



Camp Communicator

Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War

Frederick H. Hackeman CAMP 85 December 2019

Commander's Ramblings

Brothers,

As voted and approved at the September meeting, the camp will collect dues for all three levels of the SUVCW at \$40.00 each year. This is to increase the bank balance to enable us to begin funding a more robust level of activities to include Eagle Scout and Flag certificate presentations, the Last Soldier in Berrien County ceremony (Grave Marker purchase), and other activities that could entail an expense.

One thing I would like to see is for each camp brother to continue to research and find other Union ancestors and submit Supplemental applications for these ancestors. They are just as worthy of remembering and honoring as our initial Ancestor. It was interesting for me to research and identify two more Union soldiers in my limited ancestry (I have English immigrant ancestors in the late 1890's).

Get Ready, Get Set, Start your digging!

There was discussion in September of previous activities that earned some money for the Camp coffers. If anyone can remember and pass along what those activities were, please do so. They could be another means by which we can increase our financial state such that we can



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Next Camp Meeting
January 9, 2012 - 6 p.m.

Location - Lincoln Twp Library, 2099 W John Beers Rd, Stevensville

Civil War Christmas

Christmas in the American Civil War (1861–1865) was celebrated in both the United States and the Confederate States of America although the day did not become an official holiday until five years after the war ended. The war continued to rage on Christmas and skirmishes occurred throughout the countryside. Celebrations for both troops and civilians saw significant alteration. Propagandists, such as Thomas Nast, used wartime Christmases to reflect their beliefs. In 1870, Christmas became an official Federal holiday when President Ulysses S. Grant made it so in an attempt to unite north and south.

On the first Christmas Day during the war, Lincoln hosted a Christmas party during the evening; earlier that day, he spent many hours trying to legitimize the capture of Confederate representatives to Great Britain and France, John Slidell and James Murray Mason (the Trent Affair).

In 1862, the Lincolns visited injured soldiers at the various hospitals. Many Union soldiers in 1863 received gifts “From Tad Lincoln”, as Tad had been deeply moved by the plight of Union soldiers when he was taken by his father to see them. The gifts were mostly books and clothing. The most famous Christmas gift Lincoln ever received came on December 22, 1864, when William Tecumseh Sherman announced the capture of Savannah, Georgia.

Military exercises also took place on December 25. In 1861, a blockade runner was caught by the Union navy, and there were two skirmishes in Virginia and Maryland. In 1862, there were several skirmishes, and Confederate general John Hunt Morgan engaged in his famous Christmas Raid in Kentucky; on that single day, Morgan’s men destroyed everything he possibly could of the improvements that the Louisville & Nashville Railroad had made along 35 miles of track from Bacon Creek to Lebanon Junction. There was also a military execution for desertion that the soldiers were forced to witness. In 1863, Union forces destroyed Confederate salt works at Bear Inlet, North Carolina; there were also several skirmishes between Confederate artillery and the Union navy on the Stono River and near Charleston in South Carolina. In 1864, the Confederates fiercely repelled the Federal assault of sixty warships on Fort Fisher, while in the western theater of the war there were several skirmishes fought.

Celebrating

Soldiers not actively campaigning celebrated Christmas in several ways. Union soldiers would use salt pork and hardtack to decorate Christmas trees. Others were treated to special meals; a captain from Massachusetts treated his soldiers to foods such as turkey, oysters, pies, and apples. However, many soldiers received no special treats or privileges. In one incident on December 25, 1864, 90 Union soldiers from Michigan, led by their captain, dispensed “food and supplies” to poor Georgians, with the mules pulling the carts decorated to resemble reindeer by having tree branches tied to their heads. In some units, celebrating Christmas was not allowed. On December 25, 1862, soldiers of one unit were punished for celebratory gunfire for the holiday, when actually the gunfire was for a funeral salute.

Carols, hymns, and seasonal songs were sung during the period, with some, such as “*Deck the Halls*”, “*Oh Come All Ye Faithful*”, and Mendelssohn’s “*Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*” (1840), still sung today. American



References

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- Marten, James (2000). *The Children’s Civil War*. University of North Carolina Press. ISBN 0-8078-4904-9.
- Rawlings, Kevin (1997). *We Were Marching on Christmas Day*. Toomey Pr. ISBN 0-9612670-6-2.
- Studwell, William Emmett (1995). *The Christmas Carol Reader*. Haworth Press. ISBN 1-56023-872-0.

Wikipedia

musical contributions to the season include *“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”* (1850), *“Jingle Bells”* (1857), *“We Three Kings of Orient Are”* (1857) and *“Up on the Housetop”* (1860). Although popular in Europe at the time, Christmas cards were scarce in the United States, and would not enjoy widespread use until the 1870s.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote his pacifist poem, *“Christmas Bells”* on Christmas Day 1864 at the news of his son Lieutenant Charles Appleton Longfellow having suffered severe wounds in November during the Mine Run Campaign. The poem was set to the tune *“Waltham”* by John Baptiste Calkin sometime after 1872 and has since been received into the established library of Christmas carols. The carol does not include two stanzas from the original poem that focused on the war.

For children, Christmas was altered during the war. Presents were fewer, especially in the devastated South. In *We Were Marching on Christmas Day*, author Kevin Rawlings notes that some southern children worried about the Union blockade, and one little girl, Sallie Brock Putnam, plotted the course Santa Claus would have to take to avoid it. Sometimes fathers on both sides were allowed furlough, and children were said to react to their fathers as if seeing “near strangers”. Excuses for a lack of Santa included Yankees having shot him.

Nast cartoons and other propaganda



Thomas Nast, who used his editorial cartoons to issue Union propaganda, made several illustrations reflecting the war.

The one for Christmas Eve 1862, which ran in the January 1863 issue of Harper’s Weekly shows a wife on one side praying through a window in one circle, and in another circle shows her husband on the battlefield, also in prayer. The same issue’s cover started how Santa Claus would be perceived by future Americans, as a white-bearded Santa hands such gifts as socks to Union soldiers, while also holding a Jefferson Davis dancing puppet with a rope tied around its neck to imply his execution. The Christmas 1863 issue showed the couple back together.

The Nast Christmas cartoon for 1864 was a more conciliatory piece, showing Lincoln in-

viting Confederate soldiers into a warm lodge hall full of merriment. Lincoln called Nast’s use of Santa Claus “the best recruiting sergeant the North ever had”.

Nast was not the only one to use Christmas as a propaganda tool. On the Union side, The New York Herald also engaged in propaganda. One illustration published in the paper included Santa Claus fuming that he could not reach southern children, due to the northern blockade. [On the Confederate side, The Richmond Examiner described Santa to its young readers as “a Dutch toy monger” who was a New York/New England “scrub” and Hottentot that had nothing to do with traditional Virginian celebrations of Christmas.

Even through the war was over, Nast had a drawing in the Christmas 1865 issue of Harper’s Weekly depicting the heads of several Confederate generals at Ulysses S. Grant’s feet in an image that centered on Santa. After the war Nast purposely made the North Pole the home of Saint Nick so that no one else could use him for nationalistic propaganda like Nast himself did.

By Thomas Nast, for Harper’s Weekly



Berrien County in the American Civil War

3rd Regiment Michigan Volunteer Cavalry 1861-1866

X The Third Cavalry was raised under the superintendence of Colonel Kellogg, who also supervised the raising of the 2nd., having its rendezvous at Grand Rapids. Its recruitment commenced early in July, 1861, mustering into the service of the United States on November 1, 1861, having on its muster rolls, 1163 officers and men.

The Regiment left for the field on November 28, 1861, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Minty, with orders to report to St. Louis, MO, where on its arrival was stationed at Benton Barracks. General Pope being engaged in a movement against New Madrid and Island #10, in the Mississippi River, they were ordered to join those forces. In command of Lt. Colonel Minty, they proceeded to that vicinity, reaching New Madrid on the 13th of March. The Regiment participated in the Siege of Island #10, from March 14th., until the following April 8th., when it surrendered. Its first engagements with the confederates was at New Madrid, March 13th., where it commenced a most credible career, giving rebels a lively idea what Michigan cavalry were composed of, and what they might expect from them in the future, which this Regiment made them fully understand and realize during the long war to follow. Captain John K. Mizner, U.S. Army, having been commissioned by the governor, Colonel of the Regiment, March 7, 1862, joined, then assumed command of the Regiment on March 31st.

The Third, after the surrender of Island #10, moved with Pope's command, joining the rest of the army in front of Corinth, MS, serving there until its evacuation by the confederates, being engaged with them at Farmington, May 5th., then in the Siege of Corinth, from May 10th to the 31st., where its services in scouting in that vicinity was continuous and arduous. Following the retreat of the southern forces from that point, they entered upon the Grant Campaign in Mississippi, serving under the command of General Rosecrans, encountering the southern forces with much success in numerous engagements and skirmishes, at Spangler's Mills, July 26th., Bay Spring, September 10th., then Iuka, September 19th., where they became conspicuously distinguished while under the command of Captain Wilcox, Colonel Mizner being then Chief of Cavalry.

Having the advance of the forces under General Hamilton, moving eastward on Tusculumbia Road, they engaged the confederates in a most vigorous manner. The Battle of Iuka was sanguine, the firing rapid and heavy, the ground being hotly contested, when, night coming on, became master of the field, closing the scene of carnage. Morning revealed the fact that during the darkness of the night, the confederates had left the field and was rapidly moving southward, while the union forces made a vigorous pursuit for many miles, becoming several times hotly engaged, causing the southerners to repeatedly form line of battle to check the union advance.

The Regiment was actively occupied in the engagements at Corinth, October 3rd. and 4th., at Hatchie, October 6th., Hudsonville, November 14th., Holly Springs, November 19th., Lumkin's Mills, November 30th., Oxford, December 2nd., then Coffeetown on December the 5th. Besides which had been taken while cooperating with other regiments, the Third captured 3 Lieutenant Colonels, 2 Majors, 13 Captains, 19 Lieutenants and 1249 men. Its losses had been 7 killed, 45 wounded and 59 prisoners. The weather and strain of the movements had caused the death of an additional 104 men.

In November, 1862, communications between General Grant, at La Grange, and General Sherman at Memphis, were cut off by confederates destroying telegraph lines and railroad track. Battalions and regiments of cavalry tried in vain to restore them. A brigade of infantry, with a battery of light artillery, with a regiment of cavalry, is sent out to open the way, and Captain Newell's **Company K**, of the Third are what is selected to bear the dispatches. The best men and horses are selected, General Grant delivers Newell the papers for General Sherman, saying "Get them through" The company leaves near dark, when about three miles out, meets the entire command that was sent out in the morning, returning. They had been fighting a heavy force of cavalry and artillery all day, then had decided to retire to the within the union lines during the night. Newell keeps on in the darkness of night to Moscow. He directs Lieutenant McIntyre to wear a confederate uniform, he enters the town, the southerners have fallen back across the Wolf River. The company advances to the bridge, a reconnaissance is made across the river, the rebels are encamped at points along a road that leads to Memphis, with the large force nearby, Newell opts for a circuitous route of 17 miles to bypass the



Officers 2018 - 2019

Camp Commander:

Steven Williams

SVC: Rex Dillman

JVC: Charles L Pfauth Sr

Secretary :Ray Truhn

Treasurer : Ray Truhn

Council 1: Charles L Pfauth Jr

Council 2: Keith Chapman

Council 3: Charles L Pfauth Sr

Patriotic Instructor:

Ted Chamberlain

Chaplain : Steven Williams

Graves & Memorials:

Rex Dillman

Historian: Rex Dillman

Signals Officer:

Steven Williams

Guide: Jeff Chubb

Guard: Jeff Chubb

Color Bearer: Rex Dillman

JROTC contact: Unassigned

Editor

Steve Williams

sarwilliamssa@gmail.com

force before Newall again reaches the road at daybreak, near the town of Sommerville, Newall then finds the road guarded at several points by large detachments of cavalry, but General Grant said the dispatches must get through to Memphis, so the way must be cut through with sabres or the mission abandoned. Newall opts for the former and dash forward, attacking, capturing pickets and picket-posts, driving videts in every direction. They then come upon a whole confederate regiment, overwhelm their guards, still pressing on, still taking prisoners. Reaching the Wolf River, they find the rebels have burnt the bridge, now with further progress cut off, the large rebel force within pistol shot, Newall's command plunges into the river, they are mistaken for confederates and not fired upon, they reach the opposite bank and push on, reaching the picket line of General Sherman's forces before the evening gun is fired. They are soon at headquarters, the dispatchs safely in the hands of Sherman, much to the surprise of the whole army. Given hearty congratulations by the general, they are given two days of rest before the return to LaGrange. As a token of appreciation, they are given an escort on the return trip, General Grierson's Illinois cavalry.

The Regiment, again met the confederates at Grenada, on August 14th, 1863, Byhalia, October 12th., then at Wyatt's Ford, on the Tallahatchie River, on October 13th. In addition to these principal engagements, the Regiment participated in a large number of skirmishes of minor importance. In the affair at Grenada, the Third was in the advance, gaining possession of the town after a sharp engagement, then immediately commenced the destruction of the southern machinery and rolling stock that was accumulated here. Over sixty locomotives, in addition to more than 400 cars were destroyed. At Byhalia and Wyatt's Ford, the Regiment was warmly engaged. In both of these actions, the confederates were completely routed. The Third aided largely in driving the notorious rebels, Richardson, Dawson and Cushman, from Western Tennessee, together with the numerous guerilla bands that infested the area, being destroyed or dispersed.

During November and December, 1863, the Regiment was constantly engaged in scouting, along with various expeditions through Northern Mississippi and Western Tennessee, visiting most of the important places in the region. They had frequent encounters with confederate forces, under General Forrest and Chalmers. Engagements and skirmishes in which the Regiment participated occurred at Ripley, MS, on November 29th, Orizaba, MS, November 30th, Ellistown, MS, December 3rd, Purdy, TN, December 22nd, and Jack's Creek, TN on December the 24th. During the period mentioned, the Regiment reported marches totalling over 1000 miles. On the 1st. of January, the Third arrived at LaGrange, TN, where they commenced building winter quarters, where on the 19th., the required number, 592, re-enlisted, then on the 27th, were mustered in as Veteran Volunteers and sent home on veteran furlough, arriving at Detroit on the 7th. of February. The Regiment rendezvoused at Kalamazoo, at the expiration of their 30 day leave, then along with many new recruits, set out for St.Louis, remaining there nearly two months, awaiting the arrival of new horses, arms and equipment. During this period they were employed as provost guards for the city.

Although still dismounted, the Regiment left the city on the 18th. of May, proceeding to Little Rock, AR, where they arrived on the 24th., reporting to Major General Steele. They were mounted on the 1st., then soon thereafter began scout-

ing through the state. They assisted in driving confederate General Shelby beyond the Arkansas River, in dispersing the bands of guerrillas that roamed the area, and captured over 800 head of cattle.

From November, 1864, through February, 1865, the Regiment constituted the garrison of the post of Brownsville Station, on the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad, occupied with scouting along the line of that road and making several expeditions as far south as Arkansas Post, on the Arkansas River, collecting large droves of cattle, thereby furnishing nearly all of the beef required for the supply of the army then serving in the Department of Arkansas. At Brownsville Station, the Regiment erected a complete set of winter quarters and stables, so neatly and tastefully arranged, as to present the appearance of an important town, which attracted so much attention, as to change the name of the town from Brownsville Station, to Michigan City. The very active duty of the Regiment at this time was so conducive to health, that 1008 men were daily reported present for duty, while less than 3 percent were on the sick list. Early in February the Regiment was selected to constitute a part of a division then being organized for active and important service in early spring, then was assigned to the 1st. Division, 7th. Army Corp, then moved to Brownsville. On the 14th. of March, the brigade was transferred from the Department of Arkansas to the Military Division of West Mississippi, to join the troops under Major General Canby, designed to operate against Mobile, the Regiment proceeding by steamer to New Orleans, arriving at Carrolton, LA, March 23rd., embarking for Mobile early in April. After the fall of Mobile, they were employed on outpost duty until the surrender of the confederate forces east of the Mississippi River, when the Regiment was selected as the escort of General Canby on the occasion of his receiving the formal surrender of the forces of General Taylor. They left Mobile on May 8th., marching cross country to Baton Rouge, reaching there the 22nd. When General Sheridan assumed the command of the Military Division of the Southwest, the Regiment was selected, then ordered to report to him for duty, then immediately prepared to join the expedition to Texas, leaving Baton Rouge for Shreveport, June 10th., commencing the march into Texas, arriving at San Antonio the 2nd. of August. Remaining there, patrolling the general area, until February 15, 1866, at which time they were dismounted, mustered out of service, and sent home to Michigan, arriving at Jackson on March 10th., then paid off and disbanded on the 15th.

During their term of Federal service, they were engaged at: New Madrid, Mo; Island #10, Mo; Farmington, Ms; Corinth, Ms; Spangler's Mills, Ms; Bay Springs, Ms; Iuka, Ms; Hatchie, Ms Holly Springs, Ms; Hudsonville, Ms; Lumkin's Mills, Ms; Oxford, Ms; Coffeevilsle, Ms; Brownsville, Ms; Clifton, Ms; Panola, Ms; Grenada, Ms; Byhalia, Ms; Wyatt's Ford, Ms; Ripley, Ms; Orizaba, Ms; Ellistown, Ms Purdy, Ms; Jack's Creek, Ms;

1862-1865

<i>Total Enrollment</i>	2560
<i>Killed in Action</i>	25
<i>Died of Wounds</i>	10
<i>Died of Disease</i>	379
<i>Total Casualty Rate</i>	16.1%

3rd Cavalry to Page 12

Book Report

The Maps of the Wilderness

Bradley M. Gottfried has created some of the most significant maps in the past few years in the realm of Civil War academia. If you are a Civil War student or reader, the odds of you coming across Bradley M. Gottfried's maps are high. There is a reason for the popularity of his maps and it has everything to do with the accuracy and detail of what he has placed down before us. The Maps of the Wilderness is the new set which adds more to his amazing collection of narratives and charts. This new book truly adds to the already invaluable series of atlases he has completed.



Bradley M. Gottfried is a notable Civil War scholar who holds a Ph.D. in Zoology from Miami University. He is a faculty member and administrator and is the President of the College of Southern Maryland. His other works in the Savas Beatie Military Atlas Series include The Maps of Gettysburg, The Maps of First Bull Run, The Maps of the Bristoe Station and Mine Run Campaign and The Maps of Antietam. He is constantly adding more to the atlas series with more title to come.

There are certain qualities which make up a good map set and Gottfried has done all in perfect order. First and foremost, the maps are gorgeous. There is never any confusion over who is where and what they are performing in the military realm. They are drawn with the highest artistry with proper keys and scales. The maps themselves are going to benefit any student or scholar with information concerning the Wilderness Campaign. But what places Gottfried's maps over the top when it comes to the professionalism of a military atlas is the explanations which he gives on the offset page. Not only do we get proper maps of the battle, but we get a full narrative and Gottfried's narrative is spectacular. Each section of the battle is set up properly with the opening map and the series of charts follow giving the full understanding of what happened there. On top of that, he also gives us the time frame of what is happening before us. Many times in other works, the maps are just placed next to the narrative to assume we know what we are looking at.

When I first read *The Maps of Gettysburg*, readers are impressed with the amount of detail which the author brought to the field. With *The Maps of the Wilderness*, Gottfried continues his immersive narrative with the beautiful maps that he only continues to deliver some of the best work in Civil War topography. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in the Civil War. While it would aid more readers of the Wilderness Campaign, this atlas should be in the library of all Civil War readers and historians.

As an example of the explanations is the excerpt of a Confederate soldier describing the attack on the Union lines, "We found them massed 5 or 6 lines deep , all resting, cooking and eating; with their guns stacked, their blankets spread down and some of their little tents stretched."



Meeting Schedule

Our meeting schedule is Alternate months between September through April meeting on the 2nd Thursday of every month except as noted. At 6:00 PM.

Location -

Currently -
Lincoln Twp
Public Library



7th corps Kepi patch



Proclamation of Thanksgiving

This is the proclamation which set the precedent for America's national day of Thanksgiving. During his administration, President Lincoln issued many orders similar to this. For example, on November 28, 1861, he ordered government departments closed for a local day of thanksgiving.

Sarah Josepha Hale, a 74-year-old magazine editor, wrote a letter to Lincoln on September 28, 1863, urging him to have the "day of our annual Thanksgiving made a National and fixed Union Festival." She explained, "You may have observed that, for some years past, there has been an increasing interest felt in our land to have the Thanksgiving held on the same day, in all the States; it now needs National recognition and authoritative fixation, only, to become permanently, an American custom and institution."

Prior to this, each state scheduled its own Thanksgiving holiday at different times, mainly in New England and other Northern states. President Lincoln responded to Mrs. Hale's request immediately, unlike several of his predecessors, who ignored her petitions altogether. In her letter to Lincoln she mentioned that she had been advocating a national thanksgiving date for 15 years as the editor of Godey's Lady's Book. George Washington was the first president to proclaim a day of thanksgiving, issuing his request on October 3, 1789, exactly 74 years before Lincoln's.

The document below sets apart the last Thursday of November "as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise." According to an April 1, 1864, letter from John Nicolay, one of President Lincoln's secretaries, this document was written by Secretary of State William Seward, and the original was in his handwriting. On October 3, 1863, fellow Cabinet member Gideon Welles recorded in his diary how he complimented Seward on his work. A year later the manuscript was sold to benefit Union troops.

*Washington, D.C.
October 3, 1863*

By the President of the United States of America.

A Proclamation.

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties,



which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defence, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquillity and Union.

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CAMP TRAINING AIDS

As located on the Department of Michigan web site. It is recommended that Camp members visit these URLs and familiarize themselves with the information contained within these documents.

Handbook of Instruction for the Department Patriotic Instructor
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Department%20PI%20Handbook.pdf>

Handbook of Instruction for the Camp Patriotic Instructor
Missing link

Handbook of Instruction for the Civil War Memorials Officer
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Michigan%20CWM%20Handbook.pdf>

Department Membership Initiative
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/DeptMemInitiative.pdf>

Department of Michigan Member Recruitment & Retention Report
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Dept%20of%20Michigan%20Member%20Recruitment%20&%20Retention.pdf>

National Chaplain's Handbook
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Dept%20of%20Michigan%20Member%20Recruitment%20&%20Retention.pdf>

Recommended Education & Additional Department Officer Duties
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Department%20Orders/Series%202017-18/Recommended%20Ed%20&%20Add%20Dept%20Officer%20Duties.pdf>



SVR Dates to Note

November:

- 21st - 25th - Gettysburg Remembrance Day Trip - Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

December:

- 14th - Gov. Crapo Camp Christmas Dinner - Clio, Michigan

April

- 2020 Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL at 10 AM on Saturday,



Donations to SUVCW

Can you write off donations to a 501 C 4?

Contributions to civic leagues or other section 501(c)(4) organizations generally are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. They may be deductible as trade or business expenses, if ordinary and necessary in the conduct of the taxpayer's business.



MINUTES OF MEETING 14 November 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT (X)

- (x) THEODORE J. CHAMBERLAIN (Patriotic Instr)
- (x) KEITH CHAPMAN (Camp Council)
- () STEVEN J. CHAPMAN
- (x) JEFFERY L. CHUBB (Guide / Guard)
- (x) REX DILLMAN (Sr. Vice Comdr, Historian, Color, Bearer, Civil War Memorial Officer)
- () RICHARD GORSKE
- () RODNEY S. KRIEGER
- (X) GLENN PALEN
- (X) CHARLES L. PFAUTH JR. (Camp Council)
- (X) CHARLES L. PFAUTH SR. (JrV Comdr, Camp Council)
- (X) RAY L. TRUHN (Sec./Tres.)
- () ARNOLD D. WARD
- () MATHEW C. WILLIAMS
- (x) STEVEN A. WILLIAMS (CC, Chaplin, GRO)

Guests: Dick Denney (Department Secretary), Chuck Worley (Past Department Commander)

Call to order - time: 6:00 PM by Commander Steve Williams

Treasury Report: Sep&Oct 2019 Start Balance: \$390.69, Total Received: \$62.00 Spent: Check #1041-\$16.50, #1042-\$4.00, BK \$6.00, Ending balance: \$426.19

Minutes

1. The meeting was opened in Short Form with Pledge to the Flag.
2. Commander Williams: update on two potential new members & Bro. Richard Gorske.
3. In addition to the elected Brothers for offices in 2020, Bro. Jeff Chubb was appointed to the positions of Camp Guard and Guide.
4. Update on places to give programs to raise money for Grave Markers. Need new/additional contacts.
5. Question on bringing CW weapons into public places for the meeting. Usually "No". Need to ask.
6. Department Secretary Dick Denney gave information on 2020 Department Encampment to be held 6 June, 2020 in Okemos, Mi.
7. Installation of 2020 Officers by Chuck Worley (PDC). See names and positions listed above.
8. Steve reported on Last Soldier Program given for Cass Co. CW Soldier. Also Program given in New Carlisle, IN. for St. Joseph CW Soldier. Planning for Berrien Co. Last Soldier prgm. in Crystal Springs.



PDC Chuck Worley Installing Camp Officers

9. More discussion on asking potential new members. Posters, handouts, paper, ads, booths, etc.

10. Activities discussed: Dec. 7th honoring Eagle Scout at Coloma Congressional Church, Family picnic, Three Oaks Flag Day Parade in June, Three Oaks CW Days, LaPorte Museum w/ Indiana camp 8.

11. National will have blanket 501c3 when all Departments and Camps have language updated in their By-Laws. Camp 85 has their By-Laws up-

dated and current.

12. It was pointed out that the SUVCW opening Prayer uses the words "Jesus Christ". Civil War Soldiers included Jewish, Chinese, Indians and various other potential non-Christians. Discussion on possible modification to the Prayer so to include people of other faiths. Discussion about sending resolution to Michigan Department to be presented at National.

13. It was pointed out that some Counties/Twps. By-Laws state that they "shall provide" grave markers. We need to check if they will provide CW grave markers in our counties of Berrien and Cass.

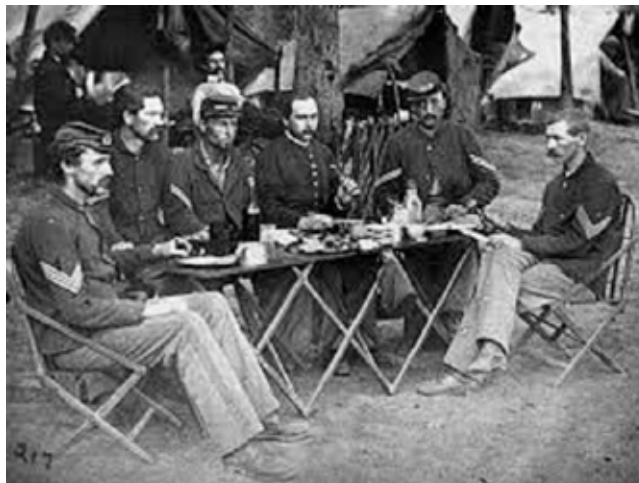
14. 2020 Dues paid this meeting was \$130. Camp 85 meeting closed at 7:34 PM Fellowship with our guests and members followed.

Thanksgiving from pg 7

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

*By the President: Abraham Lincoln
William H. Seward, Secretary of State*



Commander from Page 1

engage in a larger public outreach to educate the public on the worth of the SUVCW. So put your memory to the test. Let's not hide our light under a bushel. We need to be seen and heard.

Michigan's SVR unit participation at Bly Cemetery - take a gander and identify Camp 85 members in attendance - - https://www.suvcwmi.org/SVRWEBPAGE/14THMI_photo_2019_MS_fall.php

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty
Steve Williams,
Frederick H. Hackeman, Camp 85 Commander

Upcoming Events

National

Stay tuned for information about the 2020 National Encampment being hosted by our Brothers in the Department of Georgia and South Carolina.

Atlanta Marriot Buckhead Hotel and Convention Center
3405 Lenox Road North East, Atlanta, GA 30326
Dates: August 13 – 16, 202

Department

November 2019

- 06, 11, 13 November, Wednesday - Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall & Museum is open 10 AM until 5 PM. Eaton Rapids, Michigan.
- 11 November, Monday - Veterans Day
- 23 November, Saturday Form-up at Noon, Step Off at 1 PM - Annual Remembrance Day Parade and Ceremony - Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.
- 28 November, Thursday - Thanksgiving Day.

December 2019

- 01 December, Saturday - Deadline for submissions to Michigan's Messenger. Articles should be forwarded by email to editor@suvcwmi.org.
- 04, & 11 December, Wednesday - Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall & Museum is open 10 AM until 5 PM. Eaton Rapids, Michigan.
- 14 December, Saturday 4 PM - Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145 Camp Meeting and Annual Northeastern Michigan Soldiers and Sailors Descendants Association ("The Northeasters!") Christmas Dinner, West Vienna United Methodist Church, 5485 W. Wilson Rd., Clio, Michigan.
- 25 December, Wednesday - Merry Christmas!

January 2020

- 01 January, Wednesday - Happy New Year!

February 2020

- 12 February, Wednesday - Abraham Lincoln's Birthday.
- 22 February, Saturday - George Washington's Birthday.

March 2020

- 01 March, Sunday - Deadline for submissions to Michigan's Messenger. Articles should be forwarded by email to editor@suvcwmi.org.

April 2020

- 06 April, Monday - Founding of the Grand Army of the Republic in 1866.
- 15 April, Wednesday - Lincoln Death Day.
- 27 April, Saturday - 135th Annual Department Encampment - Okemos.

May 2020

- 24 May, Sunday - Memorial Sunday.
- 25 May, Monday - Federal Holiday - Memorial Day.
- 30 May, Saturday - Traditional Memorial Day.

Camp

- **January 9, 2020** Camp meeting & Member Induction
- **March 12, 2020** Camp meeting
- **March/April TBD 2020** Last Soldier Ceremony for Oscar Mott, Crystal Springs Cemetery, Benton Harbor
- **March/April TBD 2020** Camp members and family Tour LaPorte museum with Dept Indiana Camp 8
- **May 14, 2020** Camp meeting



The SVR roots date back to 1881 with the "Cadet Corps" of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) – the largest Union Veterans organization which formed in 1866 after the Civil War. The members of the GAR encouraged the formation of their sons as the SUVCW in 1881. These units eventually became known as the Sons of Veterans Reserve, when the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War moved toward a more patriotic and educational organization in design.

Many of the Sons of Union Veterans Camps (local organizations) formed reserve military units which volunteered their services during the Spanish – American War, World War I, and with the National Guard. Just prior to World War I, over 5,000 men wore the blue uniform of the SVR. As late as the 1930's, several states regarded their local SVR units as a military training component. Since World War II, the SVR has evolved into a ceremonial and commemorative organization. In 1962, the National Military Department was created by the SUVCW and consolidated the SVR units under national regulations and command. Since 1962, there have been five SUVCW Brothers that have held the SVR rank of Brigadier General and have had the honor to serve as the Commanding Officer of the SVR.

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the members of **Frederick H. Hackeman Camp 85** of activities and events related to the mission of the SUVCW and its interests.

If you wish to place a civil war article or SUVCW item please submit to the Editor at sarwilliamssa@gmail.com

The Editor reserves the right to censor and/or edit all material submitted for publication to the Camp Communicator newsletter without notice to the submitter.

Camp Website

Be sure and visit our Camp Website at <http://www.suvcwmi.org/camps/camp85.php>.

Sutler Links

Link to list of vendors for any items to fill out your uniform and re-enactor accessories.

<http://www.fighting69th.org/sutler.html>

<http://www.ccsutlery.com/>

<http://www.crescentcitysutler.com/index.html>

<http://www.regtkm.com/>

<http://www.cjdaley.com/research.htm>

<http://www.fcsutler.com/>

<https://www.militaryuniformsupply.com/civil-war-reenactment-clothing-gear>

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	David V Ramsey
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Guide -	Nathan Tingley
Guard -	Steven S Martin, CC
Graves Registration Officer-	Richard E. Danes, PCC
GAR Records Officer-	Gary L. Gibson, PDC
Civil War Memorials Officer-	John H. McGill
Eagle Scout Coordinator -	Nathan Tingley
Camp-At-Large Coordinator -	Nathan Tingley
Camp Organizer	James B. Pahl, PCinC
Military Affairs Officer -	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Civil War Time line:

December in the Civil War

1860 - **Dec 1st** - Florida's Legislature convenes; **Dec 3rd** - Second session of the Thirty-sixth Congress convenes; **Dec 4th** - President Buchanan report on the State of the Union; **Dec 14th** - Georgia Legislature called on South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, and Mississippi to consider a Southern Confederacy; **Dec 17th** - South Carolina Secession Convention convenes; **Dec 20th** - South Carolina declares Union Dissolved; **Dec 26th** - Federal garrison transfers from Ft Moultrie to Ft. Sumter; **Dec 30th** SC troops seize Federal Arsenal at Charleston.



1861 - **Dec 1st** - President Lincoln pointed asks Gen'l McClellan 'how long would it require to actually get in motion?' And Prince Albert drafted diplomatic correspondence critical of the American seizure of the Trent with Confederate commissioners Slidell & Mason; **Dec 4th** - the Senate unanimously expelled Sen. John C Breckinridge of KY; **Dec 7th & 8th** - minor skirmishes in MO, KY, & western VA; **Dec 10th** - Confederate Congress accepted KY into the Confederacy; **Dec 11th to 31st** skirmishes in MO, VA, w VA, KY, SC, and Indian Terr. Naval actions in SC, NC, GA; **Dec 18th to 23rd** - British Minister to the United States began talks with Sec State Seward concerning the Trent affair threatening the possibility of war with Britain; **Dec 26th** - President Lincoln and his cabinet agreed to release Confederate commissioners Slidell & Mason thus blunting Britain's demands and Confederate hopes of war with Britain; **Dec 26th** - Martial law declared in St. Louis.



1862 - Skirmishes throughout December in MS, VA, w VA, TN, Indian Terr., Ark, LA, NC, MD, Naval Action in NC, KY. on rivers n MS, & NC. **Dec 1st** - Pres. Lincoln gave his State o the Union message with 3 proposed amendments to the Constitution; **Dec 7th** - Battle of Prairie Grove, Ark; **Dec 10th** - The House passed a bill creating the state of West Virginia, the Senate had passed such a measure in July; **Dec 11th** - Federals Occupy Fredericksburg VA with Battle taking place on Dec 13th with disastrous results; **Dec 17th** - Grant issued his General Order No 11 which was subsequently rescinded by Lincoln ordering all Jews expelled from the (western) department within 24 hours; **Dec 23rd** - Confederate President Davis issues a proclamation that Union Gen'l Butler. **Dec 29th** - Battle of Chickasaw Bayou, MS; **Dec 30th** - Pres. Lincoln produced final draft of the Emancipation Proclamation to his Cabinet; And ironclad Monitor foundered off NC; **Dec 31st** - Battle of Murfreesboro/Stone's River TN; Act Admitting West Virginia approved.



1863 - December shows the nation looking back over the bloody campaigns of the summer and anticipating the up-

coming 1864 election. Throughout the month there was a growing despair in the Confederacy's political hierarchy over the progress of the war. **Dec 2nd** - Confederate General Braxton Bragg relieved of command and the Army of the Potomac withdraws to north of the Rapidan in VA. **Dec 3rd & 4th** - General Longstreet removes to Greenville SC for winter quarters thus ceding eastern TN to the Federals. **Dec 4th** to - Skirmishes on land in Nebraska Terr, WVA, TN, MS, SC, VA, NC, KY, Ark, Indian Terr., AL, CA, FL & GA. **Dec 8th** - President Lincoln Proclaims Amnesty and Reconstruction in his message to Congress. Confederate Captain (Naval) seized a merchant steamer ship Chesapeake off Cape Cod and the steamer was recaptured off Nova Scotia (Dec 17th). **Dec 14th** - Mary Todd Lincoln's half-sister, Mrs. Ben Hardin, was granted amnesty after taking the oath of allegiance. **Dec 19th** - Federal Naval forces continued destruction at St Andrews Bay in Florida. **Dec 25th** - Federal Naval forces operated in SC, fighting at Ft Brooke FL; **Dec 26th** - CSS Alabama took two prizes near Malacca.



1864 - With winter came no letdown in action: Sherman was deep in Georgia, Confederate General Hood and the Army Tennessee was in front of Nashville facing Union General Thomas. Congress was dealing with the constitutional abolition of slavery and the reconstruction with a rival Radical Republican faction demanding southern states needed to reapply for statehood. Throughout the month land skirmishes in VA, Ark., MO, GA, LA, KS, TN, KY, AL, NC, AZ, FL, & MS. **Dec 1** - detachments of Sherman's Troops heading to Confederate prison camps in Millen and Andersonville GA; **Dec 3rd** - Federal Naval forces operated against sloop works in Rocky Pt., Tampa Bay FL; **Dec 6th** - Salmon Chase named Chief Justice, President Lincoln sends his State of the Union message to Congress; [Aside - public debt was \$1,740,690,489.49]; **Dec 10th** - Sherman's troops arrive before Savannah, and move towards Ft McCallister; **Dec 13th** - Ft McCallister falls allowing Sherman to make contact with his supply ships; **Dec 15th to 16th** - **Battle of Nashville**; **Dec 18th** - Federal fleet sailed towards Wilmington & Ft. Fisher, NC; **Dec 20th** - Savannah evacuated; **Dec 24th & 25th** - Ft. Fisher attacked by bombardments and land troops in a failed attempt to capture the fort caused by disputes between Gen'l Butler and Navy Commander Porter.



1865 - **Dec 2nd to 11th** - Alabama, North Carolina, Georgia and Oregon legislatures approved the 13th Amendment. Mississippi rejected it. The 13th Amendment went into effect. December 18th after 27 states approved.

The Civil War Day by Day, An Almanac 1861-1865, E B Long, 1971, Doubleday. *The Civil War Day by Day, An Almanac 1861-1865*, E B Long, 1971, Doubleday.



Ancestor Biographies Needed

Whatever you may have on your ancestor's life story submit for inclusion of future issues. It can be short or long as it takes to tell us about your ancestor's life, i.e., what he did before the war, where he served, and if he survived, what he did after the war - farmer, merchant, politician, etc. And if your family history has a photograph submit that, too.



The Battle of Nashville Monument is now located at the intersection of Granny White Pike and Clifton Lane



The monument to the United States Colored Troops at Nashville National Cemetery

Photos by John Bruce Allyn

Battle of Nashville

The Battle of Nashville was a two-day battle in the Franklin-Nashville Campaign that represented the end of large-scale fighting west of the coastal states in the American Civil War. It was fought at Nashville, Tennessee, on December 10–19, 1864, between the Confederate Army of Tennessee under Lieutenant General John Bell Hood and Union Major General George H. Thomas. In one of the largest victories achieved by the Union Army during the war, Thomas attacked and routed Hood's army, largely destroying it as an effective fighting force.

Military situation

Hood followed up his defeat in the Atlanta Campaign by moving northwest to disrupt the supply lines of Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman from Chattanooga, hoping to challenge Sherman into a battle that could be fought to Hood's advantage. After a brief period of pursuit, Sherman decided to disengage and to conduct instead his March to the Sea, leaving the matter of Hood's army and the defense of Tennessee to Thomas. Hood devised a plan to march into Tennessee and defeat Thomas's force while it was geographically divided. He pursued Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield's army from Pulaski to Columbia and then attempted to intercept and destroy it at Spring Hill. Because of a series of Confederate command miscommunications in the Battle of Spring Hill (November 29, 1864), Schofield was able to withdraw from Columbia and slip past Hood's army at Spring Hill relatively unscathed.

Furious at his failure at Spring Hill, Hood pursued Schofield to the north and encountered the Union at Franklin behind strong fortifications. In the Battle of Franklin on November 30, Hood ordered almost 31,000 of his men to assault the Union works before Schofield could withdraw across the Harpeth River and escape to Nashville. The Union soldiers repulsed multiple assaults and inflicted over 6,000 casualties on the Confederates, which included a large number of key Confederate generals, doing heavy damage to the leadership of the Army of Tennessee.

Schofield withdrew from Franklin during the night and marched into the defensive works of Nashville on December 1, there coming under the command of Thomas, who now had a combined force of approximately 55,000 men. By and large, his troops were veterans, the IV Corps under Brig. Gen.

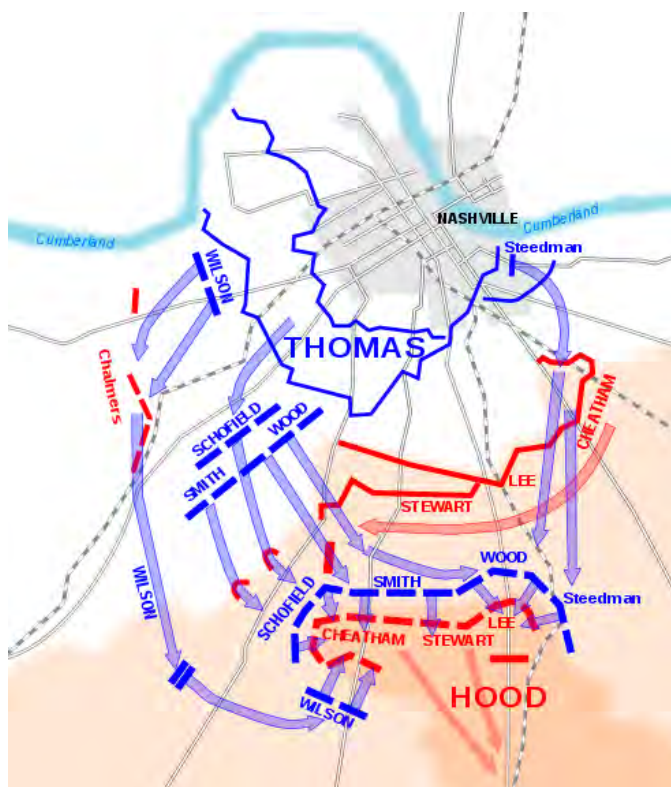
Thomas J. Wood and Schofield's XXIII Corps having fought in the Atlanta campaign and Maj. Gen. Andrew J. Smith's "Detachment of the Army of the Tennessee" (a part of the recently discontinued XVI Corps had been redesignated with this unusual name on December 6) having fought at Vicksburg, in the Red River Campaign, at the Tupelo against S.D. Lee and Nathan Bedford Forrest, and in Missouri against Sterling Price. While Wilson's cavalry had combat experience, most of it had been of the wrong kind at the hands of Nathan Bedford Forrest, John Hunt Morgan, or Joe Wheeler. Only Maj. Gen. James B. Steedman's Division lacked experience. It was composed of garrison troops and railroad guards from Tennessee and Georgia and included eight regiments of United States Colored Troops.

Union forces had been constructing defensive works around Nashville since the time the city was occupied in February 1862. By 1864, a 7-mile-long semicircular Union defensive line on the south and west sides of the city protected Nashville from attacks from those directions. The line was studded with forts, the largest being Fort Negley. The trench line was extended to the west after December 1. The Cumberland River formed a natural defensive barrier on the north and east sides of the city. Smith's troops had arrived by river on November 30, and their transports had been escorted by a powerful fleet of tinclad and ironclad gunboats. Thus, the river barrier was well-defended.

From east to west the defensive line was manned by the Steedman's division, the XXIII Corps, the IV Corps, and Smith's XVI Corps Detachment. Given

the fact that the Union Army was composed of troops from the Army of the Cumberland, the Army of the Ohio, the Army of the Tennessee, the District of Etowah, and the Post of Nashville, the force in Nashville had no official name.

Hood's Army of Tennessee arrived south of the city on December 2 and took up positions facing the Union forces within the city. As he was not nearly strong enough to assault the Union fortifications, Hood opted for the defensive. Rath-



MICHIGAN'S MESSENGER

is a quarterly publication of and for the membership of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Current Spring Issue is at

https://www.suvcwmi.org/messenger/2019/V28_N2.pdf



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 National Signals Officer James P. McGuire, PDC signalsofficer@suvcw.org



3rd Cavalry from Page 3

COMPANY F

ENLISTED MEN

NAME	HOME	AGE
Claypool, William R.	Berrien County	21
Richie, Elmer L.	Three Oaks	35

COMPANY G

ENLISTED MEN

NAME	HOME	AGE
Drew, Perry G.	Niles	18
Phillips, William B.	Niles	23

COMPANY K

ENLISTED MEN

NAME	HOME	AGE
Crosby, Sherman O.	Niles	44
Ward, James	Coloma	18

COMPANY L

OFFICERS

RANK	NAME	HOME	AGE
Captain	Botham, Thomas H.	St. Joseph	45
2nd Lt	Carlton, Monroe G.	St. Joseph	28

ENLISTED MEN

NAME	HOME	AGE
Acker, Andrew J.	Berrien County	24
Avery, Alonzo	Pipestone	19
Badgley, Robert	St. Joseph	23
Barber, William J.	Berrien County	26
Barnum, Andrew D. -or-	Berrien County	21
Barnum, Dennis A.		
Bassford, Andrew J.	Berrien County	28
Blakesley, William M.	Sodus	28
Boudin, Joseph	Sodus	21
Boyle, Samuel W.	St. Joseph	22
Boyles, Orrin F.	Berrien County	n/a
Brant, George M.	Berrien County	21
Brant, Lacy	Berrien County	n/a
Brant, Vincent G.	Berrien County	19
Brown, James	Berrien County	31
Case, Charles D.	Berrien County	23
Clark, Locklin N.	Sodus	21
Cochran, William H.	Berrien County	26
Cory, Marshall S.	Berrien County	24
Dale, William O.	Berrien County	20
Daly, Patrick	Berrien County	29
Davis, George J.	Berrien County	19
Dowd, Ezra	Berrien County	26
Drake, James	Berrien County	23
Drew, Harvey L.	Niles	21
Farr, Philetus	Berrien County	41
Foster, Edward R.	Berrien County	40
Galvin, Michael	Berrien County	26
Gano, Orlando C.	Berrien County	21
Grau, John -or-	Sodus	36
Green, John		
Hardenbrook, Francis M.	Berrien County	27
Hardenbrook, Theophilus B.	Berrien County	33
Heath, John	Berrien County	35
Hodges, Jesse W.	St. Joseph	22
Howard, Asahel J.	Berrien County	21
Humiston, Henry	Berrien County	22
Jones, Jesse	Berrien County	27
Jones, Lewis W.	Berrien County	28
Kelly, John	Berrien County	n/a

Lamb, Lewis	Berrien County	28
McCormick, George W.	Berrien County	22
McDougal, Leander	Berrien County	25
McLellan, John -or- McClellan, John	Berrien County	24
Madison, John E.	St. Joseph	22
Mellan, Henry	Bainbridge	29
Mohan, Patrick	St. Joseph	32
Morse, Charles W.	St. Joseph	27
Patterson, Nelson	Berrien County	24
Plum, Henry C.	Hagar	20
Pollock, Michael	Berrien County	33
Prickett, Joseph	Berrien County	23
Propper, John	Berrien County	24
Ramsay, David O.	Berrien County	44
Ritchie, William	St. Joseph	23
Roome, Charles D.	Berrien County	39
Roome, Perry W.	Berrien County	19
Root, Maurice T.	Berrien County	18
Rosa, Abram	Berrien County	29
Rosa, Joseph	Berrien County	29
Ross, David	Berrien County	36
Rowe, Aaron	Berrien County	44
Rubel, Lewis B.	Berrien County	33
Ryther, Franklin	Hagar	21
Ryther, Hiram	Berrien County	43
Ryther, Solon	St. Joseph	21
Safford, Solomon	Berrien County	28
Seymour, Lewis	Berrien County	24
Simons, Josiah R.	Berrien Springs	36
Simpson, Vincent	St. Joseph	43
Smith, William B.	Berrien County	35
Stead, Robert M.	Niles	20
Stiles, Irving C.	Berrien County	33
Stoddard, Charles B.	Berrien County	20
Stouffer, John B.	Berrien County	19
Strickland, Adoniran F.	Berrien County	30
Toushopt, Frank	Berrien	27
Versaw, Francis	Berrien County	19
Vinton, Delos	Berrien County	19
Williams, Alfred D.	Berrien County	n/a
Williams, Cornelius	Hagar	45
Williams, James F.	Niles	25

COMPANY M

ENLISTED MEN		
NAME	HOME	AGE
Finch, Samuel	Three Oaks	44
Roath, Orrin	Berrien County	n/a

UNASSIGNED

ENLISTED MEN

NAME	HOME	AGE
Morrell, Hugh	Watervliet	34

Nashville From Page 11

er than repeating his fruitless frontal attack at Franklin, he entrenched and waited, hoping that Thomas would attack him. Then, after Thomas had smashed his army against the Confederate entrenchments, Hood could counterattack and take Nashville.

The Confederate line of about four miles of fortifications faced the southerly facing portion of the Union line (the part occupied by Steedman and Schofield). From right to left were the corps of Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Cheatham, Lt. Gen. Stephen D. Lee, and Lt. Gen. Alexander P. Stewart. Cavalry commanded by Brig. Gen. James R. Chalmers was off to the southwest of the city. The Confederate left flank was secured by five small detached redoubts, each having two to four guns with garrisons of about 150 men each.

Hood made a serious strategic error before the battle. On December 2, he sent the three brigades of William B. Bate's Division of Cheatham's Corps to attack the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad between Nashville and Murfreesboro as well as the Union garrison in the latter city. Three days later, he sent an additional two brigades of infantry and two divisions of cavalry, all under Forrest's command, to reinforce Bate. Hood believed this diversion would draw Thomas out of the Nashville fortifications, allowing Hood to either defeat Thomas in detail or to seize Nashville by a coup de main once its garrison was depleted. While the railroad between Nashville and Murfreesboro was broken in a number of places, the Murfreesboro garrison drove off the Confederates in the Third Battle of Murfreesboro (also called the Battle of the Cedars) on December 7. Furthermore, Thomas was not fooled by this diversion, and remained in his fortifications until he was ready to attack on his own terms. Bate's Division and one of the two attached infantry brigades returned to Nashville, but Hood had seriously diminished his already outnumbered forces, and he had also deprived his army of its strongest and most mobile unit, Forrest and his cavalry.

Battle

December 15 - Actions on the Confederate right

Thomas's plan was to launch a diversionary attack on the Confederate right that would distract them from the main attack on their left and perhaps cause them to divert troops from their left to their right. The attacking force consisted of two brigades drawn from Steedman's Provisional Division: the First Colored Brigade, consisting of three regiments of United States Colored Troops (who had previously served as garrison troops or railroad guards), and a brigade composed of rear echelon white troops described by their commander as "new conscripts, convales-



posed left flank. Wilson's Cavalry Corps moved west on Charlotte Pike once an early morning fog dissipated, driving off the Confederate cavalry patrolling the area between the Confederate left and the Cumberland River. Smith's XVI Corps detachment followed, turning south after a mile or so towards the Confederate flank. The cavalrymen formed on Smith's right flank. Schofield's XXIII followed in reserve, and as the assault moved south a gap opened between Smith and Wilson which Schofield was directed to fill. At about 2:30 pm, the Union attacked the five redoubts guarding the Confederate left. Four brigades, two of cavalry and two of infantry, overran Redoubt No. 4 and then Redoubt No. 5, notwithstanding the spirited resistance of the defenders of Redoubt No. 4. Another of Smith's brigades captured Redoubt No. 3; however, its commander, Col. Sylvester G. Hill, was killed by Confederate artillery firing from Redoubt No. 2. He was the highest-ranking Union officer killed in the battle. Smith's troops proceeded to Redoubt No. 2, which was quickly captured.

Col. Sylvester Hill was killed by Confederate artillery fire from Redoubt No. 2, just as his men overran Confederate Redoubt No. 3 on the Confederate left flank.

In the meantime, the IV Corps had been tasked with making a frontal assault from Granny White and Hillsboro Pikes on the left end of the Confederate line. The assault was to begin once Smith's troops began their assault on the left flank redoubts. The Confederate line was supposed to lie on Montgomery Hill on the north side of Brown's Creek. While the Confederates had originally established their line there, they had withdrawn to equally strong positions on the south side of Brown's Creek, as the original positions were exposed to artillery fire from the Nashville forts. The IV Corps proceeded deliberately up Montgomery Hill, only to find that it was defended by a thin skirmish line. They stopped to reorganize, and at about the same time that Smith's Detachment was rolling up the Confederate redoubts, they advanced on the main Confederate line.

Thus it happened that Redoubt No. 1, the last bastion on the Confederate left flank, was captured by troops coming from the north, south, and west. Stewart's corps had been wrecked by the day's fighting and retreated to a new line of defense a mile or two to the south. Rearguard actions by reinforcements from Lee's Corps kept the retreat from becoming a rout. With the collapse of the Confederate left, Cheatham's and Lee's Corps followed to the new line.

December 16

cents, and bounty jumpers."

The Confederate right was anchored on the west side of a deep cut on the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad. A weak skirmish line was posted east of the tracks, and on December 14 this was supplemented by a stout four-gun lunette manned by Granbury's (Houghton's after Granbury's death at Franklin) Texas Brigade. Granbury's Lunette was well masked by trees and brush.

The two Union brigades advanced and overran the skirmish line. They then came under heavy artillery fire from a Confederate battery on the west side of the railroad. When the brigades passed Granbury's Lunette, they were struck by very heavy close range enfilading fire. Both brigades retreated in some disorder, but they were reformed and continued for the rest of the day to fire on the Confederate works from the former skirmish line. The attack failed in its purpose, since the Confederates were not distracted and in fact had sent brigades from both Lee's and Cheatham's Corps to bolster the threatened left flank.

Actions on the Confederate left

Thomas planned a huge wheeling movement that would ultimately come down on the Confederates' ex-



Federal outer line, December 16, 1864

New disposition of Confederate army

The Confederates' new line was much stronger and more compact than the first day's line. It was anchored on the east on Peach Orchard Hill. The western flank ran along a line of hills leading south from Compton's Hill, which

after the day's battle would be called Shy's Hill after Col. William M. Shy, the Confederate officer commanding the 20th Tennessee Infantry, who died defending it. The center followed a series of sturdy dry stack stone walls enhanced by entrenching.

Hood put Lee's Corps on the right flank. With the exception of two brigades, this corps had seen no action on the previous day, and indeed had seen very little action at the bloodletting at Franklin two weeks before. Lee's line ran from the hill well into the Confederate center. Stewart's Corps, decimated by heavy casualties at Franklin and in the December 15 actions, occupied the Confederate center. Cheatham's Corps, badly hurt at Franklin, was on the Confederate left flank, which included Shy's Hill and the line of

head logs or abatis. Third, and most fateful, the trenches were constructed on the geographical crest of the hill and not on the military crest commanding the slopes, such that attacking troops could escape fire until they were almost at the crest.

Thomas's plan

Thomas repeated his tactics of the previous day. An attack would be made on the Confederate right to draw Confederate troops from the left. Then Schofield's XXIII Corps would deliver a hammer blow on the left flank.

Federal outer line, December 16, 1864

The attacks on Peach Orchard Hill were made in much greater strength than those December 15. Two brigades from Beatty's division of Wood's IV Corps and two brigades from Steedman's Provisional Division made the attack at about 3 p.m. Concentrated musket and artillery fire from the entrenched Confederates quickly broke up the attack. The trailing regiment in the 2nd Colored Brigade of Steedman's Division, the 13th United States Colored Troops, went in essentially on its own and gained the Confederate parapet, losing one of its flags and 220 officers and men in the process, about 40% of the regiment's strength.

The attack on Peach Orchard Hill had the desired effect. Hood sent two of Cheatham's brigades to reinforce Lee. The thin Confederate line on Shy's Hill and the surrounding heights got thinner.

Union attack on Shy's Hill

During this time Wilson's cavalry was very active on the Confederate left and rear, reaching past Granny White Pike. In response, Cheatham stretched his corps further and further to the south. Thomas, who was with Schofield, directed Schofield to make an attack on the western face of Shy's Hill. Schofield, imagining that he was outnumbered and in danger of an attack on his southern flank, demurred, requested that Smith send him additional divisions. Thomas directed Smith to comply with this request. Smith sent a division, and still Schofield did nothing.

Sunset was rapidly approaching, and if no attack was made before then Hood would be in a position to either strengthen his position overnight or safely retreat south.

Brig. Gen. John McArthur, one of Smith's division commanders, was aware of this. He also saw that the Confederate lines were being badly battered by Union artillery, which was firing on them from nearly every direction. At about 3:30 p.m. he sent a message to Smith and Thomas that unless he were given orders to the contrary, his division was going to attack Shy's Hill and the Confederate line immediately to its east in the next five minutes.

The three brigade attack began on McArthur's timetable. One brigade went up and over Shy's Hill. Because of the misplacement of the Confederate trenches, only the regiment on the east sustained significant casualties from Confederates, who were firing from the plain to its left. [48] McArthur's second brigade hit these Confederates



hills to its south. Rucker's cavalry brigade patrolled to the south of Cheatham's Corps.

The Confederate line defenses atop Shy's Hill appeared to be quite strong, as the steep hill dominated all of the surrounding terrain. However, appearances were deceiving. First, the defenses at the crest were a salient, and were exposed to Union artillery fire from all directions except the southeast. Second, the fortifications had been built overnight by tired troops and consisted of shallow trenches with no

while they were so distracted. The third brigade, attacking to the east of Granny White Pike caught a large body of Confederate skirmishers outside of their lines and went into the Confederate lines with them.

Confederate left flank disintegrates

The Confederate left flank suddenly disintegrated. The Confederate line was rolled up west to east. Granny White Pike had been blocked by Wilson's cavalry. The Confederates retreated to the south by the Franklin Pike and a gap in the Overton Hills through the Otter Creek bottom. A part of Lee's Corps maintained good order and covered the retreat on Franklin Pike. Rucker's Confederate cavalry brigade performed the same service in a nighttime melee in the rain on Granny White Pike.

Hood's retreat

On the night of December 16, what was left of Hood's army headed south towards Franklin on two roads, Franklin Pike and Granny White Pike. Rucker having blunted for the time being the Union pursuit on Granny White Pike, the main pursuit was by Union cavalry on Franklin Pike. Lee's rearguard held off the attacks.

At this point, the pursuit slowed because Thomas had sent his pontoon bridge train towards Murfreesboro rather than Franklin and Columbia, and his artillery and supply trains could not cross the Harpeth River until the pontoon train arrived. This did not stop Wilson's cavalry from aggressively pursuing the Confederates as they retreated to Columbia. Wilson badly hurt Carter L. Stevenson's rear guard division in actions on December 17 and 18, but was forced to stop because of the lack of supplies. Wilson's problems were compounded when Forrest and his two cavalry divisions arrived in Columbia from Murfreesboro on December 18.

On December 19 the Confederate infantry and artillery crossed the Duck River at Columbia, destroying the bridges behind them. Forrest took charge of the rear guard, attaching an ad hoc infantry division under Brig. Gen. Edward C. Walthall to his Cavalry Corps.

Because of the misdirected pontoon train, Thomas was not able to cross the Duck River until December 23. Wilson continued his vigorous pursuit, but was stymied by Forrest over the next three days in hard-fought rear guard actions at Richland Creek, Anthony's Hill, and Sugar Creek. Hood was able to get his army across the Tennessee River on a pontoon bridge near Bainbridge, Alabama by December 28. Thomas had asked Rear Admiral S. P. Lee, commanding the Tennessee River naval squadron, to destroy the Confederate bridge. However, low water and Confederate artillery prevented Union tinclad gunboats from interdicting the crossing.

Steedman's Provisional Division was sent by rail from Nashville to Chattanooga and from there by river boat to Decatur, Alabama, to cut off Hood's retreat. His force arrived too late to interfere with the crossing. However, Steedman's cavalry under the command of Colonel William Jackson Palmer captured the Confederate pontoon train on December 30 along with a large number of supply wagons.

That marked the end of the Union pursuit.

Aftermath

Casualties

Federal casualties in the battle totaled 387 killed, 2,562 wounded, and 112 missing.

As only a few of the Confederate units submitted reports on the battle, Confederate casualties are difficult to determine. Thomas reported capturing 4,561 prisoners in the battle itself, with an unknown number captured during the retreat. One historian made an educated guess that 2,500 Confederates were killed and wounded at Nashville.

The Army of Tennessee had gone into Middle Tennessee campaign with approximately 38,000 men, exclusive of Forrest's cavalry. The Army had sustained severe casualties at Spring Hill, Franklin, and Nashville, and suffered at least 2,000 desertions in the latter part of the campaign. On January 20 Hood reported an effective strength of 18,742, again exclusive of Forrest's cavalry. Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard, Hood's nominal superior, advised the Confederate President on January 13 that the Army of Tennessee had fewer than 15,000 men.

Reactions and effects

The Battle of Nashville marked the effective end of the Army of Tennessee. Historian David Eicher remarked, "If Hood mortally wounded his army at Franklin, he would kill it two weeks later at Nashville." Although Hood blamed the entire debacle on his subordinates and the soldiers themselves, his career was over. He retreated with his army to Tupelo, Mississippi, resigned his command on January 13, 1865, and was not given another field command.



Col. Sylvester Hill was killed by Confederate artillery fire from Redoubt No. 2, just as his men overran Confederate Redoubt No. 3 on the Confederate left flank. 387 killed,



We are always looking for content suggestions, comments, Book Reports, Family Civil War stories, advice.

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Member Ancestors

Compiled from current and past member information.

Red Text indicates publication of a biography in the *Camp Communicator*

Current Members		Ancestor		Unit
Theodore J	Chamberlain	Chamberlain	Jeremiah M	Pvt, Co B 176 th OH Vol Inf
Keith Alan	Chapman	Stillman	Samuel	Pvt, Co B 94 th IL Inf
Steven	Chapman	Stillman	Samuel	Pvt, Co B 94 th IL Inf
Jeffrey L	Chubb	Brownell	(William) Henry	Pvt., Merrill's Horse, MO
Harold L	Cray	Barrett	George W	Pvt., Co F 54th Reg Ohio Inf
Rex	Dillman	Yaw	Benjamin Franklin	Pvt, Co G 26 th MI Inf Reg,
Richard	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Glenn	Palen	Palen	Charles	Pvt Co E 128 th IN Inf
Rodney Samuel	Krieger	Jacob	Krieger	Pvt, Co I, 19th MI Inf
Charles L	Pfauth Jr	Shopbach	Henry	Pvt, Co F 52 nd PA Vol Inf
Charles L	Pfauth Sr	Shopbach	Henry	Pvt, Co F 52 nd PA Vol Inf
Ray	Truhn	Goodenough	Alonzo	Pvt, Co A 2 nd VT Inf
Steven Allen	Williams	Carter Mountjoy/ Munjoy Wetmore	Oren George W Abiather Joy	Pvt, Co B 186 th NY Vol Inf Pvt, 11 th MI Vol Cavalry & 1st MI Sharpshooters Pvt 66 th IL Inf
Matthew Carter	Williams	Carter	Oren	Pvt, Co B 186 th NY Vol Inf
Past Members		Ancestor		Unit
Roger C	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Kenneth A	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Dennis L	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Michael	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Irving	Hackeman	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Richard	Horton	Horton, Jr	William	
Virlin	Dillmam	Mason	Daniel W	
Daniel	Stice	Pegg	Henry Riley	Co E 17 IN
Amasa	Stice	Pegg	Henry Riley	Co E 17 IN

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