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JULY 2024 DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN NEWSLETTER STATUS UPDATE

Brothers of the Department of Michigan,

This letter serves as a brief status update for the Messenger as of July 2024.

Brother Richard Danes' passing is a large loss for the Department of Michigan and the SUVCW overall. He was a steadfast Officer in the Department for decades, a wealth of knowledge, and just a great Brother and friend. As you well know, I have very large shoes to attempt to fill from Brother Rick's legacy, and hope that I can serve as a worthy successor to him.

As we move forward with the newsletter, here are a few items to take note of:

- The Messenger will resume with the September 2024 issue as agreed upon with Department Commander Martin.
- Deadlines for submissions will remain the same: the 1st of each month of publication (March, June, September, and December).
- Distribution of the newsletter will target the 15th of each month of publication (March, June, September, and December) with some possible distribution date variation depending on submissions and articles.
- It is desired that any Department Officers that would like to do so, would occasionally (or regularly) make a brief submission to inform the Brothers of the Department of Michigan of any items that might be of interest to the membership and their Camps throughout the year.
- It is also strongly desired that Camps submit news from their activities, etc., as the quantity of these submissions have greatly diminished over the years.
- Submissions of historical articles on Michigan regiments or Veterans, the GAR, the SUVCW, etc. are highly encouraged. Submissions of new topics of note that are germane to our organization are also encouraged. I am always willing to work with anyone to help edit their article or answer questions.
- The newsletter will be evolving and have new features that I hope will be of interest to everyone in the Department and to our external readers. Additionally, there may be educational articles that would be a refresher or old knowledge for most, but keep in mind that it may be something brand new for a newer member or an external reader.
- Eventually, the Department Editor email will be transferred over to my address from Brother Rick's. To always be safe and ensure that I receive them, send submissions to both of the following email addresses: editor@suvcwmi.org - and - david.smith@suvcwmi.org.

I look forward to working with the Brothers of the Department of Michigan on this new chapter for our newsletter as we continue the example of Brother Danes in publishing excellence.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

/s/

David S. Smith, LM, PDC
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