

Michigan's Messenger

The Newsletter of the Department of Michigan ~ Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil



Volume VI Number 4

May 1998

DEPARTMENT ORDERS No. 4 SERIES 1997-98

1. Once again it is a distinct pleasure to report the installation of a new Camp. This one is Sergeant John S. Cosby Camp 427. Centered at Dearborn, it is led by Camp Commander Richard E. Carden who was very instrumental in its formation. Congratulations and welcome, Brothers of Camp 427. Welcome, too, to the new Brothers in other Camps throughout the Department.

2. The 109th annual Department Encampment of the Department of Michigan is hereby called for Saturday, June 6, at the Holiday Inn Saginaw - Frankenmuth, 1408 South Outer Drive, Saginaw. All delegates and other Brothers are urged to attend this annual business meeting of the Department. Particulars, including pre-registration information, are given in the current issue of *Michigan's Messenger* (page 15).

3. All Brothers are encouraged to attend the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic Banquet which will follow the Department Encampment. It promises to be an enjoyable evening of fellowship, food, and festivities. Reservations for the noon luncheon and/or the banquet are required and must be submitted by May 20. A form for that also is in the current *Michigan's Messenger* (page 15).

4. Brother James T. Williams, Department Treasurer, reports receipts of \$3,834.00 and expenditures of \$4,071.13 through December 31, 1997, leaving a Total Fund Balance of \$5,935.25. Officers, committee chairmen and any others with bills for the Department are requested to submit them to Brother Williams no later than May 15 so he can process them by May 31, the end of the fiscal year.

5. All Brothers are reminded of their personal pledges to observe **May 30**, the day set aside by the Grand Army of the Republic as Memorial Day, and to do all in their power to persuade others to do the same. Since the date falls on Saturday this year, Camps have an extraordinary opportunity to observe that special day in addition to participating in other ceremonies of that weekend or the preceding one. It's not too early to plan for this day of exceptional significance to us all.

6. The Department community was shocked to learn about the misfortune of Brother Richard Williams on Friday, February 13. While confronting a purse snatcher, he was stabbed three times. He was rushed to the hospital, treated and soon sent home for rest and recovery. Brother Williams was able to return to work just days later. At the Midwinter Conference, he was commended highly and given standing ovations for his heroism.

7. Fifty-two Brothers from 14 Michigan Camps, Commander-in-Chief Richard D. Orr, and BG David R. Medert, Col. David R. Medert, PC-in-C, and Maj. Robert E. Grim of the Sons of Veterans Reserve attended the Department's annual Midwinter Conference in Lansing on February 21. There they enjoyed a productive period of instruction, information, and fellowship. C-in-C Orr presented a Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star to James Lyons, PDC, and a Meritorious Service Award to Brother Richard Williams, and BG Medert presented Brother Williams with an SVR Certificate of Merit.

8. At the George Washington - Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Dinner which followed the Midwinter Conference, Mrs. Kerry Chartkoff explained the project to preserve Michigan's Civil War battle flags. Commander Hodges granted Certificates of Appreciation to her and to battle flag adopters PC-in-C Keith Harrison, SVC Kent Armstrong, and the 24th Michigan Regiment.

9. Brother Robert Knowles and Elizabeth Knowles were honored in a special ceremony at the Michigan Historical Museum on March 14 for their adoption of a battle flag of the 8th Michigan Veteran Volunteer Infantry. State Senator Mike Rogers presented them with a Legislative Resolution, and Commander Hodges gave them a Department Certificate of Appreciation.

(continued on page 8)

10. Certificates of Appreciation have been presented to four Brothers for refurbishing the grave flag holders of 300 comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic buried at the Mt. Rest Cemetery in St. Johns, Michigan. They are Douglas R. Armstrong, Kent L. Armstrong, Donald R. Boak, and Eric C.

*Department Officers 1997/98**Commander*

Paul D. Hodges
2300 Heights Avenue
Lansing, MI 48912-3514
(517) 482-4718

Senior Vice Commander

Kent L. Armstrong
P. O. Box 618
DeWitt, MI 48820-0618
(517) 669-5765

Junior Vice Commander

William R. Morris
10324 Stanley Road
Flushing, MI 48433-9247
(810) 659-4999

Secretary

Richard F. Lee
1111 Kern Road
Fowlerville, MI 48836-9257
(517) 223-9497

Treasurer

James T. Williams
8032 Ore Knob Drive
Fenton, MI 48430-9355
(810) 629-4603

Council

Gary L. Gibson
Wayne A. Nash
David L. Waldron

Aide

Charles Langworthy

Chief of Staff

Gregory Hayes

Camp Organizer

William Morris

Patriotic Instructor

William Costello

Chaplain

William McAfee

Counselor

James Neal

Historian

Gary Holmes

Guide

Howard Streeter

Guard

Laverne Aves

Color Bearer

Leo Cohoon

Graves Registration

John Obermeyer

GAR Records

James Lyons, PDC

Civil War Memorials

Kent Armstrong

Communications & Technology

Charles Ten Brink

Camp-at-Large Coordinator

Wade Chapman

Editor, Michigan's Messenger

John Mann

*Weekend of Remembrance**Liaison*

Lee Stroschine

BSA Coordinator

Gary Ralston

Commanders Group Rep.

Paul Hodges

SVR Commander

Vacant

SVR Adjutant

Vacant

THE LAST MICHIGAN CIVIL WAR VETERAN

by James T. Lyons

Fifty years ago, on Monday, April 19, 1948, the last Michigan veteran of the Civil War died at his farm five miles west of Caro, Michigan. Orlando LeValley was the sole survivor of the 90,018 Michigan men who responded to the call to save the Union.

Orlando LeValley was born on September 19, 1848 in Marathon Township, Lapeer County. He tried to enlist in the army at the age of 13 and was chased away by the recruiting sergeant. He returned on his 16th birthday and this time he was accepted. He was sent to Jackson and his first detail was guarding trains from Chattanooga. He was then sent to Atlanta, Georgia. He was assigned to Company E, 23rd Michigan Infantry, a part of the 2nd Brigade of the 2nd Division of the 23rd Army Corps. He participated in the Battles of Franklin and Nashville, Tennessee and the final engagement of the Civil War in North Carolina. He was given his Honorable Discharge at Raleigh, North Carolina in December 1865.

At the time of his death Comrade LeValley was the Vice Commander of the National GAR and a member of the National Council. He was also Commander of the Michigan Department and the last member and Commander of Whiteside Post of the GAR, Caro.

A highlight of his days as a soldier came in March of 1865. He was on furlough in Washington, D.C. and heard President Lincoln deliver his famous second inaugural address. The imagery of that presentation lives today through the phrase, "With malice toward none..." in the work of our Order.

On October 1, 1873 he married Hannah J. Titus at Vassar. Three years later they moved to their Fairgrove farm, five miles west of Caro. Mrs. LeValley died in 1918. He was survived by five children, 15 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren. One daughter preceded him in death.

When W.W.I began he was approaching 70 years of age but extended his farm efforts to meet the war needs. Friend told him he was "too old", but this did not slow him down. When the Second World War occurred, he was too old to actively participate, but he assured that his farm operated with maximum effort. He saw three of his grandchildren enter the service of the country, two grandsons and a granddaughter who enlisted in the WAVES.

Flags were flown at half-staff from Monday until after the funeral Thursday afternoon. George J. Bloth, President of Caro Village, out of respect to the memory of Comrade LeValley, requested that all business places close from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Among the dignitaries present were Gov. Kim Sigler and Rep. James Kirk. Mrs. Leah Simpson Marshall, Secretary of the Michigan Department GAR presented last respects of the Order. Leaders of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars paid their respects as these organizations conducted the military honors at the funeral.

With the passing of Comrade LeValley, the Department of Michigan, Grand Army of the Republic was disbanded. The Department office continued in operation, under the direction of Mrs. Marshall, in the Capitol Building in Lansing until 1956. The records of that office are now housed at the State Archives in Lansing.

In September 1948, GAR member Joseph Clovese moved to Michigan from Louisiana. There being no Department of Michigan, GAR he was a member-at-large of the National Organization. He was one of the six members of the GAR to attend the last National Encampment in 1949. He will be the subject of a later profile.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Kent Armstrong

This year marks the 130th Anniversary of MEMORIAL DAY! As we near this observance, all Camps are encouraged to have "the media" in their locale share the origins of this tribute. This is even more significant for those locations which have a G.A.R. Memorial. For many years, these physical reminders were a gathering point for communities to exhibit their patriotism and pride in those who "served and sacrificed." Thankfully, this practice still takes place in some areas but often the focus has shifted to deserving servicemen of other eras or sadly, no official remembrance is offered at all. Who better, than the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, with all due respect to others who've served our country, to respectfully remind the public of how & why this tradition began.

Looking Back – My thanks to each Brother who gave of his time to attend our Department's Mid-Winter Conference on February 21st. Much was shared by all, to strengthen our teamwork in Michigan. My sincere thanks to all who contributed to the monument conservation collection for the Civil War related memorials at Muskegon, Shepherd and Wacousta. A tip of the hat to Treasurer Williams for officiating the dispersal of the money raised. Each Camp represented received a packet from this office, with several items to share with its membership. Included, was a copy of the updated state legislation which protects Veterans' Grave Markers/Flag Holders. All sections of this law should be reviewed, as there is a provision for the markers to be placed in public cemeteries - at public expense (of great interest as Memorial Day approaches) and the language punishing those who tamper with these tributes. Other items included: proposed amendments to the Dept. Bylaws; Camp & Dept. Officer Job Descriptions (including the new Camp posts for a "Recruiting Officer and Signals Officer"); Recruitment Guide; National Constitution & Regulations (C&R); 1998 Ntl. Quartermaster Order Form; updated Camp Membership Applications; updated Department Recruitment Brochures, plus a "master-set" for more copies. My sincere thanks go to Past Department Commanders Gibson and Lyons, and Brother John Mann, PCC & *Michigan's Messenger* Editor, for their help to make this latest update, the best version of the Recruitment Brochure yet.

I salute all who contributed to the last *Michigan's Messenger*! It would be nice to see more articles (Ancestor Vignettes) on the veterans we honor and perhaps have a regular, "GAR Page" - about the GAR in Michigan. I've spoken to PDC/Past National Secretary Lyons about this possibility being addressed by him and the GAR Records Committee. I've also requested a special article, on the GAR in Michigan, to be submitted for publication by the state in "Michigan History" magazine.

A Descendant's Tribute – My hat is off to Brother Melvin Jones of our Upper Peninsula Camp, for his outstanding, 190+ page book which shares the letters, photographs, and veteran's mementos of his Great Grandfather, Pvt. Simon B. Cummins, Co. H, 151st New York Volunteers. For availability of "Give God the Glory - *Memoirs of a Civil War Soldier*," please contact Bro. Jones at HC1, Box 629, Eagle River, MI 49924.

Bylaws – As no additional proposed amendments have been

received, please be advised that what was issued on February 21st will stand as the collection submitted for action at the 1998 Department Encampment. A copy has also been mailed to those Camps without a representative at the Mid-Winter Conference. After review of the cover-letter, Camps may compare the proposed amendments with the example provided of the 1997 Bylaws and discuss how their delegates may vote at the Department Encampment, where the "final language" will be established.

Another New Camp! – **Sergeant John S. Cosby Camp 427** was opened at Dearborn on January 18th. The Camp's number honors that of the original GAR Post at Dearborn. John S. Cosby served as Ordnance Sergeant of the "Detroit Arsenal" at Dearbornville (Dearborn, MI). Camp 427 meets at the old arsenal's original Commandant's Quarters, which now serves as the Dearborn Historical Museum. The Charter Camp Officers are:

Commander	Richard E. Carden
Junior Vice Commander	Jerry A. Olson
Secretary-Treasurer	Jerry A. Thomason
Council	David G. Boring
	Warren E. Carden
	Jeffrey G. Montminy

As Camp 101 wishes to continue concentrating on the big job of Grave Registration within the City of Detroit, the Dearborn Camp will serve the interests of the SUVCW in the remainder of Wayne County.

Ritual & Ceremonials – The updated SUVCW handbooks are now available from the National Quartermaster, PC-In-C "Bud" Atkinson. All Camps now have a copy of the 1998 Order Form, which lists the Ritual as Item #302. The price is now \$5.00 each. Please specify your preference of the 4 x 6.5 inch booklet, or the 8.5 x 11 inch stapled sheets.

Annual Encampment – I hope that the Saginaw site (details elsewhere) will allow more delegates, who were not able to previously travel to Lansing, an opportunity to attend & take part this year. As it will be up to the SUVCW to select the 1999 Encampment location, we need to hear your views on where it should take place.

Summary – It's been an honor to serve in this role and I thank you, for the opportunity, gentlemen. I also want to thank all of you who have helped move our cause forward this past year. Special mention & appreciation, for their computer related help to this office - and the Department, goes out to Brothers: PC-In-C Keith Harrison; John Mann; Bill Morris; Mark Pangburn; Chuck Ten Brink; PDC Dave Wallace; and Dick Williams.

I look forward to seeing you at Saginaw, and wish all Camps the best of Memorial Day observances.

SECRETARY

Richard F. Lee

The Department of Michigan is pleased to report that the following Camps have made complete and accurate submissions to the Secretary as requested in the cover letter sent with the 2nd Quarter 27-28 forms: Colegrove-Woodruff, Camp 22; Alexander French, Camp 28; Wa-Bu-No, Camp 53; George W. Anderson, Camp 58; Gen. Phil Kearney, Camp 67; Col. George W. LaPoint, Camp 76; Gilluly-Kingsley, Camp 120; Henry F. Wallace, Camp 145; Archibald Stewart, Camp 259.

Our thanks go out to those Camp officers who were able to submit the information requested in good time.

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

William Costello

Greetings to everyone! First, I must thank the Commander for appointing me as Department Patriotic Instructor. I shall try to fill the very large shoes left by the Brothers who have served before me. Also, thanks to Kent Armstrong for sending the Flag Code to all Camps, as I don't have computer access at this time.

I would like to urge all Camps to consider the enlisting of Juniors into their ranks, if they haven't already. The Juniors are our future and if we can interest them with the heroic deeds of their ancestors, they can carry on for us.

Please contact your U. S. Senators about Senate Bill 116, the restoration of Memorial Day back to May 30th. Also contact your U. S. Representatives to get a bill introduced in the House.

I will add that the American Legion has HR 54 (Congress shall have the power to prohibit the physical desecration of the Flag of the United States). This bill has been approved in the House by a vote of 310 to 114, 20 more than the required two-thirds needed. It will next be introduced into the Senate. You may want to consider supporting their bill in hopes that they will help with our May 30th restoration bill.

EDITOR

John Mann

Members can now contribute articles via e-mail. Regular e-mail messages are okay, however I would appreciate it greatly if you would send them by the attached file method if possible. This saves me a lot of re-typing. Please use the subject title "Messenger Article" and add your name and Camp number. My address is: ike1066@aol.com

CHAPLAIN

William B. McAfee

Hatred is a vile and horrible emotion. Those of us who have served in the military know how we were conditioned to hate our enemies enough to kill them with our bare hands, if necessary to the mission and to protect our lives and the lives of our fellow soldiers. How even more appalling it must have been for family members to know they were firing shot and shell or advancing with fixed bayonets into formations which contained fathers, sons, brothers, uncles, etc. Who hasn't heard of the soldier-father who fired his rifle into the air because he knew his sons were on the opposing battleline? Yet, when the wars are over, we are expected to put away our hatreds and "... love our enemies, as we love ourselves."

We believe that continuing hatred is not only sinful, it is unhealthy; that it does much more mental and physical harm to the hater than it does to the hated. When my ancestor, private William C. Condit, returned home at the end of the Civil War to Washington, Pennsylvania, after surviving and recuperating from a bushwhacker's bullet near Moorefield, Virginia, one of the first men he saw after getting off the train was the Copperhead who shot him. Yet, he carried to his grave the name of that man, because he took seriously the admonition of his President, who had said in his second inaugural address:

"With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle ... to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

Abraham Lincoln

It is difficult for us to understand, even today, how men who are, and who have been, brothers under the banner of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, demonstrate ill feelings for one another. Let us be above that. Let us continue to extend the hand of fellowship in the atmosphere of Christian love. Jesus told us to "Love each other as I have loved you." (John 15:12 NIV) We are also taught to hate the hatred (the sin), not the hater (the sinner).

Let us honor our ancestors by following the examples of the ones who lived their honorable principles.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Charles Ten Brink, Chairman

The Department of Michigan web site continues to grow, and one measure of the interest it is generating is the number of visitors. Hits on the Departmental directory have grown from a daily average of 27.4 for the month of October, 1997, to 105.8 for February 1998, and the average for the first few days of March, when this was written, is 119.4 hits per day. One reason for this growth is that there are always new things to see on the web page, and one purpose of this column is to ask for contributions from the Camps.

Department to consider a photo album of soldiers, selected by the Camps, to show our visitors the names and stories of the Michiganders who fought for the Union.

For any changes, suggestions, or just to talk about the Department of Michigan presence on the web, please contact me at c-tenbrink@uchicago.edu, or write me at 5401 Ridgewood Court, #2, Chicago, IL 60615.

The average number of hits on the Department's Web Page is nearly 120 per day!

"The World Wide Web is a great recruiting tool, but it can only work if we provide our readers with the information they need..."

The World Wide Web is a great recruiting tool, but it can only work if we provide our readers with the information they need to follow up on their interest in our organization, and the individual Camp pages are the linchpin of that information. We need to be sure the information on those pages is accurate, up-to-date, and attractively presented. At a minimum, each Camp's page should list its officers, the times and places of regularly scheduled meetings, a Camp Headquarters address for regular mail, and an email contact person. To take full advantage of the web, this last item is really critical. Email accounts are becoming more and more common, and I ask the officers of those Camps who do not have any contact listed in the table that accompanies this article to appoint a Brother with an email account to take on the responsibility of providing this vital link in the chain of communication with the public and with other members of the Order. It is also important that we receive current information; if your Camp's page has not been updated recently, you may want to take a look and make sure it is still current.

To take full advantage of the web, each Camp needs to have a member willing to serve as an email communication link with the public.

The migration of the Department of Michigan web site to a subdirectory of the National pages has given us the access and space to provide more, and more interesting, information on the Camp pages. In addition to the minimum directory information outlined above, I urge each Camp to consider fleshing out their pages. Examples might be a biography and picture of the soldier after whom Camp is named, like the new Logan Camp page, or a photograph of an historic meeting place, like the GAR halls in Sunfield and Marshall. I would also like the

Camp	Updated	Email Contact
No. 1	2/26/98	Lee Stroschine
No. 3		
No. 7	1/21/98	Dan Doyle
No. 9	11/10/97	
No. 14		
No. 17	1/29/98	John Nash
No. 20	10/13/97	
No. 22	2/28/98	Tv Streeter
No. 28	7/9/97	
No. 43	7/9/97	
No. 53	7/9/97	
No. 58	2/5/98	Mark Pangburn
No. 67	7/9/97	
No. 70	7/9/97	Dale Nincehelter
No. 76	11/3/97	Craig DeCrane
No. 85	10/27/97	
No. 101	2/5/98	
No. 120	7/9/97	
No. 145	2/28/98	William Morris
No. 147	12/1/97	
No. 160	7/9/97	Michael McMillin
No. 259	1/10/98	James M. Wildt
No. 266	1/24/98	Larry E. Peterson
No. 427	1/1/98	Richard Carden
No. 462	10/27/97	Wade Chapman

CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE

Kent Armstrong, Chairman

With the return of warm weather, many of us will be heading back out for Grave Registration Work (info on the State of Michigan Cemetery Atlas is printed elsewhere in this issue) and on-site assessments of Civil War Memorials. To help locate these tributes, each Camp will be issued: a listing of Michigan G.A.R. Posts; the 1962 catalog produced by the Michigan Civil War Centennial Observance Commission; the 1978 catalog produced by the DUVCW, and Mr. Wayne Stark's "Compendium of Donated Obsolete Ordnance." Mr. Stark gave us permission to reproduce his listing, which will help *zero-in* on memorials that include Civil War era cannon & ammunition. Those Camps that had a representative at the Mid-Winter Conference have received this information and I will visit a meeting of other Camps, in the months ahead, to share this material and other aspects of the project. Another reference we're looking forward to, is the book on Civil War Memorials in Michigan by Dr. Weldon Petz.

More fundraising info from the folks at Project SOS! will also be shared with each Camp. Please be advised that Assessment Awards of \$1,000.00 will be offered by SOS! again this year (see more details in THE BANNER). Our Department now has two sets of helpful video-kits from SOS! and all Camps are encouraged to view them. To coordinate your turn to see these, please telephone Brother Bill Morris (810) 659-4999 or myself (517) 669-5765. Thank you.

MICHIGAN CEMETERY ATLAS & MICHIGAN CEMETERY SOURCE BOOK

The Michigan Cemetery Atlas is an 83 county map book produced by the State of Michigan showing all known burial sites within the state. Many of these sites are very obscure, with only one or two burials. Also listed are old cemetery sites that no longer exist, the bodies having been exhumed and moved to another site. The sites within the county are numbered on the county map and each map contains a correspondingly numbered list with the name of the cemetery.

There is also a Michigan Cemetery Source Book available that details the documents on file at the Library of Michigan that can be used to further research each cemetery and those buried within them.

The Atlas and Source Book are \$20.00 *each* (includes shipping and handling). Be sure to specify which publication you want. Make check payable to, "Library of Michigan" and mail to:
Library of Michigan

MIDWINTER CONFERENCE HELD

By Paul Hodges, Dept. Commander

The Department's annual Midwinter Conference was held on February 21 at the Midway Hotel in Lansing. Fifty-two people from 14 Camps attended it. In addition, four visitors from other states were present: Commander-in-Chief Richard D. Orr and, on behalf of the SVR, BG David V. Medert, Col. David R. Medert, PC-in-C, and Maj. Robert E. Grim.

The first session consisted of an explanation of the Department's new G.A.R. Records project. Committee members PDC Jim Lyons, PDC Gary Gibson, PDC Doug Park, and Dick Williams described the efforts under way to locate, record, and copy the various types of GAR records in existence around the state and showed some examples.

In the small-group session, Department officers met with Camp officers for discussions of responsibilities and duties, while the others present discussed various topics of interest to them. The sharing of ideas, questions, and experiences was very helpful.

Committee chairmen presented progress reports and handed out materials in the next part of the Conference. They explained the committee charges and how they were being addressed.

C-in-C Orr then spoke to the gathering. He presented an SUVCW Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star to PDC Jim Lyons for his years of service as National Secretary and his work in streamlining the functioning of that office.

Brother Dick Williams received standing ovations and honors for his bravery while confronting a purse snatcher a week earlier. Dick was stabbed in the incident but recovered sufficiently to return to work days later and to attend the Conference, a very welcome sight indeed. Commander-in-Chief Orr presented him with an SUVCW Meritorious Service Award in recognition of his unselfish service to his fellow man. Brigadier General Medert, following his remarks at the meeting, presented Brother Williams with the SVR Certificate of Merit.

The Conference itself was followed by the annual George Washington - Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Dinner. Brothers of the SUVCW and their guests joined with members of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Michigan for this traditional event. The guest speaker, Kerry Chartkoff, presented an illustrated talk about the project to preserve Michigan's Civil War battle flags.

Department Commander Paul Hodges concluded the day's activities by presenting Department Certificates of Appreciation to three battle flag adopters, PC-in-C Keith Harrison, SVR Kent Armstrong, and the 24th Michigan Regiment, and to Kerry Chartkoff in grateful recognition of her support of the aims of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

THANK YOU

Wayne A. Nash, Camp 53 Commander
Statue Conservation Committee Chair

Wa-Bu-No Camp 53, Shepherd, Michigan — I deeply want to express my thanks to all Brothers that were in attendance at the afternoon session of the Mid-winter conference and responded to the impromptu collection for the three conservatory projects within the state. Your expression or financial support to the projects is greatly appreciated. Our portion of the funds will be used for the Civil War statue in the Salt River Cemetery here at Shepherd.

It is our custom to print the names of all the Department Brothers in our Camp newsletter that contribute to the statue fund. Although that can't be done on an individual basis, this expression of thanks in Michigan's Messenger is the best I can do. So, personally I say thanks again for all of your support. I feel that with the project quote in hand, much more activity will be occurring to get the project completed.

UPDATE - DETROIT GAR HALL

By James T. Lyons, PDC

The GAR Hall in Detroit may be out of the cross-hairs for the time being, according to a story printed in the *Lansing State Journal* on February 17, 1998. The Associated Press story indicates that Mayor Dennis Archer announced at a meeting of the City Council that proposed casino sites in or near downtown have been found unacceptable. This included the so-called Washington Boulevard and Grand Avenue sites.

The northern boundaries of these two sites created a notch around the Hall which sits on its own triangular block bounded by Grand River, Cass and Adams.

The story indicated that one of the casinos would go in the Greektown entertainment district. The other two would go in locations closer to the Rivertown district where they will have a view of the river but no river frontage. The previously proposed locations were said to be too irregular in shape and size making it hard to develop or expand them.

DEPARTMENT OFFICER ELECTIONS

The Department Commander, Senior Vice-Commander, Junior Vice-Commander, Secretary, Treasurer and three Council Members will be elected at the Encampment in June. Camps and members should be discussing who they will be endorsing for a particular office. Take part in the election process, let others know who you will be nominating and voting for. Drum up some support for your candidate!

RECLAIMING GAR PROPERTY

Wayne A. Nash, Commander, Wa-Bu-No Camp 53

Recently, the newly formed Cadillac Camp asked for guidance from our Camp concerning the reclaiming of GAR property because of Camp 53's success in reclaiming GAR gravesites. I am submitting the information to be printed in Michigan's Messenger in the hope that other Camps may also benefit from our experience.

Principle:

- A. To preserve the memory of the GAR, by reclaiming property that once belonged to the Civil War veterans, our "blood" relatives. We have the legal right to properties that are still in the name of the GAR.
- B. Work at maintaining and preserving the assets long before the reclaiming activity.
- C. The object is to cherish the assets, rather than just have them in our possession. Property could be lost through abandonment.

Procedure:

- A. Look at cemetery records to verify that the property (e.g. gravesites) is still under the ownership of the GAR organization.
- B. Determine who is in charge of the asset.
- C. Get the certified court copy of the Deed of Conveyance from the Department Organization of the SUVCW. (The Department Commander or the Department Secretary is the source of this document.)
- D. Take the Deed of Conveyance to the person in charge to claim the property for the SUVCW. The transfer needs to be made over to: "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, a Congressionally Chartered Corporation." (Don't think that the person in charge will quickly transfer ownership over to the SUVCW. You will probably have other justifications to make that other Camps haven't experienced.)

The Future:

- A. Continue to work at maintaining and preserving the reclaimed assets.
- B. Have your Memorial Day and/or Remembrance Day ceremonies at the asset. You will have the desire to keep it in excellent shape as you view it often.

DEPARTMENT ORDERS

(continued from page 1)

Martens, all of George W. Anderson Camp 58. In addition, a Certificate of Appreciation was issued to David Miller, the cemetery sexton, whose support and approval made the project possible. Sincere thanks and congratulations from the entire Department to these and all the other award recipients!

11. A special committee, Union Defenders Day Committee, has been appointed to arrange a public ceremony next year on the 190th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. A reservation already has been made to hold the event on the steps of the state capitol. The committee consists of James Lyons, PDC, chairman, and SVC Kent Armstrong, David Downing, PC-in-C Keith Harrison, John Nash, PDC J. Douglas Park, and Dr. Weldon Petz.

12. Camp Bylaws continue to be written or amended. Bylaws from six Camps have been approved this year, and those from two more Camps are expected to be authorized soon. Camp Bylaws, amendments, alterations, or deletions do not become effective until they are approved in writing by the Department Commander.

13. Sincere thanks from the Department to PC-in-C Keith Harrison who once again has contributed generously to the Department. This time he has donated a Department banner for display at Department functions. It will be proudly exhibited for the first time at the Department Encampment.

14. The Commanders Group met on February 18 at the VFW state headquarters in Lansing. The speakers included Anthony G. Jordan, National Commander of the American Legion, and State Representative Karen Willard. One of the Group's legislative and program priorities adopted for 1998 is: "Re-establish May 30 as the official date for the observance of Memorial Day." We all can subscribe to that.

15. The "Michigan Parades into the 21st Century" parade will be held on Saturday, May 16, at 11:00 a.m. in Lansing. An application for our use was furnished belatedly but has been submitted and presumably will be accepted. Let's have good participation from throughout the State!

16. Hon. James B. Pahl, PDC, is a candidate for re-election as National Treasurer. He was elected last year to fill out a term and now is seeking a full 3-year term. Brother Pahl has given exceptional service to the Order through Curtenius Guard Camp 17, the Department of Michigan, and the National level. He also is National Counselor and National Legal Staff Chairman. Brother Pahl deserves all the support we can give him.

17. My latest information about the 1998 Central Region Conference is that the Department of Ohio will sponsor it. They plan to have it at the President Rutherford B. Hayes Center at Fremont, Ohio, on the first weekend in October if the

Center is available then. Watch for more details later. In the meantime, our committee will continue to study the possibilities of the Department of Michigan sponsoring the Conference in 1999.

18. My heartfelt thanks go out to all Brothers of the Department of Michigan for their splendid encouragement and support during my term in office. The Department officers and the committee chairmen and members have carried out their duties and responsibilities diligently and devotedly. The Camps likewise have progressed in their efforts to advance the causes of the Order, for which we are most appreciative. All have met my intent of working "not harder, but smarter" to be more efficient and more effective. It truly is a privilege and pleasure to be a part of this grand endeavor.

19. Finally, I once again remind all Brothers to proudly display their American flags, especially during the coming months on Mothers' Day, May 10; Observed Memorial Day, May 25; **Memorial Day, May 30**; Flag Day, June 14; and Independence Day, July 4.

By Order of:

Paul D. Hodges
Department Commander

Attest:

Richard F. Lee
Department Secretary

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Marcus Hanes (of the Hanes hosiery and underclothing company) was a courier for Confederate General R. E. Lee?

Adolphus Busch (Anhauser-Busch Brewery founder) was a corporal in the Union Army?

Orlando Scott (Scott lawn seed and lawn care products company founder) serve in the Union Army?

B. F. Goodrich (founder of the tire and rubber company) was an assistant surgeon in the Union Army?

THE ORIGIN OF MEMORIAL DAY

By James T. Lyons, PDC

There are many stories concerning the origin of Memorial Day. There are also several places which claim to be the location of the first observance. Most frequently heard is the practice of some Southern women to spread flowers, in the spring, on the graves of fallen Confederate soldiers. Union soldiers, observing this activity, took it home with them and started the practice during and after the conclusion of the war. On May 27, 1866, General John B. Murray, a resident of Waterloo, New York organized a parade of ex-soldiers who decorated the graves of their dead comrades amid appropriate ceremonies. It was also noted that Posts in Cincinnati, upon the suggestion of T. C. Campbell, later Quartermaster-General of the GAR, paraded in 1867 for the same purpose.

Robert Beath, in his *History of the Grand Army of the Republic*, reports that Adjutant-General Chipman received a letter from a veteran in Cincinnati. The man stated that in his native Germany, it was the custom of the people to assemble in the spring-time and scatter flowers upon the graves of the dead. He suggested that the Grand Army of the Republic inaugurate an observance in the memory of the Union dead.

Beath states, "General Chipman thought the suggestion most opportune, and at once made a rough draft of a General Order covering this subject, and laid it, along with the letter referred to, before General Logan. General Logan warmly approved the Order, himself adding several paragraphs."

Professor James Pickett Jones offers a slightly different version in his book *John A. Logan Stalwart Republican for Illinois*. "In March 1868 when Mary Logan visited several Virginia battlefields she saw flags and faded flowers on Confederate graves. She described the practice to Logan and he shortly decided to make it GAR policy."

In any event, General Order No. 11 was issued on May 5, 1868, although Beath comments that there were "...many who at first doubted the wisdom of instituting such an observance." The concern was that this might keep alive old animosities and memories of the war, best forgotten. Jones tells us, "The idea was immensely popular from the first and over one hundred ceremonies were held in 1868."

Beath continues, "The date selected, May 30, was with the idea of using one of the spring months because of their poetical associations, and also make it late in the spring month, that it

might be possible to find flowers in the New England and extreme Northern States."

At the 1870 National Encampment, the GAR voted to promote Memorial Day throughout the land. Beath makes note in each of the short Department Histories in his book, the year in which that state formally adopted Memorial Day as a State Holiday. Unfortunately no such notation is made for Michigan as of the publication date of 1886. He does, however, include Michigan in a listing of 12 states where Memorial Day is a legal holiday.

May 31, 1886 marked Senator Logan's last Memorial Day speech. It was delivered at Grant's Tomb in New York City and was the first Memorial Day following Grant's death in the fall of 1885. Logan often alluded to the issuing of his General Order as, "the proudest act of my life". General John A. Logan would join his former commander, in the final call to muster, on December 26, 1886, at 60 years of age.

Memorial Day was established as a National Holiday in 1910. It was observed on May 30 each year until 1971 when the "Monday Holiday Law" (PL 90-363) became effective on January 1. The observance was shifted to the last Monday in May in each year.

The Sons of Union Veterans has promoted the return of Memorial Day to its historic date since the change. We continue to encourage Camps to participate in and support community programs on the "observed date". We also continue to stage our own observance on May 30 in keeping with our charge from the Grand Army. Greater efforts need to be mounted to call public attention to our programs on May 30, and to promote a change from the Monday observance.

This year, marking the 130th Anniversary of the establishment of Memorial Day, gives us an outstanding opportunity to call attention to the Grand Army of the Republic and the reasons to return these observances to their historic date. Let us take advantage of every opening presented.



CAMP NEWS

HENRY E. PLANT ~ CAMP 3

By Daniel Grable

Grand Haven — This year our Camp has been busy with many continuing projects. Besides working on our new dues schedule (\$21.00 dues and \$10.00 initiation fee), we have been checking into the situation surrounding the replacement of old GAR flag holders by the Holten American Legion Post. We are checking with the Department of Michigan over the ownership of flag holders, the legality of removal and disposal, etc.

Also, the Camp is working on the upgrading of Henry E. Plant's grave. We hope to move the military headstone to a better location in relationship to his private headstone. Along with this, we are planning on placing a flag pole over his grave. The Nunica Cemetery where Mr. Plant is buried has a flag pole we could use, but it needs fixing up. We hope to have all this work done by this Memorial Day.

On Memorial Day the Camp will be marching in the Spring Lake and Fruitport Old Fashioned Days parades. We will also be participating in the Memorial Day Ceremonies in Spring Lake. Later that day we will participate in the dedication of the new Veteran's Memorial for all wars and a parade in Fremont. On the 30th we will be participating with John A. Logan Camp in their activities; the parade and ceremonies put on by the City of Grand Rapids.

Next year for Memorial Day, we are working on a Civil War Veterans Reunion Weekend Reenactment. It will be held at the GAR Park in Fremont where such events were held about 100 years ago.

In the year 2000, our Camp will be involved in the City of Muskegon's Rededication of the Civil War Statues in Hackler Park. The statue are currently being preserved.

Besides all these activities the Camp is working on a set of Bylaws. We hope they become a work in progress over the coming years.

Recently the election of the Camp's officer was held. The 1998 officers are:

Commander	Richard Scott
Senior Vice Commander	Donald Ogden III
Junior Vice Commander	John Baldus
Secretary/Treasurer	Daniel Grable
Camp Council	Paul MacDonald
	Jon Scott

Finally, the Camp was presented at its January meeting with a U. S. Flag that had flown over the U. S. Capitol in honor of Sgt. Henry E. Plant. He was a Medal of Honor recipient and our Camp's namesake. The honor was sponsored by Michigan

Senator Carl Levin. The Camp will use the flag at our meetings, in parades and fly it over Mr. Plant's grave on Memorial Day.

Our Camp's next meeting is May 3rd at the Tri-Cities Historical Museum in Grand Haven at 1:30 pm.

AUSTIN BLAIR ~ CAMP 7

By Max Miller

On the evening of January 16, 1998, in uniform and period dress, Brother Todd Holton, Sister Vicki Weiss (my daughter), from the Auxiliary, and I attended a dinner at the American Legion Hall in Albion. The meeting was in recognition of the parents, leaders and Eagle Scouts of the Chief Bawbeese District (which takes in Hillsdale County, Eastern Calhoun County and Western Jackson County).

Brother Holton awarded eleven (11) Eagle Scout Commendation Awards. Not all the Eagle Scouts were able to be there, but the awards were to be forwarded. The Certificates are furnished by the National as an honor to the work and dedication of the scout for attaining Eagle Scout rank.

The dinner was put on by the District and there were about 100 people in attendance. There were other awards as well as ours, including a 50/50 drawing, with all the proceeds being distributed. The first number won ½ of the pot, with the balance going in \$10.00 prizes. If you happen to see Sister Weiss, ask her how she got between all those chairs and tables to get to that first number drawing. Don't forget, she was wearing that "big dress"!

COLGROVE-WOODRUFF ~ CAMP

22

By Ty Streeter

Marshall — Camp 22 had its election of officers on Thursday, December 4. The election was held at the Grand Army of the Republic Hall in Marshall. Camp 22 has elected Ty Streeter, 17, to the post of Commander. Streeter is most likely the youngest Camp Commander in the nation and maybe the youngest of all time. Commander Streeter was preceded in office by his grandfather, Howard Streeter. The elder Streeter is now on the Camp Council, along with Lou Cuyler and Roger Graves. Both Lou and Roger are Past Camp Commanders. The Camp's Secretary/Treasurer is once again John Lohrstorfer. The Senior Vice Commander is John Hughes and the Junior Vice Commander is Sam Odom.

(Continued on page 11)

CAMP NEWS

(Continued from page 10)

Colgrove-Woodruff is also blessed since it is graced by the presence of Don Pace, 106 years young. Don is one of the oldest active members in the Department and walks to our meetings in the summer. With Don being 106 and Ty Streeter being only 17, Camp 22 boasts that it has an age span of 89 years between its oldest and youngest members.

On January 8, 1998 Camp 22 had its installation of officers ceremony. We were grateful to have Department Commander Hodges as our installing officer. The ceremony went very well and afterwards Commander Streeter pinned the Past Commander's Badge on Howard Streeter, his grandfather. Following the installation, all were treated to wonderful refreshments and an interesting program by Chaplain Blaine Valentine.

Colgrove-Woodruff's next meeting will be held at the GAR Hall in Marshall on February 5, at 7:30 pm.

ALEXANDER FRENCH ~ CAMP 28

By Dave Waldron

Big Rapids — Our Memorial Day ceremony on May 30, 1997 at the Civil War section of Highland View Cemetery was very well attended. Besides Brothers and family members of our own Camp, there were Brothers from Henry R. Quigley Camp 147, representatives from the American Legion, AMVETS, VFW and also several interested citizens of the community. The local newspaper sent a reporter/photographer to record the ceremonies and presented an outstanding front page pictorial article covering the SUVCW observance of Traditional Memorial Day.

Our July meeting saw action initiated to follow up on prospects provided us by Company F, 3rd Michigan Infantry. Prospect information packets are being compiled to send to any and all names we might receive of possibly interested prospects. The War Medal with WWII Service Bar was presented to Brother Kreation Cullimore.

At our September Camp meeting, Brother Kreation Cullimore was installed as a full fledged Member, having received the appropriate documentation of his ancestor's Civil War service from the National Archives and he was presented with his Membership Certificate. Brother Cullimore had been an Associate for the past 10 months. The Camp has officially changed our Camp meeting time to 7:00 pm.

Our November Camp meeting was a busy one, as in addition to nominations and elections of 1998 officers, we initiated a new Member, Ronald K. Kerwood, Senior. Brother Kerwood's ancestor was his great grandfather, James H. Campbell, a

private in Company H, 18th Kentucky Infantry from September, 1861 to July, 1865. Brother Kerwood was presented with his Membership Card, Membership Certificate and a Bronze Recognition Button. The members opted to support U. S. Senate Bill 116 returning Memorial Day as a National Holiday to May 30th and will send letters to our Michigan U. S. Senators encouraging support for the bill. Our visitor, Brother Leo Cohoon, PCC, Wa-Bu-No Camp 53, gave a short presentation regarding their scheduled services at the gravesite of Thomas WaBuNo, Riverside Cemetery, Mt. Pleasant and the re-dedication of the GAR Memorial there.

In January we had the installation of our new officers, with Brother Leo Cohoon (Dept. Color Bearer) serving as installing officer. Camp officers for 1998 are:

Commander	Dave Waldron
Senior Vice Commander	John Walker
Junior Vice Commander	Ron Kerwood, Sr.
Secretary	Gerald Lintemuth
Treasurer	Ted Johnson
Chaplain	Kreation Cullimore
Patriotic Instructor	Solon Yax
Color Bearer	Jerry Waldron
Guide	John Emmons
Guard	Jamie Williams
Counselor	Hon. LaVail Hull

Also in January, we finally received approval of our Camp Bylaws after submitting them a year ago. This month we issued our first Honorable Discharge as Brother Lyle Troupe requested to be placed on the inactive roll due to occupation requirements. Our meeting this month was a special open meeting with family members and interested friends invited for the installation ceremony. All enjoyed the time with light refreshments and social fellowship after the meeting.

Brother Dave Waldron has been attempting to retrieve a 1925 Charter of the SUVCW Auxiliary to Robert Finch Camp 14 (then located in Grand Rapids), which is displayed on the wall of Sam's Joint restaurant in Rockford, MI and restore it to Camp 14 (now in Traverse City). So far he has had no response from the owner of the restaurant.

Deadline date for contributions to the Camp News section, August issue of Michigan's Messenger, is July 1st. The Editor's address is listed in Coming Events.

ANCESTOR VIGNETTE

Enoch Bowen Gillaspie

Private (Drummer)

11th Michigan Infantry, Company C

13th Michigan Infantry, Company A

Great Uncles

of

William A. Brennan

Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20

Levi C. Gillaspie

Private

13th Michigan Infantry

Company A

Enoch was born on February 6, 1843 in Medina County Ohio. He was the son of Reverend Enoch and Mary (Kilmer) Gillaspie. Enoch grew up around the Sturgis, Michigan area as a young boy.

On August 24, 1861 Enoch enlisted at Sturgis in the 11th Michigan Infantry. He was to serve for three years, but was reported as missing at Bardstown, Kentucky on December 26, 1861. When word got out to his brothers, Ira and Martin Gillaspie of the 11th Michigan, they were very disappointed in their brother. Enoch's brothers went with squads of 8 to 20 men searching for him, but had no luck in finding him. They came back to camp no wiser than when they left according to a reference about Enoch that Ira wrote in his diary. On February 14, 1863 Ira wrote, "What a difference between brother Levi's conduct and that of brother Enoch's." Levi was wounded in the shoulder and hand at Stones River while serving in the 13th Michigan Infantry, while Enoch had deserted. "I find it hard to believe that they are both brothers to me," Ira wrote.

The reason Enoch gave for deserting was that he was dissatisfied with being a drummer boy in the 11th Michigan. On January 9, 1864 Enoch enlisted in the 13th Michigan Infantry, Company A at Grand Rapids, using the alias of Bowen N. Kilmer. He spent his service time mostly in Savannah, Georgia and Louisville, Kentucky. He was discharged on July 4, 1865 at Louisville.

After the Civil War he married Katherine Steele, but they didn't stay married for long. They did have two children before going their separate ways though.

In 1903 Enoch joined the John H. Andrews Post No. 288 GAR in Lacota, Michigan under his service with the 13th Michigan. He died on March 8, 1913 in Grand Rapids of cancer of the mouth (lip cancer) probably from his habit of pipe smoking. At the time, Enoch was Post 288's Junior Vice Commander. He was a member of the Lacota Comet Band where he played the drums. Enoch also played the fiddle for barn dances and festivals. He also played the dulcimer!

Enoch is buried in the Lindsly Cemetery in Cheshire Township with a 13th Michigan Infantry, Company A soldiers headstone and a GAR flag holder marking his grave. The stone says E. B. Gillaspie. I guess Enoch wanted to serve again to correct his mistake he made when he deserted the 11th Michigan.

Levi Gillaspie was born December 9, 1833 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was the son of Rev. Enoch and Mary (Kilmer) Gillaspie. The family moved to Indiana, where they stayed until 1852, when they relocated to Sturgis, Michigan. On October 31, 1857 Levi married Deborah C. Blackman in Barry County where they made their home.

Levi enlisted in Company A of the 13th Michigan Infantry on November 2, 1861 at Prairieville, Michigan for a period of three years, at the age of 28. He mustered in on January 17, 1862. On December 31, 1862 Levi was shot in the hand at the Battle of Stones River in Murfreesborough, Tennessee. As he bent over to pick up the musket he dropped when shot, he was shot once again, this time in the left shoulder. He carried the bullet in his shoulder for the next 50 years. Levi was mustered out of service on January 17, 1865 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

After the war he returned home to the Hastings area where he recovered from his wounds. He farmed for a living and raised two children. In spite of the wounds received in the war, he would live a long life and celebrate 55 years of marriage with wife Deborah.

On April 26, 1911 in a hospital in Kalamazoo, death came to Uncle Levi at the age of 78 years. He is buried at Dowling Cemetery, south of Hastings. His burial site is graced with a GAR grave marker.

THE GAR IN MICHIGAN

The Department of Michigan, GAR was first organized in 1868. By the time of the Department Encampment of 1869, the number of Posts had grown to 26, scattered throughout the southern portion of the Lower Peninsula. Initial enthusiasm for the GAR apparently waned fast though, because in 1872 the National ordered the Michigan Department disbanded and the original charter returned. In 1878, due to rising interest once again in the GAR, the National ordered C. V. R. Pond to reorganize the Department, which he did; the Department being rechartered by the National in 1879. Very few records from the original Department or Posts prior to 1879 are known to have survived.

ANCESTOR VIGNETTE



*Martin Gillaspie and his daughter circa 1924
(Note the GAR Badge on his left lapel)*

Martin Van Buren Gillaspie

Private (Fifer)
11th Michigan Infantry
Company C

Great Uncle
of
William A. Brennan, PDC
Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20

Martin V. B. Gillaspie was born on December 19, 1842 in Cleveland, Ohio. He was the son of Rev. Enoch Gillaspie and Mary (Kilmer) Gillaspie. The family moved to Indiana, then to Sturgis, Michigan where they established a permanent home where Martin grew to manhood.

On December 9, 1861 he enlisted in Company C, 11th Michigan Infantry. His service includes Louisville, Kentucky; the Battle of Stones River, Tennessee; the Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tennessee; the Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia; and the Battle of Atlanta, Georgia. In May of 1864 he was detailed as a fifer for Company C. His service record also states that at Stones River he held his place in the ranks as the fighting continued from December 31, 1862 to January 3, 1863.

After the Civil War he married Sabrina Morey on October 27, 1866 in Allegan, Michigan. Martin joined many different GAR Posts over the years, as he moved often. He was a member of Col. Orcutt Post 79 in Kalamazoo, Zach. Chandler Post 35 in

South Haven, John H. Andrews Post 288 in Lacota, Broadhead Post 31 in Paw Paw, and Fitzgerald Post 125 in Hastings.

Martin was a member of the Michigan Association of Civil War Musicians and served as a delegate to the Atlantic City, New Jersey 1910 and Los Angeles, California 1912 GAR National Encampments. He also attended many of the Michigan GAR Department Encampments. At the 1917 Department Encampment at Battle Creek, he played his fife with the Fife and Drum Corps of Michigan. In 1911 Martin attended the 46th Annual Reunion of the 11th Michigan Infantry at Three Rivers, Michigan. The 46th reunion was also 50th Anniversary of the muster of the 11th Michigan Infantry.

Martin Gillaspie died on June 9, 1926 in Battle Creek and is buried in Hastings in the Riverside Cemetery near his brother, Corporal Ira Gillaspie. A GAR marker resides next to his headstone.

COMING EVENTS

MAY

2nd and 3rd — Saturday and Sunday **Mansfield, Ohio**
Civil War Show at the Richland County Fairgrounds. 9:00 am to 5:00 pm both days. Three buildings of dealers occupying over five hundred tables. If you are looking for almost anything related to the Civil War or Civil War Veteran, this is the place to find it. This is billed as the largest show of its kind in the Midwest. Items for sale range from original C. W. issue pieces of hardtack to all sorts of weapons, GAR memorabilia to C. W. art work, etc. There are also many display only tables that are alone worth the trip. Admission \$3.00. For further info, call (419) 289-3120.

25th — Monday **Fremont, MI**
The City of Fremont will be dedicating a new (all wars) Veteran's Memorial, which includes nearly 100 Civil War Veteran's names. Henry E. Plant Camp 3 welcomes all to attend the parade from City Hall to Veteran's Memorial Park. For further information contact: John Braden, 5519 Tayler, Fremont, MI 49412 or call at (616) 424-6544.

25th — Monday **Memorial Day, Observed**

30th — Saturday **Memorial Day, Traditional**
All Camps should take part in local Memorial Day activities honoring those who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States.

31st — Sunday **Battle Creek, MI**
Memorial Day Service at the Fort Custer National Cemetery, commencing at 2:00 pm.

JUNE

6th — Saturday **Saginaw, MI**
The 109th Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan, SUVCW takes place at the Saginaw-Frankenmuth Holiday Inn, 1408 South Outer Drive (just off M-46), Saginaw. If using I-75, take the westbound Holland Avenue (M-46) exit. Registration begins at 8:00 am and the Encampment begins at 9:00 am. There will be a break for lunch from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm, with the Encampment expected to conclude by 4:30 pm. The Allied Orders Banquet will follow the Encampment at 6:30 pm. Please use the reservation forms on page 15 for the luncheon and banquet. Details on room reservations also appear on page 15.

14th — Sunday **Flag Day!**
Fly the U. S. Flag today!

JULY

1st — Wednesday

Deadline for submissions for the August issue of Michigan's Messenger. Send all articles to: John Mann, Editor - 2495 South Washington Road - Lansing, MI 48911-7216. Or e-mail (subject: Messenger Article) the article to me at (use a file attachment if possible, please):

ike1066@aol.com

4th — Saturday

The Fourth of July!

Fly the U. S. Flag on our country's birthday!

18th & 19th — Saturday & Sunday

Hastings, MI

Annual Charleton Park Civil War Re-enactment. No details at this time. Curtenius Guard Camp 17 will host a recruiting tent for the Department.

AUGUST

1st & 2nd — Saturday & Sunday

Grand Rapids, MI

Weekend of Remembrance. A Ceremony of Remembrance will take place on Saturday, followed by a pig roast. A re-enactment of a battle of the Gettysburg campaign take place on Sunday. For further information call Lee Stroschine at (616) 793-3315 or e-mail Keith Harrison at: YJNW42A@prodigy.com

7th & 8th — Friday & Saturday

Harrisburg, PA

117th National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War held at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center, intersection of I-83 and the Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-76). Rooms are \$65.00 per night plus tax (1 to 4 per room). In order to receive this special group rate, you must call the hotel direct at (717) 774-2721 and indicate you are with the *Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic*. Further details will follow in the Banner.

29th & 30th — Saturday & Sunday

Jackson, MI

14th Annual Jackson Cascades Civil War Muster. The battle scenario this year will be "The First and Last Battles of the Seven Days — Mechanicsville and Malvern Hill". Austin Blair Camp 7 will host a recruiting tent for the Department.

Meal Reservation Form

Department Encampment
and the
Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic Banquet

Luncheon — Noon

Cost \$7.30 per person (includes tax and gratuity).
Deli meats, cheeses, breads, soup of the day, garden salad and chips, set off buffet style

Buffet Style Banquet — 6:30 pm

Cost \$15.80 per person (includes tax and gratuity).
Savory Swiss Steak and Chicken Mushroom Marsala

Number of Luncheon Tickets Ordered _____ at \$7.30 per ticket \$ _____

Number of Banquet Tickets Ordered _____ at \$15.80 per ticket \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Eunice Black, DUV

Your Name _____

Mail payment to:

Address _____

Merlah Goodrich
200 Spruce Street
Marshall, MI 49068-1849

City, State and Zip _____

Camp _____

Please Note — Reservation Cutoff Date is May 20th

Department Encampment
Pre-Registration Form

Use this form to pre-register for the Department Encampment. Registration Fee is \$5.00. Your pre-printed name tag, Encampment Ribbon and materials will be presented to you upon presentation of your Delegate Card at the registration desk outside the Encampment Room door.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Camp Name & Number: _____

I am registering as (check one only): Past Department Commander _____
Camp Commander _____ Past Camp Commander _____
Camp Delegate _____ Alternate Delegate _____

Include your \$5.00 registration fee in a check made payable to the "Department of Michigan - SUVCW" and mail to:

Richard F. Lee
Department Secretary - Michigan SUVCW
1111 Kern Road
Fowlerville, MI 48836-9257

Please Note:

You Must PRE-REGISTER by May 30th

Room Reservation Information

for the

Department Encampment
June 6, 1998

A block of rooms is being held under the name of Group Code 2-GAR at the:

Saginaw-Frankenmuth Holiday Inn
1408 South Outer Drive
Saginaw, MI 48601
(517) 755-0530 Reservations Desk
1-800-Holiday

The rate per night is \$69.00 plus tax for up to four persons per room. The block of rooms will be held until May 10th, so be sure to make your reservations early.

INTERNET WEB SITES

by Dan Doyle

For those of you who are internet capable, here are some addresses to check out.

SUVCW National Site: <http://suvchw.org/id.htm>

Michigan Department Site: <http://suvchw.org/mi/deptmi.htm>

Both sites are interconnected and you can reach other Departments through the National Site. Through each Department Site you can link onto Camps within that Department. The National site has many links to other sites with Civil War interests.

The SUVCW also operates a "Cyber Picket Newsletter" that contains news about the Order from all levels and inquiries and announcements from non-members concerning the Civil War, the GAR, Civil War veterans, etc. The newsletter is distributed (via e-mail) bi-monthly. To subscribe, send your e-mail address, name, Department and Camp name and number (and office held in the SUVCW, if you're so inclined) to the following address: Ed_Berger@cpqm.mail.saic.com

An excellent home page for Michigan interests in the Civil War is hosted by Don Harvey with lots of links to related sites:

<http://users.aol.com/dlharvey/cwmireg.htm>

The National Civil War Center based at Louisiana State

University has links to virtually anything to do with the Civil War. The address is: <http://www.cwc.lsu.edu>

You can also order NATF Form 80 (the form for requesting military service and pension records) on the internet. When ordering, don't forget to include your name, current snail mail address and maybe your phone number:

inquire@arch2.nara.gov

For those of you who are into genealogy, here are some really helpful starting points:

Everton's Genealogical Helper: <http://www.everton.com/>

A Barrel of Genealogy Links:

<http://cpcug.org/user/jlacombe/mark.html>

Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet:

<http://www.cyndislist.com>

This site will link you to over 28,000 genealogical sites on the internet, states, counties, localities, foreign countries, etc. Some of the state sites have links to information about Civil War Regiments from that state (Ohio's is quite informative, with a short history and list of engagements for each regiment).

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Michigan's Messenger
1917 TEEL AVENUE
LANSING, MI 48910-3117

<p>Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 1171 Lansing, MI</p>
--

Address Service Requested