



*Michigan's*

# *Messenger*

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

*Volume XXXII, Number 3*

*Chartered June 24, 1884*

*Fall, 2013*

*John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus*



*Richard C. Danes, Editor*

*Recipient of the Marshall Hope Award for Best  
Department Newsletter of the Order 2002, 2007, 2011*

*Happy Holidays from your Department Officers*



*By Thomas Nast*

**IN THIS ISSUE****Officer's Reports****Camp News****Eaton Rapids  
GAR Hall****Detroit Veteran's  
Day Parade****Gettysburg****WRC News****Commander's Comments****November 28, 2013**

By Paul Davis, DC, PCC, MOLLUS, SVR

During the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, the Camps of the Department are busy with the election and installation of their Camp Officers. We are pleased to report that all of the Camps within the Department, except four, have already requested a date and that date has been confirmed for their Installation of Camp Officers. Camp Secretaries are reminded they need to prepare three copies of the Form 22 with all required signatures attached and have them available for the Installing Officers to sign at the time of installation.



Commander Davis

Two copies of the Form 22 are to be submitted along with two copies of your current Camp Roster to the Department Secretary, George Boller. The third copy of your Form 22 is for your Camp file.

As we make the rounds and visit the Camps of the Department, it is obvious that many of our Camps are extremely busy with a variety of activities keeping green the memory of our Civil War ancestors. Much of the good work of our Camps goes largely unnoticed, however, by brother Camps as well as the general public.

We encourage all Camps to make their activities known and share your efforts. If your Camp has a Newsletter, share it with the other Camps in

the Order. If you do not have a Newsletter, consider one. At a minimum, send notice of your efforts to the *Michigan's Messenger* as well as the *Banner*. The Sons seems to be a relatively unknown organization to the general public. Camps should try to involve local media, be it a newspaper, a weekly local Shopper or the electronic media (radio and television) in an effort to provide the Sons with respect for their good work.

Our work and cooperation with the Boy Scouts would seem to be making very good progress with rewards for both organizations.

We have made a lot of positive progress in our public relations in the last two years. An important aspect of our effort is the work done by our Department and Camp GROs. Many times the public interfaces with the SUVCW to inquire about relative who served in the Civil War. The efforts of all GROs is to be commended as they go quietly about this important work with great zeal and passion. These encounters are also very useful recruiting opportunities.

Let us also not forget the importance of reporting G.A.R. Monuments. We need to publish these on our Department website. Please use the Form 61 for this reporting.



Michigan Remembers Gettysburg Memorial Service

In November, the Department of Michigan was well represented at the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual G.A.R. Remembrance Day services and parade in Gettysburg. In addition to the Department's presence, we had representatives from Camps 1, 7, 14, 17, 67, 135, and 145 as well as members of the Allied Orders.

*Continued on page 3*

Continued from page 2

This year's Memorial Service was unique. It celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Specific to Michigan, soil from the various counties throughout Michigan was gathered and brought to Gettysburg. A small amount of soil was then sprinkled on each soldier's grave in commemoration of their inability to ever return to their homes in Michigan. The names of all of the soldiers were read aloud as the soil was being distributed.

It was a moving ceremony. We thank Bruce and Marcia Butgereit, Tom Berlucchi, Keith Harrison, Brian Egan and all of the event organizers who worked so hard to make this tribute possible.

In closing, I would like to thank all of elected and appointed officers of the Department for their support and the fine work you do for our Department.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

### Senior Vice Commander

By Dale Aurand, PCC



SVC Aurand

**"a man lives as long as he is remembered"** This is an excerpt from a poem we often use in our ceremonies. This past month we commemorated Veteran's Day on November 11<sup>th</sup>. On that day I read with interest an article about WW II veteran's and the fact that they are concerned about being forgotten by coming generations. My thoughts were they are correct. In the same sense that our Civil War ancestors are being forgotten. The quest to "*keep green the memory*" is ongoing, it should not be for just members of our organization.

Our continued presence and participation in events should keep our efforts foremost in the public eye. We need to continue to do the good works of the order. Share your stories and encourage others to delve into their

families history. You never know when you will discover a potential new member.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

"Americans will never be destroyed from the outside,  
If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves"  
..... Abraham Lincoln

#### 2013-2014 Department Officers

##### Commander

Paul Davis  
535 Mayflower Drive,  
Saginaw, Michigan 48638  
[pdmarcomm@aol.com](mailto:pdmarcomm@aol.com)

##### Senior Vice Commander

Dale Aurand  
321 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
[Daurand321@yahoo.com](mailto:Daurand321@yahoo.com)

##### Junior Vice Commander

Kevin Lindsey, PCC  
6890 Norton Street  
Troy, MI 48085-1859  
[klindsey@comcast.net](mailto:klindsey@comcast.net)

##### Recording Secretary

George Boller  
Suite 7, 17199 Laural Park Dr.  
Livonia, MI 48152  
[rellob@prodigy.net](mailto:rellob@prodigy.net)

##### Treasurer

Bruce Gosling  
20388 US Hwy. 12  
White Pigeon, MI 49099  
[bgosling@charter.net](mailto:bgosling@charter.net)

##### Department Council

Chuck Worley  
Tom Jenkins  
Bob Griggs

##### Chaplain

Rev. Charles F. Buckhahn

##### Patriotic Instructor

Gary Granger, PCC

##### Color Bearer

Edgar Dowd

##### Counselor

James Pahl, PCC, PDC, PCinC

##### Guard

Chris Cox

##### Eagle Scout Coordinator

Jerry A. Olson, PCC

##### Signals Officer

William Morris

##### Messenger Editor

Rick Danes, CC

##### Historian

Matt Adair

##### Guide

Bruce Benedict

##### Graves Registration

Rick Danes, CC

##### GAR Records

Gary Gibson, PDC

##### Civil War Memorials

Bruce Butgereit, PCC, PDC

##### Chief of Staff

Keith Harrison, PCC, PDC,  
PCinC

##### Camp At Large Coordinator

L. Dean Lamphere

##### Aide de Camp

Brian Shumway, PCC



### Chaplain's Comments

By Department Chaplain Rev. Charles F. Buckhan

During the past seven months, the Department has lost three brothers.

On May 27<sup>th</sup>, Robert Finch Camp #14 saw the passing of Charles Heffer. "Chuck" Heffer was a World War II veteran, who was born in Rochester, NY, on January 9, 1924. His Civil War ancestor was a great uncle who was killed at 2nd Bull Run. Brother Heffer died at Traverse City at the age of 89 years.

Five days later, on June 1, Camp #14 saw the passing of the Camp's Treasurer, Bill Watson. "Bill" Watson II was a U.S. Army veteran, serving his country from 1959-1962. He was born in Dearborn, MI. on July 15, 1940. His Civil War ancestor was a great-great Uncle, Private Lemuel F. Smith, Co. G, 3rd MI Inf., and Co. F, 5th MI, Inf. Brother Watson died in Traverse City, MI. at the age of 72 years, leaving behind his wife, Lynne, and three children; Scott, Stephanie, and Michelle.



PCC George Albert Roux

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, Lansing/Sunfield Curtenius Guard Camp #17 saw the passing of the Camp's past Camp Commander, George Albert Roux. Brother Roux was the Camp's past Senior Vice Commander, past Junior Camp Commander, past Camp Council Member, and was the Camp's Chaplain. He was born in Alma, Michigan on July 19, 1947. His Civil War ancestor was his great-great grandfather, Private Ezra A. Root of the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment Michigan Volunteer Cavalry. Brother Roux passed away in Lansing, Michigan, at the age of 66 years, leaving behind his wife, Cynthia.

We keep these families and Camps in our prayers, giving thanks to God for the service these three brothers gave to their Camps and our Department.

### Camp 2

Submitted by Bruce Miller



New York GAR Hall Plaque

Thanks to the General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2, Oakland County, Michigan a long-lost GAR plaque has returned home to New York. The 12 inch diameter bronze plaque is from the Ulysses S. Grant Post # 237 of Brooklyn, New York. How it ended up in the Detroit area remains a mystery. It was discovered by a friend of Camp 2's SVC/PCC Bruce Miller, who works security for foreclosed homes. He contacted Miller, who in turn contacted Department of New York Commander Robert Pugsley about the find. Commander Pugsley is delighted to have the plaque "back home" and will continue to research the artifact.

## Michigan Remembers Gettysburg

Submitted by Department Monuments and Memorials Officer Bruce B. Butgereit, PDC, PCC

This annual event at Gettysburg National Cemetery on Saturday, November 23, 2013 was a success. There were close to seventy-five participants and around fifty spectators. No other state conducted a ceremony as we did from Michigan.

The ceremony was conducted by the Michigan Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion and the Champlin Corps No. 41, Woman's Relief Corps. Assisting was the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and History Remembered. Much credit for this ceremony goes to Marcia Butgereit. She has been researching the men buried at Gettysburg for several years.

For those of you who subscribe to the Civil War Sesquicentennial, you have already seen some of the photos. For those who don't receive the Circular, here are a few –



**Department Monuments  
and Memorials Officer  
Bruce B. Butgereit, PDC,  
PCC**



The highlight of the day was the sprinkling of some Michigan soil at the grave of each of the 175 men buried there. This soil was gathered from across the state by 18 Camps, Boy Scouts, historians, and more and placed in special tins labeled for each man. Marcia Butgereit, Past National President of the Woman's Relief Corps, with the assistance of Department Commander Paul Davis and Past C-in-C Jim Pahl, read the names of these men while a volunteer Honor Guard distributed the soil.

A special commemorative program will be printed before the end of the year. You can request a copy by sending me an email at [civil-war@comcast.net](mailto:civil-war@comcast.net).

Sections in this publication will include 1) Michigan in the Civil War, 2) Michigan at Gettysburg, 3) Annie Etheridge, Civil War nurse, 4) The Honored Dead - bios of the men buried there), 5) The Soldiers' Cemetery, 6) Michigan Monuments, 7) Michigan Remembers Gettysburg - 1888, 1913, 1938, 1965, and 2013, 8) the stories of the soil and 9) photos.

The cost of the book has yet to be determined but they will be sold at cost plus shipping.

Stay tuned for more information on the flags used at Gettysburg and the commemorative tins used to carry the soil from Michigan to Gettysburg.



## Eaton Rapids GAR Memorial Hall and Museum Grand Opening

Submitted by Keith Harrison, PDC, PCC



Board of Directors

The grand opening of the GAR Memorial Hall and Museum, located at

Main St. in Eaton Rapids, was a great success. Over 125 people from all over the state attended the September 26th ribbon cutting ceremony and open house to peruse a *portion* of the *extensive* Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) memorabilia collection of 50-year GAR collector Don Limpert that is on display and to see the actual meeting hall where over 400 Eaton Rapids area Union Veterans met from 1886 to 1924.

The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was created in 1866 and was composed of veterans who served in the Union Army, Navy, Marines, and Revenue Cutter Service during the Civil War. The GAR was a large organization with over 8,600 Posts, and at its heights, just under

500,000 members all over the world (including Post in Canada, Mexico, and Peru). Michigan had over 460 Posts, including 10 in Eaton County.

The Eaton Rapids GAR building was built by members of the GAR and served as its meeting location from 1886 through 1922. The GAR Post was named for James B. Brainerd who enlisted at Fort Wayne, Michigan on June 19, 1861 into Company H, 6th Regiment Michigan Volunteer Infantry as a 1st Sergeant on August 20, 1861 and subsequently was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant. He died of disease on June 3, 1864 at New Orleans, Louisiana. The Eaton Rapids Post was disbanded in 1929.

The GAR Museum with much of the GAR memorabilia from Don Limpert is located on the first floor of the building and the GAR Memorial Hall is located on the second floor the building. The Memorial Hall will be set up as it was when the members of the GAR met there. Two SUVCW Brothers currently serve on the Board of Directors, PCinC Keith Harrison and PDC Gary Gibson. Cutting



Grand Opening – Ribbon

Among the reasons for the creation of the GAR Memorial Hall and Museum include:

- To preserve the memory of the GAR and the soldiers and sailors that saved the Union during the Civil War
- Promote history education
- Promote tourism in Eaton Rapids and Michigan
- To help advance economic development, historical and cultural aspects of area
- To help restore and again occupy a historic downtown building

The GAR Memorial Hall and Museum represents a piece of history that needs to be remembered and shared. Both the GAR collection and the building are important. The GAR Memorial Hall and Museum represents and will help tell the history of Eaton Rapids, the history of Michigan, and the history of the United States. The GAR Memorial Hall and Museum will be opened the first two Wednesdays per month, patriotic holidays and by appointment.

As with most older buildings, things can and do go wrong (usually at the most inopportune times). The hall is no difference with one of its furnaces dying just after its Grand Opening and just before the cold weather hits. It is estimated that it will cost just under \$2,000 to replace the downstairs Museum furnace.

*Continued on page 7*



Continued from page 6



Check Presentation



Some Allied Orders who were present

Consequently, for anyone who is interested in helping to support the hall (and also helping to replace the furnace), both Charter (\$100) and General (\$25) memberships are available. Thus far, SUVCW Austin Blair Camp #7, Curtenius Guard Camp #17, Benjamin Pritchard Camp #20, and George W. Anderson Camp No. 58; DUVCW Cornella Stockbridge Sheldon Tent #58; and the 13th Michigan Memorial Association have become Charter Members. Donations and memberships may be sent to GAR Memorial Hall and Museum at 224 South Main, Eaton Rapids, Michigan 48827. More information on the GAR Memorial Hall and Museum may be found by going its website located at <http://garmuseum.com/>.

### Lockwood Camp 139



News Photos by Steve Schulwitz  
President Abraham Lincoln delivers the Gettysburg Address to hundreds of people gathered at Culligan Plaza in Alpena on Tuesday, while the Sons of Union Veterans Lockwood Post stand guard. For more photos from this event, log on to [cu.thealpennews.com](http://cu.thealpennews.com).

On Nov. 19, 2013 Duane Byer portraying Lincoln recited the Gettysburg Address at the exact time of the first address at Gettysburg at Culligan Plaza. He arrived on horseback with the Lockwood Post 139- SUVCW leading him to the Plaza. Over 200 elementary students with a number of actors from the Thunder Bay Theatre in period costumes following the procession. At the Plaza the Lockwood Camp stood guard as President Lincoln Delivered his address. left to right-Guy Decker. Wayne McWilliams, Larry Taylor, Don Londo

## Detroit's Memorial Day Parade



### Civil War Memorials

Bruce B. Butgereit, PDC, Department Memorials Officer



**Department Monuments  
and Memorials Officer  
Bruce B. Butgereit, PDC,  
PCC**

Having missed several newsletter deadlines, here is the report I prepared last June.

I am honored to have been appointed again as the Department Civil War Memorials Officer by Department Commander Paul Davis.

The report of the Civil War Memorials and Civil War Memorials Committee I delivered to the Brothers in attendance at the Department Encampment in May of this year was bleak but honest.

#### Here are some excerpts of that report –

- ◆ Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Department Civil War Memorials Officer. I would first like to recognize my predecessor, Brother Doug Armstrong, for his efforts to encourage Camp Memorials Officers to fulfill their obligation to locate, assess, photograph, and to submit the Form CWM61 to the Department. He is to be commended for twelve years of service to the Order in spite of little cooperation and support.
- ◆ I received new Form CWM-61s from the National Park Service staff and volunteers at Chickamauga for each of the 12 Michigan monuments there. This was the result of numerous communications and prompts by Sister Jeannine Trybus of the Champlin Corps No. 41, Woman's Relief Corps.
- ◆ I would also like to acknowledge receipt of a three-ring binder, compiled by Brother Dick Hutchins and his wife Mary, containing information and photos of artillery pieces across the State of Michigan. This binder was given to the Department free of copyright restrictions. It is the intention of the Civil War Memorials Committee to eventually post a list of known and missing cannon pieces in the hope more information may be obtained from the public.

#### Now for some good news –

- Brother Gerald Grieve of Robert Finch Camp 14 has agreed to serve on the Department Civil War Memorials Committee. In the few short months he has been part of the team, he has updated the list of known Civil War ordnance in Michigan.

*Continued on page 9*



*Continued from page 8*

He will be contacting Camps after the first of the year to try and generate some support for the memorials project.

- Brother Grieve has continued to update the Civil War Memorials page on Camp 14's website. Take a look here and click on Memorials on the Index on the left: <http://www.robertfinch14.org/#>
- The Brothers of General Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20 have been working on several cleaning, restoration and preservation projects. They are also going back through to obtain photographs and filling out the Form CWM61. They have projects already scheduled for next year. Way to go Brothers!

### **Did you know? –**

Although the duties of the Civil War Memorials Officer do not suggest or even obligate a Camp to take on a restoration project, there is nothing that prohibits that from happening. In fact, I encourage each Camp to be bold if necessary in advocating for a local government or organization to restore any Civil War/G.A.R. Memorial in need of cleaning, restoration or preservation.

The Weatherwax G.A.R. Post No. 75 of Grand Haven had one of the most soiled monuments I've ever seen. The monument is a combination of limestone and marble. We believe it was dedicated on May 30, 1890. We do know it was ordered from a marble company in Holland in February of 1890.

For over ten years I've also asked different people in the City of Grand Haven government and the museum but no one ever seemed interested. Last Fall, I attended a tour of Civil War graves in the Lake Forest Cemetery sponsored by the Loutit District Library and again inquired about cleaning the monument. There again seemed little interest until I received a call from the Tri-Cities Historical Museum asking if I was still interested in cleaning the monument. Naturally, I answered yes, especially now that I know what the **D/2 Biological Solution** can do on such monuments.

Within two weeks, I had met with the Lake Forest Cemetery Board and the Museum Board and received their pledge to not only support the project but that the Museum would provide purchase the cleaning solution. I then made a presentation to the City Council and they too supported the idea by giving me permission to lead the project. Part of my presentation to each entity included references to creating relationships and partnerships, not only for this project, but for future projects as well. Each entity embraced this concept with enthusiasm.

On Saturday, June 15 at 9 AM, there were about forty citizens who had answered a call for help; ready to lend a hand in cleaning the monument. The Grand Haven Tribune and the Muskegon Chronicle both ran a story on the project.

By 1:15 PM that day, we were finished. I had a thank you letter prepared for each participant and a brochure of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. We rededicated this monument on July 13.

The following is a series of before and after photographs of the project:



*Continued on page 10*



Continued from page 9



In the first image, the stone is just wet. The second is after cleaning. The last is a week later. The board at the lower right in the first two images was part of the scaffolding and couldn't be moved. You can see what the stone looked like before cleaning.

Continued on page 11



Continued from page 10



Camp Commanders, Camp Civil War Memorials Officers, and fellow Brothers of each Camp; I need your help in locating, assessing, and documenting the memorials in your Camp's geographic boundaries using Form CWM61. I require digital photographs of these memorials as well.

Form CWM61 is available for download at: <http://suvchw.org/ftp/memorial-fi.pdf>

In the months ahead, the Civil War Memorials Committee plans to start updating the Memorials web page with information we already have.

Please direct any questions, concerns, or ideas to me at: Bruce B. Butgereit [civil-war@comcast.net](mailto:civil-war@comcast.net)

## Gen. Israel B. Richardson Camp 2

*Submitted by Bruce Miller, PCC*

The General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2, located in Michigan's Oakland County north of Detroit, has been actively involved in a campaign to tie an instructional curriculum centered on the county's Civil War map that teachers can utilize to enhance their students' understanding of the local role in the war.

At a press conference held on September 18, 2013, Camp Senior Vice Commander Bruce Miller joined Deputy County Executive Matthew Gibb; County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Vickie Markavitch and Circuit Court Judge Michael Warren in discussing the details of how teachers can access the curriculum and plans to get the map and curriculum into every school in Oakland County.

The "Oakland County in the Civil War" map was introduced in April of 2011 to mark the sesquicentennial of the war. It highlights locations and stories about the people of Oakland County and their involvement in the conflict. Oakland school administration has been developing the curriculum since then.



**General Israel B. Richardson SUCVW Camp 2 Senior Vice Commander Bruce Miller addresses the media at the September 18, 2013 press conference announcing the new Oakland County, Michigan schools' curriculum that ties in with the county Civil War map; shown at the right. Behind Miller are Camp Brothers John Bowker, Tom Lagoe and Kevin Lindsey.**



## **A Strange Request for a GRO**

*From a real e-mail*

While I live in Virginia, I have a lot of ties with family in Michigan. I notice the Civil War Re-enactments this past summer while I was visiting.

I have a unique situation. I have a civil war soldier from Michigan buried in my back yard. He was found by a former owner that has his buttons showing that he was with a Michigan unit. I have always thought about finding someone who would bring him back to Michigan for his final resting place. Our confederate cemetery will not take him and while he has been in my back yard for over a 100 years I think he might have rather been buried in his home state.

If you or your organization would be interested please feel free to call me at ----. If I find anyone interested I will proceed to find the buttons and bullet that were found with him.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Mechanicsville, VA

### **Seasonal Song's War Connection**

*To the Editor:*

*In the spirit of the season I offer the following true story.*

*In his popular 1988 book "It was on Fire When I Lay Down on It", author Robert Fulghum tells the story of the Rev. John Pierpont. According to Fulghum, Pierpont was a failure in almost everything that he attempted in his long life.*

*Ho, he left a legacy which has been enjoyed by millions of people in the past and will be enjoyed by millions in the future.*

*He wrote "Jingle Bells".*

*The story has one small error.*

*John Pierpont was born in Litchfield, CT in 1785. He was a Yale graduate, a writer, poet, a teacher and lawyer in his lifetime. He was a staunch abolitionist and strongly pro-Union. Among his many works was "The Anti-Slavery Poems of John Pierpont" published in 1843. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Pierpont became the chaplain of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Massachusetts Infantry, He died in 1866 at the age of 81. The fact of the matter is, John Pierpont did not write "Jingle Bells".*

*His son James wrote it.*

*James L. Pierpont was born in Boston, Massachusetts in 1922. He was a songwriter, organist, and composer. In 1857, while living in Savannah, GA he wrote and published "Jingle Bells". He was a Confederate soldier during the Civil War, serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> (later the 5<sup>th</sup>) Georgia Cavalry. He wrote several songs for the Confederate cause including "Our Battle Flag", "We Conquer or Die", and "Strike for the South".*

*James Pierpont died in 1892 and is buried in Laurel Grove Cemetery in Savannah next to the grave of his wife's brother, Pvt. Thomas P. Purse, Jr., a member of the 8<sup>th</sup> Georgia, who was killed at 1<sup>st</sup> Bull Run.*

*John Pierpont and his son James, both credited with "Jingle Bells" were on opposite sides of the most important national issue of their time.*

*Dan Siderio in Civil War News, January, 2013, p. 3*

***We refuse to apologize for any errors in this publication because a few are left in on purpose to drive any literary perfectionists up the wall.***

## 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co A Sons of Veterans Reserve

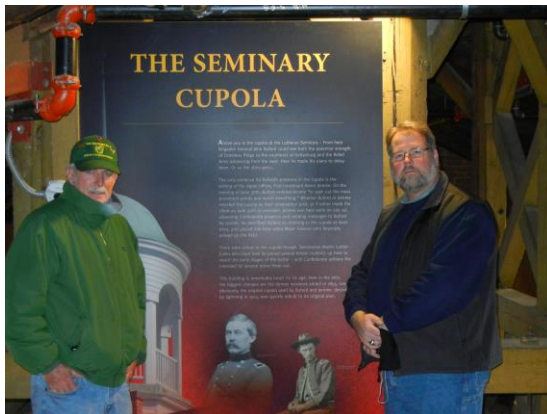
Submitted by Dean Lamphere, Company Commander, 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co. A, Sons of Veterans Reserve, 3<sup>rd</sup> Military District

### 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co. A, Sons of Veterans Reserve Awarded Unit Citation

The 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co. A, Sons of Veterans Reserve was awarded the SVR Unit Citation for its exceptional and dedicated service to the Order. The Unit Citation was announced and presented to the 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan during the 150<sup>th</sup> Remembrance activities at Gettysburg on November 23, 2013.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Company A, aka Irish Rifle, is a Sons of Veterans Reserve unit consisting of members from the many Camps in the Department of Michigan. The SVR is a uniformed, military organization and part of the SUVCW. It participates in many activities such honor guards, dedications, parades and public appearances in support of the Camps and the Department of Michigan as well as several events out of state such as the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, Illinois; the annual Remembrance Day Parade; the Albert Woolson Monument service in Gettysburg as well as others. This year the 14<sup>th</sup> also participated in the Michigan Remembers Gettysburg service conducted for those soldiers from Michigan who died there and would never returned home.

While at Gettysburg this past November, members of the 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan participated in a number of other historical and educational activities including a battle field tour, clambering down the rock face of Little Round Top to the Sharpshooters Monument; trekked out the Fish Hook and walked Neal Avenue; visited the new Seminary Museum and stood in the cupola as Buford had done to watch the Confederate advance into Gettysburg.



Ron Shull and Dean Lamphere at Seminary Museum, Gettysburg



SVR at Sharpshooters Monument on Little Round Top



SVR at Neal Avenue  
SVR at Neal Avenue the Lost Avenue, Gettysburg



SVR Unit Citation  
SVR Unit Citation

## General John A. Logan, Camp No. 1

Submitted by Bruce B. Butgereit, Secretary

It has been a busy year doing the work of the Order for Camp 1 and since I've not provided an update for most of the year, I'll just provide a bullet-point recap.

### Monuments and Memorials –

- ◆ On Saturday, May 18, the Camp and the Champlin Corps No. 41, Woman's Relief Corps conducted a joint ceremony to rededicate a restored bronze tablet dedicated in 1928 by the WRC and to dedicate a newly created veterans memorial. The Camp conducted the fundraising to cover the \$19,000 project. The project benefited from an SUVCW memorial grant of \$350.
- ◆ Later that same day, the Michigan Commandery of MOLLUS, Camp 1, Corps No. 41, and the Department of Michigan, Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, rededicated a restored bronze tablet at the Northeastern Post No. 459, American Legion. The tablet was originally dedicated in 1927 by the ASUVCW. Funds were provided by the Michigan Commandery.
- ◆ On Saturday, July 13, the Camp and Corps No. 41 conducted a rededication ceremony for the restored marble/limestone monument in Lake Forest Cemetery, Grand Haven, MI. Joining us was the Henry E. Plant Camp No. 3. The 123-year-old monument had been cleaned on Saturday, June 15 using the D/2 Biological Solution.
- ◆ Members of the Camp worked consecutive weekends to clean the William A. Kent G.A.R. Memorial in Lake View Cemetery in Greenville.
- ◆ One hundred and fifty years to the day and hour President Abraham Lincoln delivered what is now called The Gettysburg Address, the Camp rededicated a restored bronze tablet containing the Gettysburg Address. Dedicated in 1935 as a tribute to the G.A.R., the tablet was a gift to the Grand Rapids Public Library. The project benefited from a \$372 grant from the SUVCW Foundation.
- ◆ The Camp is still raising funds to create a new Civil War memorial boulder with bronze tablet in Dutton (Gaines Twp.) with a goal of a Memorial Day, 2014 dedication.

### Monument and Veterans Memorial Parks –

- ◆ In July, the work of a committee of twenty-three stakeholders was completed after nearly a year and a half of meetings at which plans to rehabilitate Monument Park (Civil War) and Veterans Memorial Park (WW I, WW II, Korea, Vietnam, and Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom) were discussed and finalized. The work in Monument Park will be completed in December and work will begin in Veterans Memorial Park in 2014. Funding for the \$4,000,000 project has been arranged.

A new granite bench will be installed as a gift from the Michigan Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. On the face of the pedestal is the following text –

“...that so long as grass grows and water runs,  
the deeds of the soldier will be kept  
fresh and green in the hearts of the people...”  
Capt. Charles W. Watkins, 10<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry  
September 17, 1885 Dedication Speech

### Miscellaneous –

- ◆ On March 12, members of the Camp participated in an event commemorating the creation of the United States District Court in the Western District of Michigan by President Abraham Lincoln on March 12, 1863.
- ◆ The Camp participated in the annual carnival at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans on Saturday, July 27.
- ◆ Collaborated with Marcia Butgereit to produce a 68-page history of Veterans Memorial Park 1917-2013. This publication was instrumental in defining the purpose for which this park was created – as a place to honor the war dead of Kent County. *Continued on page 15*



Continued from page 14

- ◆ Conducted the research to identify Kent County's role in the Spanish-American War. This ultimately led to meeting a daughter of a soldier of that war. We are hoping to convince the City of Grand Rapids that the Spanish-American War memorial known as The Hiker deserves to be placed in Veterans Memorial Park with the other war memorials.

This research also uncovered the local connection between the Sons of Union Veterans and the Span-Am War. After discovering a letter written by the Henry V. Guy Camp No. 3, United Spanish War Veterans to the Robert Finch Camp No. 14 (when it was located in Grand Rapids), asking the Sons to conduct Memorial Day services at The Hiker, Camp 1 determined that it was now our responsibility to carry on that tradition.

On May 30, we conducted the traditional Memorial Day services at the Kent County Civil War monument and afterwards at The Hiker. Civil War True Son Harold Becker was

Officers for 2014 –

- Commander: Bill Truss
- SVC/Patriotic Instructor: John Uplinger
- JVC: Tim Kolean
- Secretary/Treasurer/Historian/Memorials: Bruce B. Butgereit
- Council: John Sullivan, Harold Becker, and Colin Butgereit
- Grave Registration: Gerry Christiansen
- Chaplain: Doug Shassberger
- Guide/Guard: Rylan Vazquez



### Department Secretary

by George Boller, Department Officer

Greetings, Brothers,

Here is a reminder about reports and how best to submit them:

The Form 22, Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers is the same and has the same requirements for completion as have been used previously. Be sure to use the most current fill-in version of the Form, 22fi pdf. If you do not have the file, please download it from the National Sons of Union Veterans Website at: <http://suvchw.org/ftp/form22/pdf>.



Department Secretary Boller

The Form 22 must be completed fully before the Installation of Officers takes place. This includes the Camp EIN number (be sure it is complete and accurate) and all required signatures. Two copies of the Form must be ready for the Installing Officer to add only his signature before he leaves your Camp at the time of the Installation, and both must be mailed to me not later than February 15, 2014. It can found on the internet at the National Web Site at <http://suvchw.org/ftp/form22fi/pdf>.

The Form 22MI - Camp Internet Information Form is for Michigan Camps only. This is not to be confused with the Form 22. If you do not have the Form, please contact the Department Secretary and the file will be Emailed to you. The Form 22MI.pdf is not an electronic fill-in form and may be completed legibly in hand writing.

The purpose of the Form 22MI is to gather and keep current contact information for Camp Officers for publication on the Department's website. Camp Officers have the right to decline publication of their contact information. If Camp Officers opt to have the information published, the Form 22MI provides space for an authorization signature.

Please send two copies of the completed Form 22MI to the Department Secretary at the address below.

As long as we are discussing reports, Camp Patriotic Instructors are reminded that it is time to start thinking about filling out the reports that will go to the Department Patriotic Instructor, which he will then use in preparing a report for the National Patriotic Instructor. If you start working them up now, you will be able to get them in to Gary Granger, our Department Patriotic Instructor in plenty of time for him to compile his report. Copies of the form you should use are available on the National Web Site.

My contact information is George Boller, Suite 7, 17199 Laurel Park Dr., Livonia, MI 48152 or [rellob@prodigy.net](mailto:rellob@prodigy.net).

*Editor's Note: Why Michigan's Messenger is now distributed electronically:*

*In 2005 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.*

***I believe that the Camps have the responsibility to report changes, so that we can continue to serve you, you must provide me with a current contact for electronic mailing.***

*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 [mimessrd@aol.com](mailto:mimessrd@aol.com).*

### HENRY E. PLANT CAMP #3

*Submitted by Daniel Grable, Secretary-Treasurer*

This second half of 2013 the Henry E. Plant Camp #3 of Grand Haven has been busy with activities and planning for future events.

Summer 2013 marked the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. The camp personally marked this anniversary by participating in two local commemorative events.

The first was our Camp's 9th Civil War presentation as part of the Spring Lake Heritage Festival in June. Our camp decided to cover the Battle of Gettysburg because the anniversary was only two weeks after our scheduled presentation. Several local Civil War veterans and brother's ancestors' participated at Gettysburg as well as some of our brothers as re-enactors, participated in Ted Turner's movie entitled "Gettysburg". The presentation was held at the Barber School Community Building in downtown Spring Lake.

We started out by having our Brother Scott Payne talking about the events on Little Round Top. Brother Payne, is a retired local newspaper reporter, who wrote and published a book on the topic. Assisting him was Brother Donald Ogden, a former artillery re-enactor, who gave a presentation on the artillery during the third day of the battle. He used models and actual Civil War artifacts.

The presentation then went into individuals that fought in the Battle of Gettysburg. Brothers John Baldus and Daniel Grable talked about direct ancestors that fought in the battle. Brother Baldus' was wounded on the First Day and Brother Grable Great Grand Uncle was killed during the battle and is now buried in the Michigan plot at Gettysburg.

Brother Grable then talked on local Veterans that participated in the battle including Orange McClure and Noah Ferry, son of Rev. William Ferry founder of Grand Haven.

Brother Cliff Owen then talked on the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address which he read.

Following the individuals Brother Ronald Bellenger talked on the Grand Army of the Republic and the 50th and 75th anniversaries held in honor of the Battle of Gettysburg. Dr. Cyril Brown of Spring Lake attended the 50th Anniversary event and John Park of Coopersville who was one of the youngest veterans in attendance at the 75th Anniversary.

The presentation was ended by Camp Commander Richard Scott who as a re-enactor in the 4th Michigan Infantry/2nd South Carolina Infantry participated in the filling of the film "Gettysburg" made by Ted Turner. The film was based on the book Killer Angels. Brother Richard Scott told about some of his adventures during the filming.

There were 21 people in attendance and they were highly interested that no one left the presentation before it was completed.

The Second Gettysburg Anniversary event the camp participated in was the rededication of the Benjamin K. Weatherwax GAR Post #75 monument in the Lake Forest Cemetery in the City of Grand Haven held on July 13th. The MC of the event was Department of Michigan and John A. Logan Camp #1 Memorial Officer Bruce B. Butgereit.

Local officials Ms. Geri MaCalbe, Mayor of the City of Grand Haven, Steven Radtke, Interim Director of the Tri-Cities Historical Museum and John Martin, Director of the Loutit District Library spoke on the occasion. The Henry E. Plant Camp #3 then ceremoniously presented the camp's colors. The symbols of the soldiers were presented by Camp #1 Brother Rylan Vazquez, Jr. Chaplin Wenda Fore from the Stephen G. Champlin Corps #41, Women's Relief Corps gave the memorial prayer and Past National President of the Women's Relief Corps Marcia Butgereit read the poem "The Unknown Dead."

Floral wreaths were placed by Henry E. Plant Camp #3's Jr. Vice Commander/Assistant Chaplin John Baldus and Patriotic Instructor/Color Bearer Ronald Bellenger. Flowers were then placed on the veterans graves by members of History Remembered, Inc. and officials from the Tri-Cities Historical Museum and Loutit District Library.

Then Bruce Butgereit II fired the military salute, which was followed by the playing of taps and the singing of the Battle Hymn of the Republic.

The rededication was concluded by Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook of the Grand Haven Presbyterian Church who spoke on the military service of Noah Ferry from the White River area. He then gave the benediction and closing prayer.

*Continued on page 17*



*Continued from page 16*

On the Fourth of July the Camp marched in the City of Ferrysburg's parade with Brothers Daniel Grable, John McGarry and Max Rieksie as the Honor Guard. They were followed by a pickup truck with our camp's door signs on it with Brother Donald Ogden and Jr. Member Richard Rieksie riding in the back and Brother John Baldus driving the truck.

On September 7 & 8 the camp conducted a recruiting tent at the Holland Museum's Annual Civil War Muster. This is the 6th event of this type the Holland Museum has conducted.

Work by the camp has continued on the replacement of the Noah Perkins GAR Post #279 Monument. We are in the process of possibly obtaining a cemetery plot for the monument.

Work also continues by the camp to get M-231 (currently under construction) named after Medal of Honor Recipient Henry E. Plant. It was learned by the camp that Rep. Amanda Price of Park Township in Ottawa County reintroduced the naming as a bill last March. It currently is in the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The camp's naming committee is working on some letters of encouragement to send to the State House Committee and support letters to particular families and local and county government boards. The Committee also learned that if the camp supported the cost of the highway signs the bill may move a little easier to passage. We are working on both at this time.

Three Brothers in our Camp have had physical problems last summer. Ronald Bellenger had a very minor accident in early July. He is currently recovered. On July 1st Clifford Owen had a heart attack. He had two stints inserted in his heart. Brother Owen is recovering very well and he was at our Camp meetings since his heart attack. Camp Chaplain Michael Boschaert had a spinal cord operation in July and will be out of commission for six months when the doctors will check on him again and have a second operation. He is also not allowed to drive for six months. Michael was at our July Camp Meeting and just before our November meeting Brother Bosschaert had a fall and was unable to attend the meeting. Please keep Brothers Owen and Boschaert in your prayers.

Earlier this year we obtained a reinstated brother. Joseph Scott Payne III was a member of our camp from July 2002 - April 2004. This past March Scott came back to our camp now that he is retired from The Norton Examiner as a reporter and he has more time to offer to the Sons. He also has written a book on the events at Little Round Top during the Battle of Gettysburg. Our camp membership now consists of 14 Brothers and 1 Junior Member. At our November meeting we made Canace (Candy) Bushman of Ravenna, Michigan, Great-Granddaughter of our namesake Henry E. Plant, an honorary member of our camp.

### **Graves Registration Committee**

*by Rick Danes, Department Officer*

*Because of a work requirement, your Department Graves Registration Committee did not meet on December 14, the first time that a meeting has been postponed in my memory. The meeting was first postponed, and after a poll of the members, was cancelled until March. Our database now has 62,650 Civil War burials and 3,480 Other War records. There has been no change in the current VA direction on ordering headstones.*

*We continue to investigate the ideas of 1) Creating a low-cost design (maybe home-made) for a "temporary marker" so that if we cannot find a descendent, we can manufacture and perhaps get a plastic attachment that states the man's name and regiment; and 2) at the suggestion of George Wilkinson, a 4<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry historian, we have partnered with Alan Teelander, who has offered his Faded Footsteps site to list known burials of soldiers who do not have grave markers, and ask the public for a descendent to step forward aiding our task in marking the grave (we will also try and list these man on Find a Grave for the same purpose).*

**Stay safe, and on behalf of your Graves Registration Committee, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.**

**Austin Blair Camp 7**

Submitted by Bob Griggs, PCC

**Headstone Dedication of Edson and Clark "Augustus" Norton**

Date: May 17, 2014 (Rain Day: May 18, 2014)

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Oaklawn Cemetery, Stockbridge, MI



Check the Facebook Event at

<https://www.facebook.com/events/159136817610314/>

for more Details and updates.

Ceremony held by Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

*A Headstone Dedication of Edson and Clark "Augustus" Norton will be held by Austin Blair Camp No. 7, Department of Michigan, SUVCW at the Oaklawn Cemetery, Stockbridge, MI. The time and date is 1:00pm May 17, 2014 with a rain time and date of 1:00pm May 18, 2014. Check the Facebook Event at <https://www.facebook.com/events/159136817610314/> for updates. If any Camp or SVR Unit would like to help with the dedication, please contact Christopher Cox at [mysticmichigander@hotmail.com](mailto:mysticmichigander@hotmail.com). If you have any question please about the dedication please contact Christopher Cox at the email provide*

## Robert Finch Camp 14 October to December 2013

Submitted by W. E. Skillman ~ Signals ~

As of December 1st, 2013; Camp 14's roster shows 41 Brothers present; 35 are Members and 6 are Associates. Our first meeting of 2014 will be held on Saturday, January 11th at the Elks Lodge at 525 Bay Street in Traverse City. Our guest will be Department Commander Paul Davis, who will be installing the Camp officers and appointees.

During our September meeting, PCC Dale Aurand and Breauh announced plans to hold a luncheon to commemorate the Centennial Anniversary for Robert Finch Camp 14 next March 29<sup>th</sup>. Dale unveiled a challenge coin (to help generate funds to underwrite the celebration) created just for the occasion.

SVC Skip Bryant is working with the Niles Studio of Williamsburg to recreate an ornate GAR marker Skip discovered following the Sehl dedication in Vanderbilt last year. Evergreen Hill cemetery manager, Debbie Whitman, and the town of Vanderbilt generously lent Skip the marker for use as the pattern. Scott Niles made a mold of it using a modified sand casting. Scott recommended aluminum to be the best metal in terms of cost and durability. He can also make GAR markers from other materials for special occasions. Skip is working to have a bronze GAR marker made that will be placed on Sgt. Robert Finch's grave as part of Camp 14's Centennial celebration next year.

Brother Jerry Grieve is working with the Kalkaska veteran and community organizations to lay the ground work for grave rededications to honor Medal of Honor recipients Orderly Sergeant Charles Dupuy and Private Charles Thatcher, both of the First Regiment Michigan Sharpshooters; for heroism beyond the call of duty during the Battle of the Crater (Petersburg, Virginia). After the War, both men moved north to Kalkaska until their deaths. They are buried within a few feet of each other in Evergreen cemetery. Camp 14 will hold the rededication service to coincide with the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Crater battle.

On October 14<sup>th</sup> Camp 14 held its second Annual Camp Banquet at St. Francis Family Center. Catering was provided by the Goodwill Inn. The 'brew crew' of Brothers Morse, Goodrich and Bryant kept guests supplied with handcrafted beers called 'Sharpshooter Ale' and 'Wheatfield Wheat'. Over fifty Brothers and wives attended the celebration. Our guest of honor was Mr. Matt Van Acker and wife. Matt is curator of Michigan's Civil War battle flags. Matt gave a thoroughly entertaining and informative history stemming from the time the original battle-torn regimental colors were turned over to Governor Crapo on July 4<sup>th</sup> 1865 down to the preservation and conservation efforts of the 1990's. Thanks to public donations, every Michigan Civil War flag is now housed in a climate controlled room at the Historical Museum; each one is stored flat in a steel frame on a stabilizing material that protects and preserves the fragile fabric. At the close of Matt's talk, CC Goodrich presented him a check on behalf of Camp 14 to be used for the preservation of the First Michigan Sharpshooters flag. Many thanks to PCC Dale Aurand, wife Lorraine and the many volunteers who made this year's banquet a resounding success.

On November 6<sup>th</sup> Camp 14 enjoyed hearing from Brother Alan J. Werderhoff: *Although it has been a while since I was a guard for a (SUVCW) grave dedication I am back in cemeteries for the U.S. Air Force. It's hard to describe the feeling when you carry a casket with an American flag draped over it and hand the folded flag to the family. It drives home what it means to serve for me. I'm honored to be able to give final honors to veterans on behalf of the Air Force. We are responsible for all Air Force funerals, flag ceremonies and retirements for Southern Virginia and part of North Carolina. Essentially we are a detachment of the Air Force Honor Guard in Washington. In the past 2 weeks I've had the honor of doing the funerals for the first Air Force Sniper and an Army Air Corps POW that took part in real "Great Escape" during WWII. Because of my background with Camp 14 as a Guard it was much easier for me to pick up the funeral movements and ceremony sequence than the others in my training class. I was recently sent to the Air Force Hazardous Materials Airlift Inspector School at Fort Lee, VA. I now inspect and sign off HAZMAT cargo before it goes on the aircraft.*

*On the Coast Guard Auxiliary side, if all goes well I should become the Vice Commander of Virginia Beach in January. I did my first search and rescue mission for the Elizabeth City Coast Guard Air Station. Hope all is well and have a Happy Thanksgiving. Alan J. Werderhoff, Airman First Class, USAF*

*Continued from page 20*



Continued from page 19

Camp 14 held its last meeting for 2013 on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Brother Jenkins presented a video from *Destination Michigan*. The lead segment featured the Michigan Battle Flags restoration project. Brothers who had not attended the banquet had the opportunity to see Matt Van Acker explain the restoration and preservation efforts of many of their ancestor's regimental colors.

Elections were held and the following officers were appointed by the members:

Commander-elect	Skip Bryant
Senior Vice Commander	Dave Smith
Junior Vice Commander	Joe Conger
Council	Dale Aurand
	Bill Skillman
	Jan White
Secretary	Tom Jenkins
Treasurer	Ted Mattis

Unfortunately, Veterans Day in Northern Michigan turned blustery, snowy and cold; leading to smaller than normal turnouts for ceremonies around the region this year. Over Thanksgiving weekend, Michigan public television (WCMU for the northern counties) presented "*The Road to Andersonville--Michigan Native American Sharpshooters in the Civil War*", a film by Dr. David B. Schock. Prominently featured were authors Chris Czopect and Ray Herrick. The film describes the trials and triumphs of the warriors of the 'Three Fires' (Ojibwe/Chippewa, Odawa and Potowattami) who volunteered to serve with the First Michigan Sharpshooters. The film closes with members of the Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veteran and Warrior Society, (who traveled to Andersonville, Georgia in May of 2010), conducting a traditional burial ceremony for seven Company 'K' who never came home. Among the invited guests (but not shown) was Brother Dale Aurand. *The Road to Andersonville* is a wonderful tribute for the Native American soldiers and those who 'keep green their memory' today.

Camp 14 will participate in the National *Wreathes Across America* celebration on December 14<sup>th</sup> at Petoskey's Greenwood cemetery. *Wreathes Across America's* mission is to remember the sacrifices of veterans of America's conflicts by placing a wreath on every grave. Ceremonies will simultaneously occur at Arlington (and other national military cemeteries in the U.S. and foreign countries); and all 50 states. In Petoskey alone there are over 1000 veteran graves with 750 wreaths ordered.

Brother John Dyle and wife Julie are active in the *Quilts of Valor* program. Following the traditions of soldier's families and aid societies of 150 years ago, they make quilts that are given to returning veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan. Recently, six northern Michigan '*Quilts of Valor*' were featured on Grand Rapids WOOD Chanel 8's "*Making a Difference*" segment.

On behalf of Robert Finch Camp 14's Officers and Brothers; and Francis Finch Auxiliary; we wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We hope to see you in 2014!

**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 [mimessrd@aol.com](mailto:mimessrd@aol.com) or to 2612 Burns Street, Dearborn, Michigan 48124-3204**

**ALL PUBLICATIONS WILL BE MADE ON TIME**

## General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20

Submitted by Brother Gary Swain SVC

Camp 20 joined forces with Western Michigan University's Academy of Lifelong Learning and organized a Civil War Sesquicentennial trip to Gettysburg, Antietam and Harpers Ferry. The trip focused on Michigan's role in these important Civil War events. Thirty three participants from Camp 20 and WMU ALL enjoyed their five day emersion in our history. The trip was organized and hosted by Brother Gary Swain and guided by Brother Mike Culp.



*SUVCW/WMU ALL participants at Antietam*



*Matt Van Acker*

Camp 20's October meeting was a joint meeting with the DUVCW Tent #58 Cornelia Stockbridge Shelton local tent and open to the public. Matt VanAcker, the state curator of Michigan's battle flags, was our special guest. He spoke about the history of the flags, their meaning and the ongoing efforts to preserve them. Over 45 people were in attendance, and Matt's comments were appreciated and well received. Also in attendance was "Real Daughter" Patricia Albertson. Her father served with a Vermont Infantry regiment.



Back row, Commander John Keith of Camp 20 SUVCW and President Sally Redinger of Tent 58 DUVCW. Front row Real Daughter Patricia Albertson.



Camp 20 commander John Keith and Brothers Gary Swain and Mike Culp sanded and repainted the GAR gate at Riverside Cemetery in Plainwell, Allegan County on an Indian summer day in mid- October.

*Continued on page 21*

*Continued from page 20*

DUVCW Tent 58 Sister Patti and Camp 20 Bro. Bob Townsend hosted a 96th Birthday party for Patti's father Camp 20 Brother Paul Lyke. Bro Lyke has been in the hospital and in rehab for a fall that broke 3 ribs and is in therapy to build up his strength. The party was on Friday November 29th at the Borgess Gardens 3057 Gull Road, Kalamazoo. Brother Lyke served our Country in WWII in the United States Navy, his Civil war ancestor is Lewis Albert Lyke he was in Co. L and Co. M of the Ninth New York Cavalry.



Attending Bro. Lyke's 96<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party is left to right (standing) Bro. Bill Brennan, and Bro. John R. Keith, seated are Bro Robert Townsend, Bro. Paul Lyke and Bro. Tom Bruce



A picture of Mr. Lewis Albert Lyke taken at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle Gettysburg, he died that August a little over a month after this picture was taken.

### **Another Editor's Note:**

**In order that we maintain the high level of excellence that we have set for this publication, it is important for each of you to become owners of this effort.**

**To that end, some helpful hints are: make sure that your articles are submitted on time – that is before the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month that Michigan's Messenger is due for publication; in order that each Camp has equal opportunity to have their information published, please limit your submissions to two pages including photos; do not use exotic photo programs, .pdf or .jpg works just fine; do not use "editor" programs, a simple word program is good; and finally, **PLEASE** spell check your article – it is embarrassing to hear that a man's name was mis-spelled, when it was submitted wrong.**

**We have been very fortunate to have such dedicated brothers that keep this effort fresh, and that effort is evident by the recognition that we have received by the National Organization.**

**In advance, thank you for your continued help in making this a multiple-award winning publication,**

**In advance, thank you for your help, Rick**



## U.S. Grant Camp 67

*Submitted by Charles Buckhahn, Camp Commander*

### Initiates New Brother at Gettysburg

Brother Joe Frost, a new member of U.S. Grant Camp 67 was initiated at Gettysburg at the site of the 16<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry's Monument on Little Round Top. The initiation was conducted by the Commander of the Department of Michigan. Brother Joe Frost had his membership badge pinned to his coat by his brother, Jack Frost, also a member of Grant Camp. In addition to other Grant Camp members, several members of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, Company A, 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan were in attendance during Joe's installation to welcome him into the Order.

Two associate members of Grant Camp, "Sailor" Bob Boquette and Duaine "Badger" Phillips recently discovered ancestors who served in the Civil War and they were initiated by Commander Buckhahn as regular members during a Camp meeting in October.

Several members of Grant Camp participated in the 57<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day Parade and 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.



**Installation of Joe Frost at  
16<sup>th</sup> Michigan Monument on  
Little Round Top**



**Installation of Duaine Phillips (Left) and  
Bob Boquette (Right) as members of  
U.S. Grant Camp. Camp Commander  
Charles Buckhan on far Right**



**Bob Boquette after marching in the  
57<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day Parade**

## March to the Sea Camp 135

*Submitted by Chuck Worley, PDC*

March to the Sea Camp has been active in the projects of the Order this year with the help of new brothers Roland Rowe and Russ Gordon added to our rank. The Camp took heart the call at the May Department Encampment for Monument Assessments. We divided the GAR monuments of St. Joseph County so each brother had one or two to visit and write-up and take photos. We then reviewed the forms and then sent copies to the Department and National Monument Officers. This was a fun way to get to corners of our county that aren't on our normal daily routes.

Brother Bruce Gosling has submitted to the Sturgis Journal and Three Rivers Commercial a monthly calendar of events from 150 years ago. This has generated some interest in the community as we hear discussions about the articles.

Looking forward to 2014 we are involved with the Alba Columba Women's club of White Pigeon to relocate their 1915 monument back to the site of Camp Tillson, home of the 11<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry while they were mustering into the militia. The marker was moved to a village park when the railroad depot began to show neglect. Recently the Depot has been restored and a small park established. The project is to return the marker and commemorate the site for its historical significance for the preservation of the Union.

Three brothers of Sons Camp March to the Sea joined the commemoration of Remembrance Day 2013 in Gettysburg Pennsylvania. Brothers Dick Denny, Russ Gordon and Chuck Worley joined up for the weekend with the brothers of SVR 14th Michigan Co. A, Irish Rifles on Friday evening to watch the Stephen Lang documentary "The Gettysburg Story" at the Majestic Theater. Saturday morning started early with Flag placement on each of Michigan's fallen from the three day battle of July 1863. We were joined with WRC, Daughters of Union Veterans, and brothers of SUV and MOLLUS. I would estimate in all around thirty-five folks from Michigan took part in the events of the weekend.

The commemoration and remembrance ceremony for the Grand Army of the Republic took place at the Albert Woolson Monument at Ziegler's Grove. While the wind was blustery and the temperatures were dropping, the ceremony was impressive as ever with the National, Department and Camp flags, military band music, civilian and military attire, wreath placements by the Allied Orders of the GAR, and James Getty's impression of President Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address.

We stepped off Saturday afternoon for the SUVCW Remembrance Day Parade and took our route south on the Baltimore Pike and Steinwehr Avenue. I heard that there were around 7000 participants in the Blue and Grey Ranks. Late in the afternoon we reformed at the Michigan section of the National Cemetery to remember our brave fallen with a return of Michigan soils over their graves. Brother Russ had collected soils from two townships and two from the courthouse to pour over the graves of four fallen from our county. The ceremony was a very solemn and fitting program and all in attendance were moved. We would like to acknowledge the time and effort Marcia and Bruce Butgereit of Gen. John Logan Camp 1 of Grand Rapids took to make this happen. We extend "Our Thanks" to you both and those that assisted in so many ways. Immediately following we warmed up and ate our fill at the General Pickett's Buffet. Sunday morning we took our breakfast at the Gettysburg GAR Hall on Middle Street and browsed the collection of memorabilia in the lower level. From there we moved up to Little Round Top and the 16<sup>th</sup> Michigan Monument to initiate the newest member of U.S. Grant Camp 67, Joe Frost, a jolly guy and good to have in our Department. Then those brave souls that wished, worked their way over to the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Sharpshooters Co. K Monument and had their pictures taken to prove the feat and earn their Order of the Mountain Goat medal. From this point we had an exclusive tour of the Neill Avenue or otherwise known as the Lost Avenue. This is the Extreme Right Flank of the Union Army held by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade 2<sup>nd</sup> Division of the 6<sup>th</sup> Corp led by General Thomas Neill. We had an exclusive narration by landowner and farmer Dean Schultz. The 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan group then stopped at several battlefield points to revisit and clarify what took place. We then made the short trek to the Hickory Bridge Farm Restaurant where we had our last evening together with fun, conversation and a very good dinner. It was difficult to say good-bye to friends, new and old, and to Gettysburg. We will have to do this again!



The Brothers of March to the Sea Camp 135 wish a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2014 to all the Camps and Brothers of the Department.

## Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427

For Jerry Jacobs, Secretary

Camp 427 closed the year in grand style, with our 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner, at which 38 members, their families, and friends attended.

Since the last publication of Michigan's Messenger, Camp Members have worked with the Plymouth Historical Museum, portraying a Civil War soldier in one of their fund-raising cemetery walks, and we have served the Dearborn Historical Society and Dearborn Historical Museum in several programs where we could "wear the blue" and talk to the public. We have attended the Dearborn Flag Day ceremony as a Camp, hosted and marched in the Detroit Veteran's Day Parade, provided uniformed participants in the St. Paul's Cathedral Veterans Day Service, attended the Dearborn Veterans Day Ceremony as a Camp, and in December, completed the 9<sup>th</sup> Camp Meeting of the year.

During 2013, Commander Danes continued his series of articles about Civil War-related issues with "Michigan in the Civil War: The GAR Finds Its Place In Dearborn" in the Winter 2013, Volume 50, No 1 of the Dearborn Historian.



In November the Camp was contacted by SVC Dale Aurand with a request for transfer by John Michael Joslin of Pinellas Park, Florida, who was a member of the Department of Florida Winfield Scott Whitehurst Camp #1. Joslin's has identified 17 Civil War ancestors, two of which are John Milton Joslin, Co F 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Engineers and Mechanics, and Ralph Goweth Terry (photo on the left), Co C, 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry – who was a member of the Eddy GAR Post #231 in Plymouth.

Camp 427 elected officers in November, with the incumbent slate of Rick Danes, Sr. as Commander, Jon Reed as Senior Vice Commander, Howard Fite as Junior Vice Commander, Jerry Jacobs as Secretary, Rick Danes, Jr. as Treasurer, and Jerry Olson, Keith Kushnir, and Jerry Radloff as Council members. Appointed Officers are: Ed Binkley, Chaplain; George Boller, Patriotic Instructor; Dennis Fyke, Monuments and Memorial Officer; Jerry Jacobs, Signals Officer, Webmaster, and Graves Registration Officer; Ian Kushnir and Rich Bower, Principal Musicians; Jerry Olson Eagle Scout Coordinator; Ken Roberts, Guide; Aaron Schrader Color Bearer and Guard; Jerry Radloff, ROTC Coordinator; Allan Treppa, Historian; and Jack Underwood, Councillor.



**Clements Library Director  
J. Kevin Graagnino spoke  
at the November Meeting**



**Camp 427 Members stage for the 2013  
Detroit Veteran's Day Parade**



## Champlin Corp 41, WRC

Submitted by Wenda Fore, Chaplain

### MICHIGAN REMEMBERS GETTYSBURG

November 23, 2013, dawned sunny, windy, and cold. But that didn't deter the many who came out for the placement of the American flags and State of Michigan flags on the graves of the 175 men buried in the Gettysburg National Cemetery. It was a great tribute to our "Boys in Blue"!

But there is an even more important story of the day. A Civil War Sesquicentennial Memorial Service was held at 3:30 PM that afternoon to remember each of the men individually who are buried there – some unknown – some who were moved home to a local cemetery. There was a Color Guard provided by the Sons of Union Veterans and MOLLUS. Many volunteers took their place in the nine rows of gravestones waiting to place a small amount of soil at each grave – soil that was donated by so many around the state of Michigan, hoping to bring a little bit of home to those who never returned home. The names of those buried there were read, followed by taps. President Lincoln gave "A Few Appropriate Remarks", followed by the placement of floral tributes. It was a very solemn and memorable service.

Many people who joined us for this event were from other states and just happened to be in the cemetery at that time. One couple came forward to let us know that they were descendants of one of the men.

I have another story to tell. While researching the lives of those buried in the cemetery at Gettysburg, I found one man who turned out to be very special to me. William Brennan was a farmer in Georgetown Township where I live. I located an 1860 plat map for the township and found the location of his farm. It was at the corner of 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Edson Drive – not far from my home. Although now an area of new homes with no sign that a farm existed, I was able to dig up some soil to take with me to Gettysburg place on his grave. When William Brennan enlisted in the 5<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry he was 33 years old, had a wife and two children. Like so many others, he never returned home. Somehow I feel that I know him and wanted to honor him at the ceremony. I was able to sprinkle the soil at his grave, speak his name, and thank him for making the ultimate sacrifice on July 4, 1863, his birthday, at Monterey Gap, Pennsylvania.

Now I hope that I might find some of his descendants. I would like to share some of what I learned about this man with them. Perhaps I will be able to do so. However, if not, he is not forgotten – he remains in my thoughts...in remembrance.

