

Michigan Department-Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
107th Annual Encampment  
8 June 1996

The 107th Annual Encampment of the Michigan Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (S.U.V.C.W.), was held on 8 June 1996 at the Holiday Inn West, Lansing, Michigan.

The Guard, Bill Costello, was asked to escort David Medert, Commander-in-Chief, to the Commanders Station to sit next to the Department Commander, Bill Brennan.

The Encampment opened per ritual by Department Commander Bill Brennan at 10:00 A.M. Department Secretary Richard Lee read the roll of Officers and Staff.

Department Commander	Bill Brennan, present
Senior VC	Paul Hodges, present
Junior VC	Don Workman, present
Treasurer	Jim Williams, present
Secretary	Richard Lee, present
Department Council	J. Douglas Park, present
Department Council	Dale Calder, present
Department Council	Scott Twietmeyer, present
Chief of Staff	Keith Harrison, present
Camp Organizer	Don Workman, present
Camp Organizer	Terrance McKinch, present
Patriotic Instructor	Steve Redinger, present
Chaplain	Rev. Henry Reinewald, present
Counselor	James Pahl, absent
Historian	Ronald Bellenger, absent
Guide	Bill Costello, present
Guard	Ed Dowd, present
Color Bearer	Howard Streeter, present
Messenger Editor	John Mann, present

Recognition of National Officers present at the Encampment:

Commander-in-Chief	David Medert
Past Nat'l. Commander-in-Chief	Keith Harrison
Secretary	David F. Wallace
Editor of the Banner	Gregory Hayes
Camp and Department Organizer	Richard Greene
Council of Administration	J. Douglas Park
Military Affairs Committee	Terrance McKinch
Membership at Large Coordinator	L. Dean Lamphere Jr.
Membership List Coordinator	Richard Williams

Recognition of other notables:

Appointment of Committee on Credentials:

Assigned by Cmdr. Brennan prior to the opening of the Encampment - Chairman, L. Dean Lamphere Jr. and Ed Dowd.

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Report from the Committee on Credentials

Credentials Committee reports the following roll call of delegates as reported and present for this meeting:

CAMP	DELEGATES
General John A. Logan	Camp #1 <u>3</u>
Henry E. Plant	Camp #3 <u>0</u>
Austin Blair	Camp #7 <u>6</u>
George W. Howe	Camp #9 <u>0</u>
Robert Finch	Camp #14 <u>0</u>
Curtenius Guard	Camp #17 <u>6</u>
Benjamin Pritchard	Camp #20 <u>7</u>
Colegrove-Woodruff	Camp #22 <u>3</u>
Alexander French	Camp #28 <u>0</u>
Nash-Hodges	Camp #43 <u>0</u>
WA-BU-NO	Camp #53 <u>5</u>
George W. Anderson	Camp #58 <u>3</u>
General Phil Kearney	Camp #67 <u>1</u>
Ulysses S. Grant	Camp #101 <u>1</u>
Gilluly-Kingsley	Camp #120 <u>5</u> plus 1 Alt.
Governor Crapo	Camp #145 <u>9</u> plus 1 Alt.
Russell A. Alger	Camp #462 <u>1</u>
TOTAL 52	

Five dollars collected from 52 attendees for a total of \$260.00 to be placed in the treasury to offset costs for the encampment.

Appointment to Committees:

The following encampment committee appointments were made prior to the encampment by Commander Brennan:

Officer reports: Chairman Gary Gibson, LaVern Aves, Bill Costello.

Resolutions: Chairman Bill Lowe, Anthony Collins, Blaine Valentine

Fraternal Relations: Chairman David F. Wallace, Don Workman  
 Bill Warren

Legislative Affairs: Chairman Herb Gage, Terrance McKinch, \_\_\_\_\_.

The By-Laws Committee is a standing committee assigned by the Department Commander at the beginning of his term.

Chairman Paul Hodges, Max Miller, Daniel Graves.

Moment of silence:

We took a moment of silence to remember Brothers in Michigan that we have lost in recent years:

John Campbell, Phil Johnson, Dudley Pritchard, John LaRue, Matt Urban, Fred Jones, Bill Lynde, Jack Patch, Max O'Neil, Ted Barney; and any other Brothers or relatives.

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Minutes from the 106th Encampment:

The minutes to the 106th Department Encampment were available at the 107th Annual Encampment. A few moments were taken to review them.

Brother Keith Harrison moved the minutes be accepted as corrected. Seconded by Brother Gary Gibson. Motion passed.

Report of Department Council:

The Council reports that the Treasurer's books for 1995-1996 and the proposed budget for 1996-1997 fiscal year were reviewed prior to the encampment and are in order. Brother Harrison moved the report be accepted. Seconded by brother Rick Greene. Motion passed.

Officers Reports:

Brother L. D. Lamphere Jr. moved all officer reports be given to the Officers Report Committee for review. Seconded by Brother R. Greene. Motion passed.

Commanders Report- filed with the Department Secretary.  
Senior VC Report- filed with the Department Secretary  
Junior VC Report- filed with the Department Secretary  
Treasurer's Report- filed with the Department Secretary  
Historian's Report- filed with the Department Secretary  
Patriotic Instructor's Report- verbal given  
Legislative Committee Report- filed with the Department Secretary.  
Chief-of-Staff Report- verbal given  
Chaplain's Report- verbal given  
Councilor's Report- no written report available  
Camp Organizer's Report- verbal given  
Graves Registration Report- verbal given

Reports of regular committee chairs & miscellaneous reports:

A. SVR. Verbal report given by Brother Graves. There are 44 members in the Department of Michigan commanded by Captain McKinch. Co. 'A' is led by Lt. Pahl and Co. 'B' by Lt. Graves. He reported on the SVR's participation in ceremonies at Lansing, Detroit, Corunna, Vassar and Gettysburg for Remembrance Day. He also reported on the 2 infantry schools run by the SVR and that some members had attended a training school at Chillicothe, OH. He gave some of the history of the SVR and its involvement in the Spanish-American War and World War I.

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B. Publications Committee. A report submitted that the "Messenger received the best "News Letter Award" at the National Encampment in August 1995. Also, John Mann still needs reports and communications from the camps. He was commended for his fine work on the "Michigan Messenger" by Brothers Harrison and Brennan.

~~C. By-Laws Committee~~

C. By-Laws Committee

D. Central Region

E. Mid-Winter meeting & Washington/Lincoln dinner. Verbal report given by Brother Brennan. The entertainment was provided by the Michigan Fife and Drum Corps.

F. Brother Redinger reported on a school that had raised money for the "Rally 'Round the Flags" project.

G. Brother Harrison spoke on the opening of the Civil War flags display at the State Museum.

H. Brother Workman introduced Brother Washburn who spoke on the project of the Civil War monument at Corunna and Camp #160 there. Brother Workman also discussed the new G.W. Anderson camp at DeWitt and the revival of the G. Howe camp at Port Huron. Brothers Park and Brennan wondered about finding the original charter and other artifacts of the G. Howe camp.

I. Brother Kent Armstrong reported on the designation of US-12 as the "Iron Brigade Highway" with historical markers at a I-94 rest area and in Campus Martius in Detroit. He gave recognition to Brothers J.D. Park and Jas. Lyons for their efforts on this work.

J. Commanders Group . Brother Herb Gage gave a report on membership in the Group.

K. Legislative Committee. A report submitted recognizing Bro. Armstrong for his work to change the old law stating the penalties for defacing or removing flag holders or other items from graves.

Recess was taken at 11:04 A.M. The body returned to business at 11:34.

Commander Brennan made the following introductions:

Brother Thayne LaBanta PDC '46-48 of Austin Blair #7

Karen Green, wife of Brother Rick Greene, and

Carol Graves, wife of Brother Dan Graves of Gov. Crapo #145.

Brother Ed Dowd introduced Brother Jim Lyons<sup>PDC</sup> who had to leave to attend his daughter's wedding.

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L. Brother Dick Hutchins reported on 62 Civil War cannon in Michigan that belong to Michigan SUVCW, their condition, value, etc. Brother Gordon McAllister stated that Brother Kim Leese has a list of cannon. Brother Harrison said that the CinC wants a survey of all cannon ... Brother Harrison suggests putting this on a disc.

M. Brother Scott Twietmeyer reported that the "Ceremony of Remembrance" at the Veteran's Home in Grand Rapids has grown so that Gen'l. Logan Camp would like the Department to take over sponsorship with their camp as co-sponsor. Brother Harrison said that this should be deferred to New Business.

N. Brother Park reported on Curtenius Guard Camp's efforts to have the Legislature designate M-99 as the Gen'l. John A. Logan Memorial Highway. This has become a Department project. Brother Park has worked with Rep. Nye and Brother Armstrong has been in contact with Rep. Cropsey's office on this matter. It is likely that legislation will be introduced and all Brothers are urged to ask their legislators to support it.

Communications:

1. Three endorsements for Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief were received. All were referred to the Resolutions Committee.
  - a. Department of Maryland
  - b. Department of Iowa
  - c. Sydney Camp #41, New York
2. Endorsement from Gov. Crapo Camp for Brother Dave Wallace for Department Commander.
3. Endorsement from Gen. Phil Kearney Camp for Brother Wallace for Department Commander and for Brother Kent Armstrong for Department Junior Vice Commander.
4. Three endorsements for the Abraham Lincoln Award to go to the 24th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Inc.
  - a. Geo. W. Anderson Camp #58
  - b. Curtenius Guard Camp #17
  - c. 22nd Michigan Volunteer Inf.
5. Letter from David Turpin, National Patriotic Instructor, asking Brothers to speak on patriotism to school or civic groups. Also, to contribute to the G.A.R. Memorial Fund.

Dan Graves announced that SVR members would meet at 12:45.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 11:57.

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The meeting was re-opened at 1:37 P.M.

Old Business:

There was no Old Business to be considered.

Committee Reports:

By-Laws Committee; Brother Hodges, chair.

- 1) Proposed By-Law changes were submitted to Camps 60 days prior to the Department Encampment.
  - a) that the Department SVC be authorized to spend up to \$50.00 for expenses.
  - b) that the Department JVC be authorized to spend up to \$50.00 for expences.
  - c) that Camps be exempt from per capita fees on Real Sons, Life members and Juniors.
  - d) that the limit of 5 members for Standing Committees be deleted.

N.B.\*

Legislative Affairs Committee: Herb Gage, chair.

Reported that he had met with Jesse Brown of the Veteran's Administration and informed him of the loss of Civil War battlefields to public and private uses. Mr. Brown was not aware of this problem. Brother Gage suggests we contact our Congreepersons about this. He reported Sen. Bob Dole's visit to the Veteran's Hospital in Battle Creek. He thanked the members of the SVR for their participation in the ceremony there.

Fraternal Relations: Brother Wallace said "no report".

N.B.\* Brother Jim Williams stated that \$50.00 for the Department JVC was not adequate and should be \$100.00. Brother Don Workman discussed some of his expenses as JVC. Brother Harrison moved that item "b" be amended to read "up to \$100.00 for expenses". Brother Lamphere seconded. Motion passed. Brother Hodges moved to accept the By-Law changes as amended. Seconded by Brother Dale Calder. Motion passed.

Resolutions Committee: Brother Lowe, chair.

1) Resolved: that the Michigan Department in Encampment endorses the nomination of Col. Andrew M. Johnson, Department of MD, for the national office of Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief. Brother Todd Holton seconded, discussion followed.

Brother McKinch suggested that a decision on Col. Johnson's nomination be made by our delegates at the National Encampment. Brother Harrison requested that the record show that this was a procedural move and not a judgement on the Col.'s suitability for office. So moved - seconded - and passed.

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2) Resolved: that the Michigan Department should move forward to assert our legal title to vacant G.A.R. grave sites. Seconded by Brother ,discussion followed.

Brother Workman spoke regarding burial sites in Riverside Cemetery and the need for a certified copy of the Congressional resolution stating that the SUVCW is the legal heir to the GAR. Brother Sean Ralston asked about who to contact if a site is known, Brother John Obermeyer said that the Department Graves Registration Committee should be contacted.

Brother McKinch moved to accept the resolution, seconded by Brother Harrison. Motion passed.

Officer Report Committee: Brother Gibson, chair.

Committee reports all officers reports presented to the committee are in order.

Council Report on the Budget

The report on the activities of the Council during the previous year was presented by Brother Calder. The budget for the coming year was reviewed by the Council prior to the Department Encampment. They found everything to be in order, liked the procedures recommended by Brother Williams and hope that he will continue his good work.

Motion to accept the Council report made by Brother  
Seconded by Brother . Motion passed.

The Budget for 1996-1997 was presented. Discussion and figures presented by Department Treasurer Williams.

Motion to accept the budget made by Brother  
Seconded by Brother . Motion passed.

New Business:

1) Brother Park spoke on his discussion with C-in-C Medert regarding the " Marshall Hope Award". It was moved that the Michigan Department endorse this award.

Seconded by Brother Jim Lyons. Motion passed.

2) Brother Twietmeyer again requested that the Department sponsor "Remembrance Day" at Battle Creek with Gen'l. Logan Camp as co-sponsor.

Brother Harrison so moved but stipulated that the event not be held on the same weekend as the National Encampment. Seconded by Brother Howard Streeter. Motion passed.

3) Brother Armstrong moved that the Department support the National Patriotic Instructor's program for giving awards to those who fly the Stars and Stripes 24 hrs. a day, this to be brought to the National Encampment in Aug. Seconded by Brother Harrison. Discussion with CinC Medert. Motion passed.

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4) Brother Greene announced that Gov. Crapo Camp would be at Crossroads Village on June 29th and he invited all Brothers to join them there.

5) Brother Gary Gibson moved that the Department send \$25.00 each to the SeniorVCinC and Patriotic Instructor's Funds. Seconded by Brother Harrison. Motion passed.

6) Brother Harrison moved that the Michigan Department recognize the SVR's trip to Gettysburg in Nov. by authorizing \$75.00 for a wreath to be placed at a Michigan monument. Brother McKinch seconded. Discussed. Brother McKinch would like other Brothers to attend, not just SVR. Brother Wallace said that Brother Williams could add the \$75.00 as a line item to the budget, also, that the Department direct the SVR to lay the wreath at Michigan monuments in regimental numerical order in succeeding years. Brother Greene suggested that the that the 4 infantry regiments be first in order, then cavalry, artillery, sharpshooters. Severally seconded. Passed

7) Brother Dowd announced that Diane Hager, DUVCW, would like to address the Brothers. She reported on the new service memorial in Washington to honor women who served all conflicts. Discussed. Brother Harrison moved that this request be considered by the incoming administration. Severally seconded. Passed.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Income and expenses from the previous year were presented by Department Treasurer Jim Williams.

Moved that the treasurer's report be accepted. Seconded. Motion passed.

#### Good of the Order

CinC Medert reported on some things accomplished during his administration:

- he had the most (and best) of his National Officers from the Department of Michigan.
- new departments formed in TN, FL and MO and he gave much credit to Brothers Rick Greene and L.D. Lamphere Jr.
- there are 10 attorneys on the legal staff, James Pahl has advised attorneys in different states, there are four matters assigned already.
- the Chief of Staff now supervises all appointed committees at National Headquarters.
- a miniature GAR lapel pin will be given to Brothers who recruit a minimum of seven new members and the Brother who recruits the largest number nationally will be given the Major B.F. Stephenson Award.



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Staff Appointments

Commander-elect Wallace announced the following appointments:

Chief of Staff	Terrance McKinch
Patriotic Instructor	Edgar Dowd
Chaplain	Gordon McAllister
Counselor	James Pahl
Camp Organizer	Kent Armstrong
Historian	Ronald Bellenger
Guide	Howard Streeter
Color Bearer	Patrick Wallace
Guard	LaVerne Aves
Aide	L. Dean Lamphere Jr.
Graves Registration	John Obermeyer
Editor	John Mann
Camp-at-Large	William Morris

Installation of Officers

CinC Medert commended Commander-elect Wallace for his good work for the Order and then he installed Officers and Staff per ritual.

Commander Wallace stated that it was his hope to organize three new camps and have at least 500 members in the Department during his administration.

He then entertained a motion to appoint the Rev. Henry Reinewald as Chaplain Emeritus. It was so moved, seconded and passed.

He then entertained a motion to establish a Communications and Technology Committee with Brother William Morris as its director. It was so moved, seconded by Brother McKinch and passed.

Adjournment:

The encampment adjourned.

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Camp Members Present:

General John A. Logan #1  
Scott Twietmeyer  
Lee Stroschine  
John Obermeyer

Henry E. Plant #3  
No delegates

Austin Blair #7  
Todd Holton  
John Mann  
Thayne LaBanta  
Robert Hoffman  
Max Miller  
Bill Lowe

Robert Finch #14  
No delegates

Curtenius Guard #17  
Paul Hodges  
J. Douglas Park  
Keith Harrison  
Dale Calder  
William Warren  
LaVerne Aves

Benjamin Pritchard #20  
Steve Redinger  
Gary Gibson  
Bill Brennan  
William Costello  
Herb Gage  
Anthony Collins  
Christian Johnston

Colegrove-Woodruff #22  
Howard Streeter  
Ty Streeter  
Blaine Valentine

Alexander French #28  
No delegates

Nash-Hodges #43  
No delegates

WA-BU-NO #53  
Leo Cohoon  
Don Workman  
Wayne Barrett  
Jacob Kuhlman  
Keith Kuhlman

George W. Anderson #58  
Kent Armstrong  
Douglas Armstrong  
Mark Pangburn

General Phil Kearney #67  
Gordon McAllister

Ulysses S. Grant #101  
Rev. Henry Reinewald

Gilluly-Kingsley #120  
James Williams  
Richard Lee  
Gary Ralston  
Sean Ralston  
Greg Hayes  
Richard Hutchins - Alt.

Governor Crapo #145  
Richard Greene  
Terrance McKinch  
David F. Wallace  
L. Dean Lamphere Jr.  
Gayle Steele  
William Washburn  
Edgar Dowd  
Daniel Graves  
Floyd Wallace  
Patrick Wallace - Alt.

Russell A. Alger #462  
William Morris