



APRIL 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, May 5th,**
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.

DON'T FORGET THE---

2009 DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
 ALLIED ORDERS ANNUAL ENCAMPMENTS
 SATURDAY, APRIL 24-25, 2009, LANSING, MICHIGAN
 HOSTED BY THE MICHIGAN AUXILIARY OF
 THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
 ENCAMPMENT LOCATION:
 GREAT LAKES CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
 6211 W. WILLOW HWY.
 LANSING, MI 48917

****The Annual Spring Cleanup at the Civil War Soldiers Monument in
 Riverside Cemetery in Kalamazoo is scheduled for May 2nd with a rain date of
 May 9th. Time will be 9 am. We hope to see you there****

At our April Camp meeting Brother Richard Veit of Camp 85 paid us a visit.

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

CAMP 20 2009 EVENT

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, 178th Ohio Infantry

Daniel B. Brown-Company G, 1st Michigan E & M

Alexander Smith- Company F, 102nd, United States Colored Troops

Samuel Whelpley-Battery C, 1st Ohio Light Artillery

Samuel Horton-Company A, 12th 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 32rd st. There is a fire station on the right side of the 32rd st and cr388, Turn left at 32rd Follow 32rd, 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

Civil War item

After one rowdy night in February of 1864, William Cody, "later to use the name Buffalo Bill", enlisted as a private in the 7th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. He claimed to have passed out under "the influence of bad whiskey" and then awoke to find himself a soldier. Private Cody served in the regiment until the war's end participating in several battles as well as acting as scout and dispatch rider.

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 13th, 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.

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.

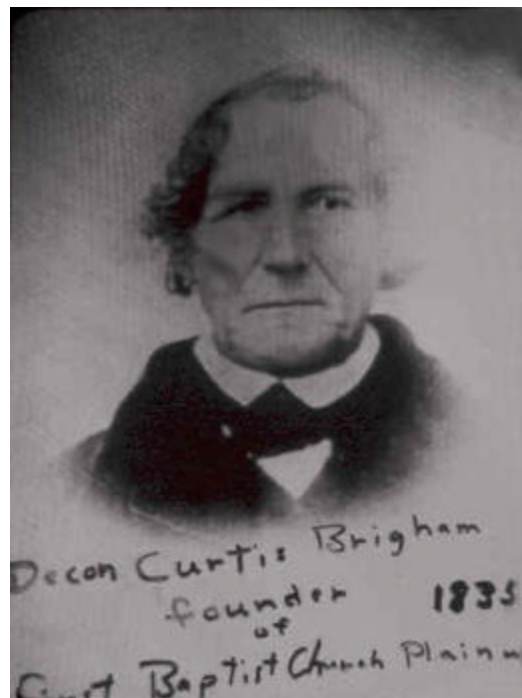
Deacon Curtis Brigham is also the founder of the First Baptist Church in Plainwell, the very first church organized in Allegan County.

There is a street in Plainwell named after him. He farmed 80 acres in Gun Plain Township not far from Woodside Cemetery.

He is one of our neighbors only he walked our streets several years before we did!

Please make a note on your calendar to attend this event and help honor this man, a Military Veteran of our country, and important founding father of our locality.

To honor one United States Armed Forces Veterans is to honor all United States Armed Forces Veterans and those serving our country today!



On April 11th, 2009, Michael Ryan who served our country in Company G of the First Michigan Cavalry had a new military gravestone placed on his unmarked grave. Private Ryan is interred in Kendall Cemetery, Pine Grove Township, Van Buren County. Mr. Rob Roy of Portage Michigan the grandson of Michael Ryan, assisted in setting the stone and on that day placed the first American Flag ever to be placed on Mr. Ryan's grave!



**Pictured back row, Bro. T. Bruce, Mr. Rob Roy, Bro. B. Costello
Front, Charles L. Keith and Nell K. Davis, grandchildren
of Camp 20 Commander, John R. Keith**

Please submit items to be added to this newsletter to-

Bro. John R. Keith
950 106th Avenue
Plainwell, MI 49080

Email address is Hardtackcw@aol.com

Or

Bro. John C. Keith
4347 117th Avenue
Allegan, MI 49010

Email address is camp20suvcwmi@gmail.com

GENERAL BENJAMIN PRITCHARD CAMP 20
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DEPARTMENT WEBSITE:
<http://suvcwmi.org>

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John R. KEITH, CAMP COMMANDER
950 106th Avenue
Plainwell, MI 49080