

# Michigan's Messenger



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

Volume IV Number 2

November 1995

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1995 - 1996

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*Guide*

William C. Costello

*Guard*

Edgar Dowd

*Color Bearer*

Howard Streeter

## Department Orders No. 2

Series 1995/1996

1. At this time I must request that all Camp Charters and the Department Charter be draped in black for a period of 30 days in memory of Brother William C. Lentz. Brother Lentz had served as Camp Commander these past two years for the Nash-Hodges Camp No. 43 in Blissfield. He lost his battle with lung cancer on August 25, 1995. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Brother Lentz. We'll miss that friendly smile he always carried with him.

2. The Michigan Department was also informed that Brother Fred Jones, of Governor Henry Crapo Camp No. 145 passed away this Spring. Our hearts go out to the family of Brother Jones and I ask that you include his name, along with Brother Lentz, in your thoughts and prayers.

3. I'd like to thank my many Brothers and Sisters of the Allied Orders, who expressed their deepest sympathy and concerns during the loss of my mother Connie, on August 19, 1995. Your cards and letters as well as personal words were very much appreciated and comforting. I just wanted to let you know, that it really means a lot!

4. Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Brother Don Pace of Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22 in Marshall. Brother Pace turned 101 years young on August 19th. Don walks to the Camp's monthly meetings and has been a real delight to the Camp to have in attendance.

5. As a note of correction on the Department Committee assignments under GAR Graves Registration: Brother Sean Ralston of Gilluly-Kingsley Camp No. 120 should appear with Brothers Gene Taylor (chairman) of Governor Crapo Camp No. 145 and Bill Warren of Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17 and omit Brother Don Workman.

6. At the last meeting of Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17, the discussion was on the M-99 project, naming that stretch of highway the General John A. Logan Highway. It is being undertaken by Brothers Dale Calder and PDC J. Doug-

las Park. They will try to get it pushed through the legislature. So stay tuned!

7. Brother Bill Morris of Governor Crapo Camp No. 145 has relieved Brother Don Workman as the Membership-at-Large coordinator for Russell A. Alger Camp No. 462. This will lift a big load for JVC Workman, who is very busy with bringing in new members into the Order for the Michigan Department.

8. I'd also like to thank Brother Morris for the trip he made to bring the recruiting tent down for the Allegan Civil War Event. It really paid off for us, as we strive to build our Camp's membership up and grow to bigger heights.

9. Keith G. Harrison, Past Commander-in-Chief of our Order, did a super job as the over-all Union field commander for the Allegan Civil War Event, held at the Allegan County Fairgrounds on September 30th and October 1st. His knowledge and leadership qualities are second to none.

10. I want to thank those that worked at the recruiting tent table at the Allegan event. They were Camp Commander Steve Redinger, JVC Bill Costello, PCC Ron Bellinger, PCC Gary Gibson, Sec./Treas. Don Pickrell and PC-in-C Keith Harrison. At the request of Brother Dan Hall of Wayland, who has been a member for a year, but not initiated, we fulfilled his wish to be initiated via the Ritual of the Order. My thanks to Brother Jeff Adams for the use of his Bible and the many Brothers of our Order who stopped in to say hello. Also, a big thanks to Brothers Max Miller and Bill Lowe who carried the Colors and SUV flag to General Pritchard's house. They belong to Governor Austin Blair Camp No. 7.

11. At this time I'd like to congratulate Brother John Mann, editor of Michigan's Messenger, on getting the Commander-in-Chief award for the best newsletter. Brother Mann has put in many hours of his time to give us all the great newsletter that we enjoy getting each quarter.

*Continued on page 2)*

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## Department Orders

(Continued from page 1)

12. Thanks to those of you who submitted articles for the last issue of Michigan's Messenger. Let's keep the stories coming in and let us know your Camp's activities and Department projects as well. Remember, as I said before, it's our newsletter!

13. It was nice to see so many of you at the Governor Austin Blair Camp No. 7 recruiting tent at the Jackson Civil War Muster, held the last weekend of August. It speaks well to have events like this that help to draw us together more often.

14. On September 9, 1995 I attended the Marshall Home Tours in Marshall. Our Brothers of Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22 once again opened the GAR Hall that attracted many people with an interest in the past, as well as in the Civil War. Camp No. 22 and the Women's Relief Corps Chapter 232 of Marshall, really set a good example on how well the Allied Orders can work together as they honor the Boys who wore the Union Blue. Ladies, the food was great!

15. A dedication ceremony took place on Saturday, September 2, 1995 at 11:00 am at the Hillside Cemetery in Plainwell, Michigan. It was for a large monument, honoring the men who gave their lives for their country in the first and second world wars. The Walter Miller Post No. 250 of Plainwell hosted the event, in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the victory over Japan. PDC Gary Gibson, Brandon Brennan (Junior Son) and myself attended. I must say that they were very surprised to see us as well as learn about our organization. They were pleased that we came over to attend the program. This is another way to let people and other organizations know we're out there.

16. At the National Encampment held in Columbus, Ohio on August 11 - 13, 1995, the Michigan Department had 13 Brothers who made the trip down to the Buckeye State. We were very proud to be there in support of our Commander-in-Chief Keith G. Harrison of the great Wolverine State of Michigan. Our Department is very pleased with the fine job Brother Harrison has done on the National level as our Commander. He has now turned the gavel over to the new Commander-in-Chief, David R. Medert of Ohio. The foundation has been set, now it is time to go up with it, as Brother Harrison set the ground work for many new changes to come.

17. A community service organization sign board with the SUVCW insignia and the name of our Order spelled out for the public to see when they drive into a community, proposed by George W. Anderson Camp No. 58, passed easily. National Quartermaster Elmer (Bud) Atkinson, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania will see that the outdoor signs are made available for the Camps. Once again, this will put us in the public eye.

18. At this time I'd like to extend congratulations to Brother Dave (Chumley) Wallace, as he is once again serving as National Secretary. Also to Brother J. Douglas Park, PDC as he beat out the incumbent, Peter A. Dixon of Maryland for the office of National Council of Administration.

19. On Saturday, November 11, 1995 Fort Custer National Cemetery will hold its Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony in Battle Creek. If you're planning on attending, the parade steps off at 10:30 am. The cemetery is located West of Battle Creek

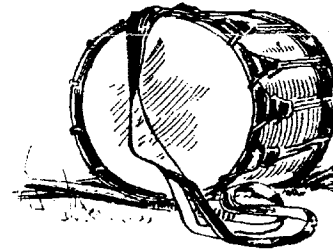
on M - 96. Just look for the flags on the North side of the road.

20. Grand Rapids will hold a parade on Saturday, November 11, 1995 at 7:30 pm for Veterans Day. The crowds are very large for this parade. Our Brothers from General John A. Logan Camp No. 1 and Henry E. Plant Camp No. 3, along with reenactors of the 3rd Michigan Infantry and 7th Michigan Infantry Fife and Drum Corps will march in the parade. All Brothers interested are welcome to fall in the ranks as they form up on the corner of Monroe and Michigan at 7:00 pm. This parade is really a lot of fun to participate in.

21. As a reminder, my new address is 3 Weeks Street, Allegan, Michigan, 49010. My telephone number remains the same at (616) 673-2229.

By Order of:

*William A. Brennan*  
Department Commander



### Your Help Needed!

The General Phil Kearny statue at Peck and Terrace Streets in the City of Muskegon has suffered from the ravages of age, pollution and exposure to the elements. Its color has turned from a healthy bronze to an unhealthy green and needs help to preserve it for future generations. Its green color is said to indicate that the figure has lost surface metal. The Phil Kearny statue is among a group of bronze Civil War monuments by recognized sculptors of a century ago that are in the City of Muskegon which include President Lincoln, General Ulysses S. Grant, General William Tecumseh Sherman, Admiral Farragut and the Goddess of Victory. While these figures are basically sound, they need surface work to include professionally cleaning and some repairing. Anyone desiring to contribute to the upkeep of the monuments may send their donations to our Camp and we will see that it gets to the right people.

*Max Riskse*  
Commander,  
Henry E. Plant Camp No. 3

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## Department Officer Reports

### Senior Vice Commander

The Bylaws Committee is asking for recommendations about amendments to the department Bylaws.

You may ask: Wasn't a new set of Bylaws adopted at the 1995 encampment? Do those Bylaws have serious flaws? Are changes really needed? The answers are yes, no and maybe.

Our Order is moving forward in many ways. Some of them call for corresponding procedural modifications or additions. For example, the new Junior membership grade necessitates certain Bylaws revisions. Also, amendments to our National organization's Constitution and Regulations (the C & R) can create a need for similar changes in Departmental Bylaws (and Camp Bylaws, also). Furthermore, fresh programs and activities within the Order sometimes bring to light the lack of appropriate rules to manage them effectively, missing simply because the need could not be foreseen earlier.

We have received a few recommendations for Bylaw revisions already. The points of concern relate to reimbursement of certain expenses of Department officers and to the Junior program. Other areas may well need attention, too.

Please send your suggestions and comments to me, soon if possible, but no later than February 15. That will give the committee time to examine them and prepare the appropriate language. We must send a copy of any proposed amendment, alteration or addition to the Bylaws to the Camp Commanders at least 60 days prior to the Department Encampment (in compliance with the 1995 Department of Michigan Bylaws!) for Camp action and instruction to the delegates to the Encampment next June.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

*Paul D. Hodges*  
Department Senior Vice Commander

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### Junior Vice Commander

With the advent of Summer, Civil War reenactments, festivals and our own recruiting efforts have kicked into high gear. The Jackson Cascades Civil War Muster found yours truly, along with several Brothers from the Governor Austin Blair Camp No. 7 of Jackson, on duty at the SUVCW recruiting tent. This year's list of prospects was somewhat shorter than in the past, undoubtedly due to the sweltering heat that sent most visitors scurrying for a shady tree as soon as the battle ceased. Several Brothers had donned their woolen uniforms for the event, however; it was not long before they shed the sack coat and kept. The members of the Blair Camp deserve a medal for their yearly recruiting efforts at Cascades. This year it was the heat. In past years it has been rain, cold and a biting wind. Regardless of the circumstances, the Brothers of Austin Blair Camp have always met the challenge.

For the third year in a row, the Michigan Department set up a recruiting tent at the Rochester Civil War Relic Show. On

Friday, September 22nd, I met Brother Thomas Wightman, Commander of the Ulysses S. Grant Camp No. 101 of Detroit, at Oakland University to set up the table. Throughout the weekend, Brothers from the Detroit Camp appeared to take their turn at the recruiting station. Camp JVC Christopher Yagley arrived in full Civil War garb. Needless to say, he attracted a lot of attention. Brother Wightman disappeared from the recruiting station for a short while, only to return with a computer generated banner to hang on the wall announcing our presence. This was the first opportunity that I had to meet many of my Brothers from the Detroit Camp. I personally enjoyed every minute and want to thank my Brothers from the Grant Camp No. 101, for their enthusiastic assistance.

About the middle of September, I received some exciting news from Brother Terry McKinch, Commander of Camp No. 145. Brother McKinch informed me that he had lined up 12 reenactors from the 22nd Michigan that are interested in joining the George W. Howe Camp No. 9 of Port Huron. As many of you know, the Howe Camp has been inactive for several years, kept alive on paper through the efforts of Brother Jack Lavis. Shortly after learning of this marvelous development, I packaged up 15 applications, with instructions and brochures, and mailed them off to Mr. Randy Maxfield, as instructed by Brother McKinch.

I spoke with Brother Lavis over the telephone and again at the Oakland Civil War Relic Show regarding the good news. If possible, I would like to attend the initiation of the new members. I am sure that other Department personnel would enjoy attending the ceremony as a demonstration of our support. If all 12 prospects become members of Camp No. 9, that will translate to a 1000% increase in membership for the Port Huron Camp. That will virtually assure the Howe Camp of the coveted Orlando LaValley Award for the largest percentage increase in membership for the year. It may also win the Austin Blair Award for the largest numerical increase. Awards aside, the best part is that the Howe Camp will again be active to serve the Thumb area. Thank you, Brother McKinch.

The proposed Camp in Ann Arbor has wallowed in near oblivion for over a year now. There does appear to be considerable interest in our Order among area residents, but for some unknown reason nothing has developed to date. That, however, may change soon. National Secretary Dave Wallace has taken this project under his wing. I have forwarded Brother Wallace a list of prospects from our files. As Brother Wallace did much of the leg work on this project over a year ago, he is most familiar with the circumstances. If anyone can get the ball rolling again, it is Brother Wallace. With a little luck, we may have a Camp established in the city of gold and blue within a few months.

As the year draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my Brothers in the Michigan Department for their dedicated efforts in recruiting new members for our beloved Order. We can all be proud of what has been accomplished through our cooperative efforts.

In F., C. and L.,

*Donald H. Workman*  
Department Junior Vice Commander

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## Department Officer Reports

### Commander's Corner

Dear Brothers:

On Saturday, September 9, 1995 a memorial service was held at Oakridge Cemetery in Marshall, Michigan for Sister Martha Caroline Rapp, who passed away on Wednesday, June 28, 1995. She was 86 and a member of the C. Colegrove Chapter 232, of the Women's Relief Corps. Members of Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22 and C. Colegrove Chapter 232 attended, as did myself and my daughter Whitney Brennan, who is a member of the DUVCW, Helen M. Edwins Tent No. 30, in Sunfield. Past WRC National President Marion Morgan of Otsego was also in attendance, along with PDP Eleanor Newberry.

Sister Lucille (Peaches) Streeter, Michigan Department President of the WRC put it best when she said, "This dear lady was a member of our Corps for over 59 years and will be missed by all. She was the perfect example of a small candle helping to light the way for all to follow."

Sister Caroline is a prime example of what Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty is all about, as she gave many years of her life to the Allied Orders. Let us all remember that the work that she so dearly loved must go on through we who are here today!

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

*William A. Brennan*  
Department Commander

### Lincoln's Funeral Train

Two magazines have recently printed articles and pictures on the funeral car and train that transported Lincoln's body to Springfield, Illinois. The March/April 1995 issue of Civil War Times has a 6 page article on the history of the car, originally built for the president, but never used while he was alive. Six very interesting pictures chronicle the car's history.

The February 1995 issue of Model Railroader magazine also has a short article on the funeral car. Accompanying the article are pictures of two of the engines used in pulling the funeral train, scale drawings of one of the engines and the funeral car and two pictures of the funeral car; one of the actual car and the other of a 1/12 scale model of the car.

The funeral car, which burned in a fire in 1911, has been recreated as a 1/12 scale model along with the engine "Nashville", one of the many engines used to pull the car during its journey from Washington to Illinois. Also included in the diorama is the ornate hearse used to transport Lincoln's coffin during the funeral procession in Springfield. The entire model is over 14 feet long and took over 4 years to build.

The exhibit went on tour beginning in Illinois in February and will be exhibited along the route the original funeral train traveled. Other showings may be scheduled depending on the availability of funds.

### Treasurer

#### Department of Michigan - SUVCW Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Fund Balance At 30 September, 1995

Assets	
Checking Account	\$1,000.00
Savings account	3,628.96
Russell Alger Memorial Fund Savings Account	510.18
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$5,139.14</b>

Liabilities and Fund Balance	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Due Camp at Large	\$114.50
Due S. V. R.	113.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$227.50</b>

<b>Fund Balance</b>	
Restricted Funds	\$510.18
Unrestricted Funds	4,401.46
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$4,911.64</b>

<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$5,139.14</b>
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#### Statement of Revenue & Expenditures for the Quarter Ended

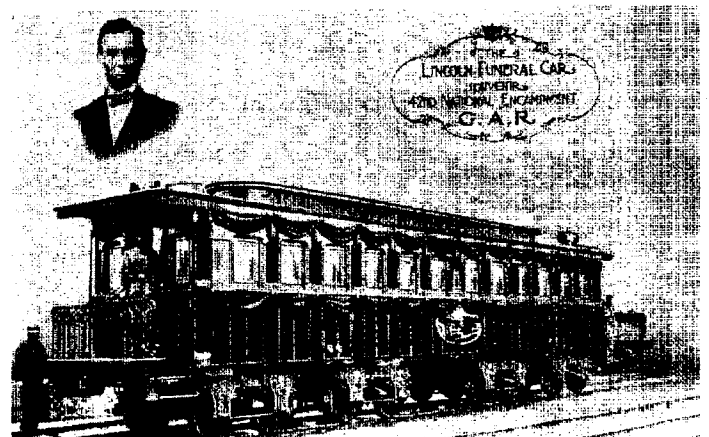
30 September, 1995	
Revenue	\$1,359.75
Expenditures	(1,737.02)
Excess of Expenditures over Revenue	\$377.27

<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	
Beginning of Period	\$5,288.91

<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	
End of Period	<b>\$4,911.64</b>

Yours in F., C. and L.,

*James J. Williams*  
Treasurer



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## Department Officer Reports

### Graves Registration

The last few months have been busy ones for this committee. Thanks to Bro. Bill Morris, Secretary of Camp No. 145, we have a graves registration section, on the SUVCW Homepage. Bro. Morris has set up this site in cooperation with the Genesee Area Freenet, in Flint, MI. The Homepage is located at Louisiana State University's Civil War Center. How to get there? World Wide Web site: <http://www.cwc.lsu.edu> -then choose "Civil War Related Web Links", then "Indexes", then "Sons of Union Veterans".

Check out the graves registration section, but don't miss the rest of the pages! In the graves registration area we have a welcome message which explains our committee structure, our goals and our purpose. There are how-to process sheets for researching and recording Civil War veterans buried in Michigan cemeteries, and on ordering Civil War veteran military records through the National Archives. There will soon be a copy of the newest graves registration form available for downloading. We are working to have a list of Civil War veterans burial sites listed, by city and county, starting with Genesee County. In the future, we hope to have a list of e-mail contacts for Camp and Department graves registration officers and Department and National Committee members, so that there is a listing for quicker communication. All members involved will be contacted to see if they approve before their address added.

We are already getting requests for research assistance for all areas of the state and even requests for help in other states. One request is for a headstone for an unmarked Civil War veterans grave in Pennsylvania, by a Michigan descendant. The Pennsylvania Department is working with us through e-mail and snail mail and have been very helpful.

The National has approved the newest graves registration form for copying. It may be distributed to interested parties who are helping us with this project. (The form is still copy-writed by the SUVCW.) We are required to make all copies double sided, so that the instructions are always with the form. (Form on front, instructions on back.) All Camp graves registration officers are urged to contact Bros. Ralston or Warren or myself to receive copies for masters for your camp. Remember that we need to know your names and addresses so that we may contact you. Our last article received two responses to our request for this information. We would like to thank Camps 58 and 22 for their quick response!!

We would also like to remind all members who are using the graves registration forms to please fill the forms out completely, before turning them in to your Camp officer. A cemetery can not be considered complete until all definite veterans forms are fully completed and turned in. When the Camp officer has reviewed forms and checked for accuracy and completeness, he is to make a copy of each form, keep the original for the Camp and send the copy up to Department committee. The Department committee will then enter forms into database, make a copy for National committee and send a copy of the form and disk file up to National.

We are working on a process sheet, with procedures for

each step and then addresses for where to send the data and to store the copies. These will be posted on the SUVCW Homepage as soon as completed. If Camp officers send in their addresses, information will be mailed to those without Internet connection.

We would like to use the Homepage as a means of distributing information for the Department of Michigan graves registration committee. This would get information out more quickly and less costly.

Bro. Morris would like to have Camps have an interest in the Freenets in their areas. As Lapeer and Shiawassee Counties come on line for our Camp No. 145, he will post those counties' Civil War veterans' data on line there. He suggests that we do this for each county that we have a Camp in. People who get to the LSU Homepage would be able to view your Camps' list of veterans and would hopefully contact the Camp for more information. (A possible recruit!) The list only contains name, unit, cemetery locality, county and state. Interested parties would have to contact you for more detailed data.

I would like to remind you that the Lot Smith Camp, in Salt Lake City, Utah is back on-line. I have recently contacted their commander to see if they will still research Civil War veterans' military records for us. I will post his response in next article.

If you have Internet access, stop by the National Park Service's Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Homepage. It is a great site and it is where we are sharing our data that we collect.

I hope to hear from the rest of the Camp graves registration officers soon and from anyone who has a suggestion or question for our committee.

In F., C. and L.,

*Gene A. Taylor*  
Department Graves Registration Officer

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### 1996 Camp Dues

This is just a reminder that as of January 1st, 1996 those who do not hold a Life Membership or Honorary Membership need to pay their dues for 1996. Paying your dues promptly eases the tasks of your Camp Treasurer and Camp Secretary.

Your Camp must pay Department and National per capita moneys whether a member pays his dues or not. The Camp is liable for the period of one year, until the non paying member can be dropped. (This was changed at the 1995 National Encampment to three months, but most Camp Bylaws still read one year.)

Should a member be dropped from the rolls of a Camp for non-payment of dues and later want to rejoin the SUVCW, he must pay any back dues owed, plus a possible penalty, before he is allowed to rejoin our ranks.

## The Eaton Battalion

To talk about the GAR in Eaton County you must talk first about the Eaton County Battalion. It was composed of the Posts in the cities and villages in the County, organized primarily for get-togethers or reunions which were held each summer at one of the cities voted by the Council of Administration, which was composed of battalion officers and two delegates from each of the various Posts. The Posts that constituted the Eaton County Battalion were:

Post No. 40	A. S. Williams	Charlotte
Post No. 107	Tim Lewis	Diamondale
Post No. 108	Earl Halbert	Grand Ledge
Post No. 111	James B. Brainerd	Eaton Rapids
Post No. 112	John Cryderman	Mulliken
Post No. 163	Edward Dwight	Vermontville
Post No. 213	James B. Mason	Belleview
Post No. 275	Lewis Clark	Olivet
Post No. 283	Samuel Grinnell	Sunfield
Post No. 326	Orlando D. Jackson	Potterville

The officers in the Battalion were the Colonel Commanding, Lieutenant Colonel, Quartermaster, Quartermaster Sergeant, Sergeant Major, Chaplain, Surgeon and Adjutant.

There is no record found to date as to the date or place the Battalion was instituted, but the records at hand (incomplete) give the year 1883 and show that the eighth encampment was held in the village of Olivet in 1890 (George W. Keyes, Colonel Commanding), at which time it was voted by the Council of Administration to hold the next meeting in the City of Charlotte. At the meeting of the Council of Administration held in Charlotte on June 20, 1891, it was voted to attend the National Encampment at Detroit the first week in August and it was further decided that, on account of the National Encampment, the County Battalion Encampment should be postponed until the following year and the elected officers held over.

From the record, I quote the following: "The Eaton County Battalion went to Detroit to attend the National Encampment. Quarters were furnished at Camp Walker, Detroit, where the Colonel of the Battalion established his headquarters. The Battalion, nearly 800 strong, participated in the General Parade on Tuesday, August 4th. Everything passed in a pleasant manner."

At each encampment the Council of Administration selected the Colonel Commanding and, as an honor to him, the reunion was automatically held in the city of the Post of which he was a member. At subsequent meetings it was voted that the Battalion should furnish the campgrounds, wood, straw for beds and water, and that each Post furnish its own tents, hay and provisions. Later, tents were set up in company or Post streets and each Post was segregated and the set up was as nearly like military regulations as possible.

The encampments generally lasted five days. The Post entertaining, with the assistance of citizens, generally arranged a full program. One of the imposing sights was the dress parade at sunset each day. The Battalion was drawn up in a company front before the Battalion officers for inspection. The Diamonddale fife and drum corps were always present to "troop in line" and after its completion, each Post swung into line and marched to their quarters.

The fife and drum corps consisted of "Jakie" Riggles and Albert Bateman on fifes, Edwin Vanderbeck and Ed French on snare drums (sometimes accompanied by Cornelius M. Letts of Eaton Rapids) and Andrew Pray on bass drum. They always made a hit whenever they attended Battalion meetings and state and national encampments (Riggles, Letts and Pray were Civil War Veterans.)

At the close of the Battalion meeting held in Charlotte, August 30, 1907, it was voted that the next meeting be held in Eaton Rapids. The City Council had given the Battalion permission to use the island in the Grand River. A committee of citizens helped them pitch their tents and furnished straw for their beds. The New Charlotte Gas Company piped gas to the island and installed several gas ranges, housed in a tent, for their convenience. Being only one-half block away from the business district, the setting was ideal, enabling them to purchase supplies everyday. Besides this, a citizens' day was held with all kinds of entertainment for their pleasure, with a band concert at their campfire at night.

It was year to year until it was thought best to cancel the encampments. In 1927 there were only thirty-four comrades registered, against about 1500 to start, and in 1929, the number was considerably less. Thus, the Eaton Battalion, which had been with us every August for the past twenty-two years, passed out of existence, but the memory of those old boys clad in blue, their hair tinged with gray and their steps faltering, will remain with the younger generation for all time.

In closing, it is my hope to one day rededicate the GAR monument on the island.

*Jeffery Adams, JVC*  
Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17

*The preceding article was from a program given by Brother Adams to the members of his Camp and submitted by Brother Keith Harrison. Accompanying the article were two pictures, one of the GAR monument, the second picture was of the Michigan Historical Site plaque placed on the island.*

*The text of the plaque reads: "This island, owned and operated by J. D. McAuliffe from 1872, was hailed as a 'shady retreat for pleasure seekers ... (with) a fine collection of animals and a museum of rare specimens'. In 1897 Eaton Rapids bought it for a city park. From 1908 until 1929 the Eaton County Battalion of the GAR held its annual encampment at what was then named Grand Army Park. Summer concerts, reunions and picnics brought many here over the years. A group formed in 1973 to save the island from erosion served to refocus attention on this spot." The monument has the intertwined letters GAR near the top with a GAR badge below them. The monument is engraved with this simple message: Our Fallen Heroes — from 1861 to 1865 — G. A. R. Park.*

*Also on the island is a 100 pounder Parrott rifle on a cement base on the South end pointing upstream and a 40 pounder Parrott on an iron frame base pointing downstream. A bronze plaque set in a large rock also tells of a "GAR Tree" planted on the island by members of James Brainerd Post 111 on October 25, 1910.*

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## Camp News

### Camp No. 3 Henry E. Plant

*Fruitport* - To start out, we have two corrections from our report in the August 1995 Messenger. First, the Camp Charter we were given was for the General Philip Kearney Camp No. 15 that existed in the 1920's and 30's (not the 19th Century). The second is that Charles Hackley, the lumber baron from Muskegon, gave money to the Kearney GAR Post for the statue of General Kearney in Muskegon. And as far as we know, Mr. Hackley wasn't a member of the GAR.

In August, we held our first Camp picnic. It went well and a good time was had by all in attendance. We are planning to have another next summer.

At our August meeting the status of our Camp's obtaining flags was brought up. It will be checked into.

Also, we are thinking about presenting a slide show on the Civil War as an educational event for the public in which we would raise funds and get publicity for the Camp. The slide show would be given by our present Commander, Max Riekse, a military history expert and teacher.

Our Camp this summer has been working on getting permission to better locate Henry E. Plant's military grave marker (which we obtained in 1993) in relation to his private tombstone. The permission was obtained from the Crockery Township Cemetery Board and the marker will be moved.

Along with these activities we are getting ready to participate in some Memorial Day and festival parades in our area. We hope to include some local reenactor units to help spice up our appearance.

Our next meeting is scheduled for November 11 at 1:30 pm at the Tri-Cities Historical Museum in Grand Haven. Following our regular meeting, the Camp will be conducting a Veteran's Day ceremony at the graveside of our namesake, Henry E. Plant, in Nunica Cemetery. All Brothers who wish to, may attend our meeting and ceremony.

*Daniel Grable*

In the latter part of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Michigan veterans erected monuments to mark their Regiment's locations at several Civil War battlefields. These monuments may be found at the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park (GA), the Gettysburg National Military Park (PA), the Shiloh National Military Park (TN), the Vicksburg National Military Park (TN) and the Andersonville Prison site (GA).

In addition, the State of Michigan has placed Michigan Historical Markers at the Perryville Battlefield State Park (KY), the Stones River National Battlefield (TN), the Battle of South Mountain site (MD) and Tebbs Bend (Taylor Co., KY).

### Camp No. 7 Governor Austin Blair

*Jackson* - Cemetery work continues as a central focus for members of Camp Blair. In the last two months, we have taken advantage of good weather to reset Civil War veteran's headstones in Jackson County's largest cemetery. Nearly a hundred of those who fought to save the Union between 1861 and 1865 were buried in long rows at the front of the cemetery. Over the years, many of their headstones had sunk into the ground hiding the veterans names and making overall appearance unsightly.

Our first effort was with brute force, four of our men straining to lift the stone before installing a crushed stone base topped off with a brick foundation about two feet below the surface. Then after lowering the stone onto this new footing, the dirt was firmly tamped in around the stone. When finished, there was no evidence that it had been disturbed since it was originally set.

Everyone knew there must be a better way to do this and our retired Navy SeaBee, Max Miller, came up with a solution demonstrating the SeaBee's "Can Do" motto. He took three long oak 2 x 4's and fashioned a portable tripod, attached a come-along at the top with a chain, and with a rope around the stone to prevent any chipping or damage, gently hoisted each stone so the new foundation could be built in the hole. Almost effortlessly the stone was then replaced.

Members of Camp Blair look with great pride at their project as the rows began to even out. We can believe the members GAR would be proud that long after their last muster, they have not been forgotten.

One final note, our Brother, Thayne LaBanta is recuperating at this writing from a serious car accident. He was alone in the car, just returning from visiting his wife in a nursing home, when he was struck broadside. Both cars were totaled, the other driver was uninjured. Thayne was hospitalized several days for tests and is now home nursing some bruised ribs. We hope he soon is back to being as active as before and no further complications develop. Most of our Department Brothers know Thayne is one of less than 20 known men still with us, whose father served in the Civil War. He observed his 91st birthday while in the hospital.

*Bill Lowe*

Fort Macon on the North Carolina coast was occupied by U. S. troops in World War II, for the first time since its capture from the Confederates in 1862. Fireplaces provided the only heat and some unsuspecting soldiers rolled cannonballs into position for use as andirons, mistaking them for solid shot. The power filled balls exploded, killing two men and injuring several others. This resulted in the following syndicated newspaper headline:

Confederate Shell Kills Two Yankee Soldiers  
80 Years After It Was Fired

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



## Camp News

### Camp No. 43 Nash-Hodges

*Blissfield* - William C. Lentz, 65, of Blissfield died Saturday, August 26, 1995, at Bixby Medical Center in Adrian.

He was born July 8, 1930, in Edwardsville, Illinois, the son of Cloyce E. and Catherine F. (Lanham) Lentz. He was married on February 6, 1960, to Nellie Marie Slayden.

He served in the U. S. Navy and the U. S. Marine Corps during the Korean War and worked for Chrysler Corporation in Ann Arbor, retiring in 1988. He was a member of the Lou Diamond Detachment of the Marine Corps League, the American Legion Post No. 325, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Camp No. 43 and the Blissfield Kiwanis Club.

Surviving are his wife, Nellie Lentz of Blissfield; his mother, Catherine Lentz of Arizona; two daughters, Mrs. Dallas (Dawn) Butts of Blissfield and Mrs. John (Yvette) Deter of Leo, Indiana; three brothers, Dale, Carl and Jim Lentz; three sisters, Shirley Parker, Bonnie Gillian and Pat Lockhart; and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, one brother and two grandchildren.

With his passing, the members of Camp 43 lost a great friend and Past Camp Commander. In our area, Bill was very active in leading by example. In his Civil War uniform he gave talks to area school children in classroom type settings. Memorial Day Parades saw Bill participating in one way or another. On Veterans Day he could be seen placing a wreath for the unknown dead of the Civil War.

The members of Nash-Hodges Camp No. 43 mourn his passing and extend their deepest sympathies to his family.

*Wilbur Stzih*

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The number of men, by age, who served in the Union Army, Navy and Marines during the Civil war. (From the Adjutant General's Report.)

Age 10 and under.....	25
Age 11 and under.....	38
Age 12 and under.....	225
Age 13 and under.....	300
Age 14 and under.....	1,525
Age 15 and under.....	104,987
Age 16 and under.....	231,051
Age 17 and under.....	844,891
Age 18 and under.....	1,151,438
Age 21 and under.....	2,159,798
Age 22 and over.....	618,511
Age 25 and over.....	46,626
Age 44 and over.....	16,071

### Camp No. 53 Wa-bu-no

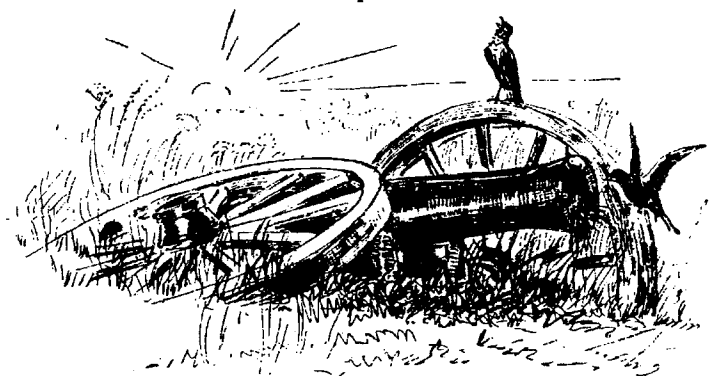
*Shepherd* - Wa-bu-no Camp No. 53 held its annual graves registration session at the Cherry Crest Cemetery in Clare on Saturday, October 7th. Much to our delight, we discovered a GAR plot which contained a monument, in the shape of an obelisk, placed there by Hancock Corps 185 of the Women's Relief Corps. The plot contained only three marked graves of Civil War veterans. We assume that there may be some unmarked grave sites on the plot. This is something we will have to check out with the cemetery sexton. Undoubtedly, there are some empty grave sites on the plot. If this is true, the Camp will exercise our legal rights and lay claim to the property in the name of the Order.

Several of the Brothers have voiced their concerns regarding laying claim to the GAR grave sites in our area. I, for one, believe that the National, or at least the Department, should establish the rules or policy for making these graves available to veterans. It is the consensus of opinion among Wa-bu-no that the graves should be available free to any indigent veteran and at a reduced cost to other military personnel, present or past. I, for one, would prefer to see private markers banned from these grounds. Requiring only military headstones will be more consistent with what was done by the GAR. In addition, it will perpetuate the military aura of the hallowed ground.

While registering graves, we came across the private tombstone of James M. Gerren, born 1851, died 1905. At the base of his stone was engraved GAR. If this is accurate, Gerren would have been 14 years old at the end of the Civil War. Imagine, a veteran before he was able to wear long pants. I know that this is not unusual for the period, but I still find it difficult to accept.

Wa-bu-no Camp No. 53 will hold Remembrance Day ceremonies beside the grave of our namesake, Thomas Wa-bu-no, at the Riverside Cemetery in Mt. Pleasant, at 2:00 pm on Sunday, November 12th. If you are out on a Sunday drive, please join us in this solemn ceremony to honor those who gave so much that we might enjoy the fruits of freedom.

*Don Workman*





## Ancestor Vignette

Guilford D. Taylor  
Private  
3rd Michigan Infantry  
Company C

Great Great Grandfather  
of  
Max Riekse  
Henry E. Plant Camp No. 3

Private Guilford Dudley Taylor was born June 1, 1847 in the Town of Herman, County of St. Lawrence, in the State of New York. He was listed as being from Kent County at the time of his going into the 3rd Michigan Infantry, Company C. He was living at the time, however, in Coopersville, which is in Ottawa County. Guilford was almost fourteen years old when he walked from Coopersville to Grand Rapids, a distance of some 15 miles, and enlisted for three years in Company C on May 13, 1861. His pension papers however, have him enlisting on June 3rd, 1861, which would be two days after his 14th birthday. He was mustered on June 10, 1861. Guilford is listed on the muster rolls as being 19 years old. He most likely lied about his age, as many did at that time, in order to enlist in the Army to fight for the Union. Private Taylor was discharged in Virginia for disability on October 1, 1861. The 3rd Michigan participated in a reconnaissance action at Blackburn's Ford, Virginia July 18, 1861 and was also at the First Battle of Bull Run on July 21, 1861, which was the first major battle of the war.

Like many Civil War veterans, Guilford D. Taylor joined a local Grand Army of the Republic Post. In his case, he was a member of Randal Post No. 238, located in Coopersville, as per Post Muster Rolls dated March 30th, 1884 and June 30th, 1884. He was probably one of its first members. The Post was started in late 1883 or early 1884. Again, like many Civil War veterans, Guilford received a government pension from the U. S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions as a result of his Civil War service. In the 1880's, there was a great deal of activity on the part of Civil War veterans groups and specifically the GAR, to secure benefits for their members. Guilford first received notice that he was entitled to a pension on June 6, 1888 and received an increase to \$30.00 per month in 1918. On June 23, 1924, his pension was increased to \$72.00 per month. He died February 9th or 10th, 1930 and is buried in the Coopersville Cemetery, along with related Civil War veterans.

Guilford D. Taylor's granddaughter, Alta (Lillie) Reynolds and his great granddaughter, Cleo L. (Reynolds) Riekse, were members of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861 - 1865. Both Alta Reynolds and Cleo Riekse were members of the Alice Casey Risley DUV Tent No. 31, which was instituted in Coopersville on September 14, 1926. Alta was the Tent's Treasurer for a time. Tent No. 31 was disbanded in 1929. Many of its members, however, including Alta and Cleo, continued their involvement with local Civil War veterans, such as taking them fruit baskets and cards until the late 1930's

*Max Riekse*

## Coming Events

**November 11** **Grand Rapids**  
**Veterans Day Parade** — Brothers from General John A. Logan Camp No. 1 and Henry E. Plant Camp No. 3, along with reenactors of the 3rd Michigan Infantry and 7th Michigan Infantry Fife and Drum Corps will march in the parade. All Brothers interested are welcome to fall in the ranks as they form up on the corner of Monroe and Michigan at 7:00 pm.

**November 11** **Detroit**  
**Historical Marker Dedication** — The 24th Michigan Volunteer Infantry reenactors invite all SUVCW members to the dedication of a second Historical Marker honoring the Iron Brigade and the 24th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment. The ceremony will take place at 1:00 pm in Kennedy Square, in downtown Detroit, corner of Michigan and Woodward Avenues (the eastern terminus of U. S. 12, the "Iron Brigade Memorial Highway). The marker was funded by the SUVCW, MOLLUS and the 24th reenactors. The program will feature speakers, the unveiling of the marker and a military salute. Underground parking available below Kennedy Square at \$2.00 per car.

**November 12** **Mt. Pleasant**  
**Remembrance Day Ceremony** — Wa-bu-no Camp No. 53 will hold Remembrance Day ceremonies beside the grave of the Camp's namesake, Thomas Wa-bu-no, at Riverside Cemetery in Mt. Pleasant, at 2:00 pm on Sunday November 12th. All Brothers are invited to join in this solemn ceremony to honor those who gave so much that we might enjoy the fruits of freedom.

**November 18** **Gettysburg, PA**  
**Remembrance Day Ceremony** — Parade, ceremony and recitation of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address with a Civil War period Ball following in the evening.

**February 12 through December 1996** **Lansing**  
**Michigan's Civil War Flags** — Forty selected Michigan Regimental Flags from the State of Michigan's collection will be on display on a rotating basis. The display will commence on Lincoln's birthday and run through the end of 1996. In conjunction with the flags display, there will be a period homefront scene, a cemetery setting, a battlefield diorama and some Civil War artwork; along with cannons used by the Loomis Battery of Coldwater, Civil War uniforms, military equipment and rare photographs. A video program will present the entire flag collection to museum visitors. The exhibit will cover 4,600 square feet. At the Michigan Library and Historical Museum, 717 West Allegan Street, Lansing, MI; two blocks East of M-99, the previously named (General John A.) Logan Street.

Submissions for Coming Events are welcome. If your Camp is planning a special meeting or event and would like to have Brothers from other Camps attend, or if you know of a Civil War related event in your area, please send in the details, along with the name of the event, date, time and place of the event, so it may be included in the Coming Events calendar.

## Our Heritage

*From the official proceedings of the Grand Army of the Republic the following Resolutions are quoted, showing the official recognition of our organization, by the Parent Order, from our earliest history to the recent past.*

From Resolution adopted at the 15th Annual Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, June 1881, we quote: "The Sons of Veterans are all that their name implies: that they are of the best blood of the land, and as such should be encouraged in following the footsteps of their illustrious predecessors."

From the report of the committee on the address of Commander-in-Chief Van Dervoort, at the 17th Annual Encampment, July 1883: "Resolved, That we hail with pleasure all organizations having for their object the perpetuity of the principles which are dear to us, and we recognize in the Sons of Veterans of the U. S. A. one that is entitled to the support of all comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic."

Resolution adopted at the 22nd Annual Encampment, September, 1888: "Resolved, That this encampment endorse the Objects and Purposes of the Order of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. and hereby give to that Order official recognition of the Grand Army of the Republic and recommend that Comrades aid and encourage the institution of Camps of Sons of Veterans, U. S. A."

At the 23rd Annual Encampment, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 26-28, 1889: "Resolved, By the 23rd National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic that the Order Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. is hereby recognized and we bid them 'Godspeed' in their noble and patriotic work and recommend to all sons of ex-Union soldiers and sailors over the age of eighteen years that they unite with that Order, so as to be prepared to take up and carry on the work of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty and the maintenance of the Federal Union, saved and preserved by their fathers."

At the 35th Annual Encampment, Cleveland, Ohio, 1901: "Resolved, That the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. be invited to hold the Annual Encampment of their Commandery-in-Chief at the same time and place fixed for the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic."

At the 54th Annual Encampment, 1920: "Resolved, That the column of parade at such future Encampments include, First, an escort of uniformed Sons of Veterans not exceeding one hundred (100) in number."

At the 57th Annual Encampment, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1923, the Committee on Rules and Regulations presented the following: "That so much of the Rules and Regulations as is necessary be amended to provide for the members of the organization of the Sons of Veterans meeting with the Post in regular session, without vote."

At the 61st Annual Encampment, Grand Rapids, Michigan, August 29-September 4, 1927: "That in order that the status of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War may be more clearly indicated and determined in its relation with the Grand Army of the Republic, we have agreed upon and report for consideration of this Encampment, the following Resolution, to wit: 'Resolved, That We, the Representatives of the 61st Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, in session in Grand Rapids, Michigan, this third day of September, A. D. 1927, do hereby recognize the noble, generous and patriotic objects, aims and purposes of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and believe that Organi-

zation to be worthy of the support and encouragement of all loyal people; and be it Resolved, That we cheerfully extend to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War a cordial welcome as an allied society of the Grand Army of the Republic and we bid this Organization of our Sons 'Godspeed' in the noble work to which it is so consecrated, and recommend to all Departments, Posts and Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic to accept their services on all occasions when it is proper to do so, to the end that it may increase and prosper and teach to future generations of our Nation the principles of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.'"

At the 65th Annual Encampment, Des Moines, Iowa, September 14-17, 1931: "Resolved, That the Grand Army of the Republic established and have given proper observance to Memorial Day since 1868, we in National Encampment now assembled grant whatever right we have to maintain our memories and see that our graves are properly decorated on Memorial Day to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and protest against any other Organization usurping that right in any place where a Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans exists. Unanimous vote of the Committee."

The Sons of Union Veterans as an Order, is unique and practically stands alone as a society of men formed and maintained primarily for honoring and aiding another entirely independent society. Its most practical purposes are to assist the Grand Army of the Republic and to honor the men who fought for the preservation of the National Union. Briefly, therefore, this Order is patriotic, charitable and educational.

The present organization is a combination of several independent organizations. To no one person can the honor be given of originating the Son of Union Veterans of the Civil War. In 1878, in the City of Philadelphia, Anna M. Ross Post No. 94 GAR formed a GAR Cadet Corps, composed of the sons of Union Soldiers, Sailors and Marines. These Cadet Corps came to be designated as the Philadelphia or Eastern Pennsylvania Sons of Veterans. In New England a similar movement became known as the Earp Sons of Veterans, owing to the activity of Bro. Edwin Earp, of Lynn, Massachusetts. These were later allied to the Philadelphia Sons of Veterans. The Albany Sons of Veterans were known as the Post System in view of the fact that in the titles of the officers and form of organization it followed closely that of the GAR. The organization originating in Pittsburgh was known as the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. and was fathered and actively promoted Major A. P. Davis of Pittsburgh, the first Camp (Davis Camp) being organized November 12, 1881. Dissensions in the East Pennsylvania continued to grow and the success of the Sons of Veterans, U. S. A. of Western Pennsylvania resulted in consolidation. Pursuant to orders issued by "Col. H. T. Rowley, Provisional Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans," the first annual session of the Commandery-in-Chief, U. S. A. was held at Pittsburgh, PA., October 18, 1882. The sessions were held at the Headquarters of Davis Camp No. 1. At this Encampment a ritual, signs, grips, etc. were adopted and exemplified and all factions eventually combined with this group. At the 42nd Annual Encampment held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, September 1923, the name of the Order was officially changed to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Originally incorporated in the State of Illinois, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was granted a Congressional Charter in 1954, Public Law 605, 83rd Congress.

Our Auxiliary, originally known as the Ladies Aide Society, was organized in 1886 as a National Organization, but the very first Ladies Aid Society was formed in Philadelphia in 1883.

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

## Reader Survey

In an effort to improve Michigan's Messenger I am conducting a survey of our readers to gauge your likes and dislikes of what is printed in the newsletter. I would also like your input as to what changes you feel are needed to make the Messenger more interesting. Some of the questions deal with whether you would like to see the newsletter expanded in the number of articles and pages (i. e., you would like to see more information printed), remain the same (i. e., okay as is, about 12 pages per issue) or whether it should be reduced in the number of pages (i. e., too many non-essential articles).

The newsletter currently absorbs quite a large chunk of the Department's yearly budget and an increase in the number of pages per issue can be accommodated without much additional expense to the Department. Please read the questions thoroughly and check off or write out your answers. Your opinions count! The results of the survey will be printed in the February 1996 issue.

To help you in your decisions, here are some current costs for the newsletter. The photocopying process is used to reproduce the Messenger instead of printing to keep down costs. This produces acceptable copies for the cost involved, but does have its limitations. The image quality is not the sharpest and does not allow for good reproduction of photographs. If the text is reproduced dark and sharp, photographs tend to be very muddy looking. If the copier is set to reproduce an acceptable photo, the text will appear to be washed out, sometimes to the point of being unreadable. Therefore I don't run photos, only line drawings. Currently, four issues per year are produced, 375 copies per issue (approximately 35 are extra copies for handouts), with an average of 12 pages per copy on 20# bond paper. Copying costs are 4.5¢ per two pages (double sided copy) or 27¢ per 12 pages. The corner staple costs an additional 2¢ each, for a total of 29¢ per copy. The costs for one quarterly issue amount to \$108.75 or \$435.00 per year. A 16 page/375 copy newsletter would cost 38¢ per copy, \$142.50 per quarter and \$570.00 per year.

In addition to the copying costs, we incur a cost of 12¢ per piece for mailing at the letter size (folded to 5.5 in. x 8.5 in.). This gives us a postage cost of \$40.80 per quarter or \$163.20 per year based on 340 pieces mailed. The total cost, copying and postage, is then 41¢ per mailed 12 page copy, \$149.55 per quarter and \$598.20 per year, including unmailed handouts. Total costs for a 16 page newsletter would be 50¢ per copy mailed, \$183.30 per quarter and \$733.20 per year, including handouts. The newsletter is folded and stapled for mailing at no cost to the Department. Sixteen is the practical limit to the number of pages that can be folded handily to letter size. Any more than that and the newsletter must be mailed flat (in an envelope), increasing the postage costs to 17¢ per piece (plus the cost of the envelope). These postage rates apply up to a limit of about 3.5 ounces.

Having the Messenger printed rather than photocopied would allow for the inclusion of photographs and a magazine style format similar to the Banner. However, the cost would be prohibitive (\$1.00 to \$1.25 per copy mailed), due to the limited number of copies.

With the background information now in mind, let's get on with the survey. Listed below are headings that are currently printed in the newsletter. Please check the box that is most appropriate to your answer. Do you read the following?

	Never	Sometimes	Usually	Always
Department Orders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Department Officer Reports	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Camp News	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ancestor Vignettes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coming Events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Camp Meeting Times, Dates and Places	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Since the reintroduction of the Messenger by PDC James Pahl in 1993, the articles appearing in it have been written for the most part by the Department Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Secretary and Treasurer, with occasional articles by other Department officers. Would you like to see more Department Officers and Committees make informative reports and/or write articles appropriate to their office in the Messenger?

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Historian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chaplain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patriotic Instructor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SVR Adjutant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legislative Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	GAR/SV Archival Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bylaws Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Veterans Affairs Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Graves Registration Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Continued on reverse)

Participation in the reporting of Camp News has been sporadic at best, with some Camps reporting regularly, some occasionally and some not at all.

Would you like to see the Camp News section:  Dropped  Have more Camps report what they are doing

We have about 340 Brothers in the Department, yet there has been a very low percentage (9 Brothers or 2.6% of the membership) have sent in 18 Ancestor Vignettes as of October 1995.

Would you like to see the Ancestor Vignette section:  Continued  Dropped

With the publishing of the August 1995 issue of the Messenger, Camp meeting information was removed from the coming events list (calendar) and was given its own section. This was done because of the number of Camps and their meeting dates had grown to such an extent that I could not list them all, plus all the Civil War related events going on in the state for the next three month period on one page.

Do you think the Coming Events section should be:  Continued  Dropped

Do you think the Camp Meeting Times, Dates and Places should be:  Continued  Dropped  Run once annually

From time to time, other articles have appeared in the Messenger, mostly as filler pieces. It is my personal feeling that articles printed in the Messenger should be limited to topics on the GAR, SUV, Allied Orders, Civil War veterans, etc. Articles on the Civil War itself, reenactments, etc., are better left to the many Civil War magazines and newspapers being published.

Would you like to see articles on the Civil War in the Messenger?  Yes  No

Would you like to see articles on Civil War reenactments in the Messenger?  Yes  No

Would you like to see short histories of Michigan's SUV Camps, past and present, in the Messenger?  Yes  No

Would you like to see short histories of Michigan's GAR Posts in the Messenger?  Yes  No

Would you like to see more pages in the newsletter if enough articles are submitted to warrant the expansion?  Yes  No

Would you like to see a reader response (return fire?) column in the Messenger?  Yes  No

Would you like to see a wanted/for sale section in the Messenger?  Yes  No  
(SUVCW members only. This would be subject to Department Council approval.)

What other subjects would you like to see appear in the Messenger? \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you approve of the style changes and the Department officer listing on the first page of this issue?  Yes  No

Are there any other changes you would like to see made in the Messenger? If so, please list them on a separate sheet of paper.

Any comments you have concerning the Messenger are also welcome.

Please send the completed survey to:

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

Thank you for taking the time and trouble to fill out and mail in this survey. The results will help improve your newsletter!

*John Mann*

Your Camp Name and No. \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

## Camp Meeting Times, Dates and Places

- Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1** **Grand Rapids**  
Meets at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, January through December at the Michigan Veteran's Facility, 3000 Monroe NE, Grand Rapids.
- Henry E. Plant Camp No. 3** **Fruitport**  
Meets at 1:30 pm on January 15th, April 23, August 20th and November 11th, 1995 at the Tri-Cities Historical Museum, 1 North Harbor Ave., Grand Haven.
- Gov. Austin Blair Camp No. 7** **Jackson**  
Meets at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Monday of January, March, May, July, September and November at the American Legion Hall, 3200 Lansing Ave., Jackson.
- George W. Howe Camp No. 9** **Port Huron**  
Meetings held once quarterly. Contact Commander Jack Lavis, P. O. Box 302, Marysville, MI 48040, (810) 364-9691 for time, date and place of meetings.
- Robert Finch Camp No. 14** **Traverse City**  
Meetings held once quarterly. Contact Commander Allen A. Pifer, 815 Westminster Woods, Traverse City, MI 49684, (616) 947-9533 for time, date and place of meetings.
- Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17** **Lansing/Sunfield**  
Meetings at 7:00 pm on the last Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Grand Army of the Republic Hall, Main St., Sunfield.
- Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20** **Kalamazoo**  
Meetings at 7:00 pm on the last Tuesday of the month, with the exception of June, July and August at the American Legion Hall, 431 E. South St., Kalamazoo.
- Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22** **Marshall**  
Meetings at 7:30 pm on the 1st Thursday of each month, with the exception of July and August at the Grand Army of the Republic Hall, 402 E. Michigan Ave., Marshall.
- Alexander French Camp No. 28** **Big Rapids**  
Meetings at 7:30 pm on the 1st Tuesday of January, April, July and October at the Free Methodist Church, Big Rapids.
- Nash-Hodges Camp No. 43** **Blissfield**  
Meetings at 7:00 pm on the 1st Sunday of January, February, March, May, July, September, October and November at the Blissfield Historical Museum, 105 North Lane St., Blissfield.
- Wa-Bu-No Camp No. 53** **Mt. Pleasant**  
Meetings at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Thursday of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Shepherd Museum, corner of First St. and Maple St., Shepherd.
- George W. Anderson Camp No. 58** **DeWitt**  
Meetings at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Monday of January, March, May, July, September and November at VFW Post 671, 12550 South US 127, DeWitt.
- Gen. Phil Kearny Camp No. 67** **Bay City**  
Meetings at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, with the exception of January and December at VFW Post 485, 3022 N. Water St., Bay City.
- Gen. Ulysses S. Grant Camp No. 101** **Detroit**  
Meetings at 2:00 pm on the last Saturday of January, March, June and September at the Elmwood Cemetery Offices, 1200 Elmwood Ave., Detroit.
- Gilluly-Kingsley Camp No. 120** **Howell**  
Meetings at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month, January through December at the Howell Carnegie Library, 314 W. Grand River Ave., Howell.
- Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145** **Flint**  
Meetings at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of January, February, March, April, May, July, September, October and November at the Army Reserve Headquarters Building, 1909 Kearsley Park Dr., Flint
- Russell A. Alger Camp No. 462** **Camp-at-Large**  
No meetings.

Any SUVCW Brother may attend any regular meeting of any SUVCW Camp by presenting his current Official SUVCW Membership Card to the Camp officers. All Brothers are encouraged to visit other Camps within the Department.

### Michigan's Messenger

is the official newsletter of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and is published quarterly on the first of February, May, August and November. Michigan's Messenger is mailed to all Members and Associates of Camps within the Department as a service of their Department per capita taxes.

All Department Officers, Camps and Brothers are encourage to submit original articles of news or interest for inclusion in the newsletter.

### January 15th

is the deadline for the next issue of the Messenger.

Copy must be received by the editor by this date to ensure its inclusion in the February issue. Earlier submissions are most welcome.

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

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**SONS OF VETERANS.**

"A FAME THAT CLUSTERS BRIGHT AROUND  
THE BROWS OF LEADERS LAUREL CROWNED  
AND HONORED HEROES NEATH THE GROUND."