



*Michigan's*

# *Messenger*

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

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*John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus*

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*Richard E. Danes, Editor*

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



*“Christmas Eve”  
1862 Harper’s Weekly*

Department Orders # 6



Series 2012 – 2013

Paul D. Arnold, Commander

Headquarters, Lansing, MI

22 November 2012

Greetings Department of Michigan Brothers and Camps:

On behalf of your Department of Michigan officers, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a blessed Thanksgiving, wonderful Christmas and prosperous New Year. We are indeed lucky to live in country that affords us the opportunity and freedom to worship and celebrate these wonderful times of year with those we love and care about.

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A Letter of Support

1). It has been a busy autumn.

I would like to thank all of those who took the time out of your busy schedules to march in parades and attend Veterans Day ceremonies in your local communities to honor those who serve our nation.

I would also like to thank our brothers and camps that marched in the Detroit Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, November 3rd, 2012. We had (14) Camps march under their Camp colors, along with the 14th Michigan, Sons of Veterans Reserve, who lead the way as our primary color guard. Representatives from the Military Order of Loyal Legion of the United States and the 4th, 17th, and 102nd USCT re-enactors also joined us. In total we had (44) people participate.

Later in the Day we proceeded to the Detroit Grand Army of the Republic Hall for a Flag raising ceremony to celebrate the ongoing 3 million dollar restoration of this historic structure.

Department of Michigan SUVCW Camps and members of MOLLUS provided the honor guard as the American flag was raised over the hall for the first time in over 50 years.

On November 19, 2012 members of the Department of Michigan SUVCW and the 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan SVR attended Remembrance Day in Gettysburg Pennsylvania.

Department of Michigan brothers and sisters placed Michigan flags on graves of Michigan soldiers killed in the battle at the Michigan section of the National Cemetery. Members of the 14th Michigan, Sons of Veterans Reserve also acted as the primary honor guard unit at the Woolson monument in a ceremony honoring the last member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Department members and the 14th Michigan SVR then participated by marching in the Gettysburg, Remembrance Day Parade.

If you are planning on attending next years' Remembrance Day events celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle. I would urge you to make reservations as soon as possible. (Note) because of it being the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg next year, hotel room rates in Gettysburg will be substantially higher than normal for this event. Brothers might want to check hotels in nearby communities for a more reasonable rate.

2) It is that time of year as Installation of Camp Officers begin. As of this writing, I have had the privilege to attend and install officers at several camps.

**(If you have not yet scheduled your camp officer installation. I am asking that you do so at this time)**

Please contact me with the date time and location of your installation, so we can meet the guidelines set forth by the National organization. As you can imagine, the scheduling of installations of (23) camps between now and the end of January can be a challenge. Either myself or a member of your Department leadership will be available to conduct installations. If you have someone in particular you would like to conduct your installation please contact me and every effort will be made to appoint and honor your request.

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Just a reminder that you will need **(3) type written copies of your Form 22**, (Installation of Camp Officers) completed to be signed. The form is available on the National Website at <http://suvchw.org/ftp/form22fi/pdf>.

One copy stays with the camp. The other two copies should be sent to:  
Dennis Fyke,  
Secretary - Department of Michigan - SUVCW  
4966 Pelham St.  
Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48125.

(If you need assistance or have questions regarding to your form 22's), please contact Brother Fyke at [suvchw-secretary@comcast.net](mailto:suvchw-secretary@comcast.net).

3) Also just a reminder for Camp Patriotic Instructors that your Annual Camp Patriotic Instructors Report is due to Department of Michigan Patriotic Instructor Gary Granger beginning in January. (The report will take in camp activities from Jan 1st - Dec 31st, 2012). We are asking that you submit your report early in January to give Brother Granger time to compile the reports to submit to the National Organization. **(Please submit your reports no later than February 1st, 2013).**

4) For Camp Senior Vice Commanders. I would encourage you to submit articles and pictures for events or activities your camp has been involved in to Rick Danes, editor of our award winning publication "Michigan's Messenger", or to Steve Michaels national editor of "The Banner" our organizations National magazine.

In closing, a special thank you goes out to you, the brothers of the Department of Michigan For your devotion in "**Keeping Green the Memory**" of your ancestors and the Boys in Blue That served our country so many years ago.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty:

Paul D. Arnold, PCC  
Department Commander  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:  
Dennis Fyke  
Secretary  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*December 24, 1863 - "At daylight the morning before Christmas we wound our way out of camp on the road hither in the face of a fierce, cold wind. Through the open fields the ground was frozen hard. The swamp roads were of the log or corduroy construction, but the wagons plunged into an occasional slough with a broken axle. Late in the afternoon we reached our present position, fairly in the front, on the Gordonsville Pike, in a location poorly supplied with wood, and it requires much activity and rubbing to enjoy a night's sleep, from the cold."*

*Chaplain William C. Way, 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry,  
near Culpepper, VA*

### 2012-2013 Department Officers

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Guide  
Bruce Benedict

Graves Registration  
Rick Danes, CC

GAR Records  
Gary Gibson, PDC

Civil War Memorials  
Bruce Butgereit, PCC, PDC

Chief of Staff  
Keith Harrison, PCC, PDC,  
PCinC

Camp At Large Coordinator  
L. Dean Lamphere

Aide de Camp  
Brian Shumway, PCC

### ***Patriotic Sense***

by Gary A. Granger, Department Officer

To Camp Patriotic Instructor - Reports Due

On a responsible note: ALL Camp Patriotic Instructor Reports are due by Feb. 1, 2013. The report is short ... Eight questions that can be answered with yes or no ... and that's it.

My address is:

Gary Granger

SUVCW MI PI

PO Box 41

Corunna, MI 48817.

Or e-mail me at: [hagranger@hotmail.com](mailto:hagranger@hotmail.com).

If your Camp PI would like to give his report over the phone – it takes just a couple of minutes to telephone me at (989) 494-4993. Feel free to leave a message just remember to state your name, phone number, camp. You could also answer the questions on the report when you leave the message.

### ***Patriotic Responsibility***

Patriotism brings with it responsibility.

We are all citizens of the United States of America and residents of the State of Michigan. Some of us were born in this state, others moved here for various reasons.

And, no matter what your politics, religious affiliations, or personal code of ethics, we as citizens of the United States and residents of the State of Michigan are all “in this” together.

Richard Aldington (England) once stated that “Patriotism is a lively sense of collective responsibility ...”

We all have responsibilities – on a personal level we have a responsibility to ourselves and to our families. Depending on our faith we have a responsibility to our chosen religion and our church. As a member of a community we have a responsibility to do “something” to help make that community better – either by donations of time and/or money to various community projects, activities or events – or through the local taxes we pay that helps keep the community services (streets/sidewalks, water, sewer, trash, snow removal, parks and recreation) maintained.

We also have the responsibility to vote to determine how we want to be governed.

Based on all the reading I've been doing it seems that patriots value responsibility.

One columnist said that a patriot values “the citizen's responsibility to his country, a country's responsibility to its citizens, and the responsibility of a country and its citizens to the rest of the world. Nationalists, on the other hand, do not value responsibility. They value loyalty, and their loyalty is a type of tribalism. The loyalty may not necessarily be to one's fellow citizens, but only to members of their tribe.”

Sydney Harris took this a step further by noting the difference between patriotism and nationalism as: “Patriotism is proud of a country's virtues and eager to correct its deficiencies; it also acknowledges the legitimate patriotism of other countries with their own specific virtues. The pride of nationalism, however, trumpets its country's virtues and denies its deficiencies ...” He further stated that “The difference between patriotism and nationalism is that the patriot is proud of his country for what it does, and the nationalist is proud of his country no matter what it does; the first attitude creates a feeling of responsibility, but the second (creates) a feeling of blind arrogance that leads to war.”

Perhaps it was that same blind arrogance that contributed to what would become The Civil War?



## TAPS

*By William B. M<sup>c</sup> Afee, PCC, Chaplain Department of Michigan*

*I regret to inform you of the death of two brothers in the Michigan SUVCW. They are:*

**Brother Mitchell L. Minton, Jr.** Vice Commander, Lockwood Camp #139, died October 19, 2012 at his home at 2601 Pearl Rd. in Alpena, MI 49707. He was born Dec. 18, 1949 in Alpena. Mitch had been an Associate SUVCW member for the past 10 years. During that time Mitch was continuous participant in all Camp activities and projects. He brought life to our, meetings with a smile and his positive attitude. Mitch was the quintessential "cowboy", hosting the Country Gold radio show, working with the Little Britches Rodeo, the Sherriff's Posse, and the Alpena Fairgrounds. Mitch was the owner and operator of Floyd Minton Cedar Post Co. This was a family business established by his father, Floyd Minton. Mitch loved involving himself with children. He was always willing to share his time with his grandchildren, his nieces and nephews and others. Mitch is survived by his wife of 24 years, Sherry, his daughter, Patsy, two stepsons, his mother Shirley and two sisters, three brothers, and several nieces and nephews. There was a Service of Remembrance on October 22. Memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Michigan. Visit his personal web page at [www.lifestorynet.com](http://www.lifestorynet.com) where you may sign the on-line guest book or send your condolences to the family.

**Brother Brian D. MacVean**, Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17, Lansing/Sunfield, died September 11, 2012 at his home, 10572 Benton Road, Grand Ledge, MI 48837. Born May 18, 1963 in Lansing, Brian was a member of the SUVCW by virtue of his Great Grandfather, Pvt. James H. Robinson, Co. H, 2d Michigan Volunteer Infantry. He served two years as Camp Guide. He also was an avid sports fan and especially enjoyed fishing. Brian was employed as a supervisor at Molded Plastics in Holt. He is survived by his wife of 15 years, Peggy, a sister, a brother, a brother-in-law, numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Funeral services took place Friday, September 14, 2012 at the Peters & Murray Funeral Home, Grand Ledge, with interment followed at Union Cemetery, Oneida Township, Eaton County. For those wishing, contributions may be made to the Capital Area Humane Society in his memory.

*God Bless the USA!*

*"Serve the Lord with gladness."*

*"It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived." -- U.S. Army General George S. Patton, Jr. 1885-1945*

*Editor's Note: Why Michigan's Messenger is now distributed electronically:*

*In 2005 the Department was faced with rising printing and mailing costs for the nationally recognized Michigan's Messenger. Very few options were available to Department Officers, so the issue was put on the floor at the Department Encampment. The Members voted to publish Michigan's Messenger in an electronic format, with each edition being forwarded to one person in each Camp (thereafter called a Camp Signals Officer), who would then distribute the newsletter to Camp Members.*

*As a result of this action by the Membership, dues have not been raised.*

***I believe that the Camps have the responsibility to report changes, so that we can continue to serve you, you must provide me with a current contact for electronic mailing.***

*I have tried to include every article that was sent to me prior to publication, so that all future issues will be timely. I welcome all constructive suggestions, and encourage all of you to submit relative news about your committees, your Camps, and your ancestors. This is your newsletter, and its success depends on you. Rick Danes, Editor [mimessrd@aol.com](mailto:mimessrd@aol.com).*

## Civil War Memorials

Bruce B. Butgereit, PDC, Department Memorials Officer

As another year draws to a close, each Camp will experience the election and installation of officers for the 2013 year and with that, I thought some reminders relating to Civil War Memorials appropriate.

Camp Commanders, please remember that the Ritual requires you to appoint a Brother to serve as the Camp Civil War Memorials officer. Brothers, if you volunteer to serve in either an elected or appointed position, there should be an expectation that you will indeed perform the duties of that office as described in the Job Descriptions.

For current Camp Civil War Memorials officers who will not be serving again in 2013, please transfer whatever records, assessments, or photos you have to the newly appointed officer. For newly appointed officers, let's work together to ensure Michigan's Civil War memorials are not only remembered but given the respect they deserve.

I would like to thank three Camps for submitting assessments, photos and reports to me this year: Camp 1 has submitted about 27 of the over 60 memorials in their territory. Camp 14 has submitted nearly monthly reports on their efforts. Camp 427 has submitted assessments and photos for all of the memorials in their territory.

My final report to the Department will not be until May of 2013 and so between now and then, we can work together to improve upon this list. Remember, this project is an ongoing effort requiring updates every 5 or so years so that we can keep our assessments up to date.

To better explain the task we have before us, here is a portion of the report made at the last Department Encampment –

The Department Civil War Memorials Committee wishes to report that as of the date of this Encampment, there are 245 memorials in our database with 44 added in this past year [there are over 435 memorials in Michigan].

An assessment of this data provides the following –

- 43 Counties are represented out of 83 in the State
- 1 monument from Indiana recognizes the service of members of the 4th Michigan Infantry
- Of the 245 assessments received – 102 include the required CWM Form 61 and 143 do not.
- 45 CWM Form 61 have useable photos attached – 200 do not have the required photos
- The most recent assessment was 2011 with 11. 143 assessments are over 10 years old with the oldest conducted in 1996.



2013- 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan Monument Ceremony at Gettysburg L to R: Dean Lamphere, Jack Frost, Ron Shull, Dale Aurand, Gary Gibson, Dave Arnold, James Pahl, Bob Boquette, Don Shaw, Paul Davis

**The Michigan Civil War Memorials Handbook is available from download on our Department website at Special Projects - "Monuments and Memorials" – "Project Definition" – scroll to bottom.** Thank you to the Department Webmaster Brother Bill Morris for assisting in this.

Please direct any questions, concerns, or ideas to me at: Bruce B. Butgereit [civil-war@comcast.net](mailto:civil-war@comcast.net)

## Graves Registration Committee

by Rick Danes, Department Officer

C in C Mellor's General Order # 6 , issued December 3, 2012 brought to light just how important the Graves Registration work has become in the Order. I have copied the pertinent part of that Order for your review:

"2 – A new temporary committee has been formed called Government Headstone Application Committee. The membership of this committee will be Steve Aarli – IL Chair, Steven Hall – PA, David Burkett – OR, Stephen Siemsen – AZ, John Eger – IN, Stephen Twining – MA, and Bruce Frail – RI. The primary duties of this committee will be to work with the National Committee on Graves Registration (NCGR), assist people inside and outside of the Allied Orders in researching and providing VA Headstones whether they are for unmarked graves or replacement headstones they should also, with the assistance of the NCGR design videos and workshops to show people the proper way to complete forms, raise headstones, level headstones and install all new types of headstones. They will also receive the data from the check



boxes of the graves registration forms and transmit that data to local Department and Camps for their action of which they will assist when needed. All contact with Department of Veterans Affairs should be through the office of the National Graves Registration Officer. The programs and Police Committee is tasked to create a job description for this Committee. The next commander-in-Chief can then decide whether to continue the committee as a Standing Committee or a Special Committee."

We do not know how this new committee will affect our work in conjunction with the current restrictions by the VA, but we will persevere in our task to honor the final resting places of our heroes of the Southern Insurrection.

Acknowledging the restriction by the VA on ordering headstones, we discussed low cost methods of marking gravesites perhaps with a wooden cross, marked with the soldier's name and regiment. We could make this a committee project, and keep the authorities within the Department. Anyone that has an alternate idea, please contact me.

Your Department Graves Registration Committee met for the 50<sup>th</sup> consecutive quarter on December 8 at the Capitol Area Library in Lansing. Those attending were, Dave Arnold DC, Chris Czopek, Dick Williams Camp 58, Dick Hutchins and George Allen Camp 120, Jim Jackson Camp 22, Bill Lowe, Charles Waters Camp 7, and Gary Copenhaver from Camp 17. At that time I reported that the current database contains 61,280 Civil War burials and 3,425 other war entries.

We have lost two Camp GROs this quarter – Mike Christiaens from Camp 180 has resigned from the Order, and Allan Teelander from Camp 1 has is transferring and becoming a GRO-at-Large. Gerry Christiansen of the Camp-at-Large is transferring to Camp 1 and will assume the GRO position. Good luck to all!

I would like to especially commend Brothers Chuck Harthy, Alan Teelander, Gary Copenhaver, George Allen, Dick Williams, and Jim Petrimoulx for their efforts this past quarter, and to thank Dick Williams for his success in providing a meeting place for us at the Lansing Library.

Good news!! We have been informed that starting in January, 2013, the State Archives will be open from 10 AM – 4 PM every Saturday! Through the efforts of Brother Bill Lowe, we have reserved a room for our meetings from 10 AM – 12:30 PM. This will allow time for members to continue their research until 4 PM on meeting days. Meeting dates for 2013 were set for March 9, June 8, September 14 and December 14. I hope that even if you cannot attend our quarterly meetings, you and your Camps are starting or continuing the work started by our forefathers in documenting the last resting places of the heroes of the War of Insurrection 1861 - 1865.

Keep in mind our goal – to honor the soldiers of the U. S. Civil War, 1861-1865 by "Keeping Green their Memory" by documenting and marking their gravesites for posterity.

Stay Safe!!



## 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry, Co. A, Sons of Veterans Reserve On The March

By L. Dean Lamphere, Commander, 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry, Co. A, SVR

The 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co. A, Sons of Veterans Reserve has participated in many events and services during the Fall quarter of 2012.

On November 3<sup>rd</sup> they participated in the Veterans Day Parade in Detroit. Following the Parade, there was a special flag raising ceremony at the Detroit G.A.R. Hall which is in the process of being fully and historical restored in the areas utilized by the G.A.R. members who once called the hall their home.



Department of Michigan and SVR at Flag Raising Ceremony at G.A.R. Hall in Detroit, Michigan, November 3, 2012



Sons of Veterans Reserve, 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co. A performed a musket salute at the Bentley ceremony. L to R: Paul Davis, Grant Camp Commander; Dennis Spiekerman; Ken Martin, Grant Senior Vice Commander; Don Londo; Duaine Phillips; Bob Boquette, Grant Camp PI; Dean Lamphere, Commander

The 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co. A, was called upon to fire a musket salute in honor of Oscar F. Bentley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Minnesota Cavalry, Company E, during a headstone dedication ceremony in Bentley, Michigan, a town that Oscar founded when he returned from the Civil War.

The event was well attended by locals and family members despite the threat of inclement weather. Local press coverage was supplied by the Arenac County Independent.

During Michigan Day at Antietam, several members from the 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co A, aka the "Irish Rifle" participated as the Color Guard and received a Commendation from the SVR Commanding General Robert Grim during the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Antietam.



"Irish Rifle" members L to R: Dean Lamphere, Lloyd Lamphere, Jonathan McInerney and Len "Irish" McInerney.



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Bob Boquette and Jack Frost place a National and State flags on the graves of Michigan soldiers

Most recently, the 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan attended the Annual Gettysburg Remembrance activities on November 17.

In the early morning on Saturday, National flags as well as Michigan state flags were placed on 171 graves of the Michigan men who served at Gettysburg. Later that morning the 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan Company A, Sons of Veterans Reserve, served as the Color Guard for the Woolson Memorial Service as it has for many years.

In the afternoon, the annual parade took place. Michigan was well represented including SVR members: Dean Lamphere, James Pahl, Ron Shull, Gary Gibson, Don Shaw, Paul Davis, Robert May, Bob Boquette, and Jack Frost.

Following the parade, the 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, SVR traveled to the 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry's monument near the Copse of Trees where they performed a memorial service for the men of the 7<sup>th</sup> who fought there.



14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co. A, SVR Color Guard at Woolson Memorial Service

In an ongoing tradition of including a battlefield tour as part of their Gettysburg Remembrance trip, the boys from Michigan made a tour of the Shenandoah Valley starting at the New Market Battlefield and then traveled north to the Cedar Creek Battlefield and Belle Grove Plantation, Middletown, Stephens City, past Kernstown and into Winchester where after pausing for lunch they visited the sites in Old Towne including a stop at the Old Court House Museum. With daylight fading rapidly they made one last stop at Fort Collier (3<sup>rd</sup> Winchester, site of the great Cavalry charge that unhinged the Confederate control of the Valley. The Third Battle of Winchester culminated at Fort Collier, where on the afternoon of September 19, 1864, Union General George Armstrong Custer led the largest cavalry charge in American history and stormed the Confederate infantrymen positioned at Fort Collier's earthworks. This was the bloodiest and most decisive of the clashes in the Shenandoah Valley campaign that year. It tore the strategic initiative from Confederate hands and opened the Valley to the "Great Burning."

Next on the agenda was a trip to Hanover, Pennsylvania where the group visited the site of the Hanover Battle and a marker where Lincoln gave a short speech the day before he made his Gettysburg Address.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, SVR concluded the weekend with a viewing of the new Lincoln film at a local Gettysburg movie theater.

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New Market Field of Lost Shoes



Old Court House and Museum Winchester, Virginia



Battle of Hanover Monument Hanover, Pennsylvania



Dedication Marker of Lincoln's speech prior to Gettysburg Address, Hanover, Pennsylvania

*Henry Kyd Douglas, formerly of Confederate Lieutenant General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's staff, was wounded in the Battle of Gettysburg and captured. Confined to Johnson's Island Prison, Ohio, as Christmas 1863*

*"...Then, too, a friend had sent me in a package a bottle of old brandy. On Christmas morning I quietly called several comrades up to my bunk to taste the precious fluid of...DISAPPOINTMENT! The bottle had been opened outside, the brandy taken and replaced with water, adroitly recorded, and sent in. I hope the Yankee who played that practical joke lived to repent it and was shot before the war ended."*



## General John A. Logan Camp No. 1

*Submitted by; Bruce B. Butgereit PDC, Secretary*

As 2012 winds down, Camp 1 can look back on yet another busy year doing the work of the Order. At our December meeting we will initiate two new Brothers and welcome one new transfer. Sadly, we will also see a few Brothers transfer out of the Camp.

On Saturday, September 22, members of the Camp and PC-in-C Keith Harrison partnered with History Remembered, Inc. to conduct a sesquicentennial event in the Oakfield Cemetery in Oakfield Township. Twenty soldiers who served in the Civil War were remembered with a white rose on their headstone and members of the Oakfield Pioneer Heritage Society read each man's bio. Family members were also in attendance and some read their ancestor's story. One man was surprised, and a little embarrassed, while he was reading and learned that his Civil War ancestor had been in the Ionia prison when he enlisted to reduce his sentence.



The very next day, Sunday, September 23 found the Camp and members of the Champlin Corps No. 41, WRC and Eva Gray Tent No. 2, DUVCW performing a dedication ceremony in an Amish cemetery near White Cloud, MI. The family of Private Benjamin C. Aishe, Co. G, 48<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry, had obtained a new headstone for his previously unmarked grave. More than forty family members were present including a 98-year-old granddaughter who remembered being around her grandfather. Keeping her company during the ceremony was True Son Harold Becker whose father had served in the 128<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry. Camp Commander Truss and I also had ancestors who served from Indiana regiments giving the event a "homecoming" flavor.



For the twenty-fifth anniversary celebration of the Bowne Township Historical Society on Saturday, October 6, members of History Remembered partnered with Brothers Alan Teelander and Bill Truss of Camp 1 to share living history and other information. Brother Harold Holcomb of Camp 17 also joined in the event.



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Camp 1 was represented in the Detroit Veterans Day parade on November 3 by Commander Bill Truss and I. After a lunch at the American Coney Island, we also participated in the raising of the United States flag over the G.A.R. Building for the first time in over 50 years.

Commander Truss and Brothers Tim Kolean and John Uplinger represented the Camp in the Grand Rapids Veterans Day parade on Saturday, November.

With restoration projects underway in Lowell, Byron Center, and Grand Rapids with a new memorial boulder project in Gaines Twp., combined with new headstone dedications, the Camp will again be busy in 2013.

The Camp is highly engaged as a stakeholder in the City of Grand Rapids project to rehabilitate Monument Park (Civil War) and Veterans Memorial Park (WW I, WW II, Korea, Vietnam and Gulf War). Commander Bill and I attend the monthly meetings to ensure that the alterations to Monument Park are done respectfully as it relates to the Civil War monument/fountain.



## **General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2**

*Submitted by Bruce Miller, SVC/PCC*



Members of General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2 recently participated in a Memorial Tribute Ceremony at General Richardson's grave in Oak Hill Cemetery, Pontiac, Michigan. The ceremony was held on November 3, 2012; exactly one-hundred and fifty years from the date that General Richardson died from wounds suffered at Antietam. Kimberly Johnson, Vice President of the Michigan Historical Commission, provided the welcome to the guests and participants.

Members of other organizations, including the American Legion, were present. Jack Dempsey, President of the Michigan Historical Commission, delivered the keynote address. Camp 2 brothers Tim Harris and Kevin Lindsey served as Color Guard for the ceremony.

Historic Oak Hill Cemetery is the final resting place for 30 veterans of the Civil War including former Governor Moses Wisner, Colonel of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Infantry; the "Oakland County Regiment."

### **Future Michigan's Messenger Publications Submittal Dates and Publication Dates**

**Spring - March 1 for a March 15 Publication**

**Summer – June 1 for a June 15 Publication**

**Fall – September 1 for a September 15 Publication**

**Winter – December 1 for a December 15 Publication**

**Send all articles to Rick Danes, Editor, preferably at [mimessrd@aol.com](mailto:mimessrd@aol.com) or to 2612 Burns Street, Dearborn, Michigan 48124-3204**

**ALL PUBLICATIONS WILL BE MADE ON TIME**

### Henry E. Plant Camp 3

Submitted by Daniel Grable, Secretary/Treasurer

As we near the close of 2012 we find the Henry E. Plant Camp #3 of Grand Haven in good shape and growing. Larger In past six months we have shown our face to the public in many different ways. First we conducted our annual presentation on the Civil War and local Civil War veterans from the Spring Lake area during the Spring Lake Heritage Festival in the middle of June. We started with an explanation of the differences between the SUVCW and Civil War re-enactors. Then we covered the war from the causes of the war to the GAR. Brother Cliff Owen talked on the causes of the war to the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation (encouraged by a letter written by Rep. Dale Owen of Indiana, a relative of Brother Owen). Brother Donald Ogden then showed those present some of the artifacts in his collection of Civil War personal use items. He also talked about the general foods the soldiers ate. Later our Chaplin Michael Boscharet gave a talk on the religious life of the Civil War soldier and the growing importance of the Chaplin in the Army. He showed prayer books, Testaments and rosary beads from the beginning of the Civil War to the end of the war. Michael was wearing a Civil War Chaplin uniform. Brother Daniel Grable presented short presentations on the life and service of Veterans that served from Mill Point (now Spring Lake). The soldiers included Robert Finch (namesake of SUVCW Camp #14 of the Traverse City Area), Mordecai Lowe Hopkins (whose father had a street in Grand Haven named after him), and Sylvester Smith. The presentation ended with Ronald Bellenger telling about the formation of the Grand Army of the Republic and its history. He mentioned the Department of Michigan, Grand Army of the Republic encampment held in 1910 in Holland, Michigan. Also as part of his presentation he gave a brief history of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. He also mentioned the women's organization. Bellenger included the showing of his collection of GAR/SUVCW/Women's organizations medals.

On the 4th of July three of our brothers represented the camp in the City of Ferrysburg's annual parade. They also enjoyed themselves at the community picnic following the parade.

In September the Holland Museum conducted their annual Civil War Muster. It was again a big success, but it again rained for three hours on Saturday during the muster the camp conducted recruiting and the Holland Museum produced a DVD on the Muster which included images of our brothers at the recruiting table. The DVD was shown at our November meeting.

This fall the camp has been continuing the work on trying to get the Michigan House of Representatives to name M 231 after Henry Plant which the state is still in the process of building on land once owned by Mr. Plant. We conducted a letter writing campaign.

Meanwhile the camp learned that the Department of North Carolina got the right to place the first Union monument at the Bentonville Battlefield. This was where our namesake Henry Plant rescued his regiment's colors during the battle of Bentonville earning him the Medal of Honor. We decided to donate \$100 toward the monument and we also made the suggestion that the Department should put the names of the four Medal of Honor recipients who earned their medals during the battle. We received a nice thank you letter from the Department of North Carolina.

Locally the Brothers of our camp that are on the Committee placing the Fallen Heroes Monument in Central Park in Grand Haven reported that they are having problems from the City Council of adding a few items to the monument. The items included the emblems of the U. S. military branches, two plaques one honoring our six Medal of Honor Recipients from Ottawa County and one listing the POWs from the area and having the minor cracks in the monument repaired. This included the brick the camp bought in honor of all the Fallen Heroes from Northern Ottawa County.

At our November meeting we elected our 2013 Camp officers. The newly elected officers are

Commander	Richard Scott
Sr. Vice Commander	Donald Ogden
Jr. Vice Commander	John Baldus
Secretary	Daniel Grable
Treasurer	Daniel Grable
Camp Council	Jonathan Scott
	Cliff Owen
	Carl Holsinger
Delegate	Max Rieskie

Currently we are working on installing these officers at our 13th Holiday Muster in January, Finally the camp would like to introduce our newest member Brother Carl D. Holsinger who is transferring his membership from the March to the Sea Camp #135 of the St. Joseph County area. There he served on the Camp Council and will be doing the same here starting in 2013. Brother Holsinger currently lives in the Holland, Michigan area.

The Henry E. Plant Camp #3 would also like to wish all the Brothers from the Michigan Department a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and successful New Year.

## Austin Blair Camp 7

By Bob Griggs, PCC



Backing up to include a September event on the 15th two members of our Camp and Auxiliary were married. Daniel Pardee and Elizabeth Kimler were joined in Holy Matrimony at Concord under the watchful eyes of many other Camp and Auxiliary members.

All of us in the Austin Blair Camp and its Auxiliary wish them nothing but the best in their lives ahead.

Moving on to the month of October members of the Camp set up displays at the Waterloo Farm Museum on the 14 for their Annual Pioneer Day. During the event we were able

to talk to many of the visitors about our ancestors as well as answering their questions about the boys who wore the Blue and the sacrifices they made to preserve the Union.

Also in October members attended the History Seminar sponsored by the Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17. where Doctor William Anderson talked about "Women in the Civil War". As always it was a very enjoyable and informative evening for all.



In November Camp members stood guard at the Defense of the Flag Monument in Jackson for the Veteran's Day ceremonies. Members of the Camp also took part in the Detroit Veteran's Day Parade as well as the Veteran's Day parade in Mason.

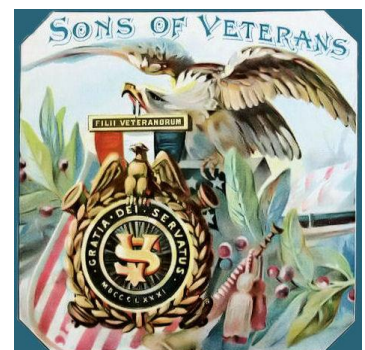
November was also our month for installing new members into each the Brotherhood of or order and the Sisterhood of the Auxiliary. At our regular meeting on November 12th Brother David Kimble and Sister Lucille Streeter joined our ranks. A very big welcome to both from all of us.



Also at our November meeting we elected and installed new officers. Upcoming in December the Auxiliary will be holding our 14th Annual Christmas get together which, as always, promises to be one of the highlights of our year.

As always, if you wish to see more about the events of our camp please check out our website at [www.austinblair.com](http://www.austinblair.com) or our facebook page at [www.facebook.com/AustinBlairCampNo7SonsOfUnionVeteransoftheCivilWar](http://www.facebook.com/AustinBlairCampNo7SonsOfUnionVeteransoftheCivilWar)

All of us at Camp No. 7 and our Auxiliary would like to wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year. May God Bless and keep the U.S.A.





## Robert Finch Camp 14

October to December 2012

By Wm. E. Skillman ~ Signals Officer~

As of December 1, 2012, Camp 14's roster shows 45 Brothers present. 39 are Members and 6 are Associates. Our next meeting will be held on January 12th at the Elks Lodge at 325 Bay Street (at the intersections of Grandview Parkway and Division) in Traverse City. Our guest will be Department Commander Dave Arnold, who will be installing Camp 14 officers and staff for 2013.

Camp 14 held its first annual banquet at Traverse City's Saint Francis Church civic center on October 5<sup>th</sup>. Fifty two Brothers and wives enjoyed a delicious dinner provided by Goodwill Inn Catering and libations from Brother Skip 'Dead Eye Ale' Bryant. All those attended had a great time and voted to hold another gathering next year. Many thanks to PCC Aurand and wife Lorraine for helping make the dinner a success.



PCC Breaugh visits the Morse family table



CC Goodrich sharing a moment with Brother Jim Morse Jr.

During our November meeting, Brothers asked what our youngest member, Alan Wederhoff, had been doing. Alan replied the next day: *I am stationed at Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, VA. I am an Air Transportation Specialist so I work with the aircrews on cargo aircraft. For a history guy like me you couldn't ask for a better location. I've visited Yorktown National Battlefield, ...Fort Monroe where Jefferson Davis was held after the war is roughly 4 miles off base along with Blackbeard Point where Blackbeard's head was displayed by the Royal Navy for piracy. Across the river is Norfolk Naval Base and the U.S. Naval Museum; Jamestown and Colonial Williamsburg are 45 minutes away. I will be continuing my service in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary with the Gloucester unit and the Coast Guard Training Center in Yorktown. I am very lucky to be stationed here at Langley and look forward to my time here and exploring the Virginia coastline.*

WMO Jerry Grieve and Andrew Hopkinson (our English Brother) are hard at work to locate the grave of John Davis, US Navy, who served on the *USS Tulip*. Built in New York in 1862 for the Chinese, the *Chi Kiang*, was a shallow draft, 240 ton screw steamer, outfitted with a pair of horizontal, direct-acting engine (two cylinders) and two 15 feet-long fire-tube boilers. In 1863, the U.S. Government purchased and renamed her *USS Tulip*. The *Tulip* served as a gunboat plying the waters between Maryland and Virginia as part of the Potomac River Flotilla. Poor maintenance led to the starboard boiler needing to be replaced. On November 11, 1864 the *Tulip* was ordered to the Washington Navy Yard for repairs. Her captain, wishing to make good time and fearing the slowed ship would be an easy mark for Confederate sharpshooters and artillery, ordered both boilers to full steam. Off Ragged Point, Virginia the starboard boiler violently exploded; destroying the ship and killing 49 crewmen. Davis was one of only eight survivors. After the War, Davis returned to England and was active in the GAR until his death. His remains are in London's Nunhead Cemetery, but in a section closed to the public (due to the wilderness like conditions of rampant undergrowth and fallen trees). Andrew is working with the Friends of Nunhead Cemetery to secure permission to enter the off-limits area. Once Davis' grave is located (he was buried in the paupers section), Brother Andrew and GRO Jenkins will obtain a headstone to mark the final resting place of this veteran.

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GRO Jenkins reports he has obtained headstones for three previously unmarked graves in our jurisdiction. One was for Pvt. Isaiah Allen, (Co. F, 1<sup>st</sup> Maine Inf.), who was the great grandfather of our recently deceased Brother, Ike Rockwell. Brother Rockwell's family expressed their appreciation to Camp 14 for our help to fulfill Brother Rockwell's wishes.

CC Goodrich called Brother John Sawyer and guest, Tom Deering, to join him. GRO Jenkins described Brother Sawyer's restoration of the grave of Private John Thacker (169<sup>th</sup> PA Inf.) in a forgotten family cemetery in Leelanau's Elmwood Township (see July-Sept Messenger). A large pine tree had fallen across the grounds making it difficult to attend to the graves. Mr. Tom Deering (of Deering Tree Removal Service) volunteered to help and removed the tree in short order. The cemetery is now restored to its former glory and the Township is considering to designate the Fouch cemetery as a historic site. In recognition to Brother Sawyer and Mr. Deering's efforts, CC Goodrich presented each of them with a framed Certificate of Appreciation. Congratulations on the outstanding work, Brother Sawyer!



*CC Goodrich presents a certificate of appreciation to Brother Tom Sawyer and Tom Deering*

The election of officers for 2013 was held. They are: Commander: George Goodrich, SVR: Skip Bryant, JVC: Joe Conger, Council: Jan White, Dale Aurand, Bill Skillman; Secretary, Tom Jenkins and Treasurer, Bill Watson.

Our guest speaker was History Detective, Brother Chris Czopek (of the Curtenius Guard). Chris introduced Jo Keusch and Lena Smith of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians to the assembly. They serve as the cultural and history administrators for the Band. Chris' topic was "The Mackinac Island Warriors of Co. K". It was the story of three

Native American friends who enlisted together on Mackinac Island to fight in the Civil War. Chris began his presentation describing the colorful "French & Indian"

forefathers of these sharpshooters. He then focused on three men themselves: James Hamlin, a 43 year old fisherman who wanted a better life for his family, his brother in law Michael Jeandron - a typical young man looking for adventure, and the silent, steady, reliable Benjamin Kewaconda who had left his tribe in Petoskey for personal reasons. Chris told the story of these three friends who traveled from the Straits of Mackinac to the battlefields of Virginia! Spotsylvania was their battle together. An injury sent Kewaconda to a hospital. Hamlin and Jeandron were captured soon afterwards during the assault on Petersburg. Both died in Andersonville prison of starvation and disease. Private Kewaconda was the only one to survive the war and return home to Mackinac Island. In 2010, the graves Hamlin and Jeandron were located in the Andersonville prison cemetery and the Ogitchedaw Veterans Society traveled to Georgia and honored their memory with a traditional ceremony.

Camp 14 participated in Veterans Day ceremonies in Traverse City's Veterans Park with other members of the Grand Traverse Veteran's Coalition. PCC Dale Aurand traveled to Gettysburg with other members of the Dept. of Michigan to attend the 149<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day ceremonies.



*PCC Aurand with the 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan Inf. Monument at Gettysburg.*



**U.S. Grant Camp 67**

Submitted by Paul Davis, Paul Davis, CC, DSVC, MOLLUS, SVR



Len McInerney, Grant Camp Junior Vice Commander presents Eagle Scout certificate to Nathaniel Massung.

The Brothers of U.S. Grant Camp 67 had a very active Fall schedule with a variety of activities to keep green the memory of our Civil War ancestors. Some of the key activities included an Eagle Scout Court of Honor, a Historical Encampment and a Dedication Ceremony.

Brother Len McInerney, Grant Camp Junior Vice Commander, presented a SUVCW Eagle Scout Certificate to Eagle Scout Nathaniel Massung during his Court of Honor. Nathaniel is the youngest of four brothers all of whom are Eagle Scouts.



Senior Vice Commander, Ken Martin and Junior Vice Commander, Len "Irish" McInerney manned the information station

Civil War and assist visitors in identifying and tracing their Michigan Civil War ancestors. The venue had an estimated 30,000 visitors during the three day event. Grant Brothers who manned the information station included: Don Shaw, Jim Petrimoulx, Paul Davis, Len McInerney, and Ken Martin.

Several Grant Camp Brothers participated in the Bay City, River of Time encampment where they hosted a table to promote the Sons of Union Veterans of The



Grant Camp member Bob Boquette engaged in conversation with

Grant Camp Brothers were also busy during the Education Day teaching School of The Soldier and basic drill to students ranging from elementary age up to high school. Approximately 3,000 to 4,000 students attended the Education Day. Many of the older students were tasked by their teachers with obtaining a variety of information and facts about the Civil War as part of their history assignments.



Grant Camp Brothers conducted a School of the Soldier and basic drill for Education Day students



U.S. Grant Camp Commander Paul Davis performs ceremony for Civil War Veteran Oscar F. Bentley

The family of Oscar F. Bentley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Minnesota Cavalry, Company E were assisted by Grant Graves Registration Officer, Jim Petrimoulx, with obtaining a head stone and performing a Dedication Ceremony for their ancestor at the Bentley Cemetery in Bentley, Michigan. Oscar was the founder of Bentley where he came to live after the Civil War.

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Several of the family members traveled from around the state to participate in the Ceremony conducted by U.S. Grant Camp 67 who were aided by the 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Company A, Sons of Veterans Reserve and the local American Legion and members of the VFW in performing a musket and rifle salute.

The event was well attended by locals and family members despite the threat of inclement weather. Local press coverage was supplied by the Arenac County Independent who photographed and published the event photos.



Some of the Bentley family members who braved the rain



Sons of Veterans Reserve, 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co. A performed a musket salute at the Bentley ceremony. L to R: Paul Davis, Grant Camp Commander; Dennis Spiekerman; Ken Martin, Grant Senior Vice Commander; Don Londo; Duaine Phillips; Bob Boquette, Grant Camp PI; Dean Lamphere, Commander, 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Co. A, SVR

*Christmas songs were popular by soldiers of both the North and the South. Among the favorites were Silent Night, Oh Come All Ye Faithful, Hark the Herald Angels Sing, Deck the Halls. During the 1850's songs such as It Came Upon a Midnight Clear, O Little Town of Bethlehem, Away in a Manger, We Three Kings, and Up On the Housetop were written. In 1864, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote the words for "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day", an ode to his reportedly (in error) dead son.*

### Liability Insurance

By James B. Pahl, PCinC

The issue of liability insurance was initiated by a discussion with a Camp Commander. We decided that It was worth sharing with all Brothers.

Camps are not covered by any umbrella policy. The National organization has insurance covering Remembrance Day and Lincoln Death Day. I believe Camps can contact the National Treasurer about obtaining an insurance rider for specific events, but they will have to pay the extra premium. That would be determined on a case by case basis.

I obtain a policy each year for the Department Encampment (not through National), which is generally just a little over \$200.00, which the four Orders share in the expense. Most any local insurance agent can assist with a liability policy for local events. If there is any firing of weapons, that would probably increase the costs of a policy greatly. As far as "hold harmless" forms that are signed by the participants of an event, such agreements are fairly weak. They are better than nothing and every once in a while, a court will uphold them. One of the key items the court will look for is a full and fair disclosure of all of the risks involved and the person signing understands they are assuming any risk of participation.

The 7th Michigan uses one at Jackson. I drafted it years ago for them, but don't have a copy. I am sure you can contact them through their website or Keith Harrison is a member.

## **Dedication of a Civil War Memorial Marker**

*By Michael E. Van Wasshnova, Camp 180*

On Saturday, 22 Sept 2012, at 10:00 am, several area residents witnessed the dedication of Ypsilanti's latest historical marker. The marker was installed in front of the Thompson Block building that during the Civil War was used as barracks for soldiers on their way to the front. Members of the 17<sup>th</sup> Michigan Re-enactment Unit had worked hard to have the marker installed. These men and women re-enact many of the battles that the original 17<sup>th</sup> Michigan fought during the war. Members of the 17<sup>th</sup> in attendance were; Capt. Doug Nobsch, Gary Pritchard, Gerald Turlo and John Delcamp. The women of the 17<sup>th</sup> were represented by Lynn Kalil, Sofia Malynowskiy, Sally Nobsch and Sandi Pritchard. The men were dressed in their period uniforms, the women in period dresses.

Also in attendance were three Camps of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). The Camps involved were Gilluly-Kingsley Camp 120 from Howell, Carpenter/Welch Camp 180 of Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti and Sergeant John S. Cosbey Camp 427 from Wayne County. Members of the SUVCW promote the motto: "Keeping green the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic." The one member of Camp 120 in attendance was Commander Bill Dixon. Members of Camp 180 were; Commander William Eaton, Dan Benfield, Dave Speer and Michael Van Wasshnova. Members of Camp 427 were; Commander Rick Danes, Jack Underwood, Ed Binkley, Dave Curtis, Rich Bower, John Reed, Jerry Jacobs, Allan Treppa and Gary Pritchard.

The ceremonies were held under partly cloudy skies with a stiff wind blowing. Introductions of the principal participants were given by Captain Doug Nobsch. Gary Pritchard told of his work in getting the marker installed and the history of the 17<sup>th</sup> Michigan Company E., also known as the Normal Company. It was named the Normal Company due to the large number of Normal College (now Eastern Michigan University) graduates and students of the college. The company fought in many of the major battles of the war.

Gary also spoke of the people and organizations who help the 17<sup>th</sup> in their dream of having a historical marker realized in Ypsilanti commemorating the veterans of the Civil War. These people were William Christen, Ted J. Ligibel PhD., Eastern Michigan University; Connie Locker, city history contact for the city of Ypsilanti; The Beal Group for doing the work of installing the marker; Matt Van Acker of the State of Michigan; the City of Ypsilanti; Jack Dempsey of the Michigan 150<sup>th</sup> Civil War Commission and Glen Anderson, State Representative.

Commander Eaton of SUVCW Camp 180 was asked to speak a few words for the dedication.

John Delcamp, a son of Ypsilanti and member of the 17<sup>th</sup>, spoke about the portraits that had been painted on the wall of the building by the art students of Ypsilanti High School. There are three portraits of citizens of Ypsilanti on the murals that were instrumental in the war effort. John also read a poem that was written at the wars end that was very emotional.

The unveiling of the marker was performed by Gary Pritchard and John Dempsey. Following the unveiling a prayer was read by Capt. Nobsch, and then a wreath was laid at the marker by Lynn Kalil representing the Ladies of the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Many folks in the area were not prepared for the next event, a rifle salute followed by taps. The rifle salute was performed by members of Company E of the 17<sup>th</sup> Michigan re-enactors. Taps was performed by Camp 427 member Rich Bower.



### Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427

For Jerry Jacobs, Camp Secretary by Jerry Jacobs, Camp Secretary



Camp 427 continues to lead the way in southeast Michigan, spreading the good word about our efforts to Keep Green the Memory of our ancestor. Some activities that we have been involved in involving other camps are the Detroit Veteran's



Day Parade and GAR Building Flag Raising, and the Ypsilanti Civil War Monument Dedication. Several activities set us apart such as our participation in the Newburg Cemetery Walk to benefit the Livonia Historical Society and 17<sup>th</sup> Michigan Association, the Dearborn and Elmwood Veteran's Day Ceremony, a benefit for the Dearborn Historical Museum, a benefit for the Museum Guild of Dearborn, participation in the St. Paul's Cathedral Veteran's Day service, a "Christmas in the Civil War" presentation at the Monroe County Historical Society December Meeting,



All these completes a year that had over 30 activities in two counties.

We wish each of you and your families the very best Christmas and the most prosperous New Year ever!



The following is a letter of support sent by Department Commander Arnold to the Department Commanders of the area affected by hurricane Sandy.



Paul "David" Arnold  
 Department Commander  
 Michigan Department  
**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**  
 710 Mitchell Ave #10  
 Lansing, Michigan 48917  
<http://www.suvcwmi.org/>



October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012

Department Commanders, Brothers and Camps

As I sit in my home today in Michigan, I am watching coverage of the horrific devastation that hurricane Sandy has brought to those living on the eastern sea board of our nation. My heart goes out as I hear of the lives lost, the homes destroyed and the billions of dollars in damage, as millions in the northeast struggle with the aftermath of this storm.

As I write this letter over 50 people have been lost as the death toll continues to rise. Over 7 million people throughout the northeast are with out power, with the storm causing an estimated 50 billion dollars in damage. Thousands are in shelters set up by the American Red Cross due to losing their homes and experts tell us that this storm will rank as one of the top 5 most expensive in U.S. history.

In New Jersey 2/3 of the states residents are w/o power. In New York City alone 20 people have lost their lives. In the Breezy Point neighborhood of Queens over 100 homes were lost in a devastating fire that ravaged their neighborhood.

From what I understand, the storm particularly impacted the states of New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania. The states of North Carolina, Maryland, Delaware and West Virginia I hear were also severely affected.

In times like this it is important that we come together as an organization to support the brothers and sisters of our Allied Orders as well as others affected by this tragedy.

***On behalf of the over 500 members of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. I am sending Department Commanders in the affected areas this email.***

***I want you to know that your Brothers and Sisters from the Department of Michigan are with you in spirit and stand solidly behind you and your families, and members of your respective communities. You will be in our thoughts and prayers as you begin the recovery from this devastating natural disaster. If there is any way we can assist, please feel free to contact your brothers and sisters here in Michigan***

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty:

Paul D. Arnold, PCC  
 Department Commander  
 Michigan Department  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**National Organization - Organized 1881, Legal Heir to and Representing the Grand Army of the Republic  
 A Congressionally-Chartered Corporation, 1954  
 Michigan Department Organized 1884**