



**MAY 2009**  
**THE PRITCHARD PRESS**  
**NEWSLETTER OF THE**  
**GEN. BENJAMIN PRITCHARD**  
**CAMP 20**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**  
**SONS of UNION VETERANS of the**  
**CIVIL WAR**  
**“PRESERVED BY THE GRACE**  
**OF GOD...”**



**2009 CAMP 20 OFFICERS**

COMMANDER JOHN R. KEITH  
 SR. VICE COMMANDER JEFF E. BAKER  
 JR. VICE COMMANDER THOMAS BRUCE  
 CAMP SECRETARY DANIEL KNIGHT  
 CAMP TREASURER JOHN C. KEITH  
 GUARD: CLIFFORD BURHANS  
 GUIDE: JOHN BREWSTER  
 PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR: DENNIS LAPOINT  
 EAGLE SCOUT COORDINATOR: DANIEL KNIGHT  
 MEMORIALS & MONUMENTS: ART BONNELL

GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER:  
 BILL COSTELLO  
 COLOR BEARER: GLENN HALL  
 HISTORIAN: GARY GIBSON  
 CHAPLAIN: BILL BRENNAN  
 SIGNAL OFFICER: JOHN C. KEITH  
 MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:  
 BILL COSTELLO, STEVE REDINGER AND ART  
 BONNELL

**REMINDER-** our next camp meeting will be **Tuesday, JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2009 at 7pm** Camp 20 meets on the first Tuesday of the month, March through November, at the Oshtemo Branch of the Kalamazoo Public Library, located at 7265 West Main Street.

**THANKS TO ALL UNITED STATES  
 VETERANS FOR YOUR SERVICE!**

\*\*At our May meeting Camp 20 added a new member to our roster. Bro.. Michael Nick. Bro. Nick is a PCC of U. S. Grant Camp 101 located in Detroit. Welcome Brother Nick.\*\*

**CAMP 20 2009 EVENTS**

On May 16th, 2009 at 2 pm at the Pine Grove Township Cemetery, Pine Grove Township, Van Buren County, Camp 20 will host a gravestone dedication honoring 5 Civil War Soldiers who have received new military gravestones. Please plan on attending!

The soldier’s who received new stones are -

- William Eagle -Company G, 178<sup>th</sup> Ohio Infantry
- Daniel B. Brown-Company G, 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan E & M
- Alexander Smith- Company F, 102<sup>nd</sup>, United States Colored Troops
- Samuel Whelpley-Battery C, 1<sup>st</sup> Ohio Light Artillery
- Samuel Horton-Company A, 12<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**TOM BRUCE –Chairman**  
**DAN KNIGHT**

## Directions to the Pine Grove Cemetery

### From the North

U.S 131 south to the D ave exit, turn right, on D ave through Alamo, D ave changes to Cr 388 at the Kalamazoo/Van Buren County line, Stay on Cr 388 through Kendall to 32nd st. There is a fire station on the right side of the 32nd st and cr388, Turn left at 32nd st. Follow 32nd, it will turn into Brandywine rd. for a short time, Turn Right on Paulson's Rd Take Paulson's Rd to the T in the road turn right. The cemetery is just up the Rd on the left side.

### From the South

U.S. 131 north to the M43, South Haven/Kalamazoo Exit, Take the South Haven Exit, on to M43 west, For about 10 miles to 29th st, turn right on 29th st. for 1-2 miles to Wise Rd. turn left on Wise Rd. Cemetery is about 2 miles down Wise Rd on Right Side.

### From the West

I-94 east to the Paw Paw/Lawton exit, At the stoplight turn left into Paw Paw which is M 40 North, Take M40 north to the M40/M43 4way stoplight, Turn right to 29th st. Turn left onto 29th st. 1-2miles to Wise Rd, Turn left on Wise Rd. Cemetery is about 1-2 miles down on right side of Wise Rd.

### From the East

I-94 West to the Us 131/I-94 interchange, Take the U S-131 North Exit to Grand Rapids to the M 43/ South Haven/Kalamazoo Exit, Take the South Haven exit on M-43 to 29th St., Turn right on 29th St. Go 1-2 miles to Wise Rd, Turn left on Wise Rd The cemetery is about 1-2 miles on the right side of Wise Rd

## MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS

**\*\*May 25<sup>th</sup>, all Camp 20 members wishing to march in the Allegan Parade should meet behind the Allegan public library at 9:30. The parade will end up at Oakwood Cemetery for a large Memorial Day ceremony.**

**\*\*Hopkins Township is having a ceremony on this date at 10am, at Maplewood Cemetery.**

**On May 30<sup>th</sup>, (the real Memorial Day) at 6:30pm, Camp 20 will conduct our annual Memorial Day ceremony at the G.A.R. Lot at Riverside Cemetery, Kalamazoo, MI. Please come and join us!**

## CURTIS BRIGHAM WAR OF 1812 GRAVESTONE DEDICATION

hosted by

The Stephen Preston Chapter of the  
National Society United States Daughters of 1812

and

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

at

Hillside Cemetery, Gun Plain Township,

Allegan County, Michigan

(Just east of Plainwell)

June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 3pm

We would like to extend an invitation to you to attend the Curtis Brigham War of 1812 Gravestone Dedication being held at the above location.

Continued

**Mr. Brigham has just received a new military gravestone and on this day we will honor this local hero and very important person in the history of Plainwell and Gun Plain Township, Allegan County, Michigan.**

**Curtis Brigham served our United States as a private in the Massachusetts Regiment of Minute Men, in Captain Tisdall's Company.**

**Deacon Curtis Brigham is also the founder of the First Baptist Church in Plainwell, the very first church organized in Allegan County.**

**RALPH R. TOWNER PLAQUE DEDICATION**

**On July 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm, Camp 20 will hold a dedication in honor of Ralph R. Towner the last surviving Civil War Veteran of Allegan County. Mr. Towner served our country in Company F of the 186 New York Infantry. He was almost 100 years old at his death.**

**Last year we placed a "LAST SOLDIER PLAQUE" on his gravestone, He is interred in Mallory Cemetery, Trowbridge Township, Allegan County. This cemetery is located just south of the City of Allegan, on M40.**

**Please make a note to join us on this day to honor this and all veterans of the United States Military.**

**COMMITTEE MEMBER**

**Bro. Bill Brennan-Chairman**

LAST SOLDIER PLAQUE



Please submit items to be added to this newsletter to-

**Bro. John R. Keith**  
950 106<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Plainwell, MI 49080

Email address is [Hardtackcw@aol.com](mailto:Hardtackcw@aol.com)

Or

**Bro. John C. Keith**  
4347 117<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Allegan, MI 49010

Email address is [camp20suvcwmi@gmail.com](mailto:camp20suvcwmi@gmail.com)

**GENERAL BENJAMIN PRITCHARD CAMP 20**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**  
**SONS of UNION VETERANS of the CIVIL WAR**  
**DEPARTMENT WEBSITE:**  
**<http://suvcwmi.org>**

**GENERAL BENJAMIN PRITCHARD CAMP 20**  
*John R. KEITH, CAMP COMMANDER*  
950 106<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
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