

**MINUTES OF THE 115<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN  
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
SATURDAY APRIL 24, 2004  
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN**

The Encampment was called to order by Department Commander Bruce Butgereit at 9:15. am at the Hilton Hotel, 28<sup>th</sup> Street and Patterson, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Following his welcoming comments Commander Butgereit indicated that there the pre-registration fee had been incorrectly published at \$7.00. The correct fee should have been \$5.00. Anyone wishing a refund was directed to see him. The extra \$2.00 will be recorded as donations from those declining a refund.

Brother John McFeters was appointed to fill the vacancy as Color Bearer.

**Roll Call of Officers:**

Department Commander Bruce Butgereit, present  
Senior Vice Commander Neal Breagh, present  
Junior Vice Commander Rick Greene, present  
Secretary Richard Lee, present  
Treasurer Richard Williams, present  
Council Chairman Keith Harrison, PCinC, present  
Council Member Howard Streeter, present  
Council Member Max Newman, present  
Camp Organizer Richard Lee, present  
Patriotic Instructor Tim Kolean, present  
Chaplain William McAfee, present  
Councilor E. Lou Hoos, absent  
Historian, Paul Hodges, PDC, excused  
Guard Ed Doud, present  
Guide Robert Grove, present  
Color Bearer Blaine Valentine, present, (arrived late)  
Graves Registration Officer Rick Danes, present  
G. A. R. Records Officer, James Lyons, PDC, present  
C.W. Memorials Officer Doug Armstrong, excused  
Comm. And Technology Officer Eric Kirchberg, absent  
Camp at large Coordinator Kevin Lindsey, present  
Michigan's Messenger Editor John Mann, present  
B. S. A. Coordinator Bruce Zann, excused  
Ceremonies and Rituals Officer Greg Hayes, PDC, absent

Chaplain McAfee invoked the Divine Blessing.

The Colors were presented for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Guide escorted Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Don Darby, of Ohio, to the Altar for introduction to the Encampment.

After being escorted to the head table, Commander Butgereit called upon our guest for comments. Brother Darby spoke on better recruiting and stronger organizational efforts. He indicated that there was \$12,000.00 in the National Memorial fund available for restoration efforts. He complimented the Department for doing a “bang up” job.

Commander Butgereit introduced other National Officers present; PCinC Keith Harrison, National Treasurer Max Newman, National Councilor James Pahl, National Camp and Department Organizer Gary Gibson PDC, and National Aide de Camp Richard Williams.

Commander Butgereit commented on visits to Camps during the past year. His most vivid memory was the visit to Brother Al Pifer, while visiting Camp 14, and that in spite of health problems, this Marine veteran of the Korean War is doing all he can for the good of the Order. He thanked all in attendance for their presence and the reminder that we are all brothers in the cause. To emphasize the ties of Brotherhood, he indicated that after posting information on a major setback in his business, that within three days PDC Gary Gibson contacted him about job openings at the hospital in Kalamazoo. This is the glue that holds us together.

Commander Butgereit announced the time limits for reports (10 minutes) and the rules for speaking on an issue (twice) during the Encampment.

**Credentials Committee Report:**

<u>Camp</u>	<u>Voting Strength</u>
1	5
2	1
7	9
14	4
17	6
20	6
22	3
58	1
120	2
139	1
145	11
160	3
180	1
250	2
260	1
427	1
462	1

## 115<sup>th</sup> Department of Michigan Encampment

Total 58

### **Encampment Committees:**

By Laws – Neal Breough, Chair, Tim Kolean and Mark Heath

Resolutions – Rick Danes, Chair, Bill Brennan PDC and John Keith

Officers Reports – James Pahl PDC, Chair, PCinC Keith Harrison and Howard Streeter

### **Officer's Reports:**

Department Commander – read - see attachment

Brother James T. Lyons moved, with several seconds, that this report and all subsequent Officer Reports be referred to the Committee on Officer Reports. Motion passed.

Senior Vice Commander – not read – see attachment

Junior Vice Commander – not read – see attachment

Secretary – read – see attachment

### **Minutes of the 2003 Encampment:**

Commander Butgereit called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the 2003 Department Encampment. The motion was made by Brother Lyons, second by Brother Dale Calder. Motion passed.

**By Laws:** Commander Butgereit asked if the Committee had a proposal regarding the matter of preserving and forwarding records, referred to the Committee at the last Encampment. Chairman Breough indicated the Committee felt that more research and study was needed on this issue. (See – Attached Senior Vice Commander Report)

No changes to the By Laws are suggested at this time.

**Camp at Large:** Brother Kevin Lindsey read his report – See attachment.

**Graves Registration:** Brother Rick Danes read his report noting that there are now 47,700 names in the Department data base. – See attachment.

**Historian:** Brother Paul Hodges was unable to attend due to health problems, but did submit his report. The report was read by Commander Butgereit. – See attachment.

**Chaplain:** Chaplain McAfee presented his report of activities. – See attachment.

**Eagle Scout Coordinator:** The Secretary read the report. – See attachment.

**Patriotic Instructor:** Brother Tim Kolean read his report. – See attachment.

**Civil War Memorials:** Report received. – See attachment.

Brother Robert Mitchell of Camp 462 reminded the Encampment of the plan for ceremonies as the Soldiers and Sailors monument is rededicated in Detroit. The need for a good representation was stressed.

**Signals Officer:** No report from Brother Eric Kirchberg.

**Website Query Page:** Although this is not a “regular” position or office, Brother Bill Lowe has been responding to queries posted to our web page. He indicated that there have been many this year and that they come from all over the country. – See attachment.

**G. A. R. Records:** Brother James Lyons summarized the report, noting that this was a “stealth” committee not given to ceremonies, parades and other attention gathering activities. Copies of the report and attachments were distributed to those in attendance. – See attachment.

Commander Butgeriet spoke about plans for the Andersonville Project and the rededication of the Michigan monument there.

The meeting recessed at 10:50

The Encampment was called to order, again, at 11:15

**Communications:** Commander Butgereit requested that Secretary Lee read the communications;

C. K. Pier Badger Camp 1, Department of Wisconsin, sent a letter of endorsement requesting support for the candidacy of Steven A. Michaels for the office of Commander in Chief.

The Department of Rhode Island requested support for Leo Kennedy for a position on the Council of Administration.

Curtenius Guard Camp 17 sent a letter of endorsement for the Hon. James B. Pahl for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Gov. Crapo Camp 145 sent a letter of endorsement for Richard Green for the office of Department Junior Vice Commander.

Austin Blair Camp 7 sent a letter of endorsement for Mark Heath for the office of Department Junior Vice Commander.

The Department of Pennsylvania requested support for Charles Kuhn for a seat on the Council of Administration.

Richard Williams read a letter from Commander-in-Chief Kent Armstrong explaining why he could not attend the Department Encampment.

**Report of Encampment Committees:**

**By Laws:** Brother Breagh indicated that as nothing has been referred to this committee, there is no report.

**Officer Reports:** Brother James Pahl commended all officers and recommended that all reports be accepted.

He further suggested adoption of Recommendations 1 and 4 of the Department Commander's Report. He observed that adoption of Recommendations 2 and 3 would be in contradiction to the Job Description of the Department Historian.

In the discussion that followed, it was noted that Brothers Lyons and Hodges had developed an agreeable working method for the handling of the records and other material involved.

JVCinC Darby mentioned that the Pennsylvania Department was experiencing some similar problem with regard to Camp and Department records.

Brother Pahl indicated that when he is Commander-in-Chief in 2007 that he will resolve the issues involved in this matter and that by then all Departments will have a G.A.R. Records Committee.

**Department Council:** Chairman Keith Harrison indicated that the budget for the coming year would be presented at this time by Treasurer Dick Williams.

Brother Williams indicated that in order to meet the requests for funding Department operations this year we will need to go into the "general fund". We will need to look for some fund raisers of some sort to avoid the raising of the per capita assessment.

Brother Harrison indicated that the Council will recommend approval of the proposed budget.

Brother White suggested publishing a book or getting license plate holders or vanity plates for the front of autos, as fund raising ideas.

Brother Lyons noted that there was no provision in the budget for bonding of the Treasurer as required by the By Laws. Discussion followed and it was recommended to shop around for the best rates, adding this as a line item to the budget.

Brother Lyons suggested better management of our surplus funds, or savings, to provide a better return as suggested by former Treasurer David T. Wallace in 1998.

The Encampment recessed for the Luncheon at 12:00 noon.

The Encampment was called back into session at 1:40 P.M.

Commander Butgereit read the letter from Camp 145 requesting the restoration of rank as a Past Camp Commander for Daniel Graves who left the Camp when called to active duty with the U.S. Coast Guard after the September 11 attack.

Brother Lyons moved that the Department accept this request and restore Brother Graves' rank. The motion was seconded by Brothers Greene and McAfee. Motion passed.

Secretary Lee read endorsements of Gary Gibson and Bruce Butgeriet for the office of Department Commander.

Commander Butgereit requested that the Guide escort Gary White, Commander of Camp 266 to the Commander's station. He then requested that Commander White present the certificate of the Abraham Lincoln Award to Brad Sargent, Sr. Staff writer of the Marquette Mining Journal for his support of the work of the Order in maintaining the memory of the Grand Army.

Secretary Lee indicated that the tally necessary for the presentation of the Nicolay/Hay award and the Blair and LeValley awards was not completed. The awards will be presented when that process is completed.

Commander Butgereit called for the election of Delegates to the National Encampment. Emphasis was placed upon electing those who actually intended to go to the Encampment. The following candidates were nominated and elected: Brothers Valentine, H. Streeter, Felton, D. Armstrong, Lee, Londo, Dowd, Greene, Shaw, Calder, McAfee, Danes.

Brother Pahl moved that all other Brothers on the roster be designated as Alternates. The Motion was seconded by Brother Harrison and passed.

Secretary Lee requested confirmation from those attending so he can prepare Credentials Cards. He also asked than anyone not able to go notify him so he can keep the list current.

Brother Harrison moved that the Department of Michigan endorse Brother James B. Pahl for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Seconded and passed.

Brother Harrison moved that the Department of Michigan endorse Brother Don Darby, of Ohio, for the office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Seconded by Brother Pahl and passed.

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Brother Heath moved that the Department of Michigan recommend to the City of Eaton Rapids that the historic name of Island Park, G.A.R. Park, be restored. Seconded by Brother Harrison and passed.

Brother Hoffman observed that the City Attorney was unsure of the process involved to accomplish the name change, but he was doing the necessary research.

Commander Butgereit called upon the Chairman of the Department Council for a report on proposed changes to the Department Operating Guidelines. Brother Harrison called for approval of amendments to items number 2 and 3. Passed by voice vote without discussion.

Brother Lindsey requested funds for the Camp-at-large expenses. Line "O" was added to Item 6 in the amount of \$50.00 on a voice vote with no further discussion.

Brother Harrison then moved for the adoption of Items 6, 7 (8) and 8 (9), and all were passed without further discussion.

Considerable discussion was offered on the addition of Item 10 (11) to the Guidelines concerning Application for grants from the Memorial Fund. Main points of contention concerned the routing of the request, either through the Civil War Memorials Officer or the Department Council.

Brother Danes moved that the requests are to be filed with the Civil War Memorials Officer for review and upon completion of the review he will submit the request to the Department Council. The motion was seconded by several and passed.

The issue above generated a lengthy discussion regarding the responsibility for appointing Department Committees, their size and composition. There is no specific statement in the Department By Laws concerning this, but it was pointed out that ample direction is present in the C&R and other documents. This too was disputed as the discussion continued. Appropriate citations from the Regulations were read to the Encampment, but did not seem to resolve the situation.

Brother Harrison moved that the By Laws Committee be charged to look at the issue and make recommendation to resolve the issues raised at the next Encampment. Seconded by Brother Greene, passed.

Brother Gibson noted that the second sentence of Item 4 includes the word "code" in describing the dress guidelines. It was moved to eliminate the word "code", seconded and approved.

Brother Lyons suggested that when the revision of the Guidelines is completed that the Guidelines be posted on the Department web page, with the By Laws.

Brother Calder offered a motion to review the provision that allows three consecutive terms for Department Commanders, and to change it to two years. The motion died for lack of a second.

Chaplain McAfee commented that there is no recognition of the Chaplains office. He suggested that National establish a cross insignia for Chaplains. He then offered a motion for the Encampment to endorse a proposal to the National C&R Committee to consider authorization of an insignia for Chaplains in the Order. The motion was seconded by Brother Butgereit II and passed. Brother Pahl offered the observation that there are no other special insignia/designations.

Commander Butgereit requested that we move to approval of the proposed budget. Brother Harrison moved that the budget, with alterations to include \$50.00 for the CAL Coordinator and \$100.00 for bonding the Treasurer be approved. Seconded by Brother Lyons. Brother Pahl cautioned that the budget just adopted contained deficit spending and that this was a poor practice. The motion was passed.

**Good of the Order:** Commander Butgereit asked if anyone had things to present for the good of the Order.

Brother Hoffman reported that over \$700.00 had been raised, by the Department, on the Buy a Brick program to support the renovation of G.A.R. Park in Eaton Rapids.

Brother Heath reported that a plaque for the Parrott rifle on the Island will be dedicated at the "Dam Festival".

Brother Graves thanked the Encampment for approving his restoration of rank. Brother Wallace mentioned that the Coast Guard and Lt. Graves have been "under arms" since 9/11.

Brother Williams, on behalf of Commander-in-Chief Kent Armstrong, presented certificates to Camps 1, 28, 67 and 120 celebrating ten years of operation. He noted that both Camp 7 and 14 were marking 90 years of operation. - See attachment

Chaplain McAfee indicated that the CWRT is petitioning Congress for at least 5 million dollars for preservation. Send contributions to Brother McAfee and he will forward them to CWRT.

## **NOMINATIONS**

Following a ten minute recess, Brother Bruce Butgereit II, Chairman of the Nominating Committee presented his report. - See attachment.

The following slate was presented:

Commander – Bruce B. Butgereit



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Senior Vice Commander – Neal Breough  
Junior Vice Commander – Mark Heath  
Secretary – Richard Lee  
Treasurer – Richard Williams  
Council – Keith Harrison  
Howard Streeter  
Max Newman

Brother David F. Wallace, noting that there will be more than one candidate for several offices, suggested that each office be considered separately.

Brother Lyons nominated Gary Gibson for the office of Department Commander.  
Seconded by Brother David F. Wallace.

Brother Mitchell moved that in contested offices that the vote be by written ballot. The motion was seconded and passed.

Brother McAfee moved that nominations for Department Commander be closed.  
Seconded by Brother Danes. Motion passed.

Brother Harrison suggested that the votes be counted by Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Darby.

Brothers Groves and McFeters were asked to distribute ballots.

Brother Lyons called for a final report of the Credentials Committee because while some Brothers had left, others had arrived for the afternoon session.

Brother Greene, Chairman of the Credentials Committee called the roll of delegates. It was found that there were 59 Brothers eligible to vote as follows;

Camp 1	3	Camp 139	1
Camp 2	1	Camp 145	11
Camp 7	8	Camp 160	3
Camp 14	4	Camp 180	1
Camp 17	5	Camp 250	2
Camp 20	7	Camp 266	1
Camp 22	6	Camp 427	1
Camp 58	1	Camp 462	1
Camp 120	3		

Brother Darby counted the votes as Secretary Lee and Chaplain McAfee recorded the count.

Bruce Butgereit	27
Gary Gibson	31

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One vote for "Anderson" was declared invalid.

Brother Neal Breugh was nominated, as part of the Nominating Committee slate, for the office of Senior Vice Commander. Brother Pahl moved, Brother McAfee seconded, that nominations be closed and the Secretary be directed to cast a unanimous ballot for Brother Breugh. Motion passed.

Brother Mark Heath was nominated, as part of the slate offered by the Nominating Committee, for the office of Junior Vice Commander.

Brother David F. Wallace placed the name of Richard Greene in nomination for Junior Vice Commander.

Ballots were distributed and the vote count was;

Richard Greene	41
Mark Heath	18

The meeting was interrupted by a hotel employee indicating we needed to vacate the room as they had to set up for another group coming in for the evening.

Brother Lyons moved that the balance of the slate presented by the Nominating Committee be elected. Seconded by Brother Hilliker. Motion passed.

Commander Butgereit declared a brief recess as the Encampment moved across the hall to the site of the evening Banquet.

Department Commander-elect Gibson requested that PDC Lyons serve as the Installing Officer.

Following the Installation, Commander Gibson praised the work of PDC Butgereit and thanked all present for their participation in doing the work of the Order.

The Encampment was adjourned at 4:30 P. M.

Respectfully Submitted  
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

Richard F. Lee  
Secretary

RFL/jtl



# Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Headquarters for the Department of Michigan  
*Grand Rapids, Michigan*

Our website: [www.suvcw.org/mi/deptmi.htm](http://www.suvcw.org/mi/deptmi.htm)

April 24, 2004

To: My fellow Brothers in the Department of Michigan

Re: Department Commander's Annual Report

Patriotic greetings:

It is with humble sincerity that I submit to you my report for the term 2003-2004. When first elected to serve as your Department Commander in 2002, I faced many challenges, none of which was greater than simply learning what the position demanded. The theme I adopted was of getting back to the basics, defined not only in terms of what we were doing in regards to communication, reports, and participation, but also in following in the footsteps of our ancestors in regards to the principles of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. As fraternal Brothers, it was and is my belief that we should treat each other as Brothers as well.

In that first term, I encouraged and promoted open communication between the Department and Camps and Camp to Camp. I worked to redesign the Department website to allow easier use by the public. I created a new Flag Facts flyer, a Department flyer, and offered to create a new advertising flyer for each Camp. My efforts included personally attending meetings of the Camps to support their efforts, answer questions, and provide guidance.

Additionally, the Eagle Scout program was reorganized and the issue of updating Camp By-laws was begun. The Department Resource book was reorganized and updated. It was also in that first term that the Grave Registration database was placed online as well as the Bugle Call and Taps page dedicated to remembering those Brothers we have lost.

Upon my re-election as Department Commander in 2003, because I felt there was still more work to do, I repeated my goal of getting back to the basics. Over this past year, our efforts reflected that commitment for sitting back to rest upon what we accomplished previously would not show diligence on my part.

During this past term, the Department and Camp flyers were again updated. Communication was again sent out to each Council of the Boy Scouts of America. A closer relationship was forged with the Michigan Historical Library and Museum in regards to Grave Registration, Save the Flags, and the Sons of Union Veterans in general.

It was again my sincere pleasure to travel across the state and share with as many Camps as possible, answering questions and offering support and guidance. We saw the completion of the process of updating each Camp's By-laws as well as gathering the information of when each

Camp was chartered. Although I was involved in the Grave Registration and Civil War Memorials Committee's during my first term, I dedicated more time to these Committees, not because they needed my help, but because as Department Commander they need my support and I need to set an example of dedicated attendance and involvement.

Probably due to my background in business ownership and management, one of the most important items we've addressed these last two years has been to reorganize and solidify the financial records of the Department's Treasury.

While I have had many of the ideas and vision we've implemented, I cannot accept full credit for its success. My ideas for the website are simply ideas without the input and dedication of Department Signals Officer Eric Kirchberg making it happen. Our Camp flyers would be less informative without the assistance and knowledge shared by GAR Records Committee Officer Jim Lyons in listing the GAR Posts of each community. Our Grave Registration program leads the nation but would not without the dedicated work of the Committee and the leadership provided by Officer Rick Danes.

Department Treasurer Dick Williams has done a yeoman's job in handling the budget and financial records of the Department. Closely related to the Treasury is the work of Department Council, and I can proudly say that our Department's Council is well served by Brothers Keith Harrison (PC-in-C), Max Newman, and Howard Streeter. They have offered sound advice and provided good judgment when called upon and this year I called upon them often. I must also thank my SVC Neal Breagh for supporting me every step of the way. Brother Neal is an asset to this Department that I could not have done without – although I've surely added a few pounds simply because of his remarkable ability to set up dinner before we attend most of the Camp meetings.

After working to update each Camp's By-laws over 18-months, I created a special committee with Brother Jim Pahl as Chair and Brother Keith Harrison offering assistance, to seek compliance with the few remaining Camps and as usual, Brother Pahl was able to effectuate quick results.

If I were to follow history at this stage of my report, I would simply stop here as history remembers the generals but rarely the privates and sergeants, but that wouldn't be right and it isn't my style. I must also offer my thanks to each member of our Department. The past, present and future success of this Department rests solely on you Brothers who attend the Camp meetings, participate in the events, submit the reports, and do what you can to keep green the memory; without you, this Department doesn't exist.

It is with all this, and a belief that more can and should be done within the Department, that I am asking for your support for a third term as Department Commander. I do not ask for your support lightly, nor am I asking so that I can serve a final term to establish some sort of legacy; what I do for the Order is for those who are no longer with us, not myself.

The Department during my two terms is the largest the Department has ever been with 25 Camps calling Michigan home. I believe by working together, Brother supporting Brother, we have accomplished as much as we have. I believe that together, we can accomplish even more.

In looking towards the future, I recently called for a meeting of elected Department officers and Council so that we could discuss and better define the budget of the Department concerning the work our Committee's do and how they get reimbursed for the expenses they incur. While some of those issues will be addressed today, there is more work to do in the future and I'd like to see these tasks completed.

The work our Committee's do is outstanding but for the most part, relatively unknown; even I was unfamiliar with the workings of the GAR Records Committee until Brother Lyons shared with me copies of past reports and adopted recommendations.

To encourage more support for these Committee's and because our Department is unique within the Order by having an active GAR Records Committee, I offer the following recommendations for this Encampment's deliberation for adding to the Department Operating Guidelines:

1. The internal Operating Guidelines for each Committee be published as part of the Operating Guidelines of the Department so any Brother can know and understand how he might offer his services in support and so that future officers can quickly familiarize themselves with these processes.
2. All G.A.R. Post materials shall be placed in the files of the G.A.R. Records Committee, and maintained by this Committee, including donated materials.
3. Upon completion of the copying and transcribing processes, donated original G.A.R. materials may be placed by the Committee in the State Archives of Michigan.
4. All SUVCW and Camp related historical materials shall be placed with, and maintained by the Department Historian.

In closing, I offer a summary of my efforts as Department Commander for 2003-2004:

- Attended over 50 events, Camp meetings, and etc.
- Sent or received over 2,500 (over 6.5 every day) emails pertaining solely to the administrative duties of the Department with the following breakdown –

Addressed to the Department Commander within the Department:	288
Initiated from the Department website "Contact Us" page:	82
Concerning the Eagle Scout program:	124
Between Camps and Department:	517
2003 Central Region Conference:	60
2004 Mid-Winter:	33
2004 Encampment:	105
Between Council:	285
GAR Records Committee:	44
Grave Registration Committee:	171
JVC:	43
CW Memorials:	42
Prayer List:	218
Secretary:	1
SVC:	146

Treasurer:  
Website:

101  
181

- Completed overseeing the task of updating all Camp's By-laws
- Planned and coordinated the 2003 Central Region Conference
- Attended every meeting of the Grave Registration Committee
- Presented 5 certificates of appreciation for groups adopting a flag under the State Save the Flags program
- Actively supported all Department Committees
- Is actively working with National as they use our Eagle Scout webpage as a template for designing a similar one for the National website
- Redesigned the Annual Report for Camp Patriotic Instructors to include information relevant to the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Has traveled literally thousands of miles to attend ceremonies and events sponsored by Camps and other Departments, as a representative of the Department
- Received the National Organization's recognition and its prestigious Cornelious Whitehouse Award as the most Outstanding Brother in 2002
- Has worked in consultation and in concert with the Department's other elected officers to streamline the Department's internal operations in order to improve the Department's administration functions
- Is currently serving on the National Committee to revise the Ritual

I appreciate the honor of serving as your Department Commander and trust you have the faith to allow me to serve a final term.

Should any of you have concerns as to my being burned out as a result of these past two years, you can rest assured I am not but I appreciate the fact that you care. For any of you that have concerns over the amount of my attention given to other projects rather than that of the Department, I offer to you that the vision I saw in 2002 has been nearly accomplished and what hasn't been is not due to a lack of care or diligence on my part, but simply there are only seven days in a week and we have much to look after.

Another important aspect of my service to you as Department Commander is that I believe I have some of the most able, knowledgeable, and dedicated officers working with me, who, if I were to slip, would be right there to offer their advice and to suggest a mid-course change of direction. Another source of strength is that the Department of Michigan has in its ranks some of the most well known Past National and Department Officers the Order has been blessed with, and, because of their dedication to the Sons, they would not be backward in offering their advice as well. I take pride in the fact that none of these men have approached me during my two years of service to the Department to complain or question my actions, for it must mean that I am doing something right.

Respectfully submitted in the principles of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Bruce B. Butgereit, Department Commander  
Member of the Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1

"To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and the men who saved the Union in 1861 to 1865"

115<sup>TH</sup> Department of Michigan Encampment  
To: Bruce Butgereit: Commander, Department of Michigan, SUVCW  
From: Neal F. Breough: Department Senior Vice Commander  
Date: April 24, 2004  
RE: Final Report: D SVC 2003-04 Report

1. Bylaws Committee: The Bylaws Committee consisted of Neal Breough, Chair, PCinC  
Keith Harrison, Dick Scott, Commander Camp 3, Department Commander  
Bruce Butgereit, Ex Officio, and Department Treasurer Dick Williams, Consultant

The Bylaws Committee did not meet during the past year, but did communicate via e-mail and the telephone. It was determined after the National Encampment that there was no need for any change in the current Department Bylaws.

Proposed new Article 111, Section 6: This proposal was tabled at the 2003 Department Encampment and sent to the Bylaws Committee. It was determined by the Committee that this proposal was a good idea, but probably should not be made a part of the Bylaws at this time. There are two many unanswered questions regarding how to implement this proposal. The idea needs more work and perhaps would be better suited in the Operating Procedures. The Committee recommends that there be more study on the long term effects , practicality and implementation of this idea.

It is recommended that the Bylaws Committee keep a list of minor changes needed in the Camps Bylaws that need to be addressed. These changes should only be made when a major change is needed due to action taken at the National and Department Encampments.

Examples: Article V11: Section D: (indicating that Form 30 Status Reports are not to be used during Jan., Feb., and March.

Those Camps who used the wrong terminology for the Civil War Memorials Committee.

The Committee received no proposals or suggestions for changes from any Camp or individual.

2. I had a D SVC Article in all four issues of the Michigan Messengers during the past year.
3. I installed Officers for the following Camps:  
General Israel B. Richardson, Camp No. 2  
Henry E. Plant, Camp No. 3  
Frederick H. Hackman, Camp No. 85

I attended the Installation of Officers for the following Camps:

General John A. Logan, Camp No. 1  
Alexander French, Camp No. 28  
George W. Anderson, Camp No. 58  
Gilluly-Kingsley Camp No 120  
Lockwood, Camp No. 139  
Carpenter-Welch, Camp No 180  
Wa-Bu-Na, Camp No. 250  
Sgt. John Coseby, Camp No. 427

In addition, I also visited the following Camps:

Austin Blair, Camp No. 7 (May 12th & 90 Anniversary Dinner on April 12th)  
George W. Howe, Camp No. 9 (May 29<sup>th</sup>)  
Curtenius Guard, Camp No 17 (20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic on June 7th)  
Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp No 20 (May 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>)  
George W. Anderson, Camp No 58 (November 17<sup>th</sup>)  
Carpenter Welch, Camp No 180 (July 28<sup>th</sup>)  
Archibald Steward Camp No. 259 (May 25<sup>th</sup>)

I also attended the following Special Events:

Traverse City: Civil War Presentation by Commander Bruce & Marcia Butgereit  
Kalamazoo: Lt. Col. Charles B. Haydon Headstone Dedication: May 17<sup>th</sup>: Camp 20  
Northport, May 26<sup>th</sup>: Presented the Department's Abraham Lincoln Certificate  
Of Appreciation Award to George W. Anderson  
Traverse City: Flag Day Ceremonies at the Elks Lodge: Camp 14  
Traverse City: 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade: Camp 14  
Traverse City: POW-MIA Ceremony: September 19<sup>th</sup>: Camp 14  
Big Rapids: 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mecosta Civil War Monument:  
October 2<sup>nd</sup>: Camp 28  
Grand Rapids: Central Region Conference: October 3/4<sup>th</sup>  
Grand Rapids: Kent County Civil War Monument Rededication: October 4<sup>th</sup>  
Gettysburg: Remembrance Day Ceremonies: November 14/15<sup>th</sup>  
Lansing: 2 Graves Registration Meetings: November & February  
Lansing: Department's Mid Winter Meeting: February 21<sup>st</sup>  
Elsie: Funeral of Commander-in-Chief Armstrong's Step Father: March 31st  
Lansing: Meeting of Department Officers and Department Council: April 10<sup>th</sup>

As DSVC I have received, read, and kept on file 45 Newsletters/Minutes from 12 different Camps as well as having received 14 different Newspaper Articles, some with pictures, from 8 different Camps.

Although it is not the responsibility of the SVC, I have continued with my practice of encouraging and keeping track of which Camps are submitting material to The Messenger. A summary of that material follows based on the four issues of The Messenger since the 2003 Encampment.

16 Camps submitted a total of 38 Camp reports with 5 Camps in all issues; 1 in three issues; 5 in two issues; and 5 in one issue. 8 Camps did not have any Camp Report in The Messenger. However, 4 of these Camps did submit a Special Article. In all, there were 27 Special Articles in the last four issues submitted by 17 different Camps. 1 Camp had four articles; 1 had three articles; 5 Camps had two articles; and 10 had one article.

This final count is almost identical to last years report.



# **Report of the Department Junior Vice Commander Report of the Department Membership Committee**

**Richard Greene, P.C.C.  
Junior Vice Commander, Department of Michigan, SUVCW**

**Brothers:**

**I have the honor to present the combined reports of the Department Junior Vice Commander and the Department of Michigan Membership Committee for the activities of the 2003- 2004 administrative year.**

**In all, 15 prospective members were referred to the Department Junior Vice Commander for referral to local Camps for contact. Sources were: 2 from Camp #7, 2 from Camp #145, 1 from Department Headquarters with the balance coming from the Junior Vice Commander-In-Chief. Of these prospects, 3 were referred to Camp #145, 2 to Camp #14, 2 to Camp #67 and one each to Camps #139, #2, # 85, #120, #20, and Camp #1.**

**Unfortunately, one lead contained neither phone nor e-mail address and the prospect was later abandoned after he did not reply to numerous attempts to contact him by postal mail and one prospect has declined to join either his local Camp or Camp-At-Large. Due to the tenuous circumstances which Camp #67 finds itself in, of late, both referrals to this Camp have ask for and have been assisted with reassignment to alternate, adjacent Camps.**

**As of this writing, only one remaining prospect is yet to be introduced to his local Camp. It is the hypothesis of the committee that he may have provided the contact information of a seasonal home to which he has not been in a number of months. Efforts continue to contact this would- be Brother.**

**In going about, visiting various Camps during the past few weeks, it has been gratifying to meet such new Brothers as Camp #2's Brother Richard Justice as he presented an extremely interesting Power Point presentation on the exploits of his great- great grandfather, Zelek Smith. As we visited Camp #120 or Brother Kenneth Joslin stood to take his vows and then proceeded to take a very active part in his new Camp's plans for the spring activities. These new members, and many others, are making an immediate impact on activities and achievements their Camps. They bring new ideas and enthusiasm that serves to invigorate the existing membership base.**

**In the past year, twelve new Brothers have either found their way to the Altar for Sacred Obligation or will do so within the next two weeks. New membership is**

the life blood of the Camps, the Department and the Order. In that regard the Department is healthy and optimistic as it looks forward toward the coming administrative year.

Among the tools at the disposal of the Camps' recruiting efforts is a Civil War era tent that the Department owns and maintains for loan to Camps who are setting up a recruiting table at local events. The Department upgraded this asset in August, 2003 with the purchase of a new "A-frame" design tent to replace the old tent that had been donated to the Department over ten years ago. The new tent is attractive and offers privacy, protection of recruiting materials and an air of authenticity to a Camp's presentation. Being smaller than the previous tent, it takes up much less room and can be set up by one man, when circumstances necessitate it.

As the tent, as well as the necessary poles, stakes and miscellaneous hardware were all donated by Brothers of the Department, there was no expenditure from Department coffers.

An instruction sheet, detailing set-up procedures along with a short list of rules for use of the tent was created at the time of purchase of the new tent and a copy of each will accompany the tent with each loan cycle.

The committee continues to encourage the exchange of names of prospects between Camps, using the office of Department Junior Vice Commander as an exchange medium.

Other than Operating Guideline improvements which are currently under construction, there are no recommendations for the Encampment.

Sincerely in F, C, & L,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Greene". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richard Greene, P. C. C.,  
Department Junior Vice Commander  
Chairman, Department Membership Committee  
Department of Michigan, SUVCW

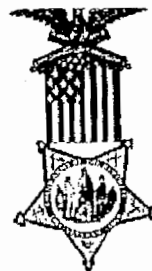


DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

# SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

## DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

Richard F. Lee  
DEPARTMENT SECRETARY  
1111 South Kern Road  
Fowlerville, MI 48836 9257  
(517) 223-9497



Report to The  
115th Annual Department Encampment  
24 April 2004

Commander Butgereit and Brothers,

The Secretary:

on Memorial Day 2003 was a member of the Gilluly-Kingsley Camp #120 Color Guard at a ceremony in Greenwood Cemetery in Fowlerville,

sent the Annual Report of the Department to Treasurer Williams in May 2003

attended the 122nd National Encampment at Ft. Mitchell, Ky., in August, 2003,

sent the Nicolay-Hay Awards to Camp Secretaries~Treasurers and the Orlando LeValley and Austin Blair Awards for increase in membership to John S. Cosby Camp #427. Once again, the certificates were printed by Bro. David F. Wallace PDC using his design ... my sincere thanks go to him.

attended a meeting in Lansing at the Williams Conference and Banquet Center earlier this month along with other department officers,

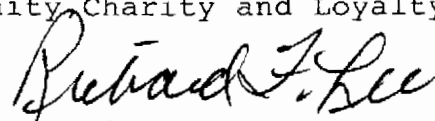
during the last year signed, sealed and mailed many sets of Bylaws,

and during the last year responded to many questions regarding the new Annual Reporting system ... sometimes knowing the correct answer,

ordered those handsome ribbons that you are proudly wearing, for the ninth year,

and finally, typed the Encampment sign-in sheets on the trusty antique Underwood.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

  
Richard F. Lee



**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**  
**The Russell A. Alger, Camp No. 462**  
Department of Michigan  
*Camp-at-Large*

April 24, 2004

To: Department of Michigan Commander Bruce Butgereit  
Re: Department of Michigan Camp at Large

Sir,  
At our last report, the Camp at Large had 14 members. It now has 15: 11 hereditary Brothers, 1 associate, 2 Life Members, and 2 Juniors. In the past year one Brother transferred out into a local camp, and one is in the process now. We added 1 new member, reinstated a brother who had transferred, and added one new Junior. It has been an active year.  
The email contact I established last year has been met with favorably, and has allowed the members to be more involved in the Departments activity. One member has contributed an article to the Messenger, one has volunteered to research a Civil War monument in an area where we don't have a camp, and one has volunteered to be a delegate to this Encampment. Two of our members are WWII veterans.

Respectfully,

Kevin Lindsey, Coordinator  
Russell Alger Camp no. 462  
6890 Norton  
Troy, MI 48085  
PH: 248-828-3632  
Email: klindsey@comcast.net



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

Office of the Graves Registration Officer



April 24, 2004

Bruce Butgereit, Commander  
Department of Michigan  
1691 Summerfield Street SE  
Kentwood, MI

Commander Butgereit,

Please accept the attached as a final report for the year 2003-2004 of activities from the Department of Michigan Graves Registration Committee.

The achievements of Committee during the past year although significant, did not meet the stated goals from the 2003 Report. We were not able to recover all records held in the Camps, and although we encouraged the Camps, were not able to achieve a GRO for each Camp, nor an active program throughout the Department.

The significance of our work year can be recognized with an additional 4806 records entered into the Department database, and 4594 records sent to the National Chairman. Approximately 1,000 records currently await input to both.

Quarterly committee meetings were held, and were attended by a core of approximately 50% of the Camps. Like the 2002-2003 year, these meetings achieved meaningful dialog that is useful to the Camp GROs and allow them a forum to express ideas, concerns, and allowed them to spend time learning more about the resources available to them. We have created a living list of abbreviations, sources, and resources updated for each meeting, and each attending Camp receives an updated CD containing the most current Department db for their use.

I mentioned at the last 3 Department Encampments that we have found the lack of participation from some camps reflective of the overall attitude of society today. Although that fact has not changed, certain proactive members have overcome the hurdle by working outside their normal areas and by soliciting participation by non-Members.

Under your leadership and support, the Department of Michigan Graves Registration Program and it's members have been singled out by National Officers to receive National Awards of Merit, strengthening our claim that the program in Michigan is second to none.

I appreciate the opportunity that I have been given, and hope that you, as well as future Commanders allow me to remain as Chairman of this Committee with the goal of completing the task at hand. I remain,

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Richard E. Danes,  
Department of Michigan  
Graves Registration Officer

CC: Neal Breugh, Department SVC  
Richard F. Lee, Department Secretary  
Conference Attendees

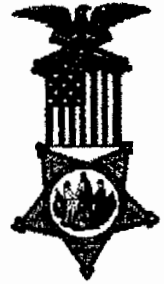
**GRAVES RECORDS SUBMITTED, JUNE 2000 – APRIL 2004**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Records Submitted to National</b>	<b>Records in Department Database</b>	<b>Records Awaiting Input</b>
<b>June 2000</b>	<b>18,583*</b>	<b>18,021*</b>	<b>2060*</b>
<b>February 2001</b>	<b>20,146</b>	<b>19,881</b>	<b>7324</b>
<b>February 2002</b>	<b>30,282</b>	<b>33,289</b>	<b>12,000</b>
<b>February 2003</b>	<b>38,659</b>	<b>42,374</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>April 2004</b>	<b>43,253</b>	<b>47,180</b>	<b>1000</b>
<b>Total Change Since 2/2003</b>	<b><u>4594</u></b>	<b><u>4806</u></b>	<b><u>1000</u></b>

\*3007 records deleted as a result of record reconciliation per National Officer Request



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN



William B. McAfee, P.C.C.  
DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN  
9080 Dorado Court  
Milan, MI 48160-9773

(734) 572-3217 / e-mail: thistleis@sprynet.com

**REPORT of the DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN**  
April 24, 2004  
(REVISED)

Commander Butgereit:

1. Listed below are the names of brothers and death dates, which have been reported to the Department Chaplain since our last Department Encampment:

2003:

5/6: Byron E. WEED II, Carpenter-Welch Camp No. 180.  
7/15 Leo L. CUYLER, Colgrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22.  
10/28: True Son Edward BLAKELY, Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1.

2004:

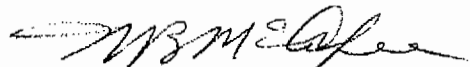
1/4: A.C. "Del" FARNSWORTH, C.C., Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20.  
1/24 Merle "Pete" CARLSON, PCC, Robert Finch Camp No. 14.

2. During this fiscal year I have attended and/or participated in the following activities related to my position as Department Chaplain:
  - Department Encampment 4/5/03.
  - National Encampment in Ft. Mitchell, KY 8/7 - 8/9/03.
  - Jackson CW Muster 8/23 & 8/24/03.
  - Sharon Twp. CW monument rededication program 9/7/03.
  - Monroe Historic Event at the Sawyer House 9/21/03.
  - Kent Co. Monument Dedication, Grand Rapids 10/4/03.
  - Central Regional Meeting as stand-in for the Regional Chaplain 10/4/03.
  - Bro. Blakely's funeral 11/1/03.
  - Remembrance Day at Gettysburg 11/15/03.
  - Christmas Dinner at Camp No. 7 on 12/14/03.
  - Camp 7's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration 4/12/04.
3. I submitted three articles for the Chaplain's Corner in "The Messenger".
4. I sent cards of condolence to the widows and/or families of deceased brothers as I was provided names and addresses, submitting appropriate reports of those deaths to Department and National officers, as required.

Department Chaplain's Report (Cont'd)

It has been my honor to have been appointed to this office. I appreciate having been able to serve our Order and to have done what I was able to perpetuate its ideals and promote its agendae.

Respectively submitted in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,



William B. McFee, PCC, Chaplain  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*"Serve the Lord with gladness."*





**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**  
Headquarters for the Department of Michigan  
*Grand Rapids, Michigan*

April 24, 2004

To: Department Commander Butgereit and Fellow Brothers

Re: Department Patriotic Instructor Annual Report

Dear Commander Butgereit:

On February 21, 2004, the Annual Report of Camp Patriotic Instructor form was given out at the Mid-Winter Conference to camps that were in attendance. Those camps not present were mailed forms on February 24, 2004. The due date to complete and return the form back to me was April 10, 2004. On April 11, the form was emailed to camps who had not returned the form by the April 10 deadline in a last ditch attempt to get every SUVCW camp to comply. The following Camps completed the Annual Patriotic Instructor Form:

Camp 1 John A. Logan  
Camp 2 Israel B. Richardson  
Camp 3 Henry Plant  
Camp 7 Austin Blair  
Camp 9 George W. Howe  
Camp 14 Robert Finch  
Camp 17 Curtenius Guard  
Camp 20 Benjamin Pritchard  
Camp 22 Colegrove – Woodruff  
Camp 28 Alexander French  
Camp 43 Nash – Hodges  
Camp 58 George W. Anderson  
Camp 139 Lockwood  
Camp 160 Henry Wallace  
Camp 259 Archibald Stewart  
Camp 427 Sgt. John Cosbey  
Camp 462 Russell A. Alger Camp-at-Large

The following camps did not complete and return the Annual Report of Camp Patriotic Instructor form:

Camp 67 Gen. Phil Kearny  
Camp 85 Frederick H. Hackeman  
Camp 101 Gen. U.S. Grant  
Camp 120 Gilluly – Kingsley  
Camp 145 Gov. Henry Crapo  
Camp 180 Carpenter – Welch  
Camp 266 Albert and James Lyon

The Annual Report of Camp Patriotic Instructor form is based on a like form used by the Department Patriotic Instructor of the G.A.R. It asks five questions on patriotic activities and if a Camp Patriotic

Instructor was appointed. Finally, the form requires a list of camp patriotic activities. A blank copy of the report is attached to this report.

Here are the results of the 17 camps that chose to respond and return the form. Of the 17 camps, 15 camps installed a camp patriotic instructor. Camps 259 and 462 did not install a patriotic instructor. Both camps stated that there weren't enough brothers to tackle the responsibilities of a camp patriotic instructor.

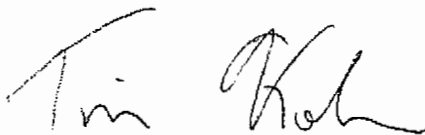
Camps were asked if there are patriotic and educational programs provided at each meeting. Of the 17 camps, 10 stated that they do provide patriotic and educational programs at their meetings. Four camps provide programs usually/sometimes and three camps do not provide such programs.

Camps were also asked if they visit schools to share history of the Civil War and the men and women who served in it. Fourteen camps do visit schools, though some stated that they don't do it enough. Three camps do not currently visit schools. In addition, Camps were asked if they participated in living history events and other venues to educate the public about the boys in blue and our order. Sixteen out of the seventeen camps stated that they participated in such events.

Finally, camps were required to list the events that they participate in for 2003. A summary of number of events by camp is as follows:

Camp 1 John A. Logan - 13 events  
Camp 2 Israel B. Richardson - 5 events  
Camp 3 Henry Plant - 3 events  
Camp 7 Austin Blair - 24 events  
Camp 9 George W. Howe - 1 event  
Camp 14 Robert Finch - 5 events  
Camp 17 Curtenius Guard - 5 events  
Camp 20 Benjamin Pritchard - 6 events  
Camp 22 Colegrove - Woodruff - 0 events listed  
Camp 28 Alexander French - 6 events  
Camp 43 Nash - Hodges - 7 events  
Camp 58 George W. Anderson - 7 events  
Camp 139 Lockwood - 3 events  
Camp 160 Henry Wallace - 6 events  
Camp 259 Archibald Stewart - 0 events listed  
Camp 427 Sgt. John Cosbey - 8 events  
Camp 462 Russell A. Alger Camp-at-Large - 0 events

In conclusion, I'm encouraged by the activities of the 17 camps to promote patriotism, education of the Boys in Blue and the good of the Order. Hopefully in 2004 we can learn of the activities and actions of the other 7 camps. Respectfully Submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.



Tim Kolean, Department Patriotic Instructor  
6955 Archway Dr.  
Rockford, MI 49341  
Ph: (616) 874-6931  
Email: [kolean@iserv.net](mailto:kolean@iserv.net)

"To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and the men who saved the Union in 1861 to 1865"

# **Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

Headquarters for the Department of Michigan  
*Grand Rapids, Michigan*

Our Department website:  
The Eagle Scout page:

April 18, 2004

To: Michigan Department Commander Bruce B. Butgereit and fellow Brothers

Re: The 2003-2004 Report on the Eagle Scout Certificate Program

While we still are not processing as many requests for certificates as there are Boy Scouts attaining the rank of Eagle across our state, the number we did answer was greater than last year.

It is interesting to note that we receive requests for certificates from all over the United States and the reason seems to be that through Department Commander Butgereit's efforts at redesigning the Eagle Scout page on our website, our site is one of the first that pops up in a search.

In another effort to ascertain why we were getting these requests, we found that only a few Departments in the SUVCW actually advertise their program and the National website has nothing at all. Communication with Commander-in-Chief Kent Armstrong and National Eagle Scout Coordinator Bob Petrovic of Missouri has resulted in an effort to place such a page on the National website using Michigan as an example.

While Commander Butgereit cannot say it himself, I can say that our program has achieved the success it has as a direct result of his administrative abilities to analyze the situation, address the needs, and to organize the best method of communication.

At the request of Commander Butgereit and Department Council, a breakdown of the costs involved with this program was provided. They are provided here per certificate -

Cost of certificate paper:	.252
Cost of cover letter paper:	.008
Cost of printing certificate:	.165 (includes color and B/W ink)
Cost of printing cover letter:	.054 (includes color and B/W ink)
Cost of protective mailing folder:	.052
Cost of large manila envelope:	.111

Postage: 83  
TOTAL: 1.47

The breakdown of how the certificates were distributed is as follows:

Certificates requested through the National organization: 35

Certificates delivered by the Department (no Camp involved): 18

Certificates delivered by Camps (that requested certificates from this office) -

Camp 1: 5

Camp 9: 43

Camp 17: 16

Camp 139: 1

Camp 266: 5 (This figure does not include any presented February 2003 thru February 2004)

I appreciate the honor to serve the Department in this capacity and encourage each Camp to actively promote this program with your area BSA Council or Troop.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce Zann,  
Member of Lockwood Camp 139  
2937 S Third  
Alpena, MI 49707

**Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

Historian's Report

Department Encampment  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

April 24, 2004

The purpose of the offices of historians in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, according to the Job Description, is to collect and preserve historical and biographical material pertaining to the Civil War, to members of the Grand Army of the Republic, and to members of the Order. Accordingly, I requested and received materials of that nature this year. They include newspaper articles, military and pension records, Camp records and correspondence, a book, printed programs, photographs, and magazine articles.

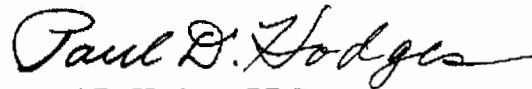
The first of two three-ring binders of materials contains papers related to monument dedications and rededications, ceremonies, a muster, and other activities of various Camps. The other binder has copies of Camp communications and photographs, programs from Eagle Scout certificate presentations, and genealogical society newsletters with Civil War-related articles. It also has National Geographic Magazine articles such as "The Civil War" by Ulysses S. Grant 3<sup>rd</sup> and "How We Found the Monitor."

The Kent County Civil War Monument Service of Rededication Commemorative Program, both as a bound book and as a CD, was donated to the Department, as was a CD of the 2003 records of Robert Finch Camp No. 14. The military and pension records of Robert Lee Williams, Company E of the 6<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Cavalry, are in a separate storage folder.

The Department has a project of collecting copies of records of Civil War veterans. Since many of our members don't have their own ancestors' records and perhaps don't know how to get them, I wrote about them in my column in the winter 2004 issue (Volume XII, Number 3) of *Michigan's Messenger*. Military service records and military pension records are available from The National Archives and Records Administration by following the procedures explained there.

Sincere thanks go all who have contributed to the Department's history collection. At the risk of inadvertently overlooking any provider of this year, I would like to cite specifically the following brothers: DSVC Neal Breagh, DC Bruce Butgereit, PCC Bill Lowe, and Darron Williams. Thanks, gentlemen.

Respectfully submitted in  
Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul D. Hodges". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Paul D. Hodges, PDC  
Department Historian

# **CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

## **DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN – S.U.V.C.W.**

### **ENCAMPMENT OF APRIL 24, 2004**

Douglas R. Armstrong, Chair

Chris P. Czopek

Fred L. Knoodle

Michael W. McMillan

Richard A. Williams

We are again proud to report continued progress by our Department's Camps, in support of the Civil War Memorials Assessment Project. We have continued to receive positive participation and submissions of memorial assessment forms. Brothers have located and assessed the condition of 100% of monuments and memorials in Clinton, Eaton, Gratiot, Ionia, Jackson, Shiawassee, Emmet, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties. Our thanks to the brothers of Camp's 1, 7, 14, 17, 58, 101, 120, 160, 180, and 427 for their continued efforts and support of the project.

The Michigan Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Relocation Project is progressing. Over the past year the monument, located at Campus Martius in the center of the City of Detroit at Woodward and Michigan Avenues, has been dismantled and reassembled approximately 100 feet from its original location. Construction of the park, in which the monument is to be prominently displayed, has continued with minor delays. The original date of completion was to be June of this year, due to construction delays this date has been pushed back to the fall of 2004.

A rededication of the monument is scheduled for October or November of 2004. The City of Detroit welcomes our participation in recognizing the importance of the monument and has assured this committee that we will be kept informed of any developments concerning a rededication ceremony. Our appreciation and thanks is conveyed to Brother Michael Nick and the Brothers of Camp 101 in Detroit for acting as a liaison between our organization and the City of Detroit.

This office has also contacted the landscape architect involved with the park's construction about the relocation of the "Iron Brigade Memorial Highway" sign. The sign was installed and dedicated at the head of Woodward Avenue in 1995 by our organization and others for the purpose of recognizing US 12 as the Iron Brigade Memorial Highway. The architect has taken possession of the sign and intends to install the marker adjacent to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument within the park.

As the Department has undergone some additions and disbandment of some Camps, an updated revision to the project was in order. A revised project manual was drafted by this office and distributed to each Camp within the Department. All the necessary information to initiate a Civil War Memorials Assessment Program for a Camp was enclosed. Project overview and job descriptions for Camp Memorial's Officers were also provided. Each Camp Commander and Camp Civil War Memorials Officer were directed to report to this office their Camp's progress with the project.

With the assistance of the Department's Grave Registration Officer and in cooperation with the Graves Registration Project, a new color-coded map of Michigan was created and included with the manual. With the close correlation of the goals of each project and the location of several monuments and memorials within soldier's sections of cemeteries, it is the recommendation of this office that the Department's Civil War Memorials Assessment Project and the Graves Registration Project be coordinated together by the Camps.

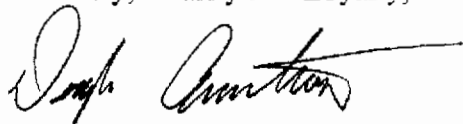
We are proud to report the continued growth of the Department's Civil War Memorials Database. The information gathered and submitted by the Camps has been entered into our Department database. To date we have registered 177 monuments and memorials located within 31 counties across the State. This is an increase of 92 memorials since last year. A photo of each monument is included along with the condition assessment information. A disk containing the information stored in the database has been created with a duplicate copy is being sent with this report to the Department.

Our Department's Civil War Memorials Web page has been updated this past year. With the assistance of the Department Webmaster, we will soon be continuing to add photos of monuments from the submitted assessment forms. The web page has seen an increase of visitor inquiries about the assessment project. Additional information about a certain monument has been shared with several interested visitors. Some have volunteered their time to locate and help research the history of monuments in their area.

This committee would like to acknowledge the accomplishments of those Camps who have continued to honor the Boys in Blue by restoring and rededicating the monuments erected in their honor. The outstanding efforts of Department Commander Bruce Butgeriet and Camp 1 in the restoration of the Kent County Civil War Monument and the subsequent report submitted to this office of the project are to be commended. Several Brother and Sisters of the Allied Orders contributed many hours to the success of this project. We would also like to recognize the Brothers from Camp's 1, 7, 14, 17, 20, 22, 28, 58, 139, 145, and 180 for their restoration efforts of various G.A.R. monuments and memorials. Any Camp with a current or past restoration project is encouraged to contact this office with the details of the project, so that a permanent record can be created for the Department Archives.

All Camp's participation with the assessment project is encouraged so that the information gathered can be used for the preservation of these memorials for the education and appreciation of future generations.

Respectfully submitted in  
Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,



Douglas Armstrong, Chairman  
Civil War Memorials Committee  
Department of Michigan, S.U.V.C.W.



DEPARTMENT WEBSITE  
QUERY PAGE REPORT

April 24, 2004

Some months ago I was asked by Commander Butgereit to review the Query Page of our Department website. The objective was to verify the queries listed at that time and to establish some guide lines for inserting new requests.

With the continually merging, closing and/or creating new Internet Service Providers the first objective was to verify the ability to contact everyone with a listing at that time. Not surprising approximately one third of the addresses was no longer valid. Those queries were immediately removed!

Those who did respond were advised that contacts on the page were subject to periodic verification and queries would be removed if they did not update their contact information whenever it changes.

The next step was to more carefully screen the request to see exactly what the person was seeking. Many continue to ask, "For all the information you have on a GAR Post" a particular battle or, "Please send me a list of all Michigan men who fought at Shiloh". Accordingly an attempt is made to direct them to the various research sites mentioned in the heading of the page. Some really don't know what they are looking for, just "something".

For the last few months I have been receiving an average of six requests for information per month but the majority of them are answered before they get to the website. I have developed a list of approximately a dozen questions that if answered by the person it is usually easy for me to provide the answers. These are questions such as, "I can't find where my ancestor is buried", "What regiment did he serve with", or "How can I get more information about my Civil War ancestor".

Having access to the Graves Registration data base is of tremendous value with such questions and being able to tell them where to look further satisfies most requests. We receive little feed back as to the responses received by the person placing the query from the public at large. However there can be little doubt that the value to the SUVCW in general and the Department of Michigan in particular has been substantial by providing this service and the information that has been provided.

This service helps us fulfill the second purpose of our Order to, "share the information we have of the Grand Army of the Republic".

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Bill Lowe, PCC  
Graves Registration Officer  
Austin Blair Camp No. 7  
Department of Michigan

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

**G. A. R. RECORDS COMMITTEE**

April 24, 2004

To: Bruce B. Butgereit  
Department Commander

Subject: Annual Report

The last few months of this year saw a great flurry of activity resulting in the acquisition of original G. A. R. Post records from a variety of sources. Research at the State of Michigan Archives turned up some material of a rare nature and also aided in filling a few gaps in information for several Posts

Thanks to the quick response and the negotiating skills of several Brothers we were able to rescue a "G.A.R. record book" up for auction on eBay. The seller, located in Traverse City, was persuaded to withdraw the item from sale and donate the material to us. He turned over the material to SVC Neal Breaugh who brought it to me at the Mid-winter Conference. Some research identified this as the Post Descriptive Book for the George Martin Post 227 of Eastport.

Brother Max Newman was instrumental in setting up contact with a woman from Lansing who had some G.A.R. material. As a result the Committee now has in its files the Post Charter, the Post Memorial Book and two Minute Books of the Charles T. Foster Post 42 of Lansing. The material is being copied and the copies will be used to transcribe the handwritten material into a computer format. Additional Post 42 material is at the Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University. Arrangements have been made to have this material copied and added to our files.

A retired Library Director has copied the first Minute Book of the J. T. Jones Post 252 of Howard City. She has the original in her private library. The material was copied and mailed to the Committee at no cost to the Department.

Burial records and cemetery listings included in the copied materials have been shared with the Department Graves Registration Committee.

The G.A.R. Member database project continues with work on Post 54. There are now 15,039 entries and 2778 annual Officer Rosters in the record. Reports can be printed for an individual, a full Post or the list of officers of a Post. Due to the multiple use of several numbers, there are actually 59 Post rosters recorded. A sample of an individual report is attached.

While working on Post 50, a note was found in the file relating the existence of an earlier Post 50 Charter issued on Oct. 12, 1869. The note, dated Oct. 20, 1949, indicated this Charter was on file but did not give its location. A search of various Record Groups at the Archives finally turned up the Charter. It is in excellent condition. This Post was probably located in Corunna. No Post name was indicated. This is the only Post Charter known to have survived from the first period of operation of the Department of Michigan.

The search located a file of Post Charters in a Record Group separate from the G.A.R. Department files. Subsequent review led to the discovery of two important Charters. The number 28 was used three times. The first was for French Post 28 at Big Rapids, organized in 1881, disbanded in 1894. The second was the A. L. Carver Post 28 at Hemlock City, organized in 1894, disbanded in 1916. The third was Huron County Post 28 at Bad Axe, organized in 1919, disbanded in 1933.

No records were found for the French Post or the Carver Post, although one report for the Carver Post was found in the Huron County Post records. In the process of making a list of Post Charters in this other Record Group, the Charters for both the French and Carver Posts were found. We now have at least the list of Charter Members for each of these "lost" Posts in the G.A.R. Member database.

A listing of Post records found has been prepared and is posted on the Committee page of the Department web site. These records are listed in Post number sequence, show the type of record found and its location. The heading for this information is "FOUND".

During the past year we have made presentations to four Genealogical/Historical Societies. There are two firm commitments for next year plus two invitations with dates to be determined.

A total of 97 research requests were handled during the past year. In a number of these there were multiple contacts and follow-up research. An added benefit has been that many of these folks sent pictures and other information about their ancestors or a Post they were associated with here in Michigan.

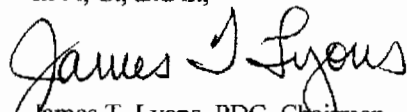
On a related project, we have completed transcribing the information in two ledgers from the office of the National Secretary. The information dealt with approved applications for Camp Charters and indicated the General Orders where notices were published, location, Muster dates and when Charters were shipped. This information will be added to the database of Camps from the card file, completed last year. We have nearly finished the record as reported in the National Secretary's Consolidated Report journal covering the period from 1948 to 1973. Some searching of other records will be necessary to bring this project up to the current date.

When all sections are completed, they will be posted to the SUCVW History section of the National web site. This part of the work will be accomplished through the assistance of Dick Williams and Keith Harrison. We will be presenting a full list of all known Camps, as recorded in the National Organization records, for use by Departments and researchers interested in the history of our Order.

With funds made available for the Committee operation, we will be able to move to the next level of activity and start copying the material found in the various locations, bringing them into the Committee files. They can then be transcribed and we can then make this material available to researchers. Some Posts have material in multiple locations. This part of the project will allow us to bring it all together in one place. The originals, of course, will remain where they are presently housed.

We look forward to continuing this important work as we shift into a higher gear. There is much to do and we need to move forward with all deliberate speed.

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

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

Committee members:

Gary L. Gibson, PDC

J. Douglas Park, PDC

Paul D. Hodges, PDC

David F. Wallace, PDC

Richard A. Williams, Technical Advisor

50000 Department of Michigan  
Report of The Committee on Officers Reports

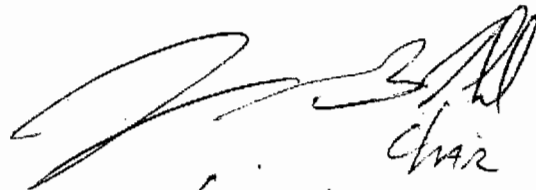
Committee Accepts All Reports & Comments from  
Officers of the Department

As to the 4 Recommendations of the Department Committee

1) Approve Gathering of the materials & Adding  
these to the Department ~~with~~ Guidelines at Next  
years Encampment.

2 & 3) Refer to Dept Bylaws Committee & Ask The  
Committee to forward ~~concerns~~ concerns to National  
Program & Policy Committee

4) Adopted as presented



Keith Harrison  
Howard Street

## Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



### Department of Michigan Operating Guidelines

1. The fiscal year of the Department of Michigan shall be from April 1 through March 31.
2. ~~The number of Department representatives for the Department Encampment and for The~~ portion of each Camp's delegate representation to the Department Encampment that is based on membership shall be based on the Camp's membership as of March 31st and its having filed Form 27 (Camp Annual Report) with the Department prior to the Department Encampment. Any Camp that does not file its Form 27 prior to the Department Encampment will have its delegate representation based on the most current Form 27 on file with the Department. The Department Membership awards will be determined by the information submitted to the Department Secretary by the Camps for the period described in the By-laws (Article XVI, Section 2).
3. ~~The portion of the Department's delegate representation to the National Encampment that is based on membership will be determined by the April report submitted to the Department Secretary by the Camps~~ Department Annual Report (Form 35), which shall be compiled from all the Camp Form 27s (Camp Annual Reports) on file with the Department as of May 1st (Form 35 is due at National Organization on or before the last day of May).
4. While the Department of Michigan shall have no required dress code, the Department shall have an optional dress guideline for all Camps within the Department. - The dress code shall include a hat of Civil War-period Union Army kepi style, dark wool, blue in color, with a leather bill. The kepi may be decorated with any of the following: a hat badge consisting of an open top wreath encircling the letters "SUV" of gold color, affixed to the front center of the kepi, a Department of Michigan Cap Mark of the Civil War Union Army VII Corp Style, consisting of a crescent moon over a five point star, affixed to the top center of the kepi. The VII Corp Camp Mark shall be red with optional gold edging and silver star. The jacket shall be civilian blazer or a Civil War-period Union Army four button fatigue blouse (also known as a sack coat), dark blue in color, with (optional) affixed to the right collar the letters "MICH" and affixed to the left collar the letters "NO." followed by the member's Camp number, ½" in height, all of gold color. Dress style slacks of dark blue or black color, a dress style shirt, solid white in color, a necktie of subdued color or preferably of the SUVCW badge or crest pattern, and leather dress style shoes of black or brown complete

the dress. White dress gloves also may be worn. The above is a guideline and shall not be construed to be a required dress of any Brother.

5. A discounted pre-registration fee for Camp delegates to the next Department Encampment will be \$5.00 per person. Anyone pre-registering less than 7 days before the Department Encampment will be charged \$10.00 per person.
6. *Annually Budgeted Authorized Expenditures: Annually budgeted authorized expenditure limits allowed for reimbursement for the below listed officers and committees will appear in the Department's annual budget. Approved expenditures would typically include long distance telephone calls, postage, mileage, supplies, etc.; but would not include such expenditures as equipment, lodging, meals, etc. Requests for expenditures above budgeted limits shall be made in advance of such expenditure to the Department Treasurer, who, in conjunction with the Department Council, shall review the request and make recommendation to the Department Commander, who will either approve or reject the recommendation. All requests for reimbursement of expenses shall be accompanied by documentation of the expenses incurred. ~~Documentation for expenditures must accompany the request for reimbursement~~*
  - a. Commander: Up to a maximum of \$200.00
  - b. Senior Vice Commander: Up to a maximum of \$100.00
  - c. Junior Vice Commander: Up to a maximum of \$150.00
  - d. Secretary: Up to a maximum of \$150.00
  - e. Treasurer: Up to a maximum of \$50.00
  - f. Historian: Up to a maximum of \$100.00
  - g. Eagle Scout Coordinator: Up to a maximum of \$200.00
  - h. Bylaws Committee: Up to a maximum of \$100.00
  - i. Membership Committee: Up to a maximum of \$50.00
  - j. Graves Registration Committee: Up to a maximum of \$300.00
  - k. Civil War Memorials Committee: Up to a maximum of \$100.00
  - l. GAR Records Committee: Up to a maximum of \$500.00
  - m. Communications and Technology Committee: Up to a maximum of \$100.00
  - n. Nominating Committee: Up to a maximum of \$50.00
8. *Officers and Committees who possess Department property (flags, charters, records, etc.) shall provide the Department Secretary with an inventory of that Department property 30 days prior to the annual Department Encampment.*
9. *Officers and Committees who maintain Department records (databases, spreadsheets, word processing documents, etc.) in an electronic format on their computers shall provide the Department Signals Officer with an electronic copy of those records 30 days prior to the annual Department Encampment. The Department Signals Officers will post (via FTP) the submitted electronic records in a compressed format to the Michigan Department allocated server space on the National SUVCW Server.*
10. The Department Commander will appoint the appropriate number of brothers to serve on the Allied Orders Department Encampment Site Committee.

*10/11*

*Attached to and made a part of these Operating Guidelines is Department Form CWM 62 (Civil War Memorial/Monument Fund Instructions and Application), which is the form needed by Camps to apply for funding to refurbish and restore Civil War related memorials and monuments in Michigan.*

*all*

12. Alterations to the Department Operating Guidelines may only be made at and approved by the Department Encampment.

## Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



### Department of Michigan Civil War Memorial/Monument Fund

The purpose of the Memorial/Monument Grant Fund is to assist Camps in their efforts to refurbish and restore Civil War related memorials and monuments. The grant fund is open to the preservation and restoration of Civil War monuments and memorials as well as supporting the production of new monuments. Priority of funds will be for preservation. **Requests for new memorial/monuments funds will be accepted between February 1st and March 15th.** The review committee is authorized to revisit and recommend award of the remaining money, of that year, to Camps who have submitted requests for that year on an as need basis. A copy of these instructions and application form shall be placed onto the Department's Web Site.

The following provides some general guidelines as to how to apply for a grant and how grant submittals will be evaluated.

1. Any Department of Michigan SUVCW Camp may request money from this fund.
2. The more information provided the better the chances of getting approval.
3. All requests will be handled individually on its own merit.
4. Only one request from one entity (Camp) can be accepted per monument or memorial.
5. Assessment form (CWM #61) must be on file with the Department Civil War Memorials Officer.
6. Standard procedure is to send funds to the vendor.
7. These funds are available at up to \$500.00 (Five Hundred Dollars) per project.
8. Provide pictures and copies of all documentation as to appraisals, estimates, etc.
9. The review committee will consist of the three elected Department Council members.
10. The review committee will recommend awards to the Department Commander who will have the final decision on the awards.

Send requests and associated material to:

{Add Name of Current Dept Council Chair}, Chair  
Michigan Department Council - SUVCW  
{Add Address of Current Dept Council Chair}  
{Add City, State Zip of Current Dept Council Chair}  
{Add Telephone Number of Current Dept Council Chair}  
{Add Email Address of Current Dept Council Chair}

Instruction Sheet for Form CWM #62



Dear Fellow Michigan Brothers:

As some of you already know, I accepted an invitation to attend the annual ceremony at Grant's Tomb in New York City, before learning that our Department Encampment was to be held on this weekend. I am therefore writing, to express my sincere wish that **all who can** attend, will have a productive and memorable meeting.

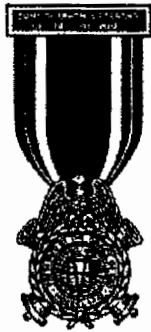
Please join me in thanking Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Don Darby for representing the National Organization at Michigan's Department Encampment. Ask him to have an extra piece of cake - for me - when you guys celebrate the 90th Anniversaries of **Austin Blair Camp 7** and **Robert Finch Camp 14**.

Congratulations are also in order to four of our other Michigan Camps, observing their 10th anniversary this year (**Gen. John A. Logan Camp 1, Alexander French Camp 28, Gen. Phil Kearny Camp 67, and Gilluly-Kingsley Camp 120**).

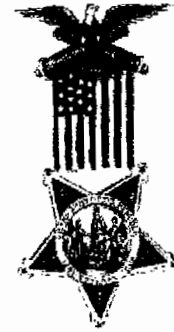
Taking a turn as Commander-in-Chief of our great organization has given me the opportunity to see the efforts of the 'Allied Orders' across the country. Indeed, a great deal has been done by many folks, in tribute to the soldiers, sailors, and marines who honorably served and sacrificed to *Save the Union*. I want you to know though, that in all of the good work that I've seen, Michigan's share is something for all of us to be truly proud of.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Kent Armstrong  
CinC - SUVCW



**Governor Henry H. Crapo Camp No. 145  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



**Camp Headquarters  
9245 Willits Road  
Mayville, Michigan 48744-9535  
989-843-5967**

Richard F. Lee  
Department Secretary  
1111 Kern Road  
Fowlerville, MI 48836-9257

14 April 2004

Dear Brother,

In December 2002 Brother Daniel V. Graves, P.C.C. requested and was granted an Honorable Discharge from the Governor Henry H. Crapo Camp No. 145, so that he could fulfill his commitment in the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

On 31 January 2004, Daniel V. Graves was re-elected a member of the Governor Henry H. Crapo Camp No. 145. Brother Graves then requested the reinstatement of his rank of Past Camp Commander. At which time, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved by the Brothers of the Governor Henry H. Crapo Camp No. 145 to support this request made by our Brother, and to petition the Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan to restore Brother Graves' rank of Past Camp Commander.

Therefore, we the Brothers of the Governor Henry H. Crapo Camp No. 145 request that you place this matter on the agenda for consideration by the Members and Delegates of the Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan, to be held 24 April 2004.

Enclosed with this letter, is a copy of Brother Graves' Honorable Discharge and a copy of the Camp's petition to the Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan requesting the restoration of Brother Graves' rank of Past Camp Commander.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Dennis C. Derr II  
Camp Secretary  
Governor Henry H. Crapo Camp No. 145  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Brothers:

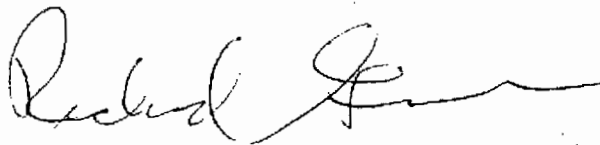
As part of the consideration of the application for membership of Daniel V. Graves, I would move that the following be request be attached: *DV*

Motion for Restoration of the Rank of Past Camp Commander for Daniel V. Graves

Daniel V. Graves, a Charter Member of the Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145, has been a tried, true and faithful Brother and Officer of the Gov. Crapo Camp for many years. Also actively serving our Nation as a member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Lt. Graves has received commendations for his actions and efforts by the Service. Given the circumstances and time constraints of the post-9/11 world with respect to his assignment with the United States Coast Guard, Daniel V. Graves requested and was granted an Honorable Discharge from the Gov. Crapo Camp. Desiring the continued fellowship of the Camp Room with his Brothers, Daniel V. Graves was unanimously re-elected to membership in our Order on this date.

Therefore, we the Brothers of the Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145, Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, do hereby recommend to the Members and Delegates of the Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan, that the rank of Past Camp Commander be restored to our worthy Brother Daniel V. Graves.

Unanimously adopted this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January 2004, at Flint, Michigan.



By:  
Richard Greene, PCC  
Camp Commander



Attest:  
Dennis C. Derr II  
Camp Secretary



**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**  
Headquarters for the Department of Michigan  
*Grand Rapids, Michigan*

Our website: [www.suvcw.org/mi/deptmi.htm](http://www.suvcw.org/mi/deptmi.htm)

April 19, 2004

To: Department Commander Butgereit and fellow Brothers

Re: The report from the 2004 Department Encampment Nominating Committee

Dear Commander Butgereit:

I would like to thank you on behalf of the committee and myself for being given the important task of determining a slate of officers for nomination at the 2004 Department Encampment. The committee, created on June 8, 2003 was composed of Brothers Brian Shumway (Camp 17), Bill Skillman (Camp 14), Tim Kolean (Camp 1), Bill Kuzenski (Camp 139) and myself, Bruce Butgereit II (Camp 1).

At first, it seemed as if our duties would be light, as there was only one Brother who expressed an interest in being considered for the offices of Department Commander, SVC, JVC, Secretary, Treasurer, and Council. That would change on December 23, 2003 when Brother Mark Heath, PCC of Austin Blair Camp 7 submitted his name for consideration as DJVC. The Committee also received a letter of support for Brother Heath from Camp 7 as well as several individual Brothers.

As the Committee was made up of Brothers with little experience in the Department and with limited knowledge of each nominee, it was determined that in order to allow the committee the most fair and balanced decision, I created a questionnaire (a copy is attached) which was sent by email to both Brother Rick Greene, current DJVC and Brother Heath on February 16, 2004. While both candidates were not obligated to reply to this questionnaire, their participation was encouraged. Without the questionnaire, the only information that we had to go by was basic résumé information, which is helpful in learning about the past, but our desire was to look towards the future and what vision these men had for the Department.

On February 17, Brother John Mann submitted his name for one of the seats on Council. Following a conversation he had with the Department Commander, Brother Mann then withdrew his name for consideration in order to accept an appointment to the position of Department Counselor for 2004-2005.

On February 19, the Committee received the questionnaire from Brother Heath, completed in full detail with additional insight to support his answers. On February 25, the Committee received a résumé from Brother Greene listing his past involvement in all three levels of the Order; he chose not to respond to the questionnaire.

The Committee was then instructed to review the information as provided and to provide a response no later than April 10. To gain more insight into the philosophy or vision of the two candidates, I attended the Mid-Winter Conference and sat in on Brother Greene's conversations with Camp Junior Vice-Commanders; Brother Heath was also at the same table.

On March 13 Brother Kolean responded with support for Brother Heath followed by Brother Kuzenski's similar response on April 6. I made my decision on April 10. Brother Skillman responded in favor of Brother Heath on April 17; Brother Shumway never responded.

Therefore, after careful consideration of what the two candidates provided to us, and comparing that to the current vision and philosophy of the Department, we determined that Brother Heath would best serve our Department as Junior Vice-Commander.

It is with honor that we provide the 2004 Nominating Committee's following slate of elected officers:

Commander:	Bruce B. Butgereit
SVC:	Neal Breough
JVC:	Mark Heath
Secretary:	Richard Lee
Treasurer:	Richard Williams
Council:	Keith Harrison Howard Streeter Max Newman

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Bruce B. Butgereit II  
1691 Summerfield St. SE  
Kentwood, MI 49508-6499  
Ph: 616-827-3369  
Email: [kidsfirstpb@comcast.net](mailto:kidsfirstpb@comcast.net)

cc: Tim Kolean  
Bill Kuzenski  
Bill Skillman, PCC  
Brian Shumway

"To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and the men who saved the Union in 1861 to 1865"