

# The Pritchard Press

*The Newsletter of the General Benjamin Pritchard, Camp 20, Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

Vol. XXXV, No. 5

September, 2019

## Camp Officers 2019

Commander: Michael Culp

Sr. Vice Commander: Gary Thomas

Jr. Vice Commander: Steve Rossio

Camp Secretary: Gary Gibson

Camp Treasurer: David Conklin

Guard: Charles Keith

Guide: TBA

Patriotic Instructor: TBA

Eagle Scout Coordinator: TBA

Memorials and Monuments: Gary Swain

Graves Registration: Gary Swain

Color Bearer: Glenn Hall

Historian: Gary Gibson

Chaplin: Bill Brennan

Asst. Chaplin: Jeffry Baker

Council: Bill Costello, Robert Townsend

Signals Officer: John Keith

Pritchard Press Editor: Gary Swain

## 2019 Camp Schedule

Sept. 3, 2019	Camp Meeting-Portage Library, 7:00 PM
Sept. 28, 2019	Gravestone dedication-Camp 85, Bly Cemetery, Marcellus, 10:00 AM
October 1, 2019	Camp Meeting-Portage Library, 7:00 PM
Nov. 11, 2019	Kalamazoo County Veterans Day Ceremony-Kalamazoo's Rose Park Veterans Memorial 2:00 PM
Nov. 16, 2019	<b>Remembrance Day-Gettysburg, PA</b>
Nov.-Dec., 2019	No camp Meeting

## 2019 Veterans Day Ceremony

### Kalamazoo's Rose Park Veterans Memorial

**November 11, 2019, 2:00 PM**

General Benjamin Pritchard, Camp 20, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to provide Color Guard for Veteran's Day ceremony.



# Upcoming Events

## Gravestone Dedication



The Frederick H. Williams, Camp 85 of the SUVCW, has scheduled a gravestone dedication in the BLY Cemetery in Marcellus, Cass County for Saturday, September 28, 2019 at 10:00 AM. Camp 20 is invited to participate in this program and to help support Camp 85's efforts.

## Kalamazoo Civil War Roundtable

Westwood Methodist Church

538 Nichols Rd.

### Schedule of Speakers

Next Meeting: Friday, September 21, 2019, 7:00 PM-Program to be Announced



## Grand Rapids Civil War Roundtable

West Dining Room-DeWitt Student Center-Kuyper College

3333 East Beltline Ave. NE, Grand Rapids

### Schedule of Speakers

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 18, 2019, 7:00 PM-Program to be Announced

## Join the Sons of Union Veterans

If you had an ancestor who fought to preserve the Union during the Civil War 1861-1865 and would like to join with other like-minded decedents in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, please call Camp 20 Commander Mike Culp at 269-342-4741.



## Michigan's GAR Museum

Located at 224 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids, MI , the museum is open the first and second Wednesday of each month from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Below is the schedule for the first half of 2019

September 4th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Museum Open  
September 8th, 9th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Offsite Program: Dearborn Old Car Festival  
September 11th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Museum Open  
September 14th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Urban Air Festival  
September 15th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Urban Air Festival  
September 22nd (3 PM) - Museum Anniversary and Speaker Program: (Larry Hathcock - Last Veterans of the Blue and Gray)  
October 2nd (10 AM - 5 PM) - Museum Open  
October 9th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Museum Open  
October 19th (8 PM - Midnight) - Ghost Tour at Museum  
November 6th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Museum Open  
November 11th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Veterans Day  
November 13th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Museum Open  
November 19th (7 PM) - Speaker Program: (Quita Shier - Warriors in Mr. Lincoln's Army: Stories of Native Americans who fought in the Civil War)  
December 4th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Museum Open  
December 7th (Noon - 8 PM) - Eaton Rapids Hometown Christmas

### 2019 Seminar Programs

Sunday, September 22nd (3 PM) - Program: **Last Veterans of the Blue and Gray** (Speaker: Larry Hathcock)

Tuesday, November 19th (7 PM) - Speaker Program: **Warriors in Mr. Lincoln's Army: Stories of Native Americans who fought in the Civil War** (Quita Shier)



## Special Message



The sisters of Cornelia Stockbridge Tent #58, Kalamazoo are pleased to say that we have been very busy since your last newsletter. First, we have a new Department President from our own Kalamazoo tent. Sister Jan Davis has agreed to take over the leadership of the Michigan Sisters. Jan has also assumed the office of co-president of our tent. Jan lives in Traverse City but will be a very big part of everything that goes on in our tent and the Department of Michigan.

The Daughters of Cornelia Stockbridge Sheldon have participated in Memorial Day services, headstone dedications, Department and National Conventions. We have also spent an evening cleaning headstones at Riverside Cemetery under the supervision of Sister Patti Townsend. We are getting good at it and are planning another evening of scrubbing.

Our next big event will be hosting of our District Meeting in October with attendance from tents from southwest Michigan.

Thanks for including us in your newsletter.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Sally Redinger PNP

Cornelia Stockbridge Sheldon-Tent #58

DUVCW

Kalamazoo, MI





## CAMP ACTIVITIES

### Michigan Regimental Battle Flags

In July, Camp 20 planned and enjoyed a visit to the Michigan History Museum to view its collection of the original battle flags carried by Michigan regiments during the Civil War. Matt VanAcker, co-chair of *Save the Flags* Program, was again our host and provided an amazing 2 1/2 hour tour of the flag collection. Twenty camp brothers and friends of the camp participated in the program. The Hopkins Future Farmers were the special guest of Camp 20 Brother Comer Skinner.



Matt Van Acker (center) displaying Michigan regimental national battle flag to brothers of Camp 20, sisters of Tent 58 and the Hopkins Future Farmers

## Michigan Regimental Battle Flags-Continued



Matt VanAcker displaying regimental battle flag with large sections cut out by soldiers for souvenirs



Brother Doug Gilcrest in front of Michigan 25th Infantry Regimental battle flag that his Civil War ancestor fought under.



## New Sign for Pritchard Grave

Camp 20 Secretary Gary Gibson PCC PDC displays the new sign for General Benjamin Pritchard's grave in Allegan. The sign is scheduled be installed by late September.

## Gift to GAR Museum

Camp 20 Brother John Keith and Brother Charlie Keith donate an antique chair to the GAR Museum in Eaton Rapids, MI.





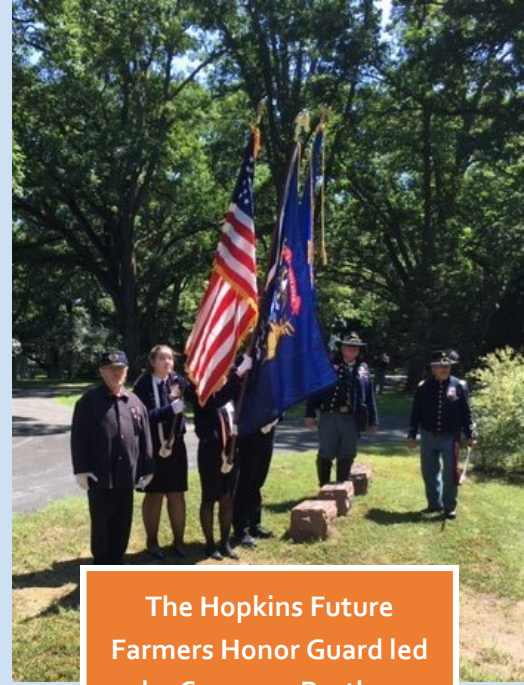
# Private Thomas Mitchell Gravestone Dedication

## Co. B, 102 U.S.C.T.

On Saturday, August 3, 2019 Camp 20 joined with the Allegan County Historical Society and dedicated a gravestone in Oakwood Cemetery, Allegan. Historical Society member Amanda Strickfaden worked with the Mitchell descendants and ordered the gravestone for the unmarked grave. Brother Bill Brennan helped to install the stone and Camp 20 prepared the program and led the dedication..



Camp Commander Mike Culp conducted the dedication ceremony



The Hopkins Future Farmers Honor Guard led by Camp 20 Brother Comer Skinner



Over 50 members of the local community participated in or observed the dedication ceremony



The Sons of Veterans reserve provided the Honor Guard and fired the gun salute. Brother Blaine Valentine was the bugler and played Taps to close the ceremony.



# Private Garrett E. Moyer Gravestone Dedication

## Co. C, 6th Michigan Infantry Regiment

The camp was contacted by Kenneth and Carol Moyer regarding a gravestone that they had ordered for their ancestor Garrett E. Moyer who had served with the 6th Michigan Infantry and had succumbed to disease in June of 1862 near Baton Rouge, LA. He was buried in an unmarked grave there and the family had ordered a government stone to be placed in his home town of Constantine, Michigan. The Camp 20's help in placing the gravestone. While in our area of responsibility we were unable to do it because of other commitments. The dedication was held on Sunday, August 4th and over 70 participants were on hand to honor the service of Private Moyer.





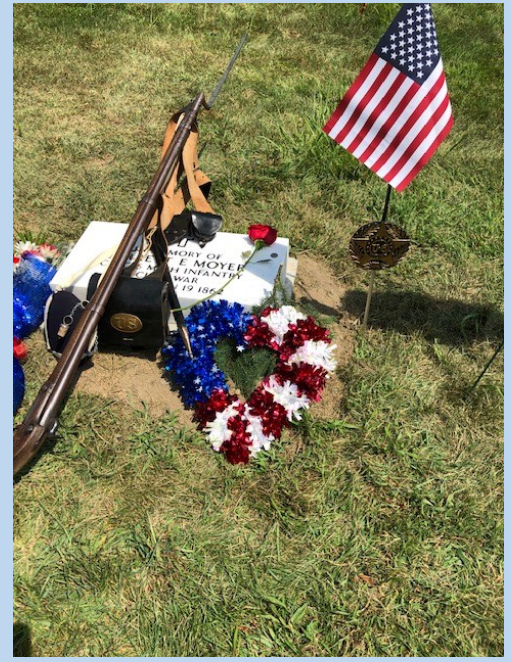
# Private Garrett E. Moyer Gravestone Dedication



Michigan Army National Guard  
presenting flag to Moyer family



DUVCW: Jan Davis-President Dept. of  
Mich., Cornelia Stockbridge Tent 58,  
Eva Gray Tent 2



Symbol of the Army  
A musket with fixed bayonet, a canteen  
and a haversack

## In Memoriam 2019



On July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019, **Janice Lee (Wadsworth) Keith** was called to heaven to be with her Lord. Janice was born January 20, 1961 in Kalamazoo. She was the wife of Camp 20 past commander John Keith.

Jan loved crafts of all sorts. Woodworking, crocheting, knitting, jewelry making among others. As a licensed cosmetologist she was fascinated by the popular hair styles of the day. It was common for her to get calls for hair or dress help from young ladies before school dances - she happily 'saved the day.'

Jan drove a school bus for Plainwell Community Schools for many years. She loved her bus kids and they loved her for many reasons; from her fair treatment of their antics to her crocheting hats for each rider, her countless costumes for holidays and her ever present smile, to name a few. Services were held on August 10th. At the Trowbridge Community Church.



## In Memoriam 2019



**Joe Orbeck** passed away July 27th at Stratford Pines Nursing Center in Midland. He was a member of Camp 20 from the 1990's until he moved to Midland in 2008. Unfortunately, health issues shortly after he arrived prevented him from joining another camp. He suffered a severe stroke in 2010, but his strong fighting spirit allowed him to return to his apartment with daily home care for six years, then another 3 years at Stratford Pines. He truly enjoyed his time with Camp 20, and his family is proud of his work uncovering their great-great grandfather's story from the Civil War. He was well loved by all who met and cared for him in his final years. Brother Joe is fondly remembered by the brothers of Camp 20 where he was the camp treasurer for many years. He will be interred in Hillside Cemetery in Plainwell.

## Informal Gathering

The camp implemented a series of informal summer meetings at Burger King in Otsego this year. This has presented an opportunity for comradery and to discuss camp activities in an informal venue. It also allows some brothers who are unable to make the monthly meeting to get together with the camp. This is becoming a popular activity as the number of participants continues to grow.



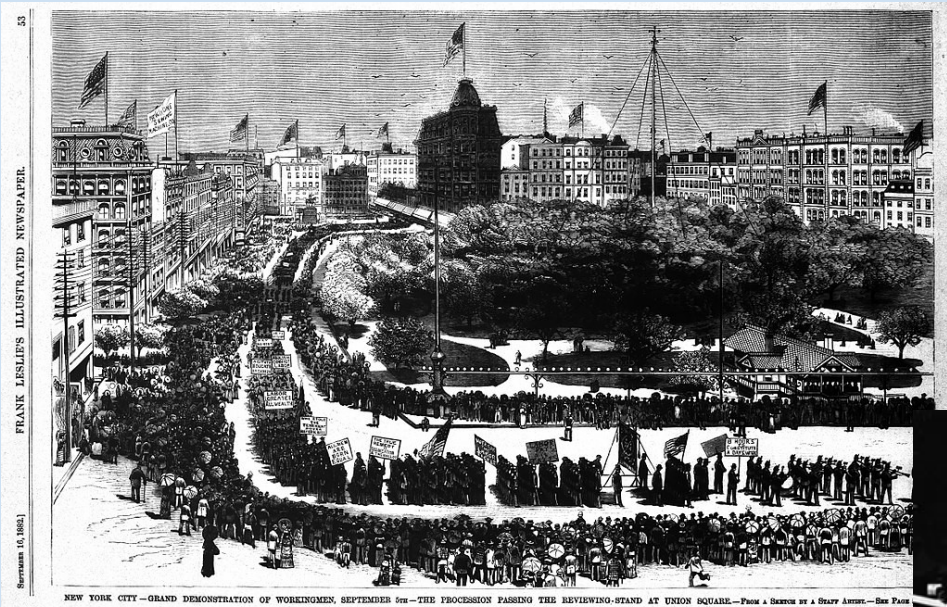
L to R Brother Robert Townsend, Sister Patti Townsend, Brothers Dave Deleme, Bill Brennan, Jay Miller, Mike Culp, Tom Bruce, Charley Keith and John Keith

# Labor Day

Monday, September 2, 2019



**Labor Day**, celebrated on the first Monday in September, honors the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.



1882 Labor Day Procession, Union Square, New York City



Ladies Labor Day Float  
Circa 1910

