

Michigan's Messenger

The Official Newsletter of the Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Volume 3 Number 3

February 1995

Michigan Department
Department Orders #3
Series 1994/1995

William Brennan
Department Commander

Headquarters
3289 Babylon Road RR5
Allegan, MI 49010-9212

1. With the passing away of yet another Brother of our Order, I must once again ask that all Camp Charters and the Department Charter be draped in black for a period of thirty days, due to the passing of Brother John LaRue. He was a past Commander and member of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 in Traverse City. Brother LaRue was a retired school teacher and had a very large personal library at his home in Charlevoix. In 1977/78, he served as Department Commander of Michigan. Brother LaRue passed away November 25, 1994 at the age of 81. Our condolences go out to his family and the Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14.

2. On October 22, 1994 the Michigan Department honored Brother Keith G. Harrison with a Dinner/Reception at the Holiday Inn on West Saginaw Highway in Lansing. Brother Harrison is only the 4th National Commander-in-Chief to hail from our Department since its organization in 1881. After Brother Harrison gave his speech, he said, "Now let the games begin!" Even though Brother Harrison didn't wear his Elevator Brogans or his Extra Tall slouch hat, he still stood Very Tall in size as he stood on a stool at the podium. This was his gift from the Michigan Department. I told him this reminds me of the TV program "Lets make a Deal". You can have what is in this blue package or you can have what is behind door 1, door 2 or door 3. He wisely choose the package. The cartoons on the dinner program were great! As the front of the cover said, "The Keith Harrison Roast, otherwise known as Shrimp on a Barbie. A drawing depicted Keith tied to a rotisserie over a hot kettle and a bottle of Shrimp Sauce. Brother Harrison was roasted by many Brothers and Sisters of the Allied Orders. We sure had a lot of laughs. That's what it is all about, having a fun time. You are a great sport, Brother Harrison!

3. At Fort Custer National Cemetery in Battle Creek, I had the honor of representing the Michigan Department, SUVCW at the Veterans Day Ceremony that took place on Friday, November 11, 1994. This was with the support from Colonel Keith G. Harrison and the Michigan Department Sons of Veterans Reserve Color Guard, along with the 7th Michigan Fife and drum Corps and the 1st Michigan Light Artillery, Battery C. The SUVCW was well represented to carry on the memory of the GAR. I've been attending every year since 1987 and I believe that most people there know who we are and what we represent. The Veterans always make you feel welcome when you come there.

4. The Grand Rapids Veterans Day Parade was held on Friday November 11, at 7:30 pm in downtown Grand Rapids. I played the fife with the 7th Michigan Fife and Drum Corps. As we marched along with about twenty members of the 3rd Michigan Infantry, Company F, all attired in Civil War uniforms, we really caught the attention of the crowd. I was really impressed by the large number of people that lined the streets to watch the parade, along with the number of Veterans Posts and Military Groups that participated. It was nice to see so many show their patriotic colors. You could tell by the crowds applause, that they really appreciated our appearance in this Veterans Day Parade. It was an experience that I was very honored to be a part of as a member of the SUVCW.

5. I'd like to commend Brother John Braden of Henry E. Plant Camp No. 3 in Grand Haven, on getting the word out about the SUVCW. In his magazine "The Michigan Reenactor", John provides the names of Camps of the Michigan Department, the Commanders names, dates and times of meetings and even provides maps of the locations of each Camp. This is another great way to

let people know we are out there! If you would like to receive this publication, send \$5.00, c/o John Braden, 5519 Taylor, Fremont, MI 49412.

6. I've appointed Brother Douglas F. Colley, Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1 of Grand Rapids, as the representative of our Michigan Department, SUVCW, to the Commanders Group. He is presently serving as Camp Senior Vice Commander and Commander of the AMVETS, while also belonging to a number of the various veterans organizations. Brother Colley will keep us informed on the business that transpires among the Veteran Service Organizations of Michigan.

7. Due to the retirement of Banner Editor Russ Gregory, please forward all correspondence, articles and items of interest that you would like to have published in the Banner to: The Banner, c/o David F. Wallace, National Secretary of the SUVCW, 7017 Granada Lane, Flint, MI 48532.

8. The Michigan Department is pleased to announce that we now have two more new Camps in the Order of the SUVCW. They are the Alexander French Camp No. 28 of Big Rapids, Kenny R. Acton Commander and Gen. Phil Kearny Camp No. 67 of the Tri-Cities area (Saginaw, Bay City and Midland), Craig Opperman Commander. Department Junior Vice Commander Don Workman played a big role in getting Camp No. 28 on its feet. Brother Workman is doing just a super job as our Department Junior Vice Commander. Department Senior Vice Commander David Wallace was instrumental in getting the ball rolling for Camp No. 67. Also, I would like to recognize Brothers Dean Lamphere Jr. and Terry McKinch for the help that they gave on this project with Brother Wallace. Wow! Just a fantastic job guys. *(continued on page 2)*

Organized 1881 - the only male organization recognized by and representing the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Official Newsletter of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Department Orders (continued)

This gives us 331 Brothers and 16 Camps in the Department of Michigan and a grand total of 3,746 Brothers Nationally.

9. Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1 is planning a ceremony on Memorial Day, May 30, 1995 at the Soldiers Home in Grand Rapids. The Civil War Veteran head stones that were ordered to replace the deteriorated ones in the cemetery adjacent to the facility have arrived. They will be placed when the weather breaks. This Camp project requires 500 stones that are in very poor condition to be replaced. I'll have more details on the dedication ceremony in the next issue of the Messenger. All Camps will be invited to attend.

10. Gen. Benjamin D. Pritchard Camp No. 20 (my home Camp) is working on a soldiers head stone for Col. Benjamin J. Orcutt, who is buried in Mt. Home Cemetery in Kalamazoo. Col. Orcutt served in the 25th Michigan Infantry during the Civil War. He died in 1867 at the age of 52, of a gun shot wound while trying to apprehend an escaped prisoner. He was serving as Sheriff of Kalamazoo at the time. The GAR Post, No. 79, in Kalamazoo was named after him. Brother Hugh Williams is chairman of the project. A dedication is slated for Memorial Day, May 30, 1995. All Brothers are welcome to attend this ceremony. More information will be provided in the next issue of Michigan's Messenger.

11. Brother Don Workman, Department Junior Vice Commander, informed me that the next area of interest for the development of SUVCW Camps appears to be in the lower Southeastern and Southcentral part of the state. Brother Workman is looking at the Ann Arbor and Litchfield areas. We could this way recruit reenactors that always attend the

Civil War reenactments in Litchfield and Jackson. If the organizing works out for Camps, then these cities could hold joint meetings from time to time with Austin Blair Camp No. 7 in Jackson. It would make another great way to know their neighboring Brothers in nearby Camps. Maybe even work on some Camp projects or a dedication together. But first we'll have to see if Brother Workman and his crew can turn these prospective Camps into a reality. Stay tuned!

12. This year at the Mid-Winter Conference I'd like each Brother to state his name, Camp and the name of the ancestor and his unit that the Brother claimed when he joined the SUVCW. They may be gone, but through us, their descendants, they won't be forgotten. So be ready!

13. If any Brother would like to bring a little of their collection of Civil War, GAR or SUV memorabilia to the conference, please feel free to do so. It helps to set the mood and makes for nice conversation as well as getting Brothers acquainted with each other. Just wait until you see what I acquired recently, but it's going to have to wait until the Mid-Winter Conference.

14. You may want to bring some extra cash with you to the Mid-Winter Conference in case you want to purchase some of the new SUV hat garland wreaths at \$18.00 each. Our Michigan cap marks (7th Corps crescent moon and star) will sell for \$15.00. The Blazer Insignia is obtainable for \$20.00 and the Coat of Arms will sell for \$30.00. These items can be obtained from our Department Secretary/Treasurer, Richard Williams. Brother Williams will have a supply on hand to meet your needs.

15. The 3rd annual Mid-Winter Conference will be held on Saturday, February 18, at the Mid-Way Motor Lodge. The address is 7711 West Saginaw Highway (M43), Lansing, Michigan. Our

meeting will take place in the Capitol Suite from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm. This is in conjunction with Presidents Day and the Annual Washington-Lincoln Dinner with the Sons of the American Revolution. The evening will start with the social hour at 5:30 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm, after which Brother Gary L. Gibson, PDC, will introduce the guest speaker, Brother Max Riekse, Commander of Henry E. Plant Camp No. 3 of Grand Haven. The title of his program will be "The Revolution". The dinner is optional, but is highly recommended. Please complete the reservation form and forward it along with your check to the Michigan Society of the Sons of the Revolution, c/o Keith G. Harrison, 4209 Santa Clara Drive, Holt, MI 48842-1868. (See insert for reservation form.)

16. As Brother Dave (Chumley) Wallace would say, "Da, what we gonna do now, Tennessee?" It won't be "Tennessee Tuxedo will not fail", but rather that you come with an open mind as we strive to grow together for the good of the Order.

By order of;

William A. Brennan
Department Commander

Michigan's Messenger is a quarterly publication of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

All SUVCW Members and Associates of a Camp within the Department of Michigan receive this publication at no additional charge. Non-members of the SUVCW may receive this publication for an annual subscription fee of \$5.00. All subscriptions expire on December 31. Please be sure to include your zip code.

Checks should be made out to:

Department of Michigan, SUVCW

Mail requests for subscriptions to:

John Mann, Editor
Michigan's Messenger
2495 South Washington Road
Lansing, Michigan 48911-7216



The Coat of Arms
of the
Sons of Union Veterans
of the
Civil War

The Official Newsletter of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Sage Sayings of the Senior Vice Commander

I'm looking forward to the Department's Mid-Winter Conference, coming up on Saturday February 18th at the Midway Conference Center in Lansing. As Chairman of the Department Bylaws Committee, I hope to have the opportunity to meet with the Camp Senior Vice Commanders and discuss the implementation of the new "Juniors" program which was approved at the National Encampment. There are many useful and instructive presentations that will be given by Department Officers and it is a day of good fellowship with Brothers from around the Department. In the evening, we join with the Sons of the Revolution in the annual Washington/Lincoln Dinner. I certainly hope to see you there!

It is always a pleasure to see someone take and expand on a position you have previously occupied. Brother Don Workman, our Department Junior Vice Commander, has been busy recruiting and organizing. During the months of November and December, he helped organize two new Camps, Alexander French Camp No. 28 of Big Rapids and General Phil Kearny Camp No. 67 of Bay City-Saginaw-Midland (aka the "Tri-Cities"), bringing 24 new members into the Department! Don is to be commended for his dedication and especially for helping to perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic.

I was pleased to see so many Department of Michigan Brothers at the Remembrance Day ceremonies in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on November 19th. We had the distinct honor of marching with our Commander-in-Chief as his Honor Guard. The parade lasted 45 minutes! Afterwards, we escorted Commander-in-Chief Harrison to the Woolson Monument in Ziegler's Grove where ceremonies honoring the Grand Army of the Republic were conducted. In the evening, we all attended the Grand Military Ball sponsored by the Sons of Veterans Reserve. Make your plans now to attend in '95.

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

David J. Wallace

Department Senior Vice Commander

The Secretary's Scribings

The Department Mid-Winter Conference is just a few weeks away. This year's meeting is going to be packed again with information for the Camp Secretaries. This year I've prepared a folder containing important information a Camp Secretary should need in the performance of his duties. This is a list of those items:

- Information on our Heritage
- How to acquire your ancestor's Civil War records
- Hints on what major items a Secretary needs to perform and in which months
- How to fill out a quarterly report for the Department Secretary
- Department Bylaws and guidelines
- Job Descriptions
- Membership application form
- Transfer form
- Honorable discharge form
- Graves registration form
- Prospective member form
- Supplies price order form

It is important that all Camp Secretaries attend this meeting to discuss their job duties, discuss ideas that may help your position be easier for you, and exchange concerns or ideas in performing those duties.

Get ready for the Department Encampment in June. There are certain forms that must be filled out and presented at the Department Encampment by each Delegate. It is the responsibility of each Camp Secretary to order the forms from the National Quartermaster and be sure those forms are on hand and filled out for each Camp Delegate to the Department Encampment. That's covered in the folder I'm presenting to the Camp Secretaries at the Mid-Winter Conference.

Delegates to the Department Encampment:

Each camp automatically has the Camp Commander and one additional member of the Camp authorized to be Delegates to attend the Department Encampment.

Current Department officers and all Past Camp Commanders in good standing are also automatic Delegates to the Department Encampment and are not counted in the overall Delegate count for a Camp.

In addition to the above Delegates, each Camp is authorized to have Delegates based on active membership of the Camp. Each Camp has one Delegate per 10 members or significant portion of 10 (>5). For instance, a Camp with 15 members would have one Delegate in addition to the Delegates mentioned in the first two paragraphs. A Camp with 16 members would have 2 Delegates according to the above formula. Juniors are not counted in the total membership of a Camp for the purposes of determining the number of Delegates to a Department Encampment.

In F., C. and L.,

Richard Williams

Department Secretary/Treasurer

Notice — Mid-Winter Conference Attendees

A limited number of copies of the Department Members Ancestors List will be available to those attending the Department Mid-Winter Conference. The list contains information on ancestors that Members of the Department could have claimed when applying for membership in the SUVCW. Information includes ancestors name, regiment, company, state, muster and discharge dates.

The Official Newsletter of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Jottings from the Junior Vice Commander

Year End Report — Since assuming the position of Michigan Department Junior Vice Commander, this office, as of 31 December 1994, has processed 120 inquiries regarding membership in our Order. Most inquiries were the direct result of aggressive recruiting efforts conducted by various Camp and Department personnel at events such as the River of Time in Bay City, the Civil War encampment held in Big Rapids, the Civil War reenactments held at Jackson and Allegan and the Civil War collectors show at Oakland University. The names of sixteen prospective members were received from the National Junior Vice Commander, also. In addition, several Brothers have referred prospects to this office through their letters and telephone calls.

When this office is made aware of an interested party, a form letter is sent to the prospect referring him to the Camp nearest his residence. If no Camp exists within a reasonable distance, the prospect is then referred to the Camp-at-Large. When notification is received, it then becomes incumbent upon the Camp to contact the prospect within twenty-one days, as indicated in the form letter.

If our recruiting efforts are to be effective, it is evident that each Brother in the process must fulfill his responsibilities. Whether manning a recruiting tent, forwarding notifications to Camps, or a Camp officer handling recruitment; all must do their sworn duty if the Order is to continue to grow and prosper.



Organizing a new Camp

I have indicated in the following, to the best of my knowledge, a compilation of the number of prospects that have been forwarded to the various named organizations:

Organization	Prospects
Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1	12
Henry E. Plant Camp No. 3	1
Gov. Austin Blair Camp No. 7	2
George W. Howe Camp No. 9	1
Robert Finch Camp No. 14	1
Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17	8
Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20	6
Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22	5
Alexander French Camp No. 28	8
Nash-Hodges Camp No. 43	1
Wa-bu-no Camp No. 53	6
Gen. Phil Kearny Camp No. 67	9
Ulysses S. Grant Camp No. 101	26
Gilluly-Kingsley Camp No. 120	3
Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145	7
Russell A. Alger Camp No. 462	6
Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Camp*	3
Out of Department	5
DUVCW	<u>10</u>
Total	120

* proposed Camp

Short of checking Department rosters, I have no way of knowing how successful our recruiting efforts have been. In my own experience at the Camp level, a twenty-five percent success rate would be considered highly effective. This is due to the fact that most, so called prospects, are in reality nothing more than curiosity seekers. They simply want to know who we are and what we represent. Others do not join with us when they discover that fees are required for membership. Some, truly interested prospects, cannot devote time from their busy schedules to do the work of the Order.

Whatever the reason for not joining our organization, we cannot allow ourselves the luxury of becoming discouraged, for we are spreading word of our Order. I personally feel that there is no greater satisfaction and pride than seeing someone we have recruited develop into an active, enthusiastic Brother.

At last, I have the honor to announce the formation of two new Camps in the Michigan Department. The Gen. Phil Kearny Camp No. 67 of the Tri-Cities (Bay City, Saginaw

and Midland) and the Alexander French Camp No. 28 of Big Rapids are now a reality.

Brother James Lyons and I conducted two unsuccessful organizational meetings during the summer. A decision was made to wait until the end of the reenactment season before another effort was made to organize the Camp. Upon the resignation of Brother Lyons as Department Camp Organizer, the job of establishing the Bay City Camp was taken over by Brother David Wallace, while I assumed responsibility for Big Rapids.

Brother Wallace continued to develop contacts in the Bay City area during the waning months of 1994. A successful organizational meeting was held in late November with seven new Members forming Camp No. 67. On December 7th, an election of officers was conducted, with Craig Opperman assuming the Commandery.

The Alexander French Camp No. 28 was established in Big Rapids on December 6th. Four members of Wa-bu-no Camp No. 53 formed the nucleus of the Camp, with an additional seven new Brothers being initiated at the meeting. Brother Kenny Acton, a Wa-bu-no man, was elected Camp Commander. Thomas Mehl and Solan Yax, Wa-bu-no members who transferred to the Big Rapids Camp, were instrumental in the formation of Camp No. 28. They are commended for their invaluable assistance.

Establishment of the two new Camps is an example of what can be achieved by a few dedicated Brothers working together for the good of the Order. As Brother Tom Mehl so adequately stated, "Wa-bu-no has been like a tree bearing fruit." No greater compliment need be, or could be, given.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my Brothers who have worked to spread the word of our Order, to increase our membership rolls and to establish new Camps in the Michigan Department during the past year. A job well done, but a job that is never done.

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

Donald H. Workman
Department Junior Vice Commander

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The Treasurer's Notes

Department Finances for the Period 10/1/94 through 12/31/94	
Cash on hand - 10/1/94	\$5,654.81
Income/Expenses by Category:	
Commander-in-Chief's Dinner	
Income	738.00
Expenses	-884.53
Total - C-in-C's Dinner	-146.53
Income Drive	
7th Corps Cap Mark	
Income	87.00
SUV Hat Badges	
Income	200.00
Expenses	-412.50
Men of Iron	
Income	736.00
Expenses	-1855.13
SUVCW Blazer Insignia	
Expenses	-125.00
Total - Income Drive	-1,369.63
Per Capita - Dept. & Nat'l	
Income	1,383.70
Expenses	800.00
Total - Per Capita	583.70
Programs - Nat'l Encampment	
Expenses	-6.89
Total - Programs	-6.89
Department Newsletter	
Printing	
Expenses	-66.50
Postage	
Expenses	-35.34
Total - Dept. Newsletter	-101.84
General Supplies	
Expenses	-177.65
Total - Gen'l Supplies	-177.65
Interest Paid	
Expenses	-1.00
Total - Inst. Paid	<u>-1.00</u>
Total Income/Expenses for the period 10/1/94 through 12/31/94	1,219.84
Cash on Hand - 12/31/94	\$4,434.97

In F., C. and L.,

Richard Williams
Department Secretary/Treasurer

Civil War Veterans Graves Registration

One of the duties the Brothers of the SUVCW is supposed to have, is the perpetuation of the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who fought to preserve the Union during the Civil War. One of our specific duties that is spelled out in the National Constitution and Regulations of the Order is that of maintaining and documenting the various memorials to those veterans. A memorial, by definition, also includes a persons tombstone. Therefore, one of our duties as Brothers of this Order, is that of recording the final resting places of the Union Soldiers and Sailors who fought in the Civil War. This is why the National, each Department and each Camp is supposed to maintain an active Graves Registration Committee.

In 1992, when Austin Blair Camp decided to get active in surveying cemeteries for Civil War Veterans burials, I began asking questions as to whether there was any sort of standardized form for the purpose of registering the grave sites. Everyone that I asked said that they were not aware of any such form. After consulting with several Brothers, a Graves Registration form was devised and put into use by Austin Blair Camp. It was then offered to other Camps in the Department for their use.

In August of 1994, I was appointed to the National Graves Registration Committee by Commander-in-Chief Keith Harrison. The first thing I did was to write Committee Chairman Charles Sharrock as to whether there was any sort of National form for the registration of veterans graves and whether there was any sort of a National file or data base on veterans grave sites.

In answer to these questions to, I received the reply that there apparently has never been any effort on a National basis, to gather information on Civil War Veteran burials. He also replied that as far as he knew, no Departments had undertaken any such effort. Apparently, any efforts that have been made in the past at gathering burial information have been all at the local Camp level and the results have stayed local. He also stated that to his knowledge there was no such standardized form for the gathering of data on veterans grave sites.

Along with my questions, I had included copies of the Graves Registration Form that Austin Blair Camp has been using (actually, a slightly modified, updated version). I also included a print-out of the computer data base the Camp has set up for the storage and retrieval of the information gathered from the forms.

Brother Sharrock replied that he would propose to the National Organization that the form and data base be taken under consideration for adoption on a National basis, with possible modifications where deemed necessary. If and when these are adopted in whatever final form, the resulting data base will help to fill a gap for people researching the past.

While I am aware that there are many Camps nationwide that have in the past and are presently gathering this information, I can only wonder why it has taken over 100 years to create a central repository for the information. From talking with various officers of the National level and of other Departments at the National Convention this past summer, I have been told that the members of the Michigan Department are among the most active in the nation and that seems to be why there are so many Brothers from Michigan listed as National Officers and Committee members. We don't just talk about something, we get things done!

The main purpose of this column though, is not to pat ourselves on the back, it is to spark the interest in all members of the Michigan Department to get out there and do some active graves registration this summer. Many of our Camps have already gathered a substantial amount of information and I am requesting that copies, not originals, of the information gathered be brought to the Department Mid-Winter Conference so this information can be entered into the data base.

Copies of the Graves Registration Forms and an accompanying how to sheet will be available. There will also be a discussion period devoted to graves registration and the data base. Let's show the National that Michigan can lead the way in this endeavor, too!

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

John R. Mann
National Graves Registration Committee

The Official Newsletter of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Commanders Corner

This is to give our Michigan Brothers an update on the US 12, Iron Brigade Memorial Highway. I recently received a very encouraging letter from National Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Alan R. Loomis. Brother Loomis, of David D. Porter Camp No. 116 of the Department of Indiana, along with the 19th Indiana Infantry reenactors, have worked very hard to get the stretch of US 12 that passes through the State of Indiana, designated as the Iron Brigade Memorial by the Indiana Legislature. It is nice to know the 19th Indiana Infantry reenactor are supporting efforts of the Department of Indiana SUVCW on this project, just as the 24th Michigan Infantry reenactors collaborated with the Michigan Department SUVCW. So without further ado, here is the text of the letter from Brother Loomis.

December 21, 1994

Dear Mr. Brennan:

David D. Porter Camp No. 116, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, cordially invites you and the members of the Department of Michigan to the dedication of a historical marker honoring "The Iron Brigade". This marker is part of the State of Indiana Historical Marker program, administered by the Indiana Historical Bureau. The dedication will take place along highway US 12 in Porter County at 1 pm (Central Daylight Time) on Saturday, July 1, 1995. The proposed site of the marker is still being surveyed by the Indiana Department of Transportation and you will be informed of its exact location in early 1995.

The Legislature of Indiana passed a resolution naming US 12 as "The Iron Brigade" highway to commemorate the participation of the 19th Indiana Voluntary Infantry in this famous unit. We will be honored to have in attendance Mr. William Upham, a real son of a member of the Iron Brigade, who first proposed this designation in Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan. In addition, Mr. William Nolan, author of the widely acclaimed book "The Iron Brigade", hopes to attend, depending upon the constraints of his schedule.

At your earliest convenience, please respond with your acceptance or regrets concerning attending the dedication.

Sincerely,

Alan R. Loomis
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

2nd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry

6th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry

7th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry



19th Indiana Volunteer Infantry

24th Michigan Volunteer Infantry

Battery B, 4th U. S. Artillery

Here is my reply to Brother Loomis on behalf of the Department of Michigan, accepting the invitation to attend the Indiana Departments dedication honoring the Iron Brigade and congratulating them on this successful project to perpetuate the memory of that great fighting unit. It is wonderful how two SUVCW Departments can pull together in support of this Patriotic endeavor to the Iron Brigade and to its many comrades.

January 1, 1995

Dear Brother Loomis

On behalf of the Department of Michigan SUVCW, I want to thank you for the invitation to the dedication of the marker honoring the Iron Brigade. We were very honored that you and Ed Krieser of the Department of Indiana were able to attend our dedication that was held last Fall in Berrien County. The large sign at the US 12/I 94 rest stop I'm sure will catch the eye of many thousands of travelers as they pass by. I would say that it was a very proud day for us in the Michigan Department and the 24th Michigan Infantry reenactors that afternoon.

Congratulations on the passage of the resolution in the Indiana Legislature naming US 12 as the Iron Brigade Memorial Highway. Just let me know the final details for Saturday, July 1, 1995 and I'll be there. Also, I'll pass the word in Michigan's Messenger, the official newsletter of the Department of Michigan SUVCW. The Mid-Winter Conference for our Department is slated for Saturday, February 18, 1995 at the Mid Way Motor Lodge in Lansing and I'll be sure to mention it there too! Many of the members in the Michigan SUVCW are also reenactors in the 24th Michigan Infantry and would be more than happy to support the Department of Indiana SUVCW and the 19th Indiana Infantry reenactors.

With all of this in mind, it sends to me a powerful message that we must keep alive their memory as they paid a big price for our freedom and one Nation, not two split down the middle. As one Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. If you think about this, you'll really appreciate why we carry on the memory of the boys who fought to preserve the Union and have a different perspective of why Memorial Day and dedications were so important to the GAR. I'm sure they are all looking down with a smile, knowing they haven't been forgotten by what we do here today in their honor as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

William A. Brennan
Commander
Michigan Department, SUVCW

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Camp News

Camp No. 7 Gov. Austin Blair

Jackson - At the November 14th meeting the Camp elected a new slate of officers. They are:

Commander	Gary Woodman
Senior Vice Cmdr.	Gordon McGarey
Junior Vice Cmdr.	Todd Holton
Secretary	Dale Tuckey
Treasurer	Bob Metcalf
Camp Council	Max Miller
Camp Council	Ken Strickler
Camp Council	John Mann

Five delegates and alternates to the Department Encampment were also elected.

Commander Woodman has made his appointments to the following positions:

Patriotic Instructor	Todd Holton
Counselor	Don Hoch
Counselor	Thayne LaBanta
Guard	Jay Babcock
Guide	Robert Knowles
Color Bearer	Warren Gidley
Chaplain	Ken Strickler
Historian	Jack Patch
Quarter Master	Jay Babcock
Aide-de-Camp	Richard Halsey
Courier Editor	John Mann

The new officers were installed at the January 9th meeting by the Department Council Chairman.

The members of the Camp started a small, informal, Civil War Round Table discussion group last January. It is held at 8:00 am on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month at a local restaurant/coffee shop. Meetings are open to the public and there have been several visitors attending. Some of these visitors have also attended to our regular Camp meetings to see what we are all about. We have so far gained one new member due to the round table meetings, with one or two further prospects.

Austin Blair Camp had a net gain of eight members for the year 1994. We had six Members, one Associate and two Juniors joining the Camp. We lost one Member who wished to be discharged due to a lack of time to become involved in Camp matters. Camp members are working to help establish Camps in Ann Arbor and Litchfield.

John Mann

Camp No. 17 Curtinius Guard

Lansing/Sunfield - The November meeting of the Camp featured a tour of the Samuel W. Grinnell Post No. 283 Hall in Sunfield. Conducted by the Ladies of the Helen Edwards Tent No. 30, DUVCW. Several of the ladies in this Tent are descendants of the GAR members of this Post. They displayed the various artifacts in the Hall. This Hall has been in continuous use by the Allied orders since 1899. Our Camp and the ladies of Tent 30 have almost completed a restoration project of the building.

The Camp will continue their participation in the Michigan DOT highway cleanup program in 1995, with new committee chair Byron Shumway.

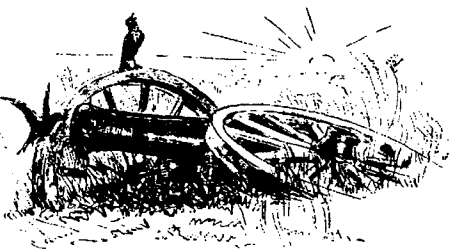
Camp members were present at the dedication of the Iron Brigade Memorial Highway plaque on US 12. We are proud of the dedication and efforts of Brothers of our Order and the reenactors of the 24th Michigan who made this possible.

Three members of the Camp attended and participated in the Remembrance Day Ceremonies in Gettysburg; Commander-in-Chief Keith Harrison, Jeff Adams and James Pahl.

The November/December 1994 issue of Military Images magazine is devoted to Michigan Civil War soldiers. Those interested in ordering a copy should request Vol. XVI, No. 3 and mail \$5.00 to: Military Images

RR 1, Box 99A
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One year subscriptions to this bi-monthly are \$20.00. Add \$9.00 for 1st class Mail in an envelope. This magazine was founded in 1979 and is devoted to a photographic history of the U. S. Soldier and Sailor in the nineteenth century.



Our 1995 Camp officers were elected at our November Camp meeting and are very proud to have been installed by our first Camp Commander and current Commander-in-Chief, Keith Harrison. They are:

Commander	James Neal
Senior Vice Cmdr.	Paul Hodges
Junior Vice Cmdr.	Jeffery Adams
Treasurer	Todd Rakestraw
Secretary	James Pahl
Camp Council	Charles Langworthy
	Lavern Aves
	John Nash
Patriotic Instructor	Vaughn Rawson
Chaplain	Brian Shumway
Guide	Doug Park
Color Guard	Lavern Aves
Counselor	James Pahl
Guard	David Rehkopf
Historian	Keith Harrison
Graves Registration	James Lyons

James Pahl

Camp No. 145 Gov. Crapo

Flint - The Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145 of Flint, Department of Michigan SUVCW was honored by the City of Flint for its continued efforts in maintaining the Aventine Cemetery and for obtaining headstones for five unmarked Civil War veterans graves in the cemetery. Members of the Camp Color Guard posted the Colors at the September 12th Flint City Council meeting and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. Council President John Tucker, along with 7th Ward Councilman Jack Minore, made a presentation of a plaque recognizing the efforts of Gov. Crapo Camp to Camp Commander Wallace.

Aventine Cemetery is located in downtown Flint. It has approximately 35 Civil War veterans buried in it, many of whom were members of the original Gov. Crapo Post No. 145, Grand Army of the Republic. The cemetery's trust fund went bankrupt in the late 1950's and its current status is a matter of question. The City of Flint would only provide an annual clean-up. The Brothers of Gov. Crapo Camp decided to maintain the cemetery in order to honor the memory of the many veterans buried there and as an important volunteer service to the community.

David F. Wallace

The Official Newsletter of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Camp News

Camp No. 462 Russell A. Alger

Camp-at-Large — Well, I just returned from the 105th Department Annual Encampment. I would like to say that I, along with a number of other Sons were very pleased with all that went on. Of course, there were all day meetings, but these were very informative and at times quite lively. We were recognized as a new and very important Camp with future Camp Commanders ready to start new Camps, as the interest in our members home areas grows. There will be a lot of very important decisions made and I am sure you will read about them in this newsletter. One of the decisions was to include a "Rituals Book" in your membership packet. Hopefully, I can get these out to you in the next month or so.

Along with the other two new Camps in Michigan, we received a Bible and an altar cloth from our now Past Department Commander, J. Douglas Park. It is personally signed by him to us and the Camp name and Number is on the front. The inscription reads as follows: "Presented to Russell A. Alger Member-at-Large Camp No. 462, by J. Douglas Park, Commander Michigan Department, SUVCW on the occasion of the 105th Department Encampment, Lansing, Michigan, 11 June 1994." I was very moved and proud to receive this Bible and altar cloth from one of the truly great Department Commanders Michigan has had. Thank you, Doug, for not only this gift, but for your dedication and devotion to our Department and the rest of the Order.

We have a new Member in our Camp. His name is William Roger Morris and he is from Flushing, Michigan. William was initiated in Flint at the Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145. This is the second Member of our Camp who has been initiated. If any of you would like to have this ceremony done, call me and we will try to make arrangements. Well, that's about all for now folks. Remember, if you need anything, just give me a call.

Jerry McKinch

Editors note: This Camp News item should have run in the August issue of the Messenger. My apologies to Brother McKinch and the members of Russell A. Alger Camp.

Ancestor Vignettes

Cyrus Jasper Vickery
Private
11th Missouri Infantry
Company F and K

Great Great Grandfather
of
Thomas Wightman, JVC
U. S. Grant Camp No. 101

Cyrus Jasper Vickery was born on 29 November 1842 in Marion County, Illinois. He enlisted as a private in the 11th Missouri Volunteer Infantry on 25 July 1861. Cyrus was wounded on 22 May 1862 during the second assault on Vicksburg, resulting in the loss of his lower right jaw. After his hospitalization he was assigned to the 15th Veteran's Reserve Corps (Invalid Corps). He was later court-martialed for the theft of a civilian's shawl while his troop train was traveling through Valparaiso, Indiana.

He deserted on 6 July 1865 at Cairo, Illinois and presumably went home to the farm country of Randolph County, Illinois. He received a pardon on 5 July 1884 and eventually obtained a pension.

After the war, he married at least three times, although there are no records of any divorces or deaths of his spouses. Cyrus died on 27 June 1922 in Sparta, Illinois.

Thomas Wightman



John C. Worcester
Corporal
23rd Ohio Infantry
Company K and G

First cousin twice removed
of
Dale M. Worcester
Ulysses S. Grant Camp No. 101

John was born May 11, 1842 in Vermillion, Ohio and was the son of George Worcester of Massachusetts. He enlisted at the age of eighteen on May 27, 1861, for the period of three years. He mustered at Camp Chase and was described in the muster book as being 5ft. 9 and $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in height, with light complexion, blue eyes, brown hair and by profession, a printer.

From July of 1861 through October of 1862, the 23rd Ohio served in the Kanawha Brigade Department of West Virginia, except for the month of September of 1862, in which they were assigned to the IX Corps, Army of the Potomac and fought at both South Mountain and Antietam in Maryland.

John was promoted to Corporal on January 1, 1863. He was discharged and then re-enlisted as a veteran volunteer on October 1, 1863, at which time he transferred to Company G. In December of 1863, John was on detached duty in Columbus, Ohio recruiting for the regiment.

From the period of his enlistment in 1861 through December of 1863, John and the 23rd Ohio participated in 23 skirmishes, battles, actions, operations and expeditions in West Virginia and Maryland.

After returning from recruiting service, John was detached thricemore. Once, to the government printing office in Charleston, then as a member of a POW escort detachment and lastly, to a printing office at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. The 23rd Ohio mustered out of service in July of 1865.

In August of 1895, John applied for an invalid pension. He died in April of 1897 at the age of 55.

Dale M. Worcester

Annual

Washington - Lincoln Dinner

Following the Mid-Winter SUVCW Conference

Social hour at 5:30 pm

Dinner at 6:30 pm

After Dinner Speaker

Max Riekse

“The Revolution”

Brother Riekse is Commander of Henry E. Plant Camp No. 3, Grand Haven.

Dinner Menu:

- Salad
- Swiss Steak Jardiniere
- Baked Potato
- Vegetable
- Dessert
- Beverage

The Dinner and Speaking Engagement is open to the Public.
Guests are Welcome.

.....
Please use this coupon for dinner reservations.

I am planning on attending the Washington - Lincoln Dinner at the Mid Way Motor Lodge, 7711 West
Saginaw, Lansing on Saturday, February 18, at 6:30 pm.

I would like to purchase ____ tickets @ \$15.00 each for the dinner. Total amount enclosed is \$____.00.

Deadline for Ordering Dinner Tickets is February 15th.

Please make the check payable to: Michigan Society Sons of the Revolution

Mail to:

Keith Harrison, Treasurer
Sons of the Revolution
4209 Santa Clara Drive
Holt, MI 48842-1868

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

Michigan's Messenger
The Newsletter of the Department of Michigan, SUVCW

Please use this coupon to enroll or send for further information.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (Area Code) _____ (Number) _____

I would like to join the Grand Army of the Republic Museum:

- Individual Membership (\$15.00 dues enclosed)
- Family Membership (\$25.00 dues enclosed)
- Colonel's Honor Guard (\$35.00 dues enclosed) - includes a premium of a specially selected Civil War book.
- General's Staff (\$50.00 dues enclosed) - includes a premium of a lavishly illustrated book chronicling the period of the Civil War.
- Please send me more information on the museum and membership.

If enrolling as a new member, please complete the following:

Are you the direct descendant of a Union Civil War Veteran? Yes No If Yes:

Name of Ancestor _____

Company _____ Regiment _____

His Relationship to You _____

Become a Member

of the

**Grand Army of the Republic
Civil War Museum and Library**

4278 Griscom Street, Philadelphia, PA 19124
(215) 289-6484

Only through your membership can the museum continue to provide a full range of educational and historical programs.

The Official Newsletter of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Calendar Of Events

February

2nd — Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22 - Marshall
Meeting - 7:30 pm at the GAR Hall, 402 East Michigan Avenue, Marshall.

14th — Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1 - Grand Rapids
Meeting - 7:00 pm, Michigan Veterans Facility, 3000 Monroe Street, Grand Rapids.

14th — Gen. Phil Kearny Camp No. 67 - Bay City
Meeting - 7:00 pm, VFW Hall No. 485, 3022 North Water Street, Bay City.

15th — Governor Crapo Camp No. 145 - Flint
Meeting - 7:30 pm, Flint Public Library, 1026 Kearsley, Flint.

16th — Gilluly-Kingsley Camp No. 120 - Howell
Meeting - 7:00 pm, Howell Carnegie Library, 314 West Grand River, Howell.

18th — Department Mid-Winter Conference
Meeting - 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm, Midway Motor Lodge, 7711 West Saginaw, Lansing.
All Camp officers are encouraged to attend this workshop to exchange ideas on the running of Camps and recruiting procedures to increase membership.
The Annual Washington-Lincoln Dinner follows (optional), at 6:00 pm. Dinner reservations are required.

28th — Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20 - Kalamazoo
Meeting - 7:00 pm, American Legion Hall, 431 East South Street, Kalamazoo.

March

2nd — Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22 - Marshall
Meeting - 7:30 pm at the GAR Hall, 402 East Michigan Avenue, Marshall.

7th — Nash-Hodges Camp No. 43 - Blissfield
Meeting - 7:00 pm American Legion Hall, 451 High Street, Blissfield.

9th — Wa-Bu-No Camp No. 53 - Mt. Pleasant
Meeting - 7:00 pm, Sheperd Museum, Corner of 1st and Maple Streets, Sheperd.

13th — Austin Blair Camp No. 7 - Jackson
Meeting - 7:00 pm at the American Legion Hall, 3200 Lansing Avenue, Jackson.

14th — Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1 - Grand Rapids
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14th — Gen. Phil Kearny Camp No. 67 - Bay City
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15th — Governor Crapo Camp No. 145 - Flint
Meeting - 7:30 pm, Flint Public Library, 1026 Kearsley, Flint.

March (continued)

16th — Gilluly-Kingsley Camp No. 120 - Howell
Meeting - 7:00 pm, Howell Carnegie Library, 314 West Grand River, Howell.

25th — Ulysses S. Grant Camp No. 101 - Detroit
Meeting - 2:00 pm, Elmwood Cemetery, 1200 Elmwood Avenue, Detroit.

28th — Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20 - Kalamazoo
Meeting - 7:00 pm, American Legion Hall, 431 East South Street, Kalamazoo.

28th — Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17 - Sunfield
Meeting - 7:00 pm, GAR Hall, Main Street, Sunfield.

April

6th — Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22 - Marshall
Meeting - 7:30 pm at the GAR Hall, 402 East Michigan Avenue, Marshall.

11th — Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1 - Grand Rapids
Meeting - 7:00 pm, Michigan Veterans Facility, 3000 Monroe Street, Grand Rapids.

11th — Gen. Phil Kearny Camp No. 67 - Bay City
Meeting - 7:00 pm, VFW Hall No. 485, 3022 North Water Street, Bay City.

19th — Governor Crapo Camp No. 145 - Flint
Meeting - 7:30 pm, Flint Public Library, 1026 Kearsley, Flint.

20th — Gilluly-Kingsley Camp No. 120 - Howell
Meeting - 7:00 pm, Howell Carnegie Library, 314 West Grand River, Howell.

23rd — Henry E. Plant Camp No. 3 - Fruitport
Meeting - 2:00 pm, Tri-Cities Museum, Grand Haven.

25th — Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20 - Kalamazoo
Meeting - 7:00 pm, American Legion Hall, 431 East South Street, Kalamazoo.

Information was not available for meeting times, dates and places for the following Camps:

George W. Howe Camp No. 9 - Port Huron
Robert Finch Camp No. 14 - Traverse City
Alexander French Camp No. 28 - Big Rapids

April 15

is the deadline for the next issue of the Messenger.

Copy must be received by the editor by this date to insure its inclusion in the May issue.

Send submissions to:

John Mann, Editor

Michigan's Messenger

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Lansing, Michigan 48911-7216

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Michigan's Messenger
1917 TEEL AVENUE
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Vol. 3 No. 3

Michigan's Messenger

February 1995

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February 18, 1995

1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

The Michigan Department's

Mid-Winter Conference

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The Annual Washington-Lincoln Dinner will follow in the evening at 6:00 pm.

All Camp Officers are encouraged to attend this workshop to exchange ideas on the running of Camps and recruiting procedures.

Please plan on attending!