



The Pritchard Press

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

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Join the Sons of Union Veterans
Abraham Lincoln Institute

2021 Camp Schedule

- July 6, 2021 7:00 pm Camp Meeting-GAR Monument-Riverside Cem.
- August 3, 2021 7:00 pm Camp Meeting-GAR Monument-Riverside Cem.
- August 4-9, 2021 **SUVCW National Encampment**
St. Louis, MO
- Sept. 7, 2021 7:00 pm Camp Meeting-GAR Monument-Riverside Cem.
- Oct. 5, 2021 7:00 pm Camp Meeting-GAR Monument-Riverside Cem.
- Nov. 2, 2021 7:00 pm Camp Meeting



2021
Michigan Command

Left
Janice A. Davis
President
DUVCW

Right
Nathan Smith
Commander
SUVCW



DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

137th Department Encampment

The 37th Department Encampment was held on Saturday, May 1st., 2012 at the Okemos Conference Center In Okemos, MI. The meeting was held as a hybrid event with a mix of in-person and on-line participation. The meeting was presided over by Department Commander Terrence (Terry) McKinch and attended by National Commander-in-Chief Brian C. Pierson. New Department of Michigan officers were elected for the 2021-2022 term including Commander Nathan Smith, Senior Vice Commander Gary Swain and Junior Vice Commander David Kimble.



2020-2021 Commander, Department of Michigan Terry McKinch



2020-2021 SUVCW Commander-in-Chief Brian C. Pierson

DEPARTMENT & CAMP ACTIVITIES

New Commander
Newly installed
Commander, De-
partment of
Michigan, Nate
Smith, (front row
center, 3rd from
left).



Veteran Flags at Mountain Home Cemetery

Camp 20 Brothers and Friends of Camp 20 replaced 278 flags on veteran gravestones the first week end of May in Mountain Home Cemetery.



Left: Volunteer Bob Schellenberg honoring our veterans with gravestone flags



Above: Brother Mike Culp and volunteer Rita Swain installing flags at Mountain Home Cemetery

CAMP ACTIVITIES



Volunteers: Alice Witt, Andrew Witt and MacKenzie Lesterhouse



Brothers Doug Gilchrist and Tom Bruce

GAR Monument Cleanup

The Camp had an excellent turnout for the annual Riverside GAR Monument cleanup on Saturday, May 22nd. The site was pristine for the upcoming Memorial Day ceremony.



L to R: Brothers Bill Costello, Bill Brennan and Gary Gibson (foreground).



L to R: Brother Len Sheaffer, Sister Patti Townsend and Brother Robert Townsend

CAMP ACTIVITIES

Camp 20 Brothers supported Camp 43 and their dedication of a plaque honoring Corp. William H. Crittenden from the 4th Michigan Cavalry and the capture of Confederate President Jefferson Davis.



MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBER & HONOR

On May 30th, the original Memorial Day (Decoration Day), the General Benjamin Pritchard-Camp 20 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Cornelia Stockbridge Sheldon, Tent 58 of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War held their annual memorial ceremony at the GAR monument in Kalamazoo's Riverside Cemetery.



One of two memorial benches dedicated to the GAR and the 13th Michigan and generously donated by Camp 20 Brother Michael Culp.

MEMORIAL DAY

Brothers of Camp 20 continued the recognition of U. S. Veterans on the observed Memorial Day, May 31st, by holding a ceremony at the grave site of General Benjamin Pritchard in Allegan's Oakwood Cemetery. General Benjamin Pritchard was the Colonel in command of the 4th Michigan Cavalry who captured Confederate President Jefferson Davis in the waning days of the Civil War. Camp 20 of the SUVCW is named after General Pritchard





GAR

31st Department Encampment

Kalamazoo, Michigan

June 22-24, 1909



National Association of Civil War Musicians-Grand Army of the Republic-Department of Michigan

Chief of Staff Sgt. Isaac Grant (Marshall, Michigan GAR Post 166)-Also Henry Gillespie with fife pointed on knee with mustache

Photo taken in front of the Rickman House located at 345 N. Burdick St., Kalamazoo-Photographer was Mr. Austin of Kalamazoo

1909 DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT CONTINUED

The 1909 GAR Department of Michigan Encampment was held in Kalamazoo. The photos on this page include original delegate badges to the right and ribbons and pins on the left. Please note that the pin on the left has an attached likeness of Col. Benjamin Orcutt (25th Michigan Infantry). The local GAR Post was named in his honor. Orcutt was the sheriff of Kalamazoo and was killed in a jail break in 1867. Also on the pin is a head of celery as Kalamazoo was known as the "Celery City" in that era.



General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Camp Officers 2021

Commander: John Keith

Sr. Vice Commander: Len Sheaffer

Jr. Vice Commander: Doug Gilchrist

Camp Secretary: Gary Gibson

Camp Treasurer: David Conklin

Guard: Charles Keith

Guide: Robert Townsend

Patriotic Instructor: Mike Culp

Eagle Scout Coordinator: Gary Swain

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, Jeffry Baker

Signals Officer: John Keith

Pritchard Press Editor: Gary Swain

Join the Sons of Union Veterans

If you had an ancestor who fought to preserve the Union during the Civil War 1861-1865 or simply share our values and would like to join with other like-minded members in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, **please call Camp 20 Commander John Keith at 269 720-5251 or email to hardtackcw@aol.com**



SUVCW Department of Michigan

Endorses **Kalamazoo Lincoln Institute**

The SUVCW Department of Michigan has endorsed the project to bring a statue of Abraham Lincoln to Kalamazoo's Bronson Park. Check out the link on the Departments web site home page.

