage to aid the Government in its bloody struggle for existence.”

Overall, the soldiers behaved well under the circumstances in both Detroit and Jackson, with only isolated incidents of soldiers being arrested. In most of these cases, they had managed to get around the orders of military authorities who banned the sale of alcohol to soldiers with predictable results. The Jackson Daily Citizen proudly noted on June 16 that “almost everyone has noticed the orderly conduct of our soldiers. Although ... our streets have been filled with a large number ... there have been few scenes of violence and little disturbance of public order.”



ABOVE: **Home** - This touching sketch appeared in the July 8, 1865, issue of *Harper's Weekly*. (Source: Archive.org)

Though several Michigan units were held in the service until later in 1865 or even 1866, they were the exception. In total, forty-six regiments, batteries and independent companies were discharged at Detroit or Jackson by the end of August 1865, with eight more in September. The final units to be officially discharged were the 3rd and 4th (both reorganized) and 28th infantry regiments, in Detroit in June 1866.

Further Reading

William B. Holberton's *Homeward Bound: The Demobilization of the Union and Confederate Armies, 1865-1866* (2001) provides an excellent account of the topic. In addition, Jackson's role is covered in *Camp Blair: A Civil War Camp, Jackson, MI 1864-1865* (2024 revised edition), a joint effort of Austin Blair Camp 17 and the Jackson County Historical Society. Newspapers.com includes papers published in 1865 in Detroit and Jackson and they highlight the significant role of those cities in the demobilization of Michigan's Civil War soldiers.



PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTION FROM THE NPI

Submitted by Dept. Patriotic Instructor Terry McKinch, PDC

**National Patriotic Instruction
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

June 2025

A POEM FOR FLAG DAY



"The Stars and Stripes Are Good Enough"

by Frederick W. Emerson (1859-1908)

"The Stars and Stripes are good enough"

To float in every town;
All emblems of a foreign kind
Should everywhere come down.
Our fathers fought beneath its folds,
And faithful brothers died;
Fond husbands were among the brave,
And sons, their mother's pride.

"The Stars and Stripes are good enough"

For these United States;
And not another flag must come
Within its peaceful gates.
Our emblem honored with the blood
Of noble, men so true,
Must everywhere be honored still,
No other flag will do.

"The Stars and Stripes are good enough,"

Let love fill every breast;
It brought us victory in war,
In times of peace gives rest.
The Liberty which we enjoy,
Wherever we may roam,
Is found beneath the Stars and Stripes
In every place called home.

"The Stars and Stripes are good enough,"

Our only flag it is;
And aliens from the foreign lands
Must all remember this.
It cost us much to hold aloft
Our emblem rich and fair,
Whate'er the cost in future days,
We'll try and keep it there.

Fly Old Glory proudly this Flag Day and ALWAYS!

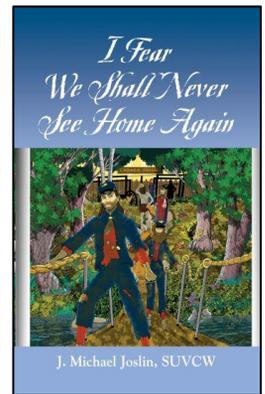
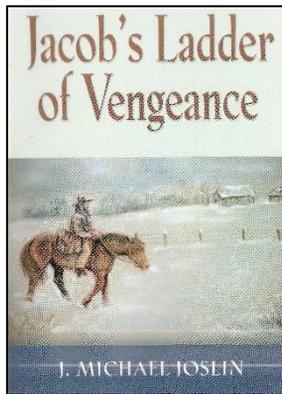
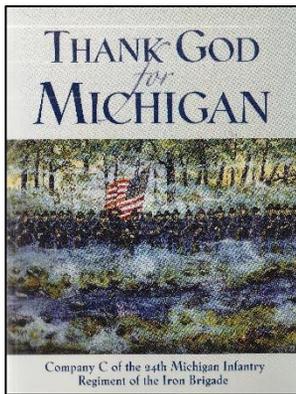
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC — National Patriotic Instructor



CAMP 427 BROTHER IS HISTORICAL FICTION AUTHOR

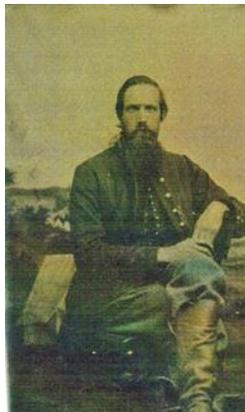
Submitted by Brother J. Michael Joslin – Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427



Brother J. Michael Joslin is a member of Sgt. John S. Cosby, Camp No. 427 in Dearborn, Michigan. Michael is a self-taught historian and an author of historical fiction novels. He first became interested as a young boy when his parents gave him *The Golden Book of the Civil War*. While in junior high school, he did a school project on Sherman's march through Georgia. Since that time, he has established a fairly extensive Civil War library, and much more on America's history. Michael had never given any thought to becoming an author until he learned of his 2nd Great-grandfather, Ralph Terry of the 24th Michigan.

Michael's first novel, *Thank God for Michigan* is based on the experiences of the 24th Michigan Infantry Regiment. His 2nd Great-grandfather, Cpl. Ralph Goweth Terry, a resident of Plymouth, Michigan, enlisted in Company C, which was formed in Kellogg Park in Plymouth, Michigan. Despite having contracted Malaria, and having been wounded three times, Ralph survived the war.

On October 9, 1862, the 24th Michigan was assigned to the famed Iron Brigade. On December 13, 1862, the 24th Michigan entered the fray at Fredericksburg, Virginia. Here is where the 24th Michigan proved itself to the rest of the Iron Brigade, and earned the right to wear the coveted "black hats" of the Iron Brigade, but on July 1, 1863, the 24th would pay dearly for that honor in a fierce battle at Willoughby Run outside of Gettysburg, Virginia.



Cpl. Ralph Goweth Terry

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CAMP 427 HISTORICAL FICTION AUTHOR CONT'D

Michael's second novel, *Jacob's Ladder of Vengeance*, was pretty much written on a lark. After years of research for his first novel, he felt he needed a break. He refers to the writing as improvisational writing, as in the beginning, an idea came to mind, but as he sat down to write it, he had no idea where the story would lead, who the characters would be, or even their names, where would the events take place in, and he did not have any idea how the story would end until the second to the last chapter. Nevertheless, much research was still necessary, and many of the events were factual events during that time.

"Vengeance is mine, sayeth the Lord," but after learning of his wife's brutal rape and murder at the hands of members of Quantrill's Raiders, Jacob Perigo, veteran of the American Civil War, decides that perhaps it would be best if he assisted the Lord in this mission. "When you do bad things, eventually you get what's coming to you. Vengeance may be God's, but I believe He uses us to do His bidding...maybe we are meant to be the instrument of the Lord and do it for Him."

With hate in his heart, Jacob, along with a half-brother and two cousins, set off on a quest for vengeance, throughout post-Civil War Missouri and Kansas, seeking their quarry in places where the war has not yet ended.

Their trail will lead to those he seeks, but it will also unexpectedly lead to a second chance at love. She is a woman who shares a similar need for revenge. Will they both find what they are looking for?

Michael's third and final novel, *I Fear We Shall Never See Home Again*, and the one he says he is most proud of, follows the ill-fated events of his third cousin three times removed, William Lester Faurot, and his fellow Coldwater Boys, who joined Company G of the 18th Michigan Infantry Regiment. They enlisted in Jonesville, Michigan, and trained in Hillsdale, Michigan.

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CAMP NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS – J. RICHARD GREENE AWARD

Calling on all Camps that would like to be considered for the J. Richard Greene Award for the Most Outstanding Newsletter in the Department to submit them upon each publication to the J. Richard Greene Award Committee comprised of the Department Newsletter Editor (Chairman), Department Chaplain, and the Department Secretary. The e-mail addresses for those officers are as follows:

editor@suvcwmi.org
chaplain@suvcwmi.org
secretary@suvcwmi.org

All Camp newsletters will be collected and reviewed during the prescribed period before the Department Encampment.



CAMP 427 HISTORICAL FICTION AUTHOR CONT'D



Cpl. William Lester Faurot

Imagine being a young man who has come of age during the early days of the American Civil War and without needing your parent's approval, you may now go off to war. Such was the case of William Lester Faurot and four of his closest friends from Coldwater, Michigan.

When President Lincoln called for more troops, the boys from Coldwater enlisted without hesitation in the 18th Michigan Infantry Regiment, Company G. Like all young men, as they trained for war, they were full of bravado and untested courage. "I'm gonna kill me some Rebs," was often their vow. That would all change during the following three years and nine months.

On June 2, 1863, a Union brigade, except for the 18th Michigan Infantry Regiment who were on assignment to Provost Guard duty in Nashville, Tennessee, the 102nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment, the 73rd Indiana Infantry Regiment, and the 13th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiment, under the command of Union Brigadier General Robert S. Granger, arrived at the Union garrison in Decatur, Alabama. Already in the garrison were the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Indiana Cavalry regiments, and the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, and 12th Tennessee Cavalry regiments, of which the Department of Northern Alabama was created. On June 12, 1864, the 18th Michigan arrived at the Decatur garrison. Colonel Charles E. Doolittle was in command and was now appointed as the commander of the garrison. Over the next four months, the garrison only fought minor skirmishes. The men were itching for a real fight.

Approximately 15 1/2 miles north of Decatur is Athens, Alabama, with a Union fort known as Ft. Henderson, Colonel Wallace Campbell commanding. Ft. Henderson was a bastion-style fort with five points. It was considered impregnable. On September 23, 1864, Confederate troops under the command of Lt. General Nathan Bedford Forrest, "...the Devil himself," were discovered in the area, tearing up railroad tracks, storehouses, etc., but their main goal was Fort Henderson.

Near midnight, at the Decatur garrison, General Granger was preparing to go to bed, but his orderly arrived with an urgent dispatch from Colonel Wallace, stating that Lt. General Forrest, and "anywhere from 10,000 to 12,000 troops" were approaching Athens. After receiving the report, General Granger met with his officers, including Colonel Doolittle of the 18th Michigan, and Colonel William Given of the 102nd Ohio. He ordered Colonel Prosser of the 2nd Tennessee Cavalry, to return with his 280 troopers, including any other cavalymen he could find in Decatur, back to Athens. Next, he ordered the formation of a special detachment, consisting of approximately 411 men (208 men, and 8 officers from the 18th Michigan, 184 men, and 11 officers from the 102nd Ohio). Colonel Doolittle and Colonel Given

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CAMP 427 HISTORICAL FICTION AUTHOR CONT'D

were ordered to stay behind. Command of the detachment was given to Lt. Colonel Jonas D. Elliott of the 102nd Ohio. Nineteen men of Company G of the 18th Michigan, including the Coldwater boys, were selected to join the detachment. At 4:00 a.m., the detachment boarded the northbound train to Athens, but further up the tracks, the train came to a sudden halt. Rebel troops had torn up the tracks, so the train could go no further. The detachment had to continue on foot. What none of them could know is that they would soon get to scratch that itch they had longed for. It started with hit-and-run tactics by the Rebel troops, but the fight would intensify as they continued into Athens, fighting on their way to Ft. Henderson. What Forrest's troops could not know was that the men of the detachment would put up a valiant fight against overwhelming odds, 411 Union soldiers against Lt. General Forrest's approximately 4,500 troopers. The detachment caused more casualties to the Rebel troops than the Rebels caused to the Union detachment. One Confederate officer, observing the ongoing battle, and the ferocity of which the Union soldiers fought, insisted that their commanders must have let their men get drunk, as they could not possibly fight as hard as that if they were sober. Unfortunately, with their ammunition nearly depleted, when they were within sight of the fort, they observed the Union Flag being lowered and replaced by the Confederate flag. The detachment was left with no other choice than to surrender. Out of the 411 men in the detachment, 366 remained standing. The battle ended, but they were about to experience another battle...a battle for survival, not just physical survival, but also mental survival.

After suffering the indignity of having Rebel troops strip them of their shoes, socks, and bits of clothing, as the sun began to set on the evening of September 24, 1864, they began a long, arduous march into the deep south to be imprisoned in an old cotton warehouse known as "Castle Morgan" in Cahaba, Alabama. How many would survive exposed to the worst of conditions, near starvation, and the inhumane treatment by the prison commandant, Lt. Col. Samuel Jones, and his guards, none of whom cared if the prisoners survived?



Cpl. William Lester Faurot

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CAMP 427 HISTORICAL FICTION AUTHOR CONT'D

For those who survived, joyful to be returning home and loved ones, they would find themselves on board a steamboat called the Sultana. None of them could have foreseen the tragic disaster that would occur late at night on April 27, 1865.

I Fear We Shall Never See Home Again, as well as *Thank God for Michigan*, and *Jacob's Ladder of Vengeance*, can be purchased through Amazon.com, and numerous other online bookstores, but for a signed copy, you can order through his website www.jmichaeljoslin.com.

For those of you who discovered that you have ancestors who served during the American Civil War, and who were on the Steamboat Sultana, or you are interested in the Sultana tragedy, you are welcome to join Sultana Association of Descendants and Friends on Facebook. Each year, on or near April 27th, which is the anniversary of the Sultana tragedy, we hold reunions in locations that are related to the Sultana story. Also, in Marion, Arkansas, there is the Sultana Disaster Museum, which will be replaced by a new, much larger, state of the art museum, also located in Arkansas.



The existing Sultana Disaster Museum

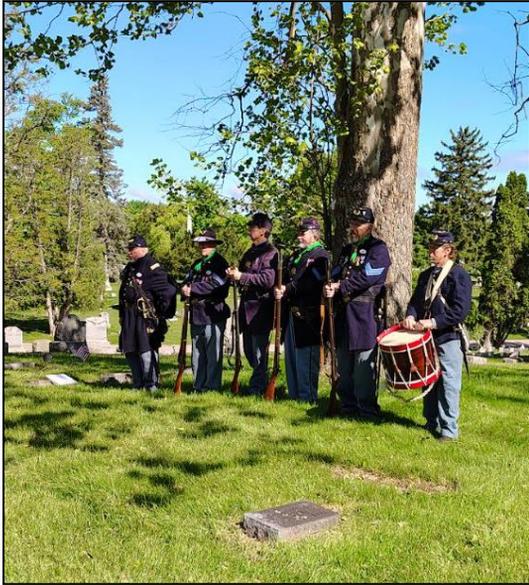


The new Sultana Disaster Museum



CURTENIUS GUARD CAMP No. 17

Submitted by Robert Payne, PDC



On May 24, 2024, Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17, Lansing/Sunfield, met at The Soldiers and Sailors Plot in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Lansing. We were joined by Lansing Mayor Andy Schor, who delivered a few remarks, as well as Department Commander David Kimble and Senior-Vice Department Commander Todd Cordill. Members from Austin Blair Camp No. 7 and George Anderson Camp No 58 were also in attendance. Department Commander Kimble delivered a short, but heartfelt speech about the importance of Memorial Day. Past Commander-in-Chief James B. Pahl read the "Unknown Dead". This was followed by a salute fired by a detachment from Company A, 14th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, SVR (Irish Rifle). Taps and a benediction completed the ceremony.

Following the ceremony, Brothers joined the Lansing Fire Department for their Memorial Day Ceremony, held just a few steps away from the Soldiers and Sailors Plot. The Brothers then reconvened at Evergreen Cemetery in Lansing, for the City of Lansing Memorial Day Ceremony at Little Arlington.

SERGEANT JOHN S. COSBEY CAMP No. 427

Submitted by Commander John McGill & Senior Vice Commander Jerry Jacobs

New Parade Banner: Our camp had been using a banner for parades and other activities for many years. It was decided that the banner was getting old, faded, hard to read & had unfamiliar graphics.

A new, improved banner was needed!

A new design was developed. It included enhanced text graphics for better readability.

On the right side, an "unknown" [to the public] badge was replaced by an 1863-1865 U.S. flag, 35 star circular version. Below the flag are the years of the Civil War 1861-1865.

For the left side, it was desired to replace another "unknown" badge by an image of a Civil War soldier[s]. After a search of publicly available images did not yield a satisfactory image, we solicited a

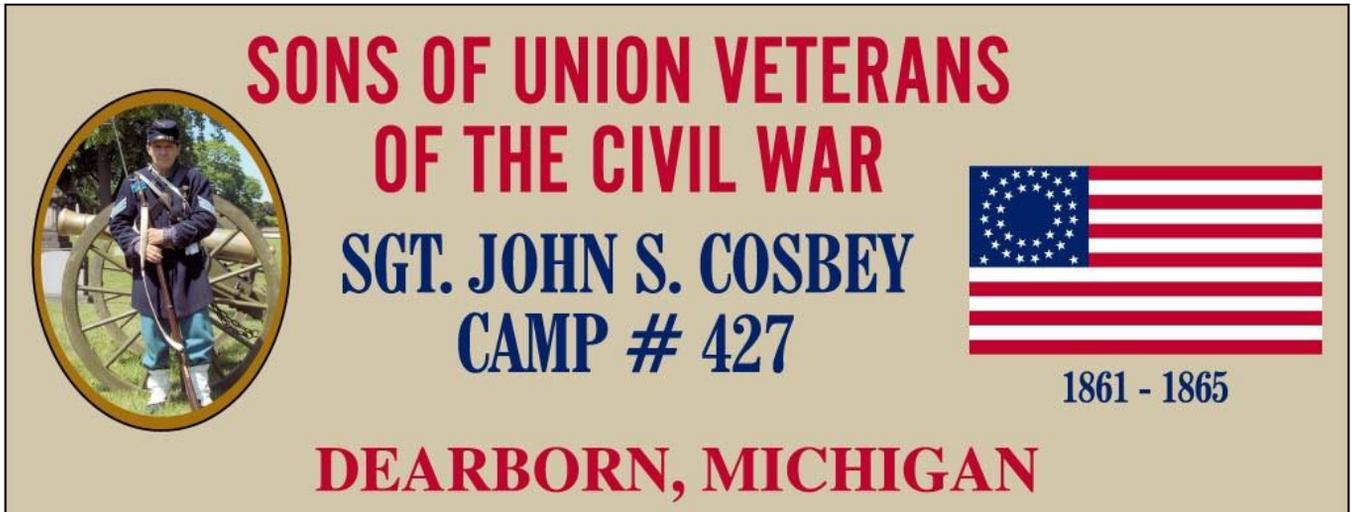
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SERGEANT JOHN S. COSBEY CAMP No. 427 CONT'D

search of camp member's personal collection of our brothers in uniform. We found a very appropriate photo of Camp 427 past member, Rich Bower, in uniform, with firearm in front of a period cannon. Brother Bower [also our camp bugler] passed away in 2021. After some searching, his brother was contacted to ask for permission to use Rich's image. Permission was readily granted! In addition contact with other members of Brother Bower's family was established.

The new banner was promptly & professionally prepared by Hunt Sign Co., in Berkley, MI:



99th Annual Dearborn Memorial Day Parade: Camp 427 continued a decades-long tradition of participation in the Dearborn Memorial Day Parade in conjunction with the Dearborn Historical Museum. Because of illness, injury, etc., all participating brothers rode in the decorated vehicle of Camp Commander, John McGill.



Also, the new camp Parade Banner was publicly revealed at this parade. Present at the reveal was the daughter of Brother Rich Bower, Amanda Bower, along with her husband and daughter, who is pointing at her grandfather, Rich Bower.

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SERGEANT JOHN S. COSBEY CAMP No. 427 CONT'D



Honoring a Legacy: The Bower Family's Gratitude for a Tribute to Their Father

When Rich Bower passed away in 2021, he left behind more than just a family in mourning - he left a legacy deeply rooted in a lifelong passion for U.S. Civil War history. Throughout his life, Rich Bower immersed himself in the study of that defining chapter of America's past. His home was quite a living museum, brimming with carefully preserved artifacts, uniforms, and shelves of worn Civil War volumes that he collected. But it wasn't just knowledge he lovingly passed down; it was reverence for sacrifice, duty, and the enduring human stories woven through America's Civil War history.

In addition, Rich was a talented bugler. He played Taps for many ceremonies conducted by Camp 427. Further, he was many times able to join with a second bugler and transfix listeners at our events with the haunting "Echo Taps".

In the months following his passing, the Bower family found solace in their memories, but they never expected what came next. Camp 427, the Civil War group that he was once an active member of, announced that it would like to dedicate future events to his honor by using his image on the new Camp Parade Banner.

For the Bower family, the gesture was overwhelming. To them, Rich had simply been a curious, compassionate man, who loved to research, talk, and at times reenact Civil War battles like Antietam or Gettysburg. But to Camp 427, Rich had been a dedicated member, a generous source of knowledge, and a link to the past. Seeing his passion honored by Camp 427 widened the Bower family's understanding of who he had been and meant to others.

On the day Camp 427 presented the banner with Rich's photo, it showed his family that his spirit lived on - not just in them, but in a community that had loved what he loved.



SERGEANT JOHN S. COSBEY CAMP No. 427 CONT'D

The gratitude the Bower family feels is more than appreciation for a kind act. It is the profound relief of knowing that Rich Bower was seen, understood, and remembered. It is the joy of seeing his love of history not buried with him, but rekindled in others. And in that, his legacy endures as a living tribute.

Decoration Day Ceremony, May 30, 2025: Camp 427 continued its other decades-long tradition of conducting an appropriate ceremony on Decoration Day. This year the ceremony was held Friday, May 30 at the McFadden-Ross House of the Dearborn Historical Museum in Dearborn, Michigan.

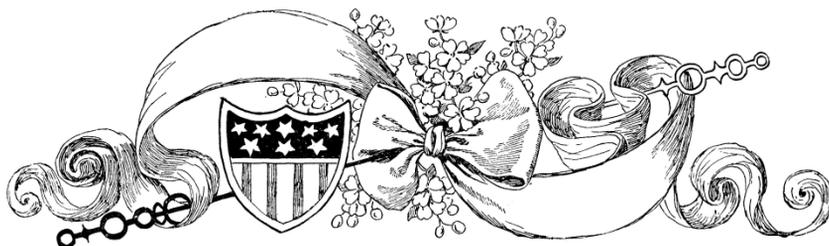


Camp members attending and supporting the ceremony included: John McGill, John Polzin, Jerry Jacobs, Ed Maurus, Keith Kushnir, Aaron Schrader. In addition, sisters of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Sarah M. W. Sterling Tent 3, attended and participated in the ceremony: Sharon Sexton, Elizabeth Cooper and Edda Dickerson.

The traditional reading of the poem "The Blue and The Grey" was conducted jointly & poignantly by Sharon Sexton and Ann Zimmerman [widow of Camp 427 deceased Brother Bob Zimmerman].

After the ceremony, we continued another long-standing tradition of adjourning to Buddy's for well-deserved pizza and liquid refreshment.

Prepared and submitted by John McGill, Commander & Jerry Jacobs, Senior Vice Commander, Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427



CAMP #43 BROTHER COMPLETES AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROJECT

Submitted by Brother David Ingall – Camp #43 Commander

On May 18th, Nash-Hodges Camp #43 performed a military marker dedication and unveiling ceremony for Private Aaron Bromley at Woodland Cemetery in Monroe, Michigan (his gravesite was previously unmarked). This was Brother Austin Ingalls (age 16) 2025 American Battlefield Trust Youth Leadership Team local history project. He is the first high school student picked for this honor in Michigan. Brother Austin spent months working with the City of Monroe and numerous other organizations, researching Private Bromley, Monroe County African American soldiers and the 102nd U.S.C.T. Approximately 100 people attended the ceremony, organized and carried out by Brother Austin. Nash-Hodges, Camp #43, SUVCW was one of the sponsors and assisted Austin in unveiling the Civil War military marker. Department Commander David Kimble led Co. A, 14th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve as the Honor Guard. The beautiful replica regimental 1st Michigan Colored Infantry flag was brought from Lansing by Chairman/Curator of Save the Flags, Matt VanAcker and carried by Monroe resident, Xavier Allen. All the speakers were outstanding, including the emotional singing of "Battle Hymn of the Republic" by the Monroe Second Missionary Baptist Church Choir. It was a dignified ceremony and a very memorable day.



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ABT YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROJECT CONT'D

African American Civil War Soldiers from Monroe County, Michigan

Soldier	Residence or Enlistment Site	Regiment	Company	Burial Site
Moses Blair	Erie	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry		
Aaron Bromley	Monroe	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry	C	Woodland Cem.
Thomas Brown	Raisinville	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry	H	
Richard Christian	Ash	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry	K	
Noel Cox (Jalas John Williams)	Monroe	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry	A	Woodland Cem.
George Fox	Monroe	5 th U.S.C. Cavalry	C	Woodland Cem.
Beverly Freney	Milan	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry		
George Griffin	Monroe	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry		
Abraham Highwarden	Ika	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry	E	Grove Cem. Kenton, OH
Cyrus King	Erie	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry	G	Oakridge Cem. Buchanan, MI
Robert E. Lewis	Bedford	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry	D	Pleasant View Cem. Petersburg, MI
Reuben Merriman	Whiteford	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry	K	Oakwood Cem. Adrian, MI
Ellis W. Riley	Whiteford	55 th Mass. Infantry	C	
Frank Taylor	Monroe	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry	B	
William Thomas	Erie	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry		
Zachariah Wallace	Monroe	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry	H	Highland View Cem Big Rapids, MI
Joseph Holt Wickliffe	Monroe	118 th U.S.C. Infantry	D	Forest Hill Cem. Ann Arbor, MI
George Wilson	Erie	102 nd U.S.C. Infantry		
Joe Mason (aka George Scott)	Dundee			Oak Grove Cem. Dundee, MI

Sources

Record of Service of Michigan Volunteers in the Civil War 1861-1865, Volume 46 (Kalamazoo: Ithing Bros. & Everand, 1903) "Brown Books"

McRae, Norman ed. *Negroes in Michigan in the Civil War* (Lansing: Michigan Civil War Centennial Observance Commission, 1966) "Blue Books"

King, Jason Jr., *Notes on Civil War Veterans of Monroe County* (Monroe: The Monroe County Historical Commission, 1979)

Civil War Veterans of Monroe County, Michigan (Monroe: Friends of the Monroe County Historical Museum, 2016)

Black Volunteers in the Civil War from Monroe County, Michigan (Unpublished list in the Ellis Reference and Information Center, Monroe County Library System)

Genealogical Society of Monroe County, Michigan

<http://www.findagrave.com>

Military Marker Dedication Ceremony

★★★ honoring ★★★

Private Aaron Bromley

Company C, 102nd United States Colored Infantry



Sunday, May 18th, 2025, 2 p.m.

Woodland Cemetery
Monroe, Michigan

Presented by:

- ★ City of Monroe ★ American Battlefield Trust ★
- ★ Nash-Hodges Camp 43, Dept. of Michigan ★
- ★ Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War ★
- ★ Monroe County Historical Society ★

Private Aaron Bromley March 14, 1823 – August 4, 1906, Age 83

Aaron Bromley was an escaped slave who fled from a plantation near Florence, Alabama at approximately age 39. Dr. James E. DeVries in his book, *Race and Kinship in a Midwestern Town: The Black Experience in Monroe, Michigan, 1900-1915*, suggests that Aaron learned about Monroe through local soldiers in the 15th Michigan Infantry who fought in the battles of Shiloh and Corinth, and were in the area where he escaped. He enlisted as a substitute for John L. C. Godfrey in Company C, 1st Michigan Colored Infantry (later designated as the 102nd United States Colored Infantry), on August 29, 1864 at Detroit for one year. He joined the regiment at Beaufort, South Carolina on October 11, 1864. His military records state he was present for duty from October 1864-December 1864. He therefore was possibly at the battle of Honey Hill, South Carolina, on November 30th, 1864, the largest battle the regiment participated in. They were brigaded and fought alongside the famed 54th and 55th Massachusetts Infantry regiments (also African American troops). He also possibly fought at Tulifinny and Devaux Neck, South Carolina on December 7 and 9, 1864. While on duty, Aaron contracted a disease and would spend the rest of the war, January-May 1865, in an army hospital. On May 17, 1865 he was discharged for disability due to contracting erysipelas, a skin disease, as well as rheumatism. He returned to Monroe, married, had a family and was a respected citizen. U.S. Colored Troops' George Fox and Joseph Wickliffe were his cousins and Noel Cox was his brother-in-law. Aaron died on August 4, 1906 and was buried in Woodland Cemetery, Monroe. Today, his past unmarked grave now has a Civil War military marker distinguishing his service to the nation in saving the Union and securing freedom for all!



102nd U.S.C.T. Flag courtesy of Save The Flags/Michigan State Capitol Commission.

Thank you to all sponsors, participants and guests.

Honoring all veterans who are buried or memorialized in Woodland Cemetery.

Private Aaron Bromley Military Marker Dedication

Sunday, May 18th, 2025, 2 p.m.
Woodland Cemetery, Monroe, Michigan

Honor Guard Procession: Monroe VFW Post 1138 and Co. A, 14th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve Honor Guard

Welcome: Mayor Robert Clark – City of Monroe

Opening Remarks: Austin Ingall - American Battlefield Trust, 2024-2025 Youth Leadership Team and Nash-Hodges Camp #43, Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Austin Ingall

Invocation: Pastor Terrence Johnson – Second Missionary Baptist Church

"Battle Hymn of the Republic": Second Missionary Baptist Church Choir

President Lincoln on Emancipation and Equality: Kevin Wood as President Abraham Lincoln

African American Soldiers in the Civil War: Dr. Kojo Quartey – President, Monroe County Community College

Battle Flags of the First Michigan Colored Infantry/102nd U.S.C.T.: Matthew VanAcker – Chairman/Curator, Save the Flags/Michigan State Capitol Commission

Private Aaron Bromley and Monroe County soldiers in the 102nd U.S.C.T.: Austin Ingall

Unveiling of the New Military Marker: Nash-Hodges Camp #43, Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Benediction: Pastor Terrence Johnson

Rifle Volley Salute: Monroe VFW Post 1138 and Co. A, 14th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve Honor Guard

Taps: Mark Heath – Past Commander, Austin Blair Camp #7, Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Closing: Austin Ingall



ROBERT FINCH CAMP No. 14

Submitted by Brother Kenny Jones, LM – Camp No. 14 Council & CWMO



23 May 2025: 4 members of the Robert Finch Camp participated in Glen Arbor Township's Memorial Day cemetery service today, where PVT Ruel Welch, veteran of Co C, 127th Illinois Infantry was eulogized.

Photos: 2025-05-23, Glen Arbor Twp. Memorial Day cemetery service (1): left to right; Matt Frye, SVC; Theodore Mattis, PCC; Jim Ribby, Chaplain & John Sawyer, GRO and 2025-05-23, Glen Arbor Twp. Memorial Day cemetery service (2): headstone for PVT Welch.



29 May 2025: Headstone set for PVT Charles Turner, Co C, 8th MI INF, Elmwood Cemetery, Grayling

ABOVE LEFT: Headstone, PVT Charles Turner

ABOVE RIGHT: Sexton Ben Yoder and Brother Kenny Jones



20 May 2025: Headstone dedication at Linwood Cemetery, Long Lake Twp., MI for PVT John Fish & PVT Wiley A Corbit
Photos Sourced from the Record-Eagle

ABOVE FAR LEFT: PVT Wiley A. Corbit Headstone
ABOVE NEAR LEFT: Brother Lloyd Bartlett salutes PVT Wiley

ABOVE NEAR RIGHT: SVC Matt Frye places the flag for PVT Fish
ABOVE FAR RIGHT: PVT John P. Fish Headstone



GENERAL ORLANDO M. POE CAMP 444

Submitted by Brother David S. Smith, LM, PDC – Camp 444 Commander

IN MEMORIAM: CARL E. LAMPHERE – While Camp 444 considers themselves to be “The Engineers” in reference to the Camp’s namesake, Orlando Poe, as well as honoring the legacy of the 1st Michigan Engineers & Mechanics – one Brother rose to another level in the identity of Military Engineers. That man was Brother Carl E. Lamphere. Brother Carl went to the Great Bivouac in the Sky on 06 February 2025.



BR. CARL E. LAMPHERE

A Cadillac native, Brother Lamphere served in the United States Army in the Engineers, serving from 1958-1961 including engineering works in Iran. Later Brother Carl was employed as a civilian with the US Army Corps of Engineers for 30 years, serving as the Chief of the Survey Section in Detroit.

Brother Carl was a Charter Member of Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145 in Flint, and had his primary Camp as General Orlando M. Poe Camp 444. Currently, an SUVCW Memorial Service will be conducted on Flag Day, 14 June 2025 in Cadillac, with Camp 444 and Company A, 14th Michigan Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve leading the services and Honor Guard, along with Camp 145.

NEW CAMP 444 BROTHER – At the 15 March 2025 meeting, the Brothers of General Orlando M. Poe Camp 444 initiated and welcomed a new Brother to the Order. The initiation utilized a modified long-form version of the Ritual. Brother Adam Betz received his instruction from the various Camp Officers through a line of designated stations, as well as at the Commander’s station.

Brother Betz joins as a Hereditary Member via his Great-Great-Great Grandfather George Washington Lowery, who served in Company A, 81st Pennsylvania Infantry. Brother Adam is also a Veteran having served in the United States Marine Corps, after college he spent a career in the Michigan Army National Guard where he retired. He is currently the Command Historian for the Michigan National Guard.



ABOVE FAR LEFT: SVC/Sec. Aurand, PDC gives instruction on Charity to new Brother Adam Betz

ABOVE NEAR LEFT: Council Walker serving as Chaplain gives the obligation to new Brother Adam Betz

ABOVE NEAR RIGHT: Commander Smith, PDC displays the Badge of the Order during the initiation

ABOVE FAR RIGHT: Brother Adam Betz signs the Secretary’s book

LEFT; Brother Adam Betz and Commander David Smith, PDC

Photos courtesy of JVC/GRO/CWMO Jones

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GENERAL ORLANDO M. POE CAMP 444 CONT'D

CAMP 444 BROTHERS AT THE 141ST DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT – The 141st Department Encampment was held in Okemos on 29 March 2025. Camp 444 was represented by four Brothers including: Council Jeff Walker, Council (Chair) Dick Denney, PCC, SVC/Secretary Dale Aurand, PDC, and Commander David Smith, PDC. Considerable business was conducted, and the chance to renew old friendships with Brothers from across the Department was had. The following Brothers of Camp 444 were elected to the following offices: Dick Denney was reelected to a three year term as Department Secretary. David Smith was reelected to Department Council (Chairman). David Smith was also appointed by newly elected Department Commander David Kimble to serve the Department as Chief of Staff, Camp Organizer, and Newsletter Editor (Michigan's Messenger).



ABOVE LEFT: A first view of the Delegates of the 141st Department of Michigan Encampment in Okemos, along with Commander-in-Chief Kevin Martin.



ABOVE RIGHT: SVC/Sec. Dale Aurand, PDC; Commander David Smith, PDC; and Council Jeff Walker of General Orlando M. Poe Camp 444 at the 141st Department Encampment. (Missing from photograph is Council Chair Dick Denney, PCC)

EDUCATION: 50 YEAR MEMBERSHIP BADGE



50 YEAR SUVCW MEMBERSHIP BADGE – Any Member or Associate with fifty (50) years of continuous service (never having been dropped) is entitled to wear this badge. This badge shall be the regulation Badge of the Order, suspended from a plain bar (on which may be inscribed the name of this Brother), in lieu of the regulation top bar. The ribbon shall be that of the National Organization. A device shall be worn upon the ribbon, being a bar inscribed “Fifty Year Membership”.

https://suvchw-qm-store.square.site/product/membership-badge-50-year/613?cp=true&sa=false&sbp=false&q=false&category_id=2



OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
2025 – 2026

DEPT. COMMANDER	David Kimble, PCC
SR. VICE DEPT. COMMANDER	Todd Cordill, CC
JR. VICE DEPT. COMMANDER	Ron Shull, PCC
DEPT. SECRETARY	Richard Denney, PCC
DEPT. TREASURER	Bruce S. A. Gosling, PDC
DEPT. COUNCIL	David S. Smith, PDC (Chair) Robert R. Payne, PDC Steven S. Martin, PDC
DEPT. CHIEF OF STAFF	David S. Smith, PDC
DEPT. COUNSELOR	James B. Pahl, PCinC
DEPT. CHAPLAIN	Charles Buckhahn, PCC
DEPT. PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR	Terrance McKinch, PDC
DEPT. COLOR BEARER	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC
DEPT. SIGNALS OFFICER	Robert R. Payne, PDC
DEPT. NEWSLETTER EDITOR – “MICHIGAN’S MESSENGER”	David S. Smith, PDC
DEPT. HISTORIAN	Ron Tyrl, PCC
DEPT. GUIDE	Leonard Sheaffer, CC
DEPT. GUARD	Lloyd D. Lamphere, Sr., PCC
DEPT. GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER	Charles Worley, PDC
DEPT. CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS OFFICER	Leonard Sheaffer, CC
DEPT. GAR RECORDS OFFICER	Gary Gibson, PDC
DEPT. EAGLE SCOUT COORDINATOR	Lloyd D. Lamphere, Sr., PCC
DEPT. ROTC COORDINATORS	Lloyd D. Lamphere, Sr., PCC Terrance McKinch, PDC
DEPT. CAMP-AT-LARGE COORDINATOR	Joe Bickley
DEPT. CAMP ORGANIZER	David S. Smith, PDC
DEPT. MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICER	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC
DEPT. AIDE DE CAMP	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC
DEPT. CEREMONIES & RITUALS OFFICER	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC

For contact information, see: suvcwmi.org/hq

TUEBOR