



Michigan's

Messenger

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

Volume XV, Number IV

Chartered June 24, 1884

Winter, 2007

John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus



Department Orders #4



Series 2006-2007

Headquarters Mayville, Michigan

1. I am pleased to welcome the William A. Kent Camp #83, of Greenville to the Department. Department Secretary, Dennis C. Derr II and I were honored to join Commander-In-Chief, James B. Pahl in presenting the Camp's Charter on January 22, 2007. An added treat was touring the Fighting Falcon Museum, home of the Camp. The museum honors the fact that America's World War II combat gliders were built in Greenville. Serving the Montcalm County area, Camp #83 is off to a fine start with a healthy agenda of projects to honor the Boys In Blue.
2. I am, likewise pleased to welcome the March To The Sea Camp #135 of Centreville to the Department. Again, Brother Derr accompanied me to Centreville to present the Camp's Charter on January 27, 2007. The Camp's prime service area will be St. Joseph County and some surrounding area. The unbounded enthusiasm and passion to "keep green the memory" are impressive and are sure to render the Camp #135's work a success.

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3. I am pleased to appoint Brother Matthew L. Adair to Chair the Department Credentials Committee. Encampment pre-registration may be sent to Matt at 409 Bent Oak Street, Fenton, Michigan, 48430-2288. Pre-registration fee is \$5.00 per Brother and must arrive before April 23, 2007.
4. The Department will convene in Annual Encampment on Saturday, April 28, 2007 in Lansing, Michigan. All Brothers are heartily encouraged to attend. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged as it serves to smooth out the load of the Credentials Committee and saves the pre-registering Brother half of his registration fee. More details of the upcoming Encampment may be found elsewhere in this issue of the "Messenger",
5. All Camps are requested to bring their Camp Colors and a suitable flag stand to the Department Encampment. The colorful display of Department and Camp colors at the Encampment room serves to represent the solidarity of all Camps and the Department as they stand, aligned together in a Color Line to the right of the Commander's station.
6. The Ulysses S. Grant Camp #101, of Detroit has fulfilled its annual reporting obligations of the 2006 fiscal year and is now reinstated, as of December 27, 2006.

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Camp #101 is now in good standing and entitled to act in the name of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War with all due privileges and obligations.

7. *I extend a hearty commendation and profound thanks to Brother Robert Mitchell for his extraordinary efforts to bring Camp #101 back to good standing. Time and again, Brother Mitchell went the extra mile (actually many miles!) to assist his Brothers. Well done, Robert.*
8. *With regret, I announce that George Howe Camp #9, of Port Huron is no more. With no realistic hope of restoring this Camp to good standing, and on my recommendation, Commander-In-Chief Pahl has revoked the Charter of the Howe Camp, effective December 31, 2006*
9. *I regret to report that five Brothers of the Department of Michigan have recently gone to march in the army of The Lord:*
 - a. *Although only recently reported, Brother James C. Wood passed away on October 28, 2006. He was a member of Alexander French Camp No. 28 based on his Great Grandfather, PVT. William Dix Everdon, 3rd PA Heavy Artillery. Brother Wood served his camp as Historian, Jr. Vice Commander, and a member of the Camp Council. At the time of his death he served as the Secretary of Camp #28.*
 - b. *Brother James B. Pugsley III of Carpenter- Welch Camp #180 went to his final review on January 15, 2007. Brother Pugsley joined the Order in 2002 by virtue of being the grandnephew of Sgt. Stephen H. Clayton, Co. F, 6th Tennessee Cavalry, US. Brother Clayton had served in several Camp offices and was active in the Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table.*
 - c. *Brother Michael D. Mitchell has gone to rest at Eternal Campfires. A Charter Member of Curtenius Guard Camp #17, had been very active in the Camp until the onset of prolonged illness. He was once the Department Senior Vice Commander and the recipient of the Abraham Lincoln Award. Brother Mitchell was an avid re-enactor, skirmisher and a member of the Sons of the Revolution. Brother Mitchell's great grandfather was Pvt. Jason C. Bradeen, Co. C, 2nd Maine Infantry.*
 - d. *Brother Dale F. Calder succumbed February 2, 2007 after a lengthy illness. The great grandson of Pvt. Johan M. Lerge, of the 6th Michigan Cavalry, Brother Calder had been a member of a number of Michigan Camps. He once Commanded the Henry Wallace Camp #160. At the time of his death he was a member of the Russell A. Alger Camp #462.*
 - e. *Brother Leo Cohoon, P.C.C departed February 14, 2007 to rest in the arms of The Lord. Details are still not in but Brother Cohoon was a Charter Member of Wa-Bu-No Camp #53 (now Camp #250) and was a Past Camp Commander. He had served in almost every office of that Camp and was, of late, the Camp Chaplain. A warm and engaging man, Brother Cohoon was also and active and passionate Mason.*

Noble Sons of noble sires have fallen. The Charters of all Camps will be draped for a period of thirty days in their memory

10. *All Camps are reminded that the Annual Camp Report (Form #27) is due no later than April 30, 2007. Be sure to use the new Form #27 this year, available for download from the National website. Reports submitted on any other form cannot be accepted.*
11. *All Camps are reminded that, beginning this year, each Camp must file a Form 990 or 990EZ with the Internal Revenue Service. To clarify, the actual report will be filed in early 2008 for the 2007 reporting year. While this item will be amplified in months to come, some details are elsewhere in this issue of "Michigan's Messenger"*

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12. I am pleased to announce the Department Nominating Committee. Including Brothers John Keith of Camp #20, Bill Kuzinski of Camp #139, Rick Danes of Camp #427, and Jeff Morse of Camp #14, the committee is chaired by Brother Robert Mitchell of Camp #462. Contact Brother Robert Mitchell, prior to April 1, 2007 at 1504 Longfellow Street, Detroit, Michigan 48206-2000 Phone: (313)866-8630, e-mail: RMITC02@americitech.net if you are interested in running for any Department office at the 118th Annual Department Encampment.
13. I am pleased to announce the appointment of the Department Awards Selection Committee. Brother Jim Lyons, PDC of Camp #17 is the Chairman with Brothers John Keith of Camp #20, and Richard Scott of Camp #3 serving with him. Nominations for Department Awards should be sent to Department Secretary, Dennis C. Derr II, 4033 Horizon Drive, Davison, MI 48423. These nominations should be made in writing prior to April 1, 2007.
14. These are the last Department Orders that I will write. I will not seek re-election when we meet at the 118th Annual Department Encampment. It has been my unparalleled privilege to lead the Department of Michigan for the past two years. I am honored to be included with the incredible men who have Commanded before me and grateful to have had the opportunity to help shape the future of the Department. It has long been my view that the Order (and the Department) are best served by the timely changing of the guard. New men bring fresh energy and new ideas to the table. As I write, good men are already stepping forward to offer their services to the Department. I will be forever grateful for the trust that my Michigan Brothers placed in me. Thank you, so much.

Respectfully submitted in F, C, & L,

March 1, 2007

/s/

attest /s/

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ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

Department Secretary's Report

Dennis C. Derr, II, P.C.C.

Brothers, I am very pleased to report that the following Camps submitted their properly completed Form 22's and Camp Rosters by the February 15th deadline:

2, 3, 7, 14, 17, 20, 22, 43, 83, 101, 120, 135, 145, 160, 180, 250, 255, and 266

I would like to extend my personal thanks and a job well done to the Commanders and Secretaries of these Camps. Not only did these Brothers do their part in helping the Department of Michigan to maintain its' good standing with the National Organization, SUVCW, but they also helped to make my job easier.

Brothers, thank you for all of your effort! It is greatly appreciated!

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Dennis C. Derr, II, P.C.C.
Secretary
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

TAPS

Brother James C. Wood passed away on October 28, 2006. He was a member of Alexander French Camp No. 28 based on his Great Grandfather, PVT. William Dix Everdon, 3rd PA Heavy Artillery. Brother Wood served his camp as Historian, Jr. Vice Commander, and a member of the Camp Council. At the time of his death he served as the Secretary of Camp #28.

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DEPARTMENT TREASURER'S REPORT

Brian Shumway, Treasurer

Important Notice to Camp Treasurers & Councils

Previously, if a Tax-Exempt organization had gross receipts of less than \$25,000 they had no annual reporting responsibility with the IRS at all. This rule has applied to virtually all individual Camps for some time allowing us to avoid filing Form 990 or 990-EZ.

Now as a result of creation of IRC Section 6033 (j), such organizations must annually provide, in electronic form, certain information to the IRS in a manner that the IRS will prescribe by regulations. That information includes the organization's legal name, any name under which it operates and does business, its mailing address and internet website (if any), its taxpayer ID number, the name and address of a principal officer and evidence of the continuing basis for the organizations exemption from filing requirements. Also, the organization must notify the IRS when its existence is terminated.

Failure to do this for three consecutive years will result in the organization's loss of exempt status. That revocation would be effective from the last day that the organization could have timely filed the required notice.

The IRS is to notify every organization that must provide the notification of the requirement, and the penalty for failing to comply.

This will be effective for tax years beginning after 2006.

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To Whom It May Concern:

I'm a historical commissioner for Ingham County and I'm on a sub committee to create a Civil War Memorial for our county in Mason, Michigan. We have gathered over 300 names of vets that died during the war. The target is 2009 for the memorial and would like feedback about other county memorials, fact gathering, etc. The Memorial is in the infant stage and has not went to press as of yet. Any help would be appreciated.

Thanks for all you do,

Randy Gladstone

Ingham Co Historical Commission

<http://www.ingham.org/bc/hist/hist.htm>

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Messenger Editor

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Historian

John Keith

Guide

John McFeaters

Guard

Ed Dowd

Graves Registration

Rick Danes

GAR Records

James T. Lyons, PDC

Civil War Memorials

Douglas R. Armstrong,
PCC

Eagle Scout Coordinator

Charles Worley

Camp At Large

Coordinator
Robert Mitchell

Department Historian Report

John R. Keith

The definition of the word "historian" according to the Merriam-Webster online dictionary is-

- 1: a student or writer of history; especially: one who produces a scholarly synthesis.
- 2: a writer or compiler of a chronicle.

And the word "history" is defined as-

- 1: Tale, Story.
- 2: a chronological record of significant events (as affecting a nation or institution) often including an explanation of their causes.
- 3: a branch of knowledge that records and explains past events.
- 4: a. events that form the subject matter of a history; b: events of the past; c: the events or experience of former times.

Since I do nothing "scholarly", I would define my duties as Department of Michigan Historian as the compiler of a chronicle of the history of the significant events, activities, and happenings of all the Department of Michigan including all facets of the Department.

One would think I would be swamped with reports and other SUVCW related items coming in from Department Officers, Department Committees, Camp Officers, or Camp Committees. Actually every member of the Department of Michigan SUVCW holding an office or not, is invited and encouraged to send me items, reports, etc., that describes what your camp is involved in. Also I would be happy to add to our department files, information on your Civil War relative, like copies of pension files, copies of newspaper articles, vignettes, etc.

The sad truth is during my three years as Department Historian I have received only two or three mailings each year containing items to be included in the historian's file, and most are from the same brothers each year!

This has made my years as historian a very easy one. But it also concerns me and should every Brother of the Department of Michigan because if we don't file away "copies" of our events and what we have done, in one central location, future SUVCW Brothers or the public interested in what information we have and what we have done will have trouble locating it, and a lot of these very valuable truths about our department could be lost forever.

Please notice I stated "copies" of things to be sent to me, these items should also be on file with your camp historian, with a copy sent to me. Kind of like "not putting all your eggs in one basket."

I'm sure many of you can recite quotes and deeds from important people of our country's past. By important people, I don't just mean politicians or soldiers that helped shape our country. Your own ancestors are important people in your past. They helped make you what you are today and deserved to be remembered for future generations! I'm also talking about recording and keeping in a family file, remembrances and sayings handed down through your own family.

Words like these Abraham Lincoln spoke would be lost forever if nobody recorded them for future generations.

For instance-

The city of Springfield had never cast so large a vote for any candidate as it did for Lincoln in the Presidential election held on November 6th, 1860. Afterwards, the people called Lincoln from his home and demanded a speech, but he asked to be excused. He then thanked them for their support and congratulations, and remarked,

"In all our rejoicing let us neither express nor cherish any hard feelings towards any citizen who has differed from us. Let us at all times remember that all American citizens are brothers of a common country and should dwell together in the bonds of fraternal feeling."

Please send items via postal mail or email to me at the contact information below!

Thank you.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty:

John R. Keith

950 106th Avenue

Plainwell, MI 49080

Hardtackcw@aol.com

Department Graves Registration Committee

Rick Danes, Chairman

I can't go outside, it's too cold! Well that cry is almost out of vogue for this year, as we look to another productive warm season in the field. I have received messages from Jim Harris in Camp 2 about his new "assistant" Gary Grout, and their plans for the season; from Bill Lowe, who is putting together a team to survey Albion Cemetery; and through our Brothers in Camp 85 about their continued work. I hope that each of the other Camps have a PLAN to either complete their surveys, or to submit that work which has been completed. I am especially concerned about the areas that Camps 259, 43, 1, 3, 28, and 139 are surveying. We haven't heard from your Graves Officer in a while.

On another note, we now have over 57,200 records in the Department Database, and 1,100 more records submitted to the National Database (in addition to the 37,900+ reported at last year's National Encampment.

I have also received the following information from several Brothers about a planned increase in copying fees at the VA for veteran's records. Please send the included entity a message that we, as volunteers cannot afford to pay additional fees for families who are researching their deceased ancestor.

The National Archives and Records Administration is raising rates for photocopying records. The most drastic raise concerns Civil War Pension files. Researchers can currently order a complete Civil War pension file for thirty-seven dollars. Under the new pricing structure, it will now cost \$125. NARA is welcoming commentary on the new pricing structure. You can read more and make your comments at <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/E7-3162.htm>

Keep your pencils sharp and your shoes tied, and I hope to see you all at the GRO Meetings.

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

Department Monuments and Memorials Report

Historic Preservation and Interesting Find at Fort Washington

By Douglas Armstrong

In my trade as a brick and stonemason I've had the opportunity to work on some interesting and historical structures. Over the past two years, my company has been restoring historic Fort Washington on the Potomac River near Washington D.C. Last fall I spent four months working there.

Fort Washington was started in early 1800's as a defense of Washington. The American's prior to the British's attack on Washington burned the wooden structure. After the War of 1812, a new masonry fort was planned and built on the same location. It was used for several purposes by the U.S. Military from then until after World War II when it was given to the National Parks Service.

During the Civil War, Fort Washington was once again used as a defensive position. It was the only fortification on the Potomac defending the City at the outbreak of the War. Other temporary earthworks and fortifications would spring up fast though.

During my time at the fort, I took several opportunities to look around and see all that was to see. While on one of these excursions, I happened upon several locations of the fort where men had carved their initials and names into the stone and brick walls. These inscriptions held information that spanned the nearly 200 years of its existence.

One such inscription, was that of John J. Hetherington. During his days at the fort he found time to carve his full name, his hometown and county, and the year in two different locations on the outside stone walls of the fort.

John J. Hetherington, a member of "The First Defenders", and a soldier in Company E of Washington Artillery made the trip along with the other 475 Pennsylvanians to Washington in 1861.

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As a private in the Washington Artillery he had been mustered into service in 1846 during the Mexican-American War. The company was mustered out at Philadelphia, July 27th, 1848 and was received in their hometown of Pottsville, PA with honors.

With the onset of the Civil War, John Hetherington and his comrades of the Washington Artillery were recruited at Pottsville, PA and mustered in on April 18th, 1861 in Harrisburg as part of "The First Defenders". His first assignment upon arriving in Washington was to garrison duty at Fort Washington, where he was drilled by his officers and by Major J.A. Haskins, of the regular army, then in command of the fort. He was drilled in both heavy and light infantry tactics. He remained on duty at the fort until the close of his term of service.

I haven't been able to find any further information about Mr. Hetherington's service during the Civil War or after his return home. But, It was very interesting to have experienced some of the history and surroundings of John Hetherington's time and those who were stationed at Fort Washington through World War Two.

The First Defenders

Three days after President Lincoln's April 15, 1861, call for 75,000 volunteers, some 475 Pennsylvanians, comprising the ranks of five volunteer militia companies, arrived in the nation's capital. The oldest of the five companies was the National Light Infantry from Pottsville, which was organized thirty years before the Civil War in the summer of 1831. Organized in 1842, the Washington Artillery, also of Pottsville, was the only company of the five with any wartime experience, as this unit served as Company B, 1st Pennsylvania Volunteers in the Mexican-American War. The Ringgold Light Artillery of Reading was formed in 1850, while the Logan Guards of Lewistown came into being eight years later. The youngest of the five companies was the Allen Infantry of Allentown, which was organized just two years before the outbreak of civil war.

On the evening of April 17, 1861, all five companies arrived in Harrisburg, where, on the following morning, they were mustered into Federal service. Almost as soon as they were mustered, the men of the five companies boarded train cars and set off for the nation's beleaguered capital via Baltimore. Traveling along with the volunteers was a detachment of regular army troops who were ordered to report to Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor. Commanding this detachment was a man who in less than a week resigned his commission in the United States Army to take up arms with the Confederacy, and who, in July 1863, surrendered the city of Vicksburg to General U.S. Grant: John C. Pemberton.

With but a few exceptions, the volunteer militiamen made this journey unarmed as they were ordered to leave behind their weapons in their respective armories, and promised modern guns upon their arrival in Washington. Because no continuous rail line linked Harrisburg to Washington, it was necessary for the men to detrain in Baltimore, march two miles through the city to Camden Station, and board the railcars of another line. Unknown to most of the Pennsylvanians, however, the people of Baltimore were largely sympathetic to the Confederacy, and when word arrived that northern volunteer troops were on their way, a mob began forming around the depot, determined to prevent these men from marching through their city.

Around 1p.m. on the afternoon of April 18, the train cars carrying the volunteers came to a halt in Baltimore. The crowd, which numbered around 2,500—five times the size of the unarmed Pennsylvanians—greeted the arriving soldiers with insults and threats. Cries of "Three Cheers for Jeff Davis," and "Damn the Northern Abolitionists" were raised, and it became very clear to the Pennsylvanians that their time in service would be no pleasant change from daily occupations. The Baltimore City Police were soon called to provide safe passage for the troops through the city, but with each step the mob grew more vehement and more violent.

Some rushed toward the unarmed Pennsylvanians, landing a few well-thrown punches, while others spit on Lincoln's eager volunteers.

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When the five companies reached Camden Station, events took a turn for the worse. Here, many in the mob threw bricks, stones, and pieces of lumber, while others, yielding clubs, ran towards the Pennsylvanians. Many of the projectiles hit their mark. Some members of the Allen Infantry suffered broken bones, and a few others were knocked unconscious. Perhaps the most notable casualty that day, however, was Nick Biddle, the elderly African-American servant to Captain James Wren of the Washington Artillery, who was struck in the head with a brick-bat. Biddle survived the gruesome wound, and went down in much popular thought as the Civil War's very first casualty.

Ultimately, the members of the five companies boarded the train cars and nursed their wounded comrades. Around 7:00 p.m. on the evening of April 18, the volunteers finally arrived in Washington, where they were assigned quarters in the halls and chambers of the United States Capitol Building. Early the next day, a very much gratified and relieved President Lincoln met and shook hands with all 475 men and thanked them for their service and prompt arrival.

The First Defenders—as these companies would later be termed—spent the majority of their three-month term of service in guard and garrison duty in and around the nation's capital. The majority of these men would, however, reenlist in the summer of 1861 into three-year units, such as the 48th and 49th Pennsylvania Infantry, and the 7th Pennsylvania Cavalry. During their terms of service with these three-year organizations, many First Defenders became officers. Indeed, more than half of the soldiers who comprised the ranks of the Logan Guards alone became commissioned officers throughout the war, including no less than four brigadier generals. Sadly, there were also many First Defenders who would give their lives for their country. Although these soldiers witnessed much more of the brutalities and hardships of war than during their three-month term of service as members of the First Defender units, they would always carry the torch of their achievement and take great pride in being the very first volunteer troops to arrive in Washington after President Lincoln's April 1861 call-to-arms.

{Excerpts from John David Hoptak's book "First in Defense of the Union: The Civil War History of the First Defenders."}

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Israel B. Richardson Camp 2

By William Nash

On January 25, 2007, Camp #2 had honored guests CC Richard (Rick) Danes and PPC Jerry Olson—both of the Sergeant John S. Cosbey Camp No. 427 present for the meeting which included the annual installation of Officers. The 2007 slate of Officers included: Kevin Lindsey (Camp Commander, Memorials), Bruce Miller (Senior Vice Commander), William Nash (Junior Vice Commander, Chaplain, Camp Council), Carl Becker (Secretary, Patriotic Instructor), Rick Justice (Treasurer, Historian), Ray Shed (Camp Council, Guard), David Hall (Camp Council, Color Bearer), Jim Harris (Graves Registration), and Ralph Baughn (Guide). After the installation by Brother Danes, the Camp was treated to a DVD presentation by CC Lindsey on the recent Commemoration Ceremony of the 194th Anniversary of the River Raisin Battle, January 20, 2007. Brothers Lindsey and Nash attended the activity. CC Lindsey is a War of 1812 re-enactor and JVC is the Chaplain of the Michigan Society of the War of 1812. Camp # 2 currently has 14 members and one junior member on it's rolls. We're looking forward to another great year!



Shown above, Olson and Danes with the 2007 Camp 2 Officers, and Camp 2 Members

Henry E. Plant Camp #3

By Daniel Grable

This Fall our membership increased from 8 to 10 Brothers, with the Initiation of Clifford F. Owens, and PCC Ronald Bellenger. Brother Owen of Holland is the descendent of Charles Owen, Private Company H 55th Illinois Infantry from 28 October 1861 to 30 October 1864. He fought in the battle of Bentonville, N.C. where our Camp Namesake Henry E. Plant earned his Medal of Honor by rescuing the Regimental Flag. Later Charles owned property on Lake Michigan in what is now Port Sheldon Township, Ottawa County.

Our second new Member Bellenger who transferred his membership from Camp 20. Ron lives in Holland and his membership comes through Private James Daley, Company I, 26th New York Infantry, serving from 14 May 1861 to 28 May 1863.

The following Camp Officers were elected: Camp Commander/Memorials Officer/Signals Officer Richard L. Scott; Senior Vice Commander/Guide Donald Eugene Ogden III; Junior Vice Commander/Camp Council/Chaplain John C. Baldus; Secretary-Treasurer/Eagle Award Coordinator Daniel Harold Grable; Camp Council/Patriotic Instructor Paul M. McDonald; Camp Council/Graves Registration/Guard/Historian Jon W. Scott; and Color Bearer Ronald Bellenger.

On Veterans Day 2006 the Camp attended the official dedication of the new park in Fruitport. The ceremony was well attended by local organizations, veterans, and citizens.

In January we held our seventh Holiday Muster at Vic's Restaurant in Spring Lake. We had an attendance of twelve Brothers and family members, and added a show and tell and display of Brother Bellenger's GAR Medals to the night's activities. DSVC Robert Groves, Sr. installed officers, and we initiated Brother Owen.

Editor's Note: This is my recollection of why Michigan's Messenger is now distributed electronically:

Two years ago the Department was faced with rising printing and mailing costs for the nationally recognized Michigan's Messenger. Very few options were available to Department Officers, so the issue was put on the floor at the Department Encampment. The Members voted to publish Michigan's Messenger in an electronic format, with each edition being forwarded to one person in each Camp (thereafter called a Camp Signals Officer), who would then distribute the newsletter to Camp Members.

As a result of this action by the Membership, dues have not been raised.

On another issue, I have just finished trying to assure that each Camp has a copy of the Messenger to distribute. In doing so, and reviewing the contacts that I had from the Fall of 2006, I found that 10 Camps have either new contacts, or different email addresses. I also found that the Camps have assigned very few Signal Officers, which were to be a lynchpin in Department Communications. This is why some camps are receiving more than one copy of the Messenger this month, it is the only contact that I could find. I believe that the Camps have some responsibility to report changes, so that we can continue to serve you. I have tried to include every article that was sent to me prior to publication, so that all future issues will be timely. I welcome all constructive suggestions, and encourage all of you to submit relative news about your committees, your Camps, and your ancestors. This is your newsletter, and its success depends on you. Rick Danes, Editor mimesrd@aol.com.

Future Michigan's Messenger Publications Submittal Dates and Publication Dates

Spring - March 1 for a March 15 Publication

Summer - June 1 for a June 15 Publication

Fall - September 1 for a September 15 Publication

Winter - December 1 for a December 15 Publication

***Send all articles to Rick Danes, Editor, preferably at
mimesrd@aol.com or to 2612 Burns Street,
Dearborn, Michigan 48124-3204***

ALL PUBLICATIONS WILL BE MADE ON TIME

Robert Finch Camp #14

January to March 2007 Report

Submitted by W. E. Skillman, Patriotic Instructor

Camp #14's roster shows 37 Members, 9 Associates, 1 Junior Member, 1 Honorary. Visiting Brothers are cordially invited to attend our Saturday, March 3, 2007 meeting at the Elks Club 625 Bay St. (intersection Grandview Parkway/Division).

The March presentation will be by Dr. H.G. Smith entitled: Morgan's Raid. Brothers Jeff Morse and Skillman will add pertinent footnotes about family, and Robert Finch and the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters association with the raid.

The highlight of the January meeting was the installation of Camp officers Dept. Commander Rick Greene at the January meeting. Accompanying Commander Greene was Dept Secretary Dennis Deer. DC Greene voiced his appreciation to Camp 14 for all of their support over the past year to him personally and to the Order. His compliments were given 'three cheers' by the enthusiastic Brothers.

In recognition for all of their work with the Grand Traverse Soldier and Sailors restoration project, PCC Neal Breaugh and Bill Skillman were honored with certificates of appreciation. DC Greene and CC Clark presented the honorariums to the surprised, but appreciative, recipients. In addition, Camp 14 presented Brother Skillman with a scale model of a Confederate Napoleon cannon for his 3 years service as Commander. PCC Skillman wants to inform his Brothers that the cannon reposes on his desk and serves as a daily reminder of what an honor and privilege it has been to represent one of the finest Camps in the Order.

On January 26th, Brothers Breaugh and Skillman drove to Petoskey to join WMO Fred Knoodle for their first Augusta Arsenal/Petoskey cannon presentation to the community. Mr. Charlie McInnis of the NCMC college staff warmly welcomed the boys and was instrumental in helping Bill quickly download images from various websites that were then projected onto a large screen. The old adage of "a picture is worth a thousand words" helped to convey the many complex historical and technical details associated with the Augusta Arsenal cannon that would have otherwise defied description. The 50 attendees thoroughly enjoyed the presentation, and the next day the local paper printed an enthusiastic account of the presentation. The Cannon fund has raised \$8559.63 to date. Brothers who wish to support the restoration of this unique weapon are encouraged to send their contributions to:

Petoskey Cannon Restoration Fund
10230 E. San Remo Blvd.
Traverse City, MI 49684

Brother Jeff Morse invited Camp 14 Brothers to attend a Virtual Field Trip at the TBA Career Tech Center's media center (REMC) on February 22, 2007. The presentation of Civil War Poetry was hosted by the Library of Congress. SVC Morse reports that four Brothers and one Frances Finch Auxiliary sister (and spouse) were in attendance and they thoroughly enjoyed the event.

SVC Jeff recently sent Brother Skillman a photograph of one of his ancestors. The original photo had been enlarged and colorized from the original black and white format. Jeff had learned through relatives that the man in the photo, Charles W. Morse, had served with the 38th Ohio Volunteer Infantry as a teamster, but they had little else to offer. Brother Skillman and uniform expert, Dan Wambaugh, examined the photo (see below) and noticed Morse's uniform and accoutrements were not those of a teamster, but of a cavalryman. Despite the gray-colored overwash, the 11 button jacket and trim/buttons on the collar convinced them that Morse belonged to a U.S. cavalry unit. Jeff did some additional sleuthing to discover that Cpl. Morse had served in both branches of service. After becoming ill with consumption and being discharged from the 38th Ohio in 1862, Charles recovered his health and in 1863 joined the 12th Ohio Cavalry (see photo below). Cpl. Morse was wounded in action at Mt. Sterling, KY while fighting Gen. Morgan's raiders. After the War he moved to Michigan to farm a homestead at West Branch. In February Jeff traveled to West Branch to visit Charles' grandson, Wade Morse, and view the original painting. Due to the gray coloring to Charles' uniform, Wade had always thought that he had "rode with Morgan". Brother Jeff quickly dispelled him of that notion and was able to tell him of Cpl. Morse's loyal service to his country. Another mystery solved.

GENERAL BENJAMIN PRITCHARD CAMP 20

By John R. Keith

On Saturday January 27th, 2007 at 6:30 pm, members of Camp 20 and their spouses met at the Blackhawk Bar & Grill in Richland for dinner to install officers for 2007. Bro Bill Brennan PDC performed the installations of all officers present except one, himself; Bro. Gary Gibson PDC did the honors of installing Bro. Brennan in as Camp 20 Chaplain.

Camp 20 officers for the year 2007 are-

Commander	JOHN R. KEITH
Senior Vice Commander	JOHN C. KEITH
Junior Vice Commander	MIKE STONE
Camp Secretary	JEFF BAKER
Camp Treasurer	JOESPH ORBECK
Members of the Camp Council:	BILL COSTELLO, STEVE REDINGER, ART BONNELL
Guard:	THOMAS BRUCE
Guide:	DANIEL KNIGHT
Color Bearer:	GLENN HALL
Historian:	GARY GIBSON
Chaplain:	BILL BRENNAN
Patriotic Instructor:	GARY GIBSON
Eagle Scout Coordinator:	MIKE STONE
Memorials & Monuments:	ART BONNELL
Graves Registration Officer:	BILL COSTELLO
Signal Officer:	JOHN C. KEITH

Long time Camp 20 member Bro. Ron Bellenger PCC has transferred to Camp 3 in Grand Haven. He has been a Camp 20 member since April of 1989, and has held several camp offices. Also Camp 20 members Bro. Chuck Worley, Bro. Mike McLaughlin, Bro. Bruce Gosling and Bro. David Gosling have transferred to the newly organized SUVCW Camp in Centerville the "MARCH TO THE SEA CAMP 135."

All five of these transferred members will be missed very much! We at Camp 20 wish them well at their new camps.

Camp 20 Bro. Mike Culp PCC gave a presentation on the 13th Michigan Infantry at the Otsego Historical Society on February 28, 2007. He did a fine job and all in attendance enjoyed it very much.

Bro. Culp is compiling information for a possible publication of the 13th Michigan Infantry. If any one has any information, diaries, journals, pictures, etc. from soldiers from this unit please email Mike at: books374@yahoo.com

Or you can contact Bro. Culp via postal mail at the following and I will forward it to him.

Bro. John R. Keith
950 106th Avenue
Plainwell, MI 49080

Our first Camp 20 monthly meeting for 2007 will be **Tuesday, March 6th, 2007** at 7PM. Camp 20 meets on the first Tuesday of the month, March through November, at the Oshtemo Branch of the Kalamazoo Public Library, located at 7265 West Main Street. Please come and join us!

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

Camp in Need



Curtenius Guard Camp #17, Lansing-Sunfield. Camp #17 recently purchased a trade show style tabletop display board.

We are looking for any Brother who is affiliated with a graphics design company that could assist in designing/producing the wording & emblem that would go on the marquis front of this style display board.

Please Contact:

Bro. Dave Arnold – JVC

arnoldsuvcwmi@sbcglobal.net

Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427

By Rick Danes, CC

The Members of Camp 427 have been busy doing the work of the Order all the way from Bloomfield Hills to Monroe, and from "the river" to Canton this winter. Space does not allow a full accounting of this effort, but if you wish to visit our page on the Department Website, you will see our very aggressive schedule for 2007. Of special notice is the fact that the Camp coordinated over 2700 volunteer hours for the Dearborn Historic Museum, we welcomed 4 new Members into the Camp in 2006, and we had a very good response to the call for Camp Officers this year, as we elected:

Commander Rick Danes
 Senior Vice Commander Gus Sherwin
 Junior Vice Commander Jon Reed
 Recording Secretary Jerry Jacobs
 Camp Council Jerry Olson, Keith Kushnir, Dennis Fyke
 Treasurer Rick Danes
 Encampment Delegates George Boller, Rick Danes

Appointed Officers are:

Patriotic Instructor Howard Fite
 Chaplain Jack Underwood
 Memorials and Monuments Allan Treppa
 Guard and Color Bearer Aaron Schrader
 Eagle Scout Awards Chairmen Edward and John Binkley
 Historian Allan Treppa
 Principal Musician Ian Kushnir
 Signals Officer and Webmaster Jerry Jacobs
 Graves Registration Rick Danes

We were honored by having Department Patriotic Instructor Kevin Lindsey (also Commander of Camp 2 in Oakland County) as our Installing Officer at the January Membership Meeting.

Stay well.

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

**You cannot strengthen the weak by
 weakening the strong.
 You cannot help small men by tearing
 down big men.
 You cannot help the poor by destroying
 the rich.
 You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling
 down the wage payer.
 You cannot keep out of trouble by
 spending more than your income.
 You cannot further the brotherhood of
 man by inciting class hatreds.
 You cannot establish security on
 borrowed money.
 You cannot build character and courage
 by taking away a man's initiative and
 independence.
 You cannot help men permanently by
 doing for them what they could and should
 do themselves.**

Abraham Lincoln

AN ANCESTOR VIGNETTE

PRIVATE ALEXANDER KILGORE
COMPANY E
5TH MICHIGAN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY
Great - Great Uncle
Of
John R. Keith
Gen. Benjamin Pritchard
Camp 20
Department of Michigan
SUVCW

Alexander Kilgore was born in Fifeshire County, Scotland on October 10, 1836, to Richard & Catherine Blackadder Kilgore. He immigrated to Canada around 1844 and then St. Clair County, Michigan after 1851.

On August 6, 1861 at Port Huron, Michigan he was enlisted by Captain Charles S. Travis of Port Huron for 3 years to serve our country, his adopted country, in Company E, 5th Michigan Infantry Volunteers, to put down the rebellion. At this time his residence was Kimball, St. Clair County, Michigan and he was a farmer.

On August 28, 1861 at Fort Wayne, Detroit he was mustered in to service as a private in the Fifth Infantry standing five feet six inches tall, dark complexion, blue eyes and brown hair.

The Fifth Infantry was organized at Fort Wayne, Detroit, and was mustered into service with an enrollment of 900 officers and men. The several companies composing the regiment were locally designated as follows:

"Sherlock Guard," of Detroit;

"Mt. Clemens Rifle Guard" of Mt. Clemens

"East Saginaw Volunteers," of East Saginaw

"Ingersoll Rifles," of Owosso

"Governor's Guard," of Detroit

"Saginaw City Light Infantry," of Saginaw City

"Livingston Volunteers," of Brighton

"Washington Guard," of St. Clair

"Pontiac Volunteers," of Pontiac

"Huron Rangers," of Port Huron.

The field, staff and line officers at organization were as follows.

Colonel, Henry D. Terry, Detroit

Lieutenant Colonel, Samuel E. Beach, Pontiac

Major, John D. Fairbanks, Detroit

Surgeon, Moses Gunn, Detroit

Assistant Surgeon, Robert A. Everett, Ann Arbor

Adjutant, William N. Ladue, Detroit

Quartermaster, Hudson B. Blackman, Howell

Chaplain, D. C. Jacokes, Pontiac

COMPANY E

Captain, Charles S. Travis, Port Huron

First Lieutenant, Augustus Zanier, Port Huron

Second Lieutenant, Henry F. Decker, Port Huron

The regiment left Fort Wayne the 11th day of September 1861, to join the Army of the Potomac.

During the winter of 1861-62 it was at Alexandria, Va., and in March, 1862, the Fifth Michigan Infantry was assigned to Berry's Brigade, Kearney's Division, and took part in the Peninsular Campaign under General George B. McClellan.

The Fifth was at the siege of Yorktown, and participated in the battle of Williamsburg, May 5, 1862 where it displayed unusual gallantry, and testified by its losses, the bravery and fortitude of its officers and men. The regiment charged the enemy's works and carried them with the bayonet, but in doing so received the murderous fire of the Confederates and from a total of 500 composing the regiment, lost 34 killed and 119 wounded.

Continued from Page 14

For gallantry in this action the Fifth received congratulatory orders from General Berry, commanding Brigade, General Phil. Kearny, commanding Division, and General McClellan commended the regiment highly to the Secretary of War.

Before the month of May closed it was destined to meet with severe loss in the desperate battle of Fair Oaks, Virginia. It went into action on May 31, 1862, 300 strong, and lost 30 killed, 120 wounded and 5 missing. This made a total loss in manpower for the month of May of 308.

On May 31, 1862 at Fair Oaks, VA Private Alexander Kilgore was one of the 120 men wounded in his regiment. On this day a musket ball tore through his lower chest. After receiving this wound he walked 2 miles, with help to the field hospital. This is the description of his wound from his Certificate of Disability for Discharge paper. "Gunshot wound through the body laterally from the ninth rib on the left side to the ninth rib on the right side, wounding both sides of his lungs."

He was eventually taken to the Hospital at Judiciary Square, Washington D.C. and received a disability for discharge from the Union Army on August 26, 1862 This certificate is signed by Calvin Page, U. S. General Hospital, Judiciary Square, Washington D.C.

A description from his pension files states his physical condition as follows.

"He cannot use his left arm or sides at all without getting completely out of breath, can't do any manual labor at all can not even split a little wood, without coughing and hemorrhaging from the lungs. His left side is in so much pain he cannot sleep on his left side and at times has to sleep without lying down.

By reading his medical records you can see his injury never did heal. Still bleeding, coughing up mucus, swelling, redness even after over 20 years from the date the wound was inflicted.

His occupation over the years changed from farming before the Civil War to selling brooms door to door, sales clerk and working as a grocer. He has the distinction of being the first Postmaster in the Village of LaBarge, Kent County, Michigan. That Post Office no longer exists.

On April 14, 1863 in Romeo, Macomb County, Michigan, he married Adeline E. Pierson. Adaline is the older sister of my Great Grandmother, Maria C. Pierson Keith.

During their married life they lived in Macomb County. Also in Plainwell, Gun Plains Township, Allegan County & LaBarge, Caledonia Township, Kent County all in Michigan.

Through their union 3 children were brought into this world.

Elizabeth Ann, born 1864, she married Charles R. Robinson

Delia, born about 1866

Richard Edgar, born 1872, he married Ida J. James

Private Kilgore would hold only one of his Grandchildren before his death. Grandson James A. Robinson born in 1884 would lose his Grandpa at the age of 6 years.

Alexander Kilgore died in Goodell, St. Clair County on January 13, 1891 while visiting his mother. The wound he received back on May 31, 1862 on Virginia soil, proved to be fatal. It took almost 29 years for the musket ball to claim its victim. He is buried in Heath Township, Allegan County. An old, worn military stone marks his grave. He gave his life and suffered years of pain, for the Union to remain whole!

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

Talking Dirty

In the heyday of the sailing ship, every ship had to have cannon for protection. Cannon of the times required round, iron cannon balls. The master wanted to store the cannon balls such that they would not roll around the gun deck. The solution was to stack them in a square based pyramid next to the cannon. The top level of stack had one ball, the next had 4, the next 9, the next 16...four levels provided 30 cannon balls. The only problem was how to prevent the bottom level from sliding out from the weight of the higher levels. To do this, they devised a small plate called a "monkey", with one rounded indentation for each cannon ball on the bottom layer. When using this plate, the iron cannon balls would rust to the bottom. As a result, newer plates were made out of brass, thus the name "brass monkey". When temperatures fell, brass contracts faster than iron. As it got colder, the brass monkey would get smaller than the cannon balls in it. If the temperature got cold enough, the bottom layer of cannon balls would pop out of the indentations spilling the entire pyramid over the deck. Thus, it was quite literally "COLD ENOUGH TO FREEZE THE BALLS OFF A BRASS MONKEY".

Author Unknown

**2007 Department of Michigan
Allied Orders Conventions/Encampments**

Friday, April 27 & Saturday, April 28, 2007

Hosted by the Michigan Department of the Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War

*Holiday Inn Lansing West
7501 West Saginaw Highway
Lansing, MI 48917*

*Phone: (517)-627-3211 (or Toll free (800)-HOLIDAY)
Allied Orders Room Rate -\$79.00 plus taxes
(Must mention ALLIED ORDERS for group rate
when making your reservation-Deadline April 6)*

<p align="center">From the North: Follow US-27 South to I-69 West to I-96 East/I-69 South to exit 93B- Saginaw Highway. Hotel is one block on the right</p> <p align="center">From the East and West: Follow I-96 to exit 93B- Saginaw Hwy. Hotel is one block on the right</p>

General Schedule

Friday Afternoon:

Registration & Council Meetings (WRC, DUVCW, ASUVCW)

Friday Eve:

Food & Fellowship & Fun – All Allied Orders Members Welcome

Saturday during day:

8:00 Registration - Business Meetings of the Allied Orders (Lunch)

Saturday Evening:

GAR Memorial Banquet & Special Program

*Below are two coupons to mail in – one for food to the DUV and the other for Pre-Registration to the SUVCW Credentials Committee.
Meal tickets will be distributed at the Encampment*

*Meal Reservation Form for 2007 Department Convention/Encampment
(Please indicate quantity for each meal in the boxes.) NOTE! Meal reservations must be received by April 17th.
No refunds after April 17, 2007*

Saturday Luncheon – Noontime—Choice of Turkey or Ham

Soup and Sandwich _____ X \$14.25 = \$ _____ Total for Luncheon \$ _____

GAR Memorial Banquet - Saturday Evening (Choice of Entrée)

*Apple Almond Chicken _____ X \$26.00 = \$ _____
English Cut Roast Sirloin _____ X \$26.00 = \$ _____ Total for Banquet \$ _____
Check Total \$ _____*

Name: _____

Make Checks Payable to: Dept. of Mich. DUVCW

NOTE! Reservations must be received by April 17th.

Address: _____

Send to: Sandra Longpre, Treasurer, DUVCW

3645 Musser

City, St, Zip: _____

Mancelona, MI 49659

Phone: _____

*Questions?: Call Sandra (231) 587-0426
or Joanne Bailey-Boorsma (616) 878-1821*

Please indicate (circle) which organization you are with: SUVCW DUVCW WRC ASUVCW

Department Encampment Pre-Registration Form

Please check the appropriate designation for yourself.

<i>Camp Delegate</i>	<i>Camp Commander</i>	<i>Department Commander</i>
<i>Alternate Camp Delegate</i>	<i>Past Camp Commander</i>	
<i>Past Department Commander</i>	<i>Past Commander-in-Chief</i>	

Name _____ Camp Number _____

*SUVCW Pre-Registration Fee is \$5.00 (\$10.00 at Door)
Make Check Payable To: Dept. of Mich. – SUVCW
Mail by April 20, 2007 to: Matthew L. Adair, Chairman, Dept. Credentials Comm.,
409 Bent Oak St, Fenton, MI 48430*