



**NOVEMBER 2008**  
**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...”***



**2008 CAMP 20 OFFICERS**

COMMANDER JOHN R. KEITH  
 SR. VICE COMMANDER JOHN C. KEITH  
 JR. VICE COMMANDER THOMAS BRUCE  
 CAMP SECRETARY JEFF BAKER  
 CAMP TREASURER JOHN C. KEITH  
 GUARD: CLIFFORD BURHANS  
 GUIDE: DANIEL KNIGHT  
 PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR: GARY GIBSON  
 BOY SCOUT COORDINATOR: MIKE STONE

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

MEMORIALS & MONUMENTS: ART BONNELL

**REMINDER- our next camp meeting will be Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</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.

**CAMP 20 OFFICERS ELECTED TO SERVE AS 2009 OFFICERS**

**COMMANDER-JOHN R. KEITH**  
**SR.VICE COMMANDER-JEFF BAKER**  
**JR. VICE COMMANDER-TOM BRUCE**  
**CAMP SECRETARY-DANIEL KNIGHT**  
**CAMP TREASURER-JOHN C. KEITH**  
**MEMBERS OF THE CAMP COUNCIL:**  
**BILL COSTELLO, ART BONNELL, STEVE REDINGER**

IT WAS DECIDED AT THE NOVEMBER CAMP MEETING TO HOLD OUR OFFICER’S INSTALLATION DINNER AT THE BLACKHAWK INN IN RICHLAND MICHIGAN ON JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM. MAKE UP DATE IF NEED WAS SET FOR JANUARY 24<sup>TH</sup> SAME PLACE AND TIME.

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALANDARS.**

**REMINDER:**

**At the September camp meeting it was voted on and passed to move the deadline for Camp 20 dues from March 31<sup>st</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Department Commander Derr has told me he will approve those changes.**

**So starting in 2009, Annual dues of \$31 must be received by the Camp**

**Treasurer before March 1<sup>st</sup> to avoid a \$10 reinstatement fee.**

**NOTE: OUR FIRST 2009 CAMP MEETING IS AFTER THIS DEADLINE!**

Please submit dues to-  
 Bro. John C. Keith  
 4347 117<sup>TH</sup> Avenue  
 Allegan, MI 49010

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

## **CAMP 20 2009 EVENT**

On May 16th, 2009 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. Time to be announced later.

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**

## **PLEASE BE AWARE**

Veteran's Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008, check with your local VFW to find when they are having their ceremony and please attend if you can.

Plainwell will have their event at 11 am in Hicks Park.

Bro Bill Costello mentioned that the ceremony in Kalamazoo would begin with the reading of soldier's names at 1:30pm with the ceremony at 2pm. This will be at Rose Park Veteran's Memorial, located at 645 East Michigan, Kalamazoo.

Any Camp 20 members who are willing to read soldiers names please report to Bro. Costello BEFORE 1:30 pm. (Please see map).

## **THE ALLEGAN GAZETTE**

**Saturday December 14, 1907**

### **IN THE DAYS OF "64"**

The Last Christmas of the Southern Confederacy

"We had some memorable Christmas days in the south during the war" said Mrs. Zebulon B. Vance, wife of the late United States senator from North Carolina. "That of 1861 was different from any that had preceded it because we were in arms against the Federal government and many of the male guests at southern homes that day wore Confederate uniforms. Much of the talk at the Christmas dinner table was of sieges and battles and marches, but we were all full of hope and confidence."

"Christmas 1862 found us but poorly prepared to celebrate it. Our supplies were few and Confederate money was at a heavy discount. Then came the bitter year of 1863 with the fall of Vicksburg and the defeat at Gettysburg. With sad faces, harmonizing well with their dresses of coarse black stuff, the women of the south devoted themselves to picking lint and spinning and weaving for husbands, fathers, brothers and sweethearts in the field."

"Christmas, 1864—the last Christmas of the war—dawned and what a gloomy festival it was for the people of the south! Of manufactured products we had practically none. Our hairpins were made of long black thorns with a ball of sealing wax on the end.

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We had made into dresses every scrap of available material, while our feet were incased in homemade cloth shoes. The slaves having heard of “de mancipation proclamation” knew that they were free and had all scattered away. Desolation seemed to reign over everything. Of all the Christmas days I have known that last Christmas in the south in wartime is the one of all others that I am most certain never to forget.”

Pittsburg Dispatch

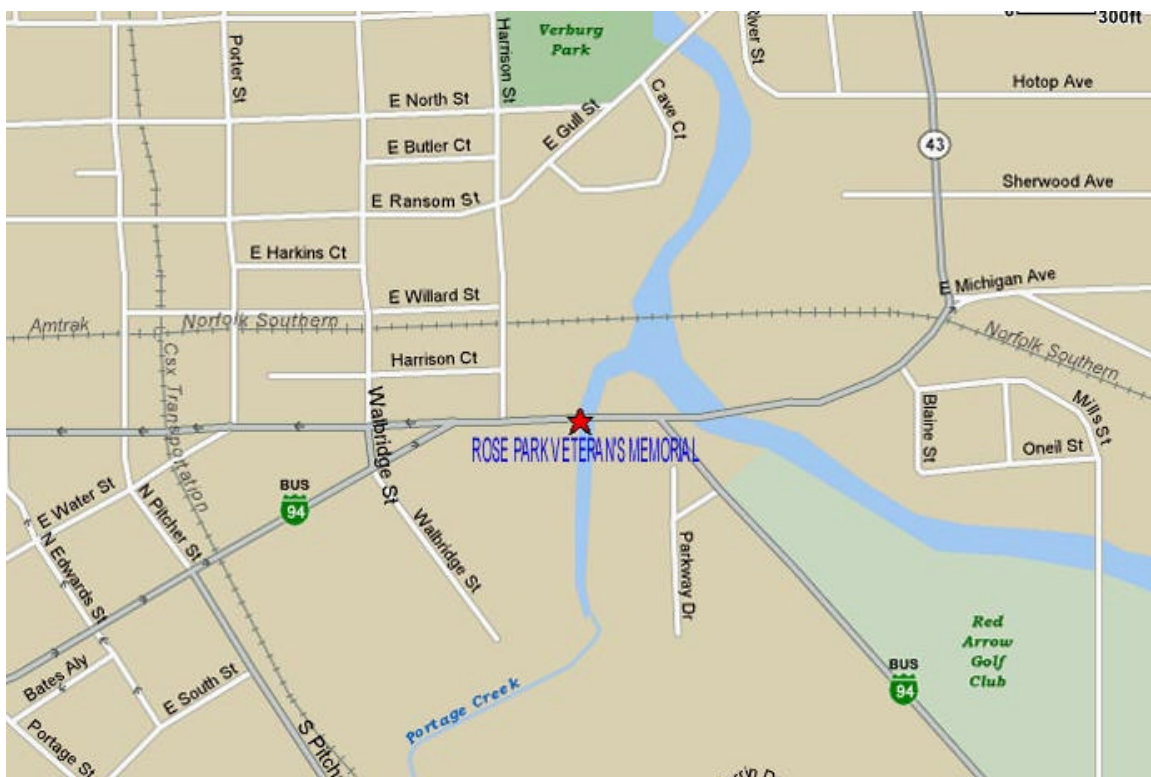
### KALAMAZOO GAZETTE

Friday, March 1, 1872

The “Union Spy” continued to draw full houses every night during it’s performance. On the last evening its receipts were about \$200, which will be devoted to the erection of a monument to the late Col. Occutt.

We have been asked several times what was done with the money, which was raised shortly after Col. Orcutt's death for the purpose of erecting a monument to his memory. Who has the money and how much is on hand?

### **ROSE PARK VETERAN’S MEMORIAL**



*On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, the General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 will be 25 years old. We will celebrate at our January 10<sup>th</sup> Installation Dinner.*

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*

*Plainwell, MI 49080*