



Michigan's Messenger

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

Volume XXII, Number 4

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John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus



Department Orders #4



Series 2007-2008

Headquarters, Davison, Michigan

1 March 2008

1. The National Organization, SUVCW has issued a new revised version of Form 27, Camp Annual Report. The new form is Form 27a, Camp Annual Report and it is available on the National SUVCW Website at: <http://suvchw.org/ftp.htm> . Please be sure to use this new version as all previous versions are now void.
2. A reminder to all camp Commanders and Secretaries that Form 27a Camp Annual Report is due to the Department Secretary by April 30, 2008. This is a firm deadline and there are no acceptable excuses for not having Form 27a in on time. Commander-in-Chief Kuhn has made it clear that any Department that fails to submit its' Annual Report on time will face disciplinary action. The only way that this Department can submit its' Annual Report on time and avoid disciplinary action is to have ALL properly completed Camp Annual Reports in on time. Therefore, any Camp that does not have their Form 27a in by April 30, 2008 will be suspended on May 1, 2008. I strongly encourage ALL Camps to submit their Form 27a prior to the April 30th deadline.

In This Issue

*Department Orders
Officer Reports
Camp News
Future Publications*

*Abraham Lincoln
Award*

1st Michigan Infantry

*The Henry Finch
Bible*

*Constitutional
Amendments*

*Department
Encampment
Details*

3. I would like to thank all of the Camps that submitted their Form 22, Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers prior to the Feb 15, 2008 deadline. Your efforts and commitment to fulfilling this obligation in such a timely manner are greatly appreciated.
4. While most Camps submitted their Form 22s on time, Camps 3, 28, 101 and 259 all failed to submit their Form 22, Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers by the February 15, 2008 deadline.
5. All reports are to be submitted to Department Secretary Kevin Lindsey at 6890 Norton, Troy, MI 48085.
6. All Camps are required to file with the IRS. For more information, please see Department Treasurer Brian Shumway's article in this edition of the Michigan Messenger.
7. The Department Awards Committee has been appointed as follows: Chairman, Bill Skillman of Camp No. 14, Mark Keller of Camp No. 255 and Bill Nash of Camp No. 2.

Continued from Page 1

8. The Department Nominating Committee has been appointed as follows: Rick Danes of Camp No. 427, Rick Greene, PDC of Camp No. 255, John Keith of Camp No. 20, Robert Mitchell of Camp No. 462 and Jeff Morse of Camp No. 14. Brother Robert Mitchell is the Chairman and anyone interested in running for a Department office needs to contact him prior to April 1, 2008 at 1504 Longfellow Street, Detroit, Michigan 48206-2000 Phone: (313) 866-8630, e-mail: RMITC02@americitech.net.
9. The 119th Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan will be held on 26 April 2008 at the South Lansing Christian Church 6300 Aurelius Rd., Lansing, MI. Details are available in this edition of the Michigan Messenger.
10. Credentials Cards will be required in order to register at the Department Encampment. These are obtained from your Camp Secretary. Please make sure that you obtain one from your Camp Secretary prior to the encampment because you will not be able to register without one.
11. Brother Matthew L. Adair has been appointed as Chairman of the Department Credentials Committee. Encampment pre-registration should be sent to Brother Adair at 409 Bent Oak Street, Fenton, Michigan, 48430-2288. The pre-registration fee is \$5.00 per Brother and must arrive before April 19, 2008. After April 19, 2008 and at the door the registration fee is \$10.00. The pre-registration and meal reservation form is available in this issue of the Michigan Messenger and on the Department Website at: <http://www.suvcwmi.org/encampment.html>.
12. At the upcoming Department Encampment we will be doing something new. We will be using Voting Cards, just as is done at the National Encampment. Voting Cards will be issued to those Brothers with standing credentials and to Camp Delegates when they register at the encampment.
13. All Camps are requested to bring their Camp Colors and suitable flag stand to the Department Encampment.
14. It is with regret that I report that on 23 Feb 2008 the Brothers of General Ulysses S. Grant Camp No. 101 of Detroit, MI held a special meeting and voted to disband the Camp and surrender their Camp Charter. I was informed that this action was due to meeting attendance falling off to only a couple of Brothers per meeting and that no Brothers of the Camp were willing to fill the positions of Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Secretary or Treasurer.
15. The Brothers of General Ulysses S. Grant Camp No. 101 of Detroit, MI are hereby directed to turn over all Camp property and funds to the Department of Michigan as soon as possible. Please contact me directly to make arrangements.
16. All Camps are reminded to submit updates for their Camp Websites to Department Signals Officer Matt Adair. It is to each Camp's benefit to keep their websites current and update. This is especially true in regards to contact information.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

/s/
Dennis C. Derr II
Commander
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest: /s/
Kevin J. Lindsey
Secretary
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**2007-2008
Department Officers**

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Howard Streeter, PCC
Kris Kuhlman

Chaplain

William B. McAfee, PCC

Patriotic Instructor

Charles Worley

Color Bearer

Edgar Dowd

Counselor

James Pahl

Chief of Staff

Guard

Eagle Scout Coordinator

Signals Officer

Matt Adair

Messenger Editor

Rick Danes

Historian

John R. Keith

Guide

John McFeaters

Graves Registration

Rick Danes

GAR Records

James T. Lyons, PDC

Civil War Memorials

Douglas R. Armstrong, PCC

Camp At Large Coordinator

Robert Mitchell

Department Recording Secretary Report

Kevin Lindsey

First I want to thank all the Camp's that got their Certification of Election & Installation of Camp Officers-Form 22 to me by the deadline of Feb 15. I appreciate that these camps responded so promptly.

Secondly, I want to remind you that the Annual Reports-form 27a is due to me **on or before April 30**. Commander in Chief Kuhn has made it perfectly clear that there is no excuse for late forms, and any Department whose forms are late faces suspension. We obviously want to avoid that! Please make sure that you use the new revised form, available at the National Website at <http://suvchw.org/ftp.htm>. They have the regular form already available, and are working on the PDF fill in version. Any form not done on the revised form will have to be redone, as it will not be accepted by National. Also include a copy of the roster. And please make sure all forms are signed. There are detailed instructions with the form as to how to fill it out. Also feel free to contact me with any questions you might have, and I will try to answer them. I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Finally, I would like to repeat a request I have had in the Messenger all ready: that all camps either email or send me a hard copy of their by-laws. So far I have received them from Camps 2, 3, 14, 17, 28,135, 250, 266 and 427. Thanks to those camps! I urge the rest of you to send them in. My contact information is:

Kevin Lindsey, Secretary
Department of Michigan SUVCW
6890 Norton
Troy, MI 48085
klindsey@comcast.net

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

Curtenius Guard Camp 17

By Brian Shumway



**DC Dennis Derr congratulates outgoing
CC Ron Shull as new Camp Commander
Dave Arnold looks on in a January 29
Officers Installation Ceremony.**

Department Patriotic Instructor*Chuck Worley*

It's that time of year again, when Camps around the Department of Michigan shake off the inactivity of the winter months and start preparing for the projects of the New Year. Officers are penciling down agendas and brothers are looking forward to the first Camp of 2008. Many Sons are also collecting notes from last year and composing their annual Department report, at least in their head for the time being.

For the Camp Patriotic Instructors, this year will be a bit different. My column for the Messenger is in part a general reminder that Camp and Department Patriotic Instructors are no longer required to submit an annual report of their Camp's Patriotic Instruction. That may come as a relief for those that don't care to write. For others they may be wondering why such a drastic change has occurred. The short answer is that after a resolution was introduced to the 2007 National Encampment held in St. Louis, and discussion amongst the delegates, it was decided to forego this report. Much of the information gathered by the Patriotic Instructor's report is also sent up the chain to the Department and National by other Officers' reports. I want to thank the Patriotic Instructors that have already sent me their report, and I encourage all Patriotic Instructors around the Department to be an active promoter of our Order.

My first attraction to the Sons of Union Veterans was the segment reserved for Patriotic Instruction. I didn't relate to the business of the Camp until a few months after my initiation. But I sure could participate with the common heritage of our Nation and our ancestors' struggle to preserve the Union. Therefore I believe that our Camp P I has the challenge to draw every brother closer to our country and to our Order.

There is a wealth of topics and means to engage our brothers in the Patriotic Instruction segment of the Camp meeting. And still, a favorite approach of many Camps is an informal sharing of a brother's experience or story of his veteran ancestor. I also recommend referring to the Patriotic Instructor's Handbook found at this URL address, [http://suvchw.org/education/docs/Patriotic%20Instructor%](http://suvchw.org/education/docs/Patriotic%20Instructor%20Handbook.pdf), on the National SUVCW website.

Our Camp's activities and the projects that our brothers accomplish through the summer months were the substance of the annual report. We now will leave the record of our efforts in the minutes of our meetings and the pages of the Messenger. Again I encourage our PI's to lend their hand in letting our communities read about the Camp's events to raise the level of their interest. And in concluding this reminder, I wish all of the Department of Michigan Patriotic Instructors a memorable year for their Camps.

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

**Future Michigan's Messenger Publications
Submittal Dates and Publication Dates****Winter - March 1 for a March 15 Publication****Spring – June 1 for a June 15 Publication****Summer – September 1 for a September 15 Publication****Fall – December 1 for a December 15 Publication**

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

ALL PUBLICATIONS WILL BE MADE ON TIME

General Israel B. Richardson Camp #2

Submitted by Bruce Miller, SVC



The General Israel B. Richardson Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War recently recognized deserving cadets with the SUVCW ROTC Award at a ceremony at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Michigan. Back Row: SUVCW presenters David Hall, Gary Grout, William Nash. Front Row: Naval Sea Cadets Heather Coger, Christopher Cornwell, Andrew Severini, Tabatha R. Sanchagrín. Not pictured: Cadet Daniel Davis

By William Nash, JVC

On January 31, 2008, Camp 2 had honored guests CC Richard (Rick) Danes and PPC Jerry Olson- both of the Sergeant John S. Cosby Camp 427 present for the meeting which included the annual installation of Officers. The 2008 slates of Officers include: Kevin Lindsey (Camp Commander, Memorials), Bruce Miller (Senior Vice Commander), William Nash (Junior Vice Commander, Chaplain), Carl Becker (Secretary, Patriotic Instructor), Gary Grout (Treasurer), Rick Justice (Historian), James Harris (Graves Registration Officer), Ray Shed (Camp Council, Guard), David Hall (Camp Council), Donald Koch (Camp Council), and Ralph Baughn (Guide).

The Oakland & Macomb County, Michigan, Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) recently recognized four U. S. Naval Sea Cadets with the presentation of the ROTC Award, given for outstanding achievement. The recognition came at a January 20, 2008 awards banquet held at Selfridge Air National Guard Base near Mt. Clemens, Michigan. Award winners included Chief Petty Officer, Heather Coger, Petty Officer First Class, Christopher Cornwell, Petty Officer Second Class, Daniel Davis, Petty Officer Second Class, Tabatha Sanchagrín and Petty Officer Second Class, Andrew Severini.

SUVCW Camps selectively present the award to deserving cadets that “**show a high degree of patriotism to his/her Nation and has demonstrated a high degree of academic performance and leadership.**” The General Israel B. Richardson Camp surveyed five local high school level ROTC programs and made its award to members of the “TomCat Squadron” sea cadets based at Selfridge. It is the first ROTC Award made by the Camp and its new ROTC Committee Chairman Brother Gary Grout.



Department Treasurers Report

Brian Shumway

Treasury Notes – For all camp treasurers who have been worried that you must file an IRS form for your camp for the first time, I'm honored to be able to report that what is required is a short, simple process that, when you've done it, will satisfy the IRS, make your commander grin and impress all the ladies. Well, ok, I won't promise that it will impress the ladies. You need to go to <http://epostcard.form990.org/> use your camp EIN as an identifier and create a password. As with all things READ THE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST (<http://epostcard.form990.org/Files/ePostcardQuickStartGuide.pdf>). You will be provided a confirmation of your registration and a link to the postcard itself. Once there, just check a box attesting that your camp earned less than \$25,000 during 2007 and complete the organization information. If you have any question about your camp EIN number, both Commander Derr and I have a listing of Michigan Department camp numbers. I filed for both camp and department using my address as the organization's mailing address and the commander as Principle Officer using his address. These seem to have been accepted by the IRS.

A word of caution: Brother Dick Williams, of whose expertise I think a great deal, had some difficulty filing for another organization that had filed in the past. So we may have more difficulty changing addresses and officers in years to come. But it appears that new filers may use the addresses that they wish.

You will need to use one of the supported browsers. They are:

Microsoft Internet Explorer (v5.5 or newer)

- Firefox (v1.0 or newer)
- Netscape (v6.2 or newer)
- For MAC machines the only browser supported is Firefox.

If you have something other than these on your machine, plan to visit a friend who does use one of these and file from their computer.

General e-Postcard requirements, from the web site:

- a) Your organization must already be recognized as an exempt organization by the IRS.
- b) Your e-Postcard must be for tax year 2007 (or later).
- c) Your e-Postcard cannot be an amended e-Postcard.
- d) Your e-Postcard must be for a full 1 year period (no short period filings).
- e) Your organization must not be a private foundation.
- f) Your organization must normally have gross receipts of \$25,000 or less.

I accomplished our filing in a matter of fifteen minutes and the site provided a reply that the IRS had accepted the filing about a half hour after I had filed. Go for it, Brothers. It will be pleasing to get that task off your "to do" list.

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

Kalamazoo Living History Show

On March 15 and 16, 2008 the 33rd Annual Kalamazoo Living History Show will take place at the Kalamazoo Fairgrounds. The hours are 9AM – 5PM and 9AM – 4PM. The theme for speakers and presentations this year is the Civil War. The SUVCW will be represented by True Son Harold Becker, PDC Bruce Butgereit, and show staffers from Camp 427. You never know who you will meet at one of these shows.



Robert Finch Camp #14

Submitted by W. E. Skillman, Patriotic Instructor

January to March 2008 Report

Camp #14's roster shows 38 Members, 9 Associates. Visiting Brothers are cordially invited to attend our Saturday noon meeting on March 8th, 2008 at the Elks Club 625 Bay St. (intersection Grandview Parkway/Division).

We regret to report that Brothers Jon Phillips and Jeff Augustat have requested, and been granted, honorable discharges. We would like to welcome new Brothers Kevin Deeren and Gerald Grieve to Camp 14. These new Brothers will be 'mustered in' during March's meeting.

In January, over 30 Brothers (and a large contingent of the Frances Finch Auxiliary) warmly welcomed Dept. Commander Dennis Derr II and Rick Greene PCC. Commander Derr conducted the installation of the 2008 Camp officers. DC Derr and PDC Greene were entertained the next hour by Camp 14's Brothers describing the many community projects we are involved with.

The Camp 14 audit was conducted by Brothers Jan White, Dan Bennett and Skillman. The Council informed the Camp that the books were in order and the new budget ratified. Compliments went to Brother Breaugh for his fine work balancing the books. He will 'juggle' the combined secretary and treasurer duties for another year. Brother Don Gray was installed as Camp Chaplin; while Brother Ted Mattis assured he remain 'on deck' when Chaplin Gray is unavailable. Bob Winney is our new Camp Guard; we want to thank Brother Chuck Heffer for faithfully serving this post the last 6 years.

Our March guest speaker will be nationally recognized Civil War uniform expert, Dan Wambaugh, who will describe the uniform manufacturing challenges faced by the Confederacy. This talk compliments his fascinating discussion of the Federal uniform manufacturing and depot system from last year. Dan informed me that Brother Tyler Putnam is producing Federal Type 1-2 Forage caps and are being offered for sale through Wambaugh, White and Co. Dan has very impressed with Tyler's exacting eye for detail and expert craftsmanship; high praise indeed. Tyler has completed a second season excavating the Johnson's Island POW (CSA) camp.

Our poet-laureate, Jim Ribby, will be reading a poem entitled "The Last Camp" written by James Wesley Benedict between 1872 (first 9 stanzas) and 1894 (4 stanzas). Mr. Benedict's granddaughter, Marjorie Schultz, will be traveling to Traverse City to hear Brother Ribby's performance. She has submitted the original poem to the Smithsonian Museum, where it is undergoing review to become part of that institution's collection.

On February 1st, Brothers Breaugh and Knoodle braved a winter storm to meet with Parks and Recreation superintendent, Al Hanson, to discuss the return of the Augusta Arsenal (CSA) cannon to Petoskey. Mr. Hanson was duly impressed and pleased by the fundraising work done by Camp 14, and he had been in contact with Marcene Karkadoulous about the restoration work. Discussion then focused on the platform the cannon will be mounted on, a review of the text of the plaque and the type of stone to have it mounted on. They then convened to Arlington Park where the cannon and the plaque will be located (see below). The dedication for the Augusta Arsenal-Petoskey Cannon will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 21st.

Camp 14 members have been volunteering their time and energy for the good of the Department. Especial recognition goes to Brother Jeff Morse, serving as Dept. Eagle Scout Coordinator and Nominating Committee; Fred Knodel serving with the Dept. GAR Records and Memorials committees. Brother Neal Breaugh has accepted the invitation to run for the Dept. Council. Congratulations, Brothers!

Our 'English Brother', Andrew Hopkinson, has informed us that he will be traveling 'across the pond' to join us for our May meeting. Please contact Commander Clark or Secretary Breaugh if you wish to join the festivities to honor Mr. Hopkinson.

Department Historian Report

John R. Keith, Chairman

In the Fall Messenger it was mentioned that there was a resolution in the Michigan State Senate that would change the statue of Senator Zachariah Chandler with a statue of President Gerald R. Ford in the National Statuary Hall, in Washington DC. The resolution was Senate Resolution 131 and was adopted by the Senate on December 12, 2007. A similar House Resolution (HR 148) was adopted June 28, 2007.

All that needs to be done to complete this action is for Gov. Jennifer Granholm to pass the Michigan Legislature's wishes to Congress, along with a letter supporting it, which she said she will do.

So, it is a given that Chandler will be packed in a crate and sent away after 96 years as one of Michigan's two most important people.

It is alarming when we forget about the people that shaped this country in its infancy; they are no less important and much easier to be unknown to our future generations than our 20th century heroes. I think it's sad more folks refuse to care or realize that. On at least, his statue won't be destroyed. It is to be

Here's a little history question-

What do Zachariah Chandler and George Washington Glick have in common (other than that most living citizens of the United States have never heard of either one)?

ANSWER: They're the only two people in U.S. history to be ejected from Statuary Hall at the U.S. Capitol, where each of the 50 states is allotted space for the display of statues depicting its two most favored deceased residents.

Glick, a former Kansas governor, got replaced in 2005 when Kansas decided to replace him with President Dwight Eisenhower.

Please send items for the Historian to - 950 106th Avenue
Plainwell, MI 49080
Email- Hardtackcw@aol.com



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

Two years ago 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 some responsibility to report changes, so that we can continue to serve you, so 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

Department Graves Registration Committee

Rick Danes, Chairman



Even in the snow the GRO's work is never done!

A recent request for information from our Brothers in the Department of California And Pacific led Michigan Brothers Chris Czopek, Bill Lowe, and myself to gather information about Joseph Clovese, Michigan's last living Civil War Veteran.

A quick trip to Perry Mount Park Cemetery's Veterans Section in Pontiac, and general instructions that "Clovese is buried in the third row from the fence behind the flagpole" well, you've been there, just not with six inches of snow on the ground!

Your graves Registration Committee will have had a first quarter meeting when you read this newsletter. We continue to be an afterthought in many Camps as far as programs, in spite of Department and National Recognition. Can you think of a more appropriate way to honor our forefathers than to discover where they rest and make sure that the place is properly marked? We have lost several valued members of our committee recently, including Brothers Jim Lyons, Charles LaBo, Bob Groves. Others who have been appointed Camp GROs seem to be in that position forever, but never attend a meeting, nor submit records or reports. On the bright side, we welcome Brothers Steven Charles and Gary Beltrame of Camp 266, Brother Mark Hoffman of Camp 17, and welcome back Brother Dick Williams of Camp 58. What are the rest of you waiting on?

You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong. You cannot help small men by tearing down big men. You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich. You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer. You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income. You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred. You cannot establish security on borrowed money. You cannot build character and courage by taking away a man's initiative and independence. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do themselves.

Abraham Lincoln

General Benjamin Pritchard Camp # 20

Submitted By John R. Keith CC

(The following is an email from my nephew who is in Iraq on his second tour. He is with a Civil Affairs Battalion, (A Co. 415th CA BN).

All:

The dust is starting to settle and we are getting into the swing of things. I forgot how much I hated walking in this "moon dust". It's similar to walking in mud. I have my Soldiers spread all over the countryside. I only have 9 of the 30 with me at Kalsu. I got out to see some of my Soldiers today. It was nice to get out of the office for half a day. The roads are quite different from what they were last time I was here. They have Iraqi police and "Soldiers of Iraq" checkpoints all over the place. The "Soldiers of Iraq" are like community watch groups. Unfortunately they won't be getting paid in a few months which could lead to problems. They are the main ones that we are trying to find jobs for. Currently I live in a tent. I'll be moving into a room with 3 other Soldiers in the near future. I'm working on getting better arrangements for everyone. It won't be bad being 4 in a room, but I'm sure that I can find better.

Our major thrust here is to establish, improve businesses to get Iraqi's working. They have a 95% unemployment rate here. If we get them working, they will be less likely to help out the bad guys. It's kind of ironic that there is a Pepsi plant near our area. I'm not sure what they are trying to do for it. I set up lots of MicroGrants (>\$2500) to help out business people. There are several projects in the works. If Pepsi needs help, which I doubt, I won't be dealing with it since they will probably need more money than I deal with.

Well that's a quick snapshot of what I'm currently doing.(Please remember to keep our troops in your prayers!)

ΦΦΦΦΦΦΦΦ

Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427

By Rick Danes, CC



Camp 427 Members Aaron Schrader, Rick Danes, Ed Binkley, Howard Fite, Jerry Radloff, and George Boller present a check for \$400 and several hundred books, games, puzzles, etc. to Voluntary Section Chief Wayne C. Snyder of the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center.

In January, Camp 427 was honored to have Department Recording Secretary Kevin Lindsey as a guest who installed officers on behalf of the Department. The meeting was followed on January 17 by a trip to the John Dingell Veterans Administration Hospital in Detroit, where camp members completed a six month effort of collecting money and materials for use by the Veterans. We spent time visiting, and found the experience very rewarding and appropriate for our vow to "remember all veterans". We have welcomed seven new Members since January 1st they are: Jason and Jeffrey Fite, Bill Hanusik, Martin A. P. Treppa, Dale Worcester, Henry Heatley, and Christopher J. Yagley. Upcoming months will find us providing an honor guard for a Dearborn Library "Abraham Lincoln" speaker, dedicating a headstone for a Member's ancestor at Woodmere Cemetery, and Marching in the Dearborn Memorial Day Parade.

Considering the season, this is always worth retelling: In the heyday of the sailing ship, every ship had to have cannon for protection. Cannon of the times required round iron cannon balls. The master wanted to store the cannon balls so they would be of instant use when needed, but not roll around the gun deck. The solution was to stack them in a square based pyramid next to the cannon. The top level had one ball, the next level down had four balls, the next had nine, the next sixteen, and so on. Four levels would provide a stack of 30 cannon balls. The only real problem was how to keep the bottom level from sliding out under the weight of the higher levels. To remedy this, a small plate called a "monkey" - with one rounded indentation for each bottom later cannon ball was used. When iron was used to make the plate, the cannonballs would rust to the plate. As a result, these plates were made of brass, thus the name "brass monkey". When temperatures fall, brass contracts faster than iron. As it got colder on the gun decks, the brass plates would get smaller, and spill the cannon balls over the deck. Thus, it was quite literal "COLD ENOUGH TO FREEZE THE BALLS OFF OF A BRASS MONKEY!"

1st Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment (3 Year Enlistment).

By Jim Pahl, Past Commander-in-Chief



The 1st Michigan Volunteer Infantry Monument at Gettysburg Battlefield, Pennsylvania

The 1st Michigan Infantry was organized at Detroit, Michigan and mustered into Federal service for a three year enlistment on September 16, 1861. This regiment retained a number of the original 1st Michigan raised for a three month enlistment, particularly the officers. The regiment was mustered out on July 19, 1865. The regiment was given to Captain John C. Robinson of the US Army, who was made Colonel of Volunteers.

The 3 month Regiment returned to Michigan and was mustered out of Federal service on Aug.7,1861. Then the Regiment was immediately reorganized into a three year term of enlistment at Ann Arbor and immediately, with 960 officers and men set out for Virginia on Sept.7,1861.

The Regiment took part in the Peninsular Campaign of 1862 under the command of General McClellan serving in the 5th. Corp, 1st. Brigade, 1st. Division. It fought gallantly at Mechanicsville, Gaine's Mill, Peach Orchard, Savage Station, Turkey Bend, White Oak Swamp and Malvern Hill. After the Peninsular Campaign it was assigned to Fitz John Porter's Corp when it was desperately engaged at Second Manassas (2nd. Bull Run) on Aug.19, 1862. It and the other Regiments of the Brigade sustained fearful losses from the murderous fire of the Confederates masked batteries.

The Regiment then took part in the battles of Antietam, Md. Fredricksburg, Va. and Chancellorsville, Va. before reaching Gettysburg, Pa. on July 2, 1863, in time to bear an active role in one of the hardest fought and most historic battles of the war, Colonel Troop's action report describes the part taken by the 1st near the base of Little Round Top in the battle, found at the end of this article.

It was then engaged in active duty, with frequent contacts with Confederate forces until Feb. of 1864, when its enlistment term expired. At that time 212 of its members re-enlisted and were furloughed for thirty days to visit their homes.

On April 10, 1864 the Regiment re-assembled at Beverly Ford, Va. and then took an active part of the Campaign of 1864 being engaged at Allsops Mill, Spottsylvania, The Nye River, The North Anna River, Jerico Mill and Tolopotomy. It crossed the James River on June 16, 1864 and arrived in front of Petersburg on the 18th., when it was engaged in a desperate encounter with Confederate forces at Poplar Grove Church. The Regiment was continually employed, either building fortifications or skirmishing with the Confederates until Feb. 05, 1865, when it started on the pursuit of Gen. Lee's retreating forces around Richmond, Va., marching and fighting until the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Court House. After the surrender the Regiment proceeded by rail to Louisville, Ky., where it was mustered out of Federal service on July 19th. They then returned to Jackson, Mi. arriving on July 22nd, ceremoniously paid off and disbanded.

Colonel Troop's Action Report, 1st Michigan Infantry at the Battle of Gettysburg From the Official Records

"We left Hanover on the evening of the first with the brigade marching to a place near the battlefield of the second during the night. On the morning of the second we were formed in line of battle in reserve where we remained until about four o'clock P.M., when we (with the brigade) were ordered to the front. We got into position in line about 4:30 P.M., with the 22d Massachusetts on our left and the One Hundred and Eighteenth Pennsylvania on our right.

Continued from Page 11

"We had no sooner got our line fully established than the enemy drove in our skirmishers and appeared in force in the edge of wood on our front, within two hundred yards of our line. We ordered our men to fix bayonets and commenced firing on the enemy with a deadly effect, driving him back after a severe fire of half an hour. He however soon returned and was a second time driven back with great loss.

"Our men stood up bravely under the storm of bullets sent against them, loading and firing as coolly as though on drill. We entered the fight with three field, one staff, sixteen line officers, and one hundred and twenty-five muskets.

"Our color bearer, Sergeant Patrick Connors, was the first man wounded after the firing commenced. The colors were at once taken from the ground by Corporal John H. Harrington of Co. 'A', and gallantly borne through the battle.

"Col. Ira C. Abbott was wounded in the face early in the action, and carried to the rear. We maintained our line, repulsing and holding in check the enemy until 7:30 P.M., when we were ordered to fall back, which we did in good order, being relieved by a brigade of Pennsylvania Reserves.

"Men never behaved more gallantly than did the soldiers of the 1st Michigan in this battle, and it would be impossible to mention each case of individual gallantry and bravery when all did so well, but I would mention the name of Sergeant Joseph F. Bird of Company 'A', who particularly attracted my attention by his coolness, bravery, and admirable control of his men, and thoughtfulness as to his duties.

"Among the officers I can make no separate mention, where all excelled their former reputation, and won for themselves new and lasting honors.

"Our losses are one commissioned officer killed and six wounded, and eight missing. Of the steady, true, and galling fire of the one hundred and seventy-five muskets in the hands of Michigan First regiment the bodies of sixty-two dead rebels left on our front bear a fearful testimony".

W.A. Troop, Lieutenant Colonel, 1st Michigan Infantry

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A Tribute To Mr. John P. Tragge

*by Celestine Hollings, PNP
Sarah M. Sterling Tent 3, DUVCW*

On October 20, 2007 the Sarah M. W. Sterling, Tent #3 of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War held their annual District Meeting and Luncheon at the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House in Grosse Pointe Woods, MI. At this meeting the Daughters also honored John P. Tragge, their attorney who has worked tirelessly pro bono to help them preserve the integrity of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Building in downtown Detroit. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Awards Committee had voted at their April 2007 Encampment to give Mr. Tragge the Abraham Lincoln Award, it's highest Department Recognition. Bro. Robert A. Mitchell, Michigan Camp-At-Large Coordinator from Russell A. Alger Camp No. 462, was given the responsibility of presenting the award. The Michigan Department of the DUVCW and the Sarah M. W. Sterling, Tent No. 3 had the award beautifully framed and invited Mr. and Mrs. Tragge to the luncheon for the presentation PDC Bruce Butgereit and his wife Marcia K. Butgereit, National President, Women's Relief Corps were also in attendance. Bruce presented Mr. Tragge an award on behalf of MOLLUS and Sister Marcia gave remarks on behalf of the Woman's Relief Corps.



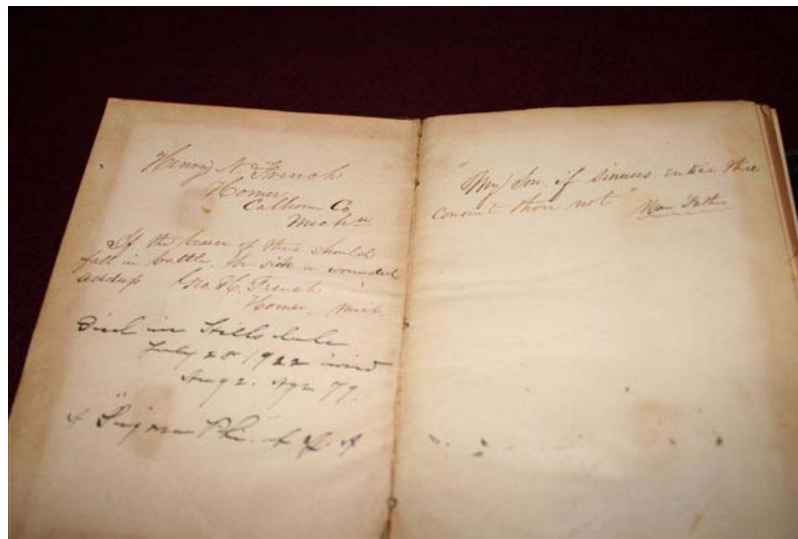
Brother Robert A. Mitchell presents one of the 2007 Abraham Lincoln Awards to John P. Tragge

Michigan's Messenger Article Results in a "Find"

By Chuck Harthey, Camp 22

As a result of the article that appeared in a recent *Messenger* regarding the dedication of headstones at Fairview Cemetery in Homer on Memorial Day, contact was made through the Department GRO and then to me with a young man in North Dakota. He is an avid collector of Civil War artifacts and history, but is not a member of the Sons. He expressed special interest in Co. M, 2nd Michigan Cavalry which seemed a bit strange.

After providing him packets of information on the Homer men in the unit, he revealed that he had a Bible that belonged to Henry French, a member of Co. M, 2nd MI Cavalry and Homer resident. Inside the back cover of the Bible was a pledge taken by those that left Homer together. The Bible was found at a Civil War relics show which explained his interest. Another unexpected piece of Homer memorabilia that surfaced through a chance reading of our publication.



The inside cover of the "Finch Bible"

A transcribed copy of the pledge found on the back page of the Bible follows:

We the undersigned being about to enter the army in defense of the Union, Government and Constitution of the United States do for the purpose of mutual support, protection and defense, while in the service, hereby make the following agreement with each other and pledge ourselves to its faithful observance. That we will aid assist and defend each other in the camp, on the battlefield, and in every emergence.

That we will abstain from the use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage and from gambling and profanity.

That we will discountenance in each other all conduct unbecoming to us as Soldiers and men.

That we will cheerfully receive advise or reproof from each other respecting our behavior and deportment - agreeing also to watch over and warn each other of misconduct in a spirit of kindness and mutual regard.

Homer, Calhoun Co. Mich. Sept 14th 1861

Signed:

Lewis Waterman

Frank M. Hooker

Charles W. Potter

Henry N. French

E. W. Agnew

R. T. Darrow

Ira A. Hutchinson

Chandler Redfield

D. B. Fancher

Subject: Ratification of Constitutional Amendments

To: SUVCW Department Secretaries

cc: SUVCW Department Commanders

At the Special National Encampment held on 17 November in Gettysburg, PA, the language for amendments to two sections of Article VII of our Constitution was approved. They are included in the attachments. These amendments relate to adding Juniors as a category of membership. As a result of actions taken at the 126th National Encampment in St. Louis, it was determined that the Constitution and Regulations were in conflict over Juniors. This prompted the call for a Special National Encampment in order to synchronize the Constitution and Regulations in a timely manner. Although the language was approved, these amendments do not become effective until they are ratified by 51% of the Departments in our Order. The Commander-in-Chief is requesting that a vote on these Constitutional amendments be added to your order of business for your 2008 Department Encampments. The following is the process you will need to follow:

- Distribute these Constitutional amendments to members in your Departments (either directly or through your Camp Secretaries) such that delegates have ample time to review them prior to your Department Encampment.
- Call for a vote at the Department Encampment - ratification requires only a simple majority of the delegates present at your Department Encampments.
- Indicate on the attached forms whether or not the Department ratified the amendments. The forms must be signed by the Department Commander and you, the Department Secretary.
- Mail the signed form immediately following your Department Encampment to the following address:

Don Palmer, PDC
National Secretary, SUVCW 147 Lucerne Place Ballwin, MO 63011

I must receive hardcopies of the ratification forms. Please do not send electronic versions.

In addition to the changes to the Constitution, there were a number of changes to the Regulations approved at the Special National Encampment. The changes to the Regulations become effective on 01 July 2008 only if the proposed changes to the Constitution survive the ratification process. In addition to this electronic mailing, I will also be sending hardcopies through regular mail to make sure all Department Secretaries receive at least one version of this request. For those that receive it, please consider this e-mail as official notification of action required by your Department. Please let me know if you have any questions or need clarification on any on the information presented. Thanks in advance for your attention to this matter.

In F, C & L,

Don Palmer, PDC
National Secretary, SUVCW

THE TWO AMENDMENTS THAT WILL REQUIRE RATIFICATION ARE ON PAGES 16 AND 17

The Department of _____ with all of its Officers and Brothers seated there in on the _____ day of _____, 2008 met in annual Encampment and voted on the following amendment to the Constitution of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War;

ARTICLE VII.
Membership

Section 1. Membership classes. There shall be ~~three (3)~~ **four (4)** classes of membership.

(a) Members. Males at least fourteen (14) years of age who meet the qualifications stipulated in Article III of this Constitution and *Section 200303 of the Articles of Incorporation as amended in 1998*. Members enjoy all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of membership.

(d) Junior Members. Males less than fourteen (14) years of age who meet the qualifications stipulated in Article III of this Constitution and Section 200303 of the Articles of Incorporation as amended in 1998. The minimum age for Junior Members shall be specified in the Regulations of the Order.

Section 4. A ~~Member~~ **Brother** in good standing upon written application to his Camp shall be entitled to receive a Transfer Card or ~~Honorable Discharge~~ **of the appropriate type** and, if his Camp be disbanded or suspended shall be entitled to receive a Transfer Card from the Commander of the Department.

Section 5. Restrictions on Junior Members and Junior Associates.

(a) Neither Junior Members nor Junior Associates may be elected to any National, Department or Camp office.

(b) The National Organization may further provide for the regulations of Junior Members and/or Junior Associates in the Regulations provided they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section.

The amendment **PASSED FAILED** (circle one) by a simple majority of the delegates and Brothers present and entitled to vote.

Department Commander

Attest; Department Secretary

The Department of _____ with all of its Officers and Brothers seated there in on the _____ day of _____, 2008 met in annual Encampment and voted on the following amendment to the Constitution of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War;

Section 2. Associates. There shall be ~~one~~ **two** classes of Associates.

(a) Associates are males at least fourteen (14) years of age who do not meet the qualifications stipulated in Article III of this Constitution and Section **5 200303** of the Articles of Incorporation **as amended in 1998** but otherwise meet the requirements for membership established by the National Organization.

(b) Junior Associates are males less than fourteen (14) years of age who do not meet the qualifications stipulated in Article III of this Constitution and Section 200303 of the Articles of Incorporation as amended in 1998 but otherwise meet the requirements for membership established by the National Organization. The minimum age for Junior Associates shall be specified in the Regulations of the Order.

(c) The **combined** number of Associates **and Junior Associates** in any Camp shall not exceed one-third (1/3) of the total roster of the Camp at the time of election. At no time during a meeting of a Camp, a Department, or the National Organization shall business be transacted if the number of Associates in attendance exceeds forty-nine per cent (49%) of the total attendance then present at said meeting.

(d) Associates may not be elected, appointed, or otherwise assume the offices of Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer or be appointed Commanding Officer of the Sons of Veterans Reserve.

(e) Associates **and Junior Associates** shall not be counted toward the required number of members to establish a new Camp. The names of Associates **and Junior Associates** may not appear on the Camp Charter nor may Associates **or Junior Associates** be designated as Charter Members of the Camp. Associates otherwise enjoy all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of membership

Section 3. Establishment of Associates **and Junior Associates** by Departments and Camps. Departments, at their own discretion, may establish Associates **and/or Junior Associates provided that no Department may establish Junior Associates without previously or concurrently establishing Associates**. Departments may impose further restrictions on Associates **and Junior Associates**, provided that the rights established in Chapter V, Article VI of the National Regulations may not be altered, reduced, or vacated. If a Department specifically establishes Associates **and/or Junior Associates** by amending its By-Laws, Camps within said Department may amend the Camp By-Laws and establish Associates **and/or Junior Associates provided that no Camp shall establish Junior Associates without previously or concurrently establishing Associates**. Camps may impose further restrictions in accordance with the provisions of the Department By-Laws and provided that the rights established in Chapter V, Article VI of the National Regulations may not be altered, reduced, or vacated. If a Department does not establish Associates **and/or Junior Associates**, Camps within the Department's jurisdiction may not establish Associates **and/or Junior Associates**.

The amendment **PASSED FAILED** (circle one) by a simple majority of the delegates and Brothers present and entitled to vote.

Department Commander

Attest; Department Secretary

**2008 Department of Michigan
Allied Orders Encampments / Conventions**

Saturday, April 26, 2008, Lansing, Michigan

Hosted by the Michigan Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Encampment Location:

South Lansing Christian Church, 6300 Aurelius Rd., Lansing, MI

See Department Website for map.

SUVCW Schedule:

8:00 AM: Registration opens

9:00 AM: Encampment begins

Accommodations:

Comfort Inn, 2187 University Park Drive, Okemos, MI

Phone: (517) 347-6690

Allied Orders room rate \$87.00 per night, plus tax.

Reservations deadline April 4, 2008 to get the group

rate. Deluxe continental breakfast included.

Meal Reservation Form for the 2008 Department Encampments / Conventions

Please indicate quantity for each meal. Meal Reservations must be received by **April 16**. No refunds after this date.

Saturday Luncheon — Noontime — Deli Buffet

Choice of Ham and Turkey, American and/or Provolone cheese, tossed and potato salad, brownies and ice tea

_____ X \$8.75 per person = Total for Luncheon \$ _____

GAR Memorial Banquet — Saturday Evening — Dinner Buffet

Italian chicken and glazed Ham, scalloped potatoes and/or baked potato, green beans with almonds, tossed salad, assorted

rolls and butter, New York Style Cheese Cake, iced tea and coffee

_____ X \$11.25 per person = Total for Dinner Banquet \$ _____

Check Total \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Make checks payable to: **Dept. of Michigan – SUVCW**

Brian Shumway

Department Treasurer, SUVCW

127 W. Walnut

Hastings, MI 49058-2260.

Email: bjs@iserv.net

Phone: (269) 719-5545

Please indicate which organization you are with: SUVCW DUVCW WRC ASUVCW

SUVCW Department Encampment Pre-Registration Form

- Camp Delegate
- Alternate Camp Delegate
- Camp Commander
- Past Camp Commander
- Past Commander-in-Chief
- Department Commander
- Past Department Commander

Name _____ Camp Number _____

Email Address: _____

SUVCW Pre-Registration Fee is \$5.00 (\$10.00 at Door)

Make Check Payable To: **Dept. of Mich. – SUVCW**

Mail by April 19, 2008 to:

Matthew L. Adair, Chairman, Dept. Credentials Comm.,

409 Bent Oak St, Fenton, MI 48430

This form only covers the pre-registration fee. You will still be required to present at the door, a current Membership Card and Credentials Card issued