



Michigan's

Messenger

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

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Summer, 2016

John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus



Richard E. Danes, Editor

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



DC L. Dean Lamphere



Department Orders #5 Series 2016 – 2017

Headquarters, Aurora, IL

June 12, 2016

L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., Commander

It is our custom each year to set aside a day on which to render special honor to our Flag. With antecedents to the Civil War, the city of Hartford observed the day on June 14, 1861, "carrying out a program of a patriotic order, praying for the success of the Federal arms and the preservation of the Union."

President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation on Memorial Day, May 30, 1916, noting that it "has therefore seemed to me fitting that I should call your attention to the approach of the anniversary of the day upon which the flag of the United States was adopted by the Congress as the emblem of the Union, and to suggest to you that it should this year and in the years to come be given special

significance as a day of renewal and reminder, a day upon which we should direct our minds with a special desire of renewal to thoughts of the ideals and principles of which we have sought to make our great Government the embodiment."

To commemorate the adoption of our flag, the Congress designated, in 1949, June 14th of each year as "Flag Day" and requested that the President issue an annual proclamation calling for its observance and for the display of the flag of the United States on all Federal Government buildings. The Congress also requested in 1966, that the President issue annually a proclamation designating the week in which June 14 occurs as "National Flag Week" and calling upon all citizens of the United States to display the flag during that week. I urge all Brothers to observe Flag Day and National Flag Week by flying the Stars and Stripes from their homes and other appropriate places, and to remember those in uniform whose courage and sacrifice has and continues to inspire us.


In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

/s/

L. Dean Lamphere, Jr
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

/s/ Attest:

David F. Wallace, PDC
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War


Department Orders #6 Series 2015 – 2016
Headquarters, Aurora, IL
June, 2016
 L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., Commander
 Headquarters, Aurora, IL



/s/
 L. Dean Lamphere, Jr
 Department of Michigan
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

/s/ Attest:
 David F. Wallace, PDC
 Department of Michigan
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Department Orders #7  **Series 2016 – 2017**
Headquarters, Aurora, IL
July 15, 2016

L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., Commander
 Headquarters, Aurora, IL

The Department Chief of Staff will coordinate the Department Commander's schedule. Requests for the Department Commander at Camp events, especially officer installations, and other Camp activities should be coordinated directly with Department Chief of Staff, David F. Wallace, PDC, at chiefstaff@suvcwmi.org, by phone at 810-444-3704, or posted to: 507 Oakbrook Circle, Flushing, MI 48433.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

/s/

L. Dean Lamphere, Jr
 Department of Michigan
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

/s/ Attest:

David F. Wallace, PDC
 Department of Michigan
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War


Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp No. 427

Submitted by: Rick Danes, CC

Cosbey Camp 426 has concluded a very productive Summer. The Camp participated in the Dearborn Flag Day and Memorial Day Parade, the survey of Old Trinity Cemetery, and, with members of the 17th Michigan Reenactors dedicated a headstone for Private Francis Busha, Company B, 4th Michigan Cavalry at Holy Cross Cemetery in Detroit. The Camp also performed a Decoration Day Ceremony at the 1833 U. S. Federal Arsenal at Dearbornville Commandants Quarters.

Planned for October 22 is a headstone dedication at Woodmere Cemetery for Cannoneer Henry Palmer, all are welcome to join us.



Department Orders #8  **Series 2016 – 2017**
Headquarters, Aurora, IL
July 21, 2016
L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., Commander
Headquarters, Aurora, IL

1. The National Organization has been engaged in the process of applying to change our Order's IRS tax-exempt status from its current 501(c)(4) status to 501(c)(3) status, which is also known as the "charitable tax-exemption." Once granted, the National Organization will receive a "Letter of Determination" from the IRS as proof of its exemption status.
2. As subordinate organizations of the National Organization, Departments and Camps will be recognized as having 501(c)(3) status under the umbrella of the National Organization if they are covered by a "group exemption."
3. In order to be included within the group exemption ruling by the IRS, the National Organization is requiring that each Department and Camp submit on their respective letterhead a request to be included within the application for group exemption as submitted by the National Organization. This letter must be returned to the National Treasurer, either electronically or through the USPS **no later than July 30th**. A fill-in template of this "Group Exemption Letter" was submitted by email to all Camp contacts by the Department Chief of Staff on July 19th.
4. In acknowledging with deep appreciation the submission of the Group Exemption Letter by several Camps within the Department, you must **be aware that if your Camp does not submit the Group Exemption Letter to the National Treasurer by the July 30th deadline, your Camp will not be included within group exemption** should it be approved by the IRS. It is important for your Camp that this is taken care of immediately. Please forward a copy to Department headquarters.
5. General Orders No. 22, as published July 15, 2016 by the Commander-in-Chief, calls attention to a new and revised regulation implemented by the IRS on December 18, 2015, for 501(c)(4) organizations to comply with the regulatory requirement to file an annual return or notice known as the Form 990N. The new regulation required that the annual return (Form 990N) be filed no later than June 15, 2016. This was amended and extended until July 8, 2016.
6. If your Camp has filed a Form 990N annual return with the IRS prior to July 8, 2016, no further action is required. If your Camp has not filed an annual return prior to July 8, 2016, you are required to file a Form 8976, *Notice of Intent to Operate Under Section 501(c)(4)* **no later than September 6, 2016**. Form 990N is no longer an option at this time. Form 8976 can only be filed online and requires payment of a \$50 fee, also payable online. The online registration and submissions portal can be found at this link and will require "new user" registration:

<https://services.irs.gov/datamart/mainMenu.do;jsessionid=VJyk9XGFw13Gi2l6AsYlndau>

Please submit an acknowledgement to Department headquarters that you Camp has complied with the requirement of filing an annual return for 2016.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
/s/
L. Dean Lamphere, Jr
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

/s/ Attest:
David F. Wallace, PDC
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Department Orders #9  **Series 2016 – 2017**
Headquarters, Aurora, IL
August 7, 2016

*L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., Commander
 Headquarters, Aurora, Illinois*

***Passing of Real Son Harold A. Becker,
 Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1 Department of Michigan***

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Real Son, Brother Harold A. Becker of Grand Rapids, Michigan, on the morning of August 7, 2016, at the age of 98. Brother Becker was a member of the Gen. John A. Logan Camp No. 1 of Grand Rapids, Department of Michigan. He is survived by his wife Dorothy, having just celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary on August 2nd.

Brother Becker was the son of Comrade Charles Conrad Becker, who enlisted as a PVT in Co. H, 128th Indiana Infantry Regiment on March 7, 1864, and mustered out April 10, 1866, in Raleigh, NC. Comrade Becker was a member of the Lyon Post No. 9 of Chicago, Department of Illinois, Grand Army of the Republic, serving as Post Commander in 1923 and 1924.

The Department website, the Department of Michigan Charter and all Camp Charters within the Department of Michigan, and all Membership Badges of the Brothers of the Department of Michigan should be draped in black in memory of our departed Brother, Harold A. Becker, effective the date of this order.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
 /s/
 L. Dean Lamphere, Jr
 Department of Michigan
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

/s/ Attest:
 David F. Wallace, PDC
 Department of Michigan
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Patriotically Speaking

Gary A. Granger, Department Patriotic Instructor

As your Patriotic Instructor I wish to thank the Camps this year for their tremendous response. Nearly every Camp reported their Patriotic activities for the previous year. It is obvious that being able to phone, email, snail mail the reports is working. I know it's a bit early to remind you ... the deadline for submitting the 2016 Patriotic Instructor's Report for this year's activities is March 31, 2017 that gives each Camp 90 days after the close of the business year to get their reports in. The Reporting year is January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. The report can be filled in on-line and there are seven yes or no questions. Your reports are important to National for its reporting purposes. Yours in F, C and L,



Senior Vice Commander*David S. Smith, LM, CC, DSVC*

Brothers,

Another National Encampment has come and gone. There was a nice turnout for the Michigan delegation, and we had the opportunity to see Brothers and Sisters shine on the National stage.

First, we had the honor of witnessing Michigan's own ASUVCW National President Linda Kronberg complete her tenure in the Auxiliary's highest office. Additionally, Sister Linda was presented the Mary Walker Award by PCinC Gene Mortorff at the Saturday Allied Orders of the GAR Banquet. Second, congratulations are in order for Gov. Henry Crapo Camp No. 145 for being bestowed the Abraham Lincoln CinC Award for Most Outstanding

Camp in the Order. Congratulations Brothers, job well done!

Third, congratulations to the following Department of Michigan Brothers and Sisters for being elected to National offices: PDC Don Shaw – Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, PDC Paul Davis – Council of Administration, PNP Linda Kronberg – National Auxiliary Council, and DP Jan Davis – National Patriotic Instructor.

Newly elected CinC Donald Martin discussed at the end of the Encampment, the need for all Camps to complete their histories and to complete the Last Soldier Project. The Last Soldier Project is to place a marker at the gravesite of the last Union Veteran within each County that is within your Camp's Geographical Area. These items may be already known by your Camp, or they may take a bit of work, but both are projects that we need to complete.

Additionally, CinC Martin mentioned the need to enroll in and complete Memorial University. As a graduate, I can affirm that Memorial University is a worthwhile learning tool. A Brother taking this program will learn how the Organization works, and where to look if you have a question. So, to echo CinC Martin, I highly suggest that you embark on this beneficial education. It can be found at: http://www.suvcw.org/?page_id=1193

Finally, I wanted to take a moment to express many condolences to the Family of Real Son Brother Harold Becker, as well as the Brothers of General John A. Logan Camp No. 1. Brother Becker was an institution within Camp No. 1 and the Department of Michigan. I had the privilege of meeting him, and immediately found him to be a very kind man and a proud Son willing to share with everyone his special connection to the Civil War, his very own Father. Thank you for warmly sharing with all of us over the years Brother Becker, and God Bless You Sir.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Just a quick note to let you know that the dates of May 5-6, 2017 have been set at Great Lakes Christian College, Lansing. The hotel will be Quality Suites the same as last year. Please mark your calendars and notify your membership.

Yours in F,C, L,

Linda M. Kronberg, President

Allied Orders (Department) Encampment and Conventions Committee

2015-2016**Department Officers**Commander

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Patriotic Instructor

Gary Granger, PCC

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Edgar Dowd

Counselor

James Pahl, PCinC

Guard

Ron Shull, PCC

Eagle Scout Coordinator

Nathan Tingley

Signals Officer

Robert Payne

Michigan's Messenger Editor

Rick Danes, CC

Historian

Chris Cox

Guide

Rob Payne

Graves Registration

Rick Danes, CC

GAR Records

Gary Gibson, PDC

Civil War Memorials

Dennis Fyke

Chief of Staff

David Wallace

Camp At Large Coordinator

Dennis Zank

Aide de Camp

Keith Harrison, PCinC

Graves Registration

Rick Danes, Department Graves Registration Officer

Several of you have queried the reason that you cannot access the National Graves Database to search multiple listings. I am re-printing a note to the Brothers on the National Graves Registration Committee that might answer that question.

Brothers,

As many of you know, the database was attacked again last night. With the assistance of several of you we were able to prevent any damage and have corrected the issues again. I will be meeting with our IT guys in a couple of days to go over what we have done in the past two plus months and where we are going from here. Several of the past attacks were from hackers that were writing malicious code to embed into our database, including embedding code in two of the photos that were added to our database, this is why that practice had to be stopped until we can scan each photo for code. This last attack was that of changing our password coding system by a addition of 1 in the mathematical operation to encrypt the passwords. This mean that those who are attacking us still have a doorway into our database but it is one that can't be used for large attacks, we are digging into this attack to find this doorway.

I am writing to inform all of you that the attack happened and has been resolved, I am also asking that whenever you encounter issues with the database to advise me as soon as possible. Also, as we have done in the past, I will ask again, do any of you wish to get more involved or know others that wish to assist us in this effort?, If so please contact me. The last thing I wish to touch on is a little touchy, yes pun intended, during the past year besides one or two emails, I/we have received no support from the past C-in-C on this issue. I have asked that he contact me so we could go over in detail what was going on in these attacks and to recommended that we track down and go after (legally) those who are causing the attacks. The only reply I received was one asking if these attacks could be being done by someone from inside the order, my answer was yes and to please send me a phone number to call him to talk with him, I received no reply to this date.

I believe in this project with my whole heart and I believe that our new Commander-in-Chief will be proactive in helping us stop these attacks, find the hackers and prosecute them to the fullest. This, in my opinion is the only way we will be able stop these childish attempts to destroy our graves database. It has gotten to the point that the hackers know they can't take over our database but this has not stopped them from trying to make it unusable and unreliable to others. I need people to help put together a team that will go after those involved and to correct the negative public relations that have come about by these attacks. Both Past Commander-in-Chief and present Commander-in-Chief have been Cced on this email, as I truly believe that they both care about this project as well, I know that Brother Mortorff has had some medical issues which could have limited his ability to show his support and I wish him the best, but now we have a new Command structure and I am calling on it and on this great committee to step up even more than you have in the past, yes, I am asking for more. I don't have the authority to commit funds for tracking down these hackers nor do I have the authority to prosecute them when located, this can only be done by the Commander-in-Chief and the Council of Administration. Please advise.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty

Bruce D. Frail, PDC

National Graves Registration Officer

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



Brothers Lost

Submitted by The Rev. Charles F. Buckhahn PCC
Department Chaplain



† † † † †

Charles Russell Bauer

Chuck was a brilliant man whose contributions benefitted the safety and protection of us all.

An Army veteran, Chuck's career began in a Department of Defense Underground bunker during the Cold War. Chuck joined the Hastings Police Department followed by the Albuquerque Police Department. Returning to Michigan in the mid-60s, Chuck joined the Department of Natural Resources to work on electronic communications. His work led to the position of Director of Michigan's Emergency Medical Systems. As part of an elite group working with

NASA, Chuck was integral in the development of the emergency 911 system and established centers in each state.

His notable work led to designing the University of Michigan Medical Center communication system. Chuck's final role was with the Lansing Police Department as the Director of 911 for metro Lansing. Chuck was also a proud member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Chuck is survived by daughter Kristen, son Guy, and brothers Ronald and Timothy.

In lieu of flowers donations support the U-M Cancer Center Fund: <http://victors.us/charlesbauer>.

† † † † †

David Gosling

I am saddened to inform the Camps of the Department that March to the Sea Camp #135 has lost a brother. **David Gosling**, the father of Bruce Gosling (Dept. Treasurer), passed on Monday morning, September 12th. He was 83 years old. Brother David held the positions of Senior Vice-Commander and Junior Vice-Commander in Camp #135. His Civil War ancestor was a Great Grandfather, Charles Fanning Lee, a Private in the 166 Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company B.

David became a naturalist, writer, and teacher, but was employed in banking and bank regulation from 1955 to 1965 before returning to academia. In 1967, he was hired by Glen Oaks Community College, where he was professor of biology until his retirement in 1993. David received a doctoral degree from the University of Michigan, and published numerous articles on the ecology of forest insects. He was director of research for the Huron Mountain Wildlife Foundation from 1984 to 2004, founder and managing director of the Wildfowl & Wetlands Foundation, and an honorary life fellow of The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust. David was one of the founders of the Michigan Entomological Society, was twice elected its president, served 18 years on its governing board, and for 12 years was editor of the Society's professional journal, The Great Lakes Entomologist. In 1995, David was awarded the gold medal of the National Conservation Committee of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution in recognition of his work in environmental education and research. In addition to his professional writing, David published a book and several articles on British military history, in recognition of which he was made an honorary life member of the Somerset Light Infantry Regimental Association. After retiring from teaching, David became very active in genealogical research, published several genealogies, and served on the Advisory Council of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. He was particularly interested in his mother's colonial New England ancestry, which included five Mayflower families, and was a member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Michigan.

Brother David was preceded in death by his wife Kay Petruska and is survived by Christopher and Linda Gosling of Roselle, Illinois, and Bruce and Leslie Gosling of Klinger Lake, Michigan, as well as a step-son and daughter in law, Nicholas and Katie Petruska of Mattawan, Michigan, a step-daughter and son-in-law, Drs. Amy and Mike Lin of Kalamazoo, Michigan, two grandchildren, and eight step-grandchildren. Please keep the whole Gosling family and the March to the Sea Camp #135 in your thoughts and prayers.

† † † † †

Harold Arthur Becker

Brother Harold Arthur Becker, the last known remaining Real Son in the Department of Michigan. Brother Becker passed away 7 August, 2016 at his home in Rockford MI. He was 98 years old. Brother Becker's father was Charles C. Becker, enlisted in 1864 as a private in Co. H, 128th Indiana Infantry. He was in the western theatre and saw service in General Sherman's army at Atlanta, the March to the Sea, and the Carolinas campaign. He was witness to the surrender of General Johnston's army. Following the war, Charles lived in Chicago and served in the GAR Lyon Post No. 9 including two terms as the Post Commander. Services for Brother Becker were held 11 August, 2016 under the auspices of the General John Logan Camp 1.



Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!" Revelation 14:13

IN THIS ISSUE**Officer's Reports****Camp News****Presenting a
GAR Flag****DO # 5 - 8****Brothers Lost****And****Much More!****Future Michigan's Messenger Publications
Submittal Dates and Publication Dates****Winter - March 1 for a March 15 Publication****Spring - June 1 for a June 15 Publication****Summer - September 1 for a September 15 Publication****Fall - December 1 for a December 15 Publication**

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

ALL PUBLICATIONS WILL BE MADE ON TIME

**Please do not send me photos without the names of persons in the photo and a
suggested caption. Thanks for your support!**

General John A. Logan Camp 1

Submitted by: Thomas Jenkins, Signals Officer

With so many members of the Allied Orders in the Grand Rapids area suffering health concerns, it was decided the Camp would attend just two services in the Hopkins, Allegan County area. Brothers of Camp 1 and Sisters of the Champion Corps No. 41, WRC participated in Memorial Day services at Maplewood and Popular Hill Cemeteries.

Brother Comer Skinner provided the opening and closing prayers at the Maplewood Ceremony and Commander Bill Truss and Camp 30 Brother Bob Zapolnik served as Color Guard at both ceremonies. They were joined by the Hopkins chapter of the Future Farmers of America Color Guard.



Later in the day Brothers Bruce Butgereit, Tim Korlean, and Sister Marcia Butgereit conducted a joint GAR-Spanish American War Veterans service at the Spanish-American War statute in Grand Rapids. Joining the Allied Orders were Lois and Laurie Waivio, daughter and granddaughter of Sgt. Clifford Stegenga, Co. B, 13th U.S. Infantry.

The day ended with a presentation of a small tribute to Real Son Brother Harold Becker of his father Private Charles C. Becker, Co. H, 128th Indiana Infantry. Brother Becker has not missed a Memorial Day service in Grand Rapids since 2001, but after spending a week in the hospital, he was too weak to participate this year.

Finally, Camp 1 Brothers Jerry Grieve and Signals Officer/Secretary Tom Jenkins participated in the Williamsburg MI American Legion Memorial Day parade and cemetery service. Brother Jenkins provided a short remembrance of the GAR on this 150th anniversary and also offered the closing prayer.



Shortly after the submission of the previous report, the John Logan Camp 1 announced the passing of Brother Harold Arthur Becker, the last known remaining Real Son in the Department of Michigan. Brother Becker passed away 7 August, 2016 at his home in Rockford MI. He was 98 years old. Brother Becker's father was Charles C. Becker, enlisted in 1864 as a private in Co. H, 128th Indiana Infantry. He was in the western theatre and saw service in General Sherman's army at Atlanta, the March to the Sea, and the Carolinas campaign. He was witness to the surrender of General Johnston's army. Following the war, Charles lived in Chicago and served in the GAR Lyon Post No. 9 including two terms as the Post Commander.

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Services for Brother Becker were held 11 August, 2016 under the auspices of the General John Logan Camp 1. Brother Bruce Butgereit officiated and gave a stirring eulogy. Camp Brothers assisting in the GAR Memorial portion of the service included Camp Commander William Truss, Chaplain Corner Skinner, SVC John Uplinger, JVC Tim Korlean, and Secretary/Signals Officer Thomas Jenkins. Mrs. Marcia Butgereit, Sister of the Champlin Corps Tent No. 41, WRC also participated.

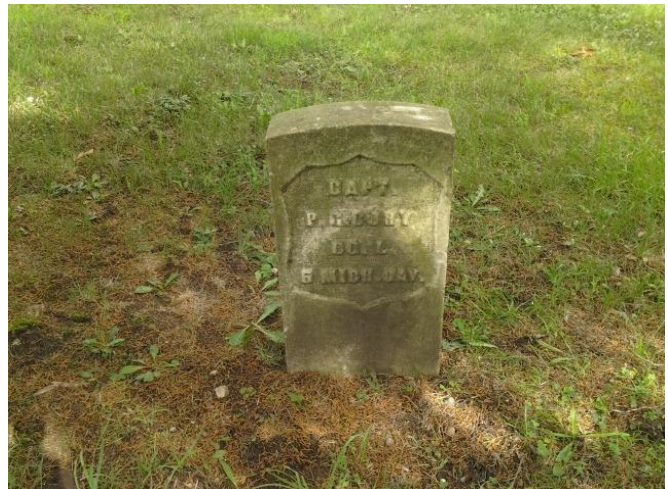


The service was attended by many of the Camp 1 Brothers and also a number of the Sisters of the Eva Gray Tent No.2 and many Brothers of the Austin Blair Camp 7 of Jackson MI who remembered Brother Becker's many years of participation at the Jackson rendezvous. Brother Becker most enjoyed talking to the children at the rendezvous and shaking their hand with the "hand that held the hand of a Civil War soldier".

General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20

Submitted by: John Keith, Sr. CC

Camp 20 commander John Keith researched a gravestone for a brother in Tennessee and found Captain Phillip Gray Cory of Co. L, 6th Michigan Cavalry buried in Riverside cemetery in Charleston Township. Assisting Commander Keith were Junior Members – Brothers Charlie L. Keith and James E. Davis.



Robert Finch Camp No. 14

Submitted by: David S. Smith, LM, CC, DSVC

Continuing the year-long celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Grand Army of the Republic, Robert Finch Camp No. 14 has been quite busy with various activities in support of honoring our noble Union Veterans. On 30 July 2016, the Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 and the Grand Traverse Area Genealogical Society along with the Sisters of Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9, held a Memorial and Dedication Ceremony for Dr. David Wilson Cousins (Co. H, 102nd USCI) and his Family at Down Cemetery, Mayfield Township, Grand Traverse County.

Dr. David Wilson Cousins and his family were without headstones from the time they were buried.



Clockwise from top left: Bugler Thelma Paul, Grand Traverse Pipes & Drums, Cousins Family Descendants placing flowers at the gravesites, placing of the Symbols of the Soldier, and the Rifle Detail. (pictures courtesy of Br. James Walsh)

There was wide support for the event from many area Veterans organizations, Grand Traverse Pipes & Drums, Bugler Thelma Paul of Bugles Across America, Down Cemetery Sexton Jim Zenner, Traverse City Sexton Branden Morgan, Marilyn Blum of Bay Area Memorials, and the descendants of Dr. and Mrs. David Wilson Cousins.

Additionally, Camp No. 14 had the honor of having ASUVCW National and Department Officers in attendance including: NP Linda Kronberg, DP Jan Davis, PDP and National Aide Karen Hamann, and Dept. Treasurer Vicki Weiss. Thank you Sisters for your support!

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Auxiliary Sisters at the Dr. & Mrs. Cousins Ceremony (L-to-R): DP Jan Davis, PAP Dorothy Roush, Sr. Darlene Hinkley, PAP Mary Rose, PAP Emily Breaguh, NP Linda Kronberg, Sr. Debra Downey, D. Council Lisa Smith, Sr. Lorraine Jones, PDP Karen Hamann, and D. Treasurer Vicki Weiss (picture courtesy of Brother James Walsh)

For more information or a more in-depth history of Dr. David W. Cousins, please contact CC Smith at [wyattusmagnus\(AT\)gmail.com](mailto:wyattusmagnus(AT)gmail.com). For more information and details regarding the ceremony please check out our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/robertfinchcamp.



John Henry (Kedgnal) Duvernay Ceremony – Above (L-R): PCC Skillman, PDC Aurand, Br. Duvernay, CJVC Mattis, CC Smith, Br. Conger, and Bugler Thelma Paul, missing from picture is Br. Bill Burgess (picture courtesy of Br. Duvernay and his nephew, via screen capture from video)

On 18 August 2016, the Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 held a twilight Memorial Service for John Henry (Kedgnal) Duvernay, Co. B, 1st Michigan Sharpshooters at Greenwood Cemetery in Petoskey. Comrade Duvernay is the Great Grandfather of Brother Thomas Duvernay. He also served in the same Company as Sgt. Robert Finch.

Supporting Camp No. 14 was Mrs. Thelma Paul of Bugles Across America. Also in support and attendance of the Memorial Service were descendants of Comrade Duvernay, as well as Native American members of the Grand Traverse Band and Little Traverse Bay Band.

In addition to performing the Memorial Service, the event also included the placement of a GAR flag holder that was newly reconditioned by Brother Scott Schwander.

Brothers of Camp No. 14 continue to work in area cemeteries cleaning gravestones and reconditioning GAR flag holders. Planning is underway for a ceremony for our Brother Don Hinkley's Great Grandfather, as well as a joint event with General Patrick Cleburne Camp #2257 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Both events will be held in October, and all are welcome. Please contact CC Smith at [wyattusmagnus\(AT\)gmail.com](mailto:wyattusmagnus(AT)gmail.com) for more information.

Presentation of Grand Army of the Republic Department Flag to the State of Michigan

On November 19, 1992, then Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Keith Harrison was an invited speaker to dedicate the Veterans Room in the newly renovated Michigan State Capital. Immediately following the ceremony, Keith mentioned to then Governor John Engler that the cabinet in the Veterans Room with all the veteran organizational flags was missing the “granddaddy” of all the veterans’ organizations. Given the 90-year history of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and, in particular, its affiliation with the state and the state capital, they both agreed that a GAR Michigan Department Flag should be prominently displayed in that cabinet with all the rest of the veterans organizational flags.

Keith took this assessment back to the Michigan Department to see if it could have GAR Michigan Department Flag recreated. While everyone agreed, the Michigan Department was unable to find a reasonable and competent flag maker to take on the task. Well, fast forward 24 years, the Michigan Department finally overcame its hurdles and with the assistance of now Past National Commander-in-Chief Keith Harrison, Past Department Commander Gary Gibson, Camp Commander John Keith of the Kalamazoo General Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20, and the persistence of Past Department Commander Dale Aurand, the Michigan Department finally was able to have made a GAR Michigan Department Flag for placement in the State Capital’s Veterans Room as a tribute to all of Michigan’s Civil War Veterans. The flag was presented to the State of Michigan on July 9, 2016 at a ceremony commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the return of the Civil War Battle Flags to the state. A duplicate of this flag has since been placed by Past Department Commander Paul Davis into Michigan’s GAR Memorial Hall and Museum in Eaton Rapids.

