



Michigan's Messenger

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

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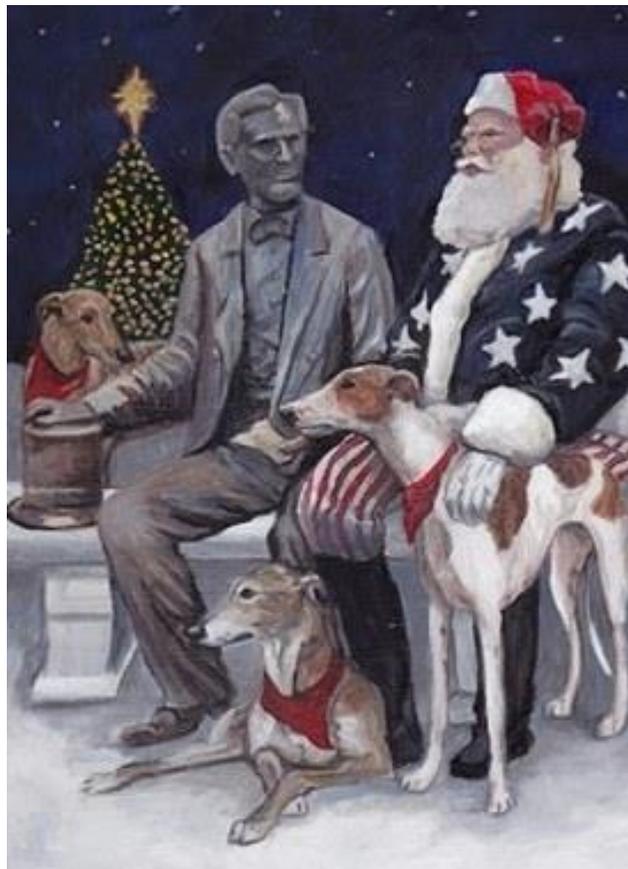
Fall, 2020

John R. Mann, Editor Emeritus



Richard C. Danes, Editor

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



Happy holidays from your Department Officers

Commander's Corner

Terry McKinch, Commander



Brothers of the Department of Michigan SUVCW. It has been an interesting past couple of months, and we have had many challenges with our meetings and installations. We have had in person installations, Zoom installations and phone call installations. All of them were interesting, but we accomplished our goal, the installation of our Camp Officers. I have participated in most of them, whether as the Installing Officer, or as a spectator, but it was a pleasure to attend them all.

We do need to be aware of a couple of items with our installations. One, please have an opening and closing for all installations. We, as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, have a history of ritual and it is important to continue that tradition.

Though we are having some challenges we should try and to have a meeting as close to an in person meeting as we can.

The other item I want to cover is the time frame for installation. Camp installations per the Regulations, (Ch. 1, Art. V, Section 3) must take place between the first meeting in September and the last meeting in January. Please make arrangements for installations to take place during this time frame. Please make arrangements with PCC, Don Shaw and his email is chiefstaff@suvcwmi.org.

I want to thank the Captain L. Dean Lamphere and the members of the 14th Michigan SVR for their participation in the November 11, 2020 Veterans Day Ceremony at the Flushing, Michigan Cemetary.

Their participation in this event and others, is greatly appreciated, especially with the inclement weather we have had lately. I also want to take this time to thank all other Brothers and Camps for their continued support for events like this.




Department Order #6 Series 2020 – 2021
Headquarters, Lennon, MI
 September 15, 2020

1. Brothers of the Department of Michigan SUVCW, Department Junior Vice Commander Ramsey has stepped down from his position because of ill health.
2. Therefore, the Department Council must elect a new Department Junior Vice Commander.
3. Furthermore, in order to give the new DJVC as much time as possible to learn the position, I am willing, at the pleasure of the Department, to serve two terms as Department Commander.
4. Therefore, I request all Camp Commanders and Secretaries to poll their members to ascertain if there are Brothers who would like to be considered for the DJVC position.

Furthermore, I ask you to please keep Brother Ramsey in your thoughts and prayers.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty
 /s/ Terry McKinch,
 Commander Department of Michigan
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest: /s/ Richard Denney, CC
Secretary, Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War


Department Order #7 Series 2020 - 2021
Headquarters, Lennon, MI
October 4, 2020

1. Brothers of the Department of Michigan SUVCW, the Department Council has chosen a new Department Junior Vice Commander and I am pleased to announce it is Brother Gary Swain, PCC Benjamin Pritchard Camp #20 Kalamazoo.
2. Therefore, DJVC Gary Swain, chosen on September 28, 2020, will carry on, filling the vacancy.
3. Furthermore, it is ordered that the camps give the new DJVC as all respect due him and his position.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty
 /s/ Terry McKinch,
 Commander Department of Michigan
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest: /s/ Richard Denney, CC
Secretary, Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

2020 - 2021
Department Officers

Commander
 Terrence L. McKinch, CC
 3278 Duffield Rd.
 Lennon, MI 48449

Senior Vice Commander
 Nathan L. Smith, CC
 2620 S. Decker Rd.
 Marlette, MI 48453

Junior Vice Commander
 Gary Swain, PCC
 697 Wynding Oaks
 Kalamazoo, MI 49006

Recording Secretary
 Richard Denny
 30090 Orla Eagle Road
 Colon, Michigan 49040

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Department Council
 Chuck Worley, PDC
 David S. Smith
 Steve Martin

Chaplain
 Steve Williams, CC

Patriotic Instructor
 David Kimble, CC

Color Bearer
 Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Military Affairs
 Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Counselor
 James B. Pahl, PC-in-C

Guard
 Gene Taylor

Eagle Scout Coordinator
 Nathan Tingley

Signals Officer
 Robert R. Payne, PDC

Michigan's Messenger Editor
 Richard E. Danes, Sr. PCC

Historian
 Keith G. Harrison, PC-in-C

Guide
 Lloyd Lamphere, Sr.

Graves Registration
 Richard E. Danes, Sr., PCC

GAR Records
 Gary L. Gibson, PDC

Civil War Memorials
 John H. McGill, CC

Chief of Staff
 Donald Shaw, PC-in-C

Camp At Large Coordinator
 L. Daen Lamphere, Jr, PDC

Aide de Camp
 Keith Harrison, PC-in-C

Camp Organizer
 James B. Pahl, PC-in-C

Department Order #8  Series 2020 - 2021
Headquarters, Lennon, MI
October 4, 2020

Brothers of the Department of Michigan SUVCW, the 2021 Department Encampment will be on May 1, 2021.

Therefore, it will take place at the Okemos Conference Center, 2187 University Park Drive, Okemos, MI 48864

Furthermore, it is requested that the Brothers will assist PDC Payne with any other arrangements for the Encampment as needed.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty
/s/ Terry McKinch,
Commander Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest: /s/ Richard Denney, CC
Secretary, Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Graves Registration

Submitted by Graves Registration Officer Rick Danes



*Military headstone
at New Bern
National
Cemetery, SC*

Our December 12 committee meeting was postponed.

We have recorded over 76,100 Other War and Civil War records an increase of 800 new records since September.

Senior Vice Commander's Corner

Nathan Smith, PCC

Greetings fellow brothers,

I want to thank everyone for their support in my election to SVDC at our 136th Department Encampment on June 6th and I look forward to working with you all in support of our mission to preserve the memory of our ancestors. As many of you know, part of responsibilities of the SVDC is to chair the Bylaws Committee. Our Bylaws Committee for 2020-2021 will consist of: 1.) Department Counselor James Pahl, PCinC 2.) Department Secretary Richard Denney, PCC, 3.) Paul Davis, PDC, 4.) Department SVDC Nathan Smith, PCC.



Brothers and Camps may bring recommendations for changes to our Department Bylaws to the Bylaws Committee. Recommendations submitted by Brothers and/or Camps will be included in the Bylaws Committee Report submitted to the Annual Michigan Department Encampment.

Brothers and Camps must submit any recommendations to the Bylaws Committee by no later than Monday, February 1, 2021. Recommendations can be submitted via email to: dsvc@suvcwmi.org or by mail to: Nathan Smith, SVDC 2620 S. Decker Rd. Marlette, MI 48453.

As our holiday season is around the corner, I wish each of you and your families a safe and healthy Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

In Fraternity, Loyalty and Charity,

NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS

Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall & Museum

Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall & Museum has a new website address. The new address is:
<https://garmuseum.com>

The new website is much more secure and, most importantly, it also is more encompassing and informative. Many new pictures are on-line as well as a more than 250 document library of which over 170 documents are on-line and downloadable.

Also on-line is a tentative schedule for 2021 (assuming of course that we will be able to have programs during 2021).

Finally, but still under construction will be an on-site gift and souvenir store for several of our books and other items that the museum has available to the public.

When you get a chance, please come and visit.

[Keith G. Harrison](#) Board President

MICHIGAN'S G.A.R. MEMORIAL HALL & MUSEUM

224 South Main Street

Eaton Rapids, Michigan 48827

Telephone: 517-922-6427

Website: <<https://garmuseum.com>>

Email: GARmichigan@gmail.com or pcinc@prodigy.net

FaceBook: GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum

Robert Finch Camp 14

Submitted by: David S. Smith, LM, PDC

The Brothers of Camp 14 have had a very busy year despite the many challenges that the year 2020 has presented. The past several months have been no exception as research, work in the cemeteries and communities, ceremonies, planning, and meetings have continued working within the constraints that have afflicted everyone in the community.

On 10 October, Camp 14 performed the Last Veteran Buried in the County ceremony and ritual for John



Above: Camp 14 and AMVETS Post 120

Mayberry, the Last Veteran Buried in Wexford County. Mr. Mayberry was buried in Yuma Cemetery outside of the small community of Yuma. With the aforementioned constraints and current situation, a smaller ceremony was held with participation from Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9, AMVETS Post 120, and the greater Yuma and Mesick communities. 9&10 News was in attendance, and reported on the event. JVC Jim Ribby was in command of the

ceremony, with GRO John Sawyer serving as acting Memorial Officer for the event, and Brother Joseph Conger serving as acting Chaplain. A special treat included the Great-Great Grandson of Mr. Mayberry with his wife attending the ceremony – driving from southern Mississippi to attend.

On 24 October, a small contingent of Brothers led by Commander John Lantzer made the journey to our eastern Camp Geographical Area to place the flag marker for the Last Veteran Buried in the County for Josiah Donaldson, buried in Twin Lakes Cemetery in Lincoln. Mr. Donaldson served in Company G, 4th PA Cavalry, and was the Last Veteran Buried in Alcona County. A larger ceremony was not conducted as a previous celebration was conducted by the surrounding community in 2011, including placement of memorial signage at the cemetery. Brothers Jones and Sawyer were in attendance, and aided Commander Lantzer in placing the Last Veteran Buried in the County flag marker at Josiah Donaldson's gravesite.

PDC David Smith attended the online 2020 SUVCW National Encampment on 24 October 2020. The Encampment went from 12PM (1200) until after 7PM (1900).

On 07 November, Robert Finch Camp No. 14 held Camp Officer elections, as well as the Installation of Officers. The Installation was performed by Department Commander McKinch. Also in attendance as another welcome guest on this date was PCC Lloyd D. Lamphere, Sr. of Camp 145.



Department Commander McKinch during the Camp Officer Installation with newly elected Camp Commander Paul Davis, PDC

Continued from the previous page

The Elected Officers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 for 2020-2021 are:

Commander: Paul Davis, LM, PDC
 Sr. Vice Commander: David Smith, LM, PDC
 Jr. Vice Commander: Joseph Conger
 Secretary-Treasurer: Dale Aurand, LM, PDC
 Council (Chair): Jan White, PCC
 Council: Ted Mattis, PCC
 Council: John Milks, LM

The Appointed Officers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 for 2020-2021 include:

Chaplain: Ted Mattis, PCC
 Patriotic Instructor: H.G. Smith
 Graves Reg. Officer: John Sawyer
 CW Memorials Officer: Scott Schwander
 Historian: George Goodrich, PCC
 Color Bearer: Jim Ribby
 Guides: Calvin Murphy, Richard Schafer, & Bob O'Hara
 Guards: Kenny Jones & Walker Schwander
 Welfare Committee: Ted Mattis, PCC (Chair); Calvin Murphy; David Smith, PDC; Dale Aurand, PDC;
 George Goodrich, PCC
 Eagle Scout Coord.: Joseph Conger
 Signals Officer: Jan White, PCC
 Facebook Manager: Scott Schwander
 Vet. Affairs Officer: Calvin Murphy
 Asst. Vet. Affairs Off.: Richard Schafer
 Comm. Relations Off.: Scott Schwander
 Assistant Secretary: Rodney Welliver
 Assistant Chaplain: John Lantzer, PCC
 Assistant GRO: Kenny Jones
 Quartermaster: Dale Aurand, PDC
 Newsletter Editor: David Smith, PDC

A formal presentation of the PCC badge for PCC John Lantzer will be held at the January Camp meeting.

The next meeting of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 is tentatively planned for 09 January 2021 at the Cherryland VFW Post 2780 in Traverse City.

“Christmas morning about 2 o’clock we were arouse by the beating of the drums. We came out. They called the roll and gave us orders to have our breakfast at 3 o’clock and be ready to march at 5 o’clock. At 5 we started for Pohiak Church followed by three regiments of infantry, two batteries of artillery, and two companies of cavalry. The most of us made up our minds that we should have a merry Christmas, but we were disappointed. We went beyond the church & no enemy to be seen & so we stacked arms and rested about two hours & fired one gun off in the direction of them. Got no answer & so we returned to camp hungry and tired. We had traveled about thirty miles.” From a letter by Sgt. Maj. Charles H. Church, CO G 3rd Michigan Infantry from Camp Michigan, DC.

General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20
 Submitted by Gary Swain, CC and John Keith, PCC

John (Jack) Marshall SHOEMAKER
 AGE 93 • PLAINWELL, MI



On Saturday, November 14, 2020, John (Jack) Marshall Shoemaker, loving husband and father, died at the age of 93. Jack was born on April 24, 1927 in Almont, MI to Pomala and Uriah Shoemaker. He developed his work ethic on the family farm during the

Depression and served in the US Navy, in the Pacific theatre during WWII. He studied engineering at Michigan Technological University and in 1955, formed Midwest Gage, Inc., which he ran for 35 years. Jack was a life-long learner and his passions for history, nature, and art took him around the country and the world. He traveled throughout the United States and visited nearly every continent, touring historical sites, museums, and areas of natural beauty. Using his engineering and creative talents, he created practical items and objects of art through pottery, wood, and metalworking. However, he will be remembered most for his service to the community. Throughout the years he volunteered for Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, Boy Scouts of America, the Kalamazoo Nature Center, The United Way, Rotary, VFW and the Frederik Meijer Gardens. He created community cultural events and helped develop affordable housing for seniors. His initiatives culminated in the development of a Veteran's Memorial in Plainwell, MI honoring those who served in the US uniformed services. He is pre-deceased by his former wife, Mable (Anderson) Shoemaker, his parents, and siblings: Betsey Jane (Shoemaker) Murphy, Robert Morin Shoemaker, and Thomas Gordon Shoemaker. He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Barbara (Barbie Brown) Shoemaker, children: Marie Shoemaker Howard and Jay Michael Shoemaker and five stepchildren: Je, Patti, Kathy, Jim, and Steve, niece, nephew, and grandchildren. Jack lived a full and interesting life to the very end. In honor of Jack's commitment to service, donations may be made to the Plainwell Veteran's Memorial Endowment Fund at www.friendsofthegreaterplainwell-veteransmemorial.org For a direct link to the endowment fund. <https://bit.ly/2UEkzEX>. A celebration of life ceremony is planned for April 24, 2021 at the Plainwell Veteran's Memorial site.



Gary Swain - Pictured 2nd from Right and Doug Gilchrist

Shared Values Equals Mutual Success

Patriotism, honor & civic duty are just some of the values paralleled by the Boy Scouts and The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. On Saturday, October 17th, Boy Scout Troop 211 affiliated with St. Monica's Catholic Church and the Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20, both of Kalamazoo put those ideals into action. This group led by Eagle Scout candidate John Burnham cleaned and preserved 54 headstones and reset another 10 that had sunk, tipped or fallen out of place in the Vicksburg Cemetery. The training and materials for this project were provided by the Benjamin Pritchard Camp.



Jack Shoemaker

CORPORAL IRA M.B. GILLESPIE
COMPANY C 11TH MICHIGAN INFANTRY
GREAT GREAT UNCLE
OF
WILLIAM A. BRENNAN
GENERAL BEJAMIN PRITCHARD CAMP NUMBER 20

Ira Myron Bailey Gillespie was born July 29, 1817 in northern Indiana. Ira was the second in a family of thirteen children. He was the son of rev. Enoch and Mary (Kilmer) Gillespie.

Ira's adult life before the Civil War was spent as a farmer and small businessman in and around Sturgis, Michigan.

After the war broke out, he enlisted in Company C, 11th Michigan Infantry on August 24, 1861 at Sturgis for three years at the age of 23. On September 24t he joined his regiment in White Pigeon, Michigan under the command of William J. May. Ira kept a diary of his service in the Civil War. He served in battles at Louisville and Bardstown Kentucky, Nashville, Stones River and Missionary Ridge Tennessee and Chickamauga Georgia. On August 16, 1862, Ira was promoted to Corporal of the Guard for Company C.

He kept a very accurate account of the daily activities of his unit during the war. On December 31, 1862 he wrote, "We arose just at daylight almost froze to death and wet with heavy dew. We were relieved by the 18th Regiment Ohio Volunteers. We went about 40 rods to the rear of the line of battle and built a large fire of cedar rails had coffee bacon and hard tack. Before we were finished eating the call fall in came. Our almost worshipped Colonel William Stoughton mounted his horse and address us thus,"

"Now my brave boys be cool and calm, take good aim, shoot low and be sure of your man. Secrete yourselves and keep a lookout for your colors."

We met the rebels and the fight commenced for certain. Boom, boom sounded the loud artillery. Crack, crack and a rattle went the musketry. Whew went the rebel shells over our heads. Whirr, whirr came the rifle bullets now and then laying low one of our brave fellows. Here on this 'nole Schultze's Battery was badly cut to pieces, the rebels having hit and killed or wounded a good many of Schultzes men. The rebels kept coming and the 19th Illinois Regiment and ours charged on them pouring a whole volley into them and then keeping up the fire, we drove back a whole division of the gray backs. I noticed that the rebels had driven the right wing of our army clear in the rear of us so as to give the rebels a raking fire across on us just mowing our brave men down. But our men stood the firing well, and fought bravely under the destructive fire of the rebel batteries firing from the front and on either flank. Brigadier Stanley and General Negley seemed everywhere present cheering and encouraging the men. Colonel Stoughton won from his men that esteem that will last while life lasts. We loaded, fixed bayonets and poured a very destructive fire sending many of the tra{ }tors to their mother earth and putting the rest to a halt. We ate a few bites and lay down to sleep. We found many of our brave fellows had fallen."

On September 30, 1864 Ira Gillespie was mustered out of the army at Sturgis, Michigan. After his service he became a circuit rider for the Michigan Eldership of the Church of God in the southwestern Michigan counties of Allegan, Barry, Kalamazoo and Van Buren. He served as chaplain for the Fitzgerald Post 125, GAR in Hastings, Michigan. He married Orpha Barr, a widow, on November 3, 1865 in Union City, Michigan. Ira served as Justice of the Peace in Barry County and at the time of his deaths November 13, 1897, was the regular minister of the Baptist Church of Hastings.

Continued on the next page

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Ira M. B. Gillespie and Spouse Orpha

Lincoln's Christmas

"Lincoln never really sent out a Christmas message for the simple reason that Christmas did not become a national holiday until 1870, five years after his death," writes Max Benavidez for Huffington Post. "Until then Christmas was a normal workday, although people did often have special Christmas dinners with turkey, fruitcake and other treats."

During the war, Lincoln made Christmas-related efforts—such as having cartoonist Thomas Nast draw an influential illustration of Santa Claus handing out Christmas gifts to Union troops, Benavidez writes. But Christmas its self wasn't the big production it would become: In fact, the White House didn't even have a Christmas tree until 1889. But during the last Christmas of the war—and the last Christmas of Lincoln's life—we do know something about how he kept the holiday.

On December 25, the Lincolns hosted a Christmas reception for the cabinet, writes the White House Historical Society. They also had some unexpected guests for that evening's Christmas dinner, the historical society writes. Tad Lincoln, the president's rambunctious young son who had already helped inspire the tradition of a Presidential turkey pardon, invited several newsboys—child newspaper sellers who worked outdoors in the chilly Washington winter—to the Christmas dinner. "Although the unexpected guests were a surprise to the White House cook, the president welcomed them and allowed them to stay for dinner," writes the historical association. The meal must have been a memorable one, for the newsboys at least.

By Kat Echner, Smithsonianmag.com

Gettysburg Remembrance 2020

Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC



Joe Bickley with his two Sons at the Woolson Monument at Gettysburg



Joe Bickley with Son, 2020 Gettysburg Remembrance

The Michigan contingent was ready and awaiting its departure for the annual Gettysburg Remembrance activities. Michigan has been represented at Gettysburg for many years where it has annually served in a number of capacities including the placing of National and State Flags on the graves of Michigan soldiers in the National Cemetery; serving as the Honor/Color Guard at the Woolson Memorial; and annually performing a remembrance ceremony at each of the Michigan monuments on a rotational basis.

This year our long-standing service was interrupted just two days before our departure when the state of Pennsylvania issued its COVID Rules effectively shutting us down.

We had the very good fortune, however, that one of our Sons, Joe Bickley, a member of U.S. Grant Camp 67 and also a member of Company A, 14th Michigan Infantry, Irish Rifle, Sons of Veterans Reserve was able to represent Michigan at the non-2020 Remembrance activities.

Daniel Stoner, CO D 51 IND INF Remembered

Submitted by Todd Cordill Russell A. Alger Camp No. 462 and George W. Anderson Camp No. 58

Daniel Stoner fought in the Civil War in Company D of the 51st Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry (rank of Private). His service included battles in Tennessee at Franklin and Nashville, and in Northern Alabama. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio in 1839 and passed away in Whitley County, Indiana in 1874, from health problems that began at the end of the war.

Noah Stoner (brother of Daniel Stoner) fought in the Civil War in Company D of the 34th Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry (Morton Rifles) (rank of Private). His service included the Vicksburg Campaign, Bayou Teche Campaign, and the Battle of Palmito Ranch in Texas. During the Vicksburg Campaign, he was injured at Yazoo Pass during an ambush by Confederate soldiers. Afterward, he briefly served as a teamster in his regiment before returning to infantry duty. He was born in Hocking County, Ohio in 1841 and passed away in Whitley County, Indiana in 1869, the result of exposure during the war.

The final resting place for both veterans is a rural cemetery in Whitley County, Indiana. The original cemetery headstone for each veteran was broken in several pieces, lying flat on the ground. The original engravings were mostly illegible.

Continued from the previous page

In 2019, I contacted Dick Williams of Camp No. 58 about the process of obtaining new veteran headstones. Dick initiated the required paperwork and contacted Rick Wiegmann of Champion Hill Camp No. 17 (Indiana). Once the headstones were obtained, I prepared the cemetery plots for the new veteran headstones. I also cleaned adjacent family headstones. Soon after, members of Champion Hill Camp No. 17 (Indiana) and Ben Harrison Camp No. 356 (Indiana) installed the new veteran headstones.

On October 17, 2020 a dedication ceremony was conducted by Champion Hill Camp No. 17 and me. There were nearly 20 descendants of Daniel Stoner in attendance. The Civil War service history of both veterans was presented. Another part of the ceremony was an explanation of the pioneer parents of the veterans and their migration from Maryland and Ohio to Indiana by 1850. There are seven immediate family member headstones in a group that includes the two veteran headstones and their pioneer parents.

Many thanks are in order for Dick Williams of Camp No. 58, members of Indiana Camps 17 and 356, and Alice Wilson of DUVCW, Department of Michigan (also a descendant of Daniel Stoner in attendance at the dedication ceremony). (Todd is a direct descendant of Daniel Stoner)

Left to right:
color bearers
Rick Wiegmann
and Brian Ford,
Camp
Commander
Gib Young,
Chaplain Dave
Tilden, Todd
Cordill (Dept. of
Michigan)



Todd Cordill
standing at
row of family
headstones

Camp145 SVR and WRC Support Veterans Day Ceremony

Submitted by David F. Wallace, PDC

Members of the Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145, the Gov. Crapo Corps No. 23, Woman's Relief Corps, and Co. A, 14th Michigan Infantry, SVR, supported the American Legion Post No. 283s' Veterans Day Ceremony at the GAR monument in the Flushing City Cemetery.

Department Commander McKinch extended greetings and provided appropriate remarks to those in attendance. Dawn Bastian, Senior Vice President, and Carol Powers, Secretary, of the Gov. Crapo Corps No. 23, placed memorial wreaths at the GAR/WRC memorial.

Members of Co. A, 14th Michigan Infantry, SVR, provided rifle support for the volleys, followed by "Taps."

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The Flushing VIEW

"YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION"

Thursday, November 19, 2020 • Vol. 6, No. 11 mihomepaper.com

Remembering our veterans



Photos by Ben Gagnon



The Flushing American Legion Post #283 observed Veterans Day on Nov. 11 with a ceremony at the Flushing Cemetery. Dignitaries honored the service and sacrifices of United States military veterans and placed wreaths at a memorial dedicated to the Ransom Post No. 89 GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) and the Women's Relief Corps No. 119. There was also a 21-gun salute from the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, Governor Crapo Camp #145.

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 editor@suvcwmi.org, or to 2612 Burns Street, Dearborn, Michigan 48124-3204

ALL PUBLICATIONS WILL BE MADE ON TIME

Please do not send me photos without the names of persons in the photo and a suggested caption. Thanks for your support!



Gov. Crapo Camp Supports Memorial Restoration Project

Submitted by David F. Wallace, PDC

The Brothers of the Gov. Crapo Camp, along with the Companions of the Michigan Commandery MOLLUS, have provided financial support and volunteer labor with the Stockton Center at Spring Groves' restoration project for the 16th Michigan Infantry Regiment memorial located on the grounds of Spring Grove, COL Thomas Stockton's home located in Flint. The replica cannon has fallen into disrepair, and the Stockton Center sought out advice and support from the Camp, which was forthcoming with a monetary donation, and support from the Brothers of the Camps' Civil War Memorials Committee. Brother Eric Katz is constructing a replacement carriage, once it was determined that the barrel could be restored. Brother Gene Taylor is assisting in developing language for a suitable memorial for the 16th Michigan Infantry, also known as "Stockton's Independent Regiment." If you are interested in contributing to this effort, please contact Camp Secretary, David F. Wallace, PDC, at secretary@govcrapocamp145.org.

WHY MICHIGAN'S MESSENGER IS PUBLISHED ONLINE

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 all 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 have tried to keep all articles in the format that they are sent, however, in the spirit of editorial judgement, I will correct spelling or edit for space restrictions. 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@suvcwmi.org.

Kalamazoo Lincoln Statue Effort Gains Support of Commander McKinch

Submitted by Cameron S. Brown, Camp 20

Bring
Abraham Lincoln
 BACK TO KALAMAZOO!

THE CAPITAL *join* CAMPAIGN TO RAISE FUNDS
 For a Statue of
 Abraham Lincoln
 in Bronson Park where he spoke on August 27, 1856.

You may donate online at www.KalamazooLincolnProject.org
 Sponsored by the Kalamazoo Abraham Lincoln Project / a Michigan 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation

An Abraham Lincoln statue in Edinburgh, Scotland was featured on the cover of last spring's issue of the *Banner*. This prompted Brothers Gary Swain and Cameron Brown to bring to the attention of Dept. of Michigan Commander Terry McKinch their efforts to place a privately funded bronze statue of Lincoln in Kalamazoo's Bronson Park where Mr. Lincoln spoke on August 27, 1856. In addition to both being SUVCW members, Brothers Swain and Brown are members of the Kalamazoo Abraham Lincoln Institute (KLI), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization spearheading a community-wide effort to raise funds for the Kalamazoo Lincoln statue. The group has raised nearly \$85,000 toward their goal of \$150,000 and has received approval by the Kalamazoo City Commission to place the statue in the city's downtown park.

In response to the efforts of the Kalamazoo group, Commander McKinch issued Department Order #4 last August that established a special committee to help advance the statue project with specific instruction to all Michigan camps to support this "Lincoln memorial endeavor." Brother Charles Worley PDC of the March to the Sea Camp, #135, Centreville was assigned as committee chair. Brothers Swain and Brown were also assigned to the committee. At its most recent meeting, the committee has been assisted by Brother Bruce Gosling, also of Camp 135. Swain and Brown are members of the Benjamin Prichard, Camp #20, Kalamazoo, and Camp #135 respectively.

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The broader focus of the Kalamazoo group is to use Lincoln's 1856 visit and extant speech to teach young people the value of history. In addition to the Lincoln statue, the KLI is developing educational resources and planning a biennial symposium with guest speakers and art and essay contests for area youth. "Helping young people develop leadership skills in the mold of Lincoln is one of our central goals," Brother Swain says.

Noted Lincoln scholar Louis A. Warren called Lincoln's *Kalamazoo Speech* his "transitional pronouncement" that anticipated the full rhetorical and thematic elements found in Lincoln's more famous *House Divided Speech* two years later. Brother Brown serves as the institute's president and is emphatic about the importance of the group's efforts. "Kalamazoo is an important venue for advancing the purposes and ideals of the SUVCW," Brown says. "We do understand these are trying times. All the more reason to teach children the lessons of history and the inspiring life story of Abraham Lincoln. We have found that Lincoln is often a young child's gateway to American history. Young people come to appreciate how attractive honesty can be because Lincoln is so tangible to them. Understanding the devastating cost of over 600,000 lives to save the Union and end slavery is a sobering truth of history we must teach each generation."

Kalamazoo was the only place in Michigan where Abraham Lincoln made a public appearance, and when he spoke in Kalamazoo, he was little known. The local paper even misspelled his name. Fast forward four years later, with Michigan's help, Kalamazoo's unknown visitor was elevated to the highest office in the land. The Kalamazoo Abraham Lincoln Institute believes it is time to bring Lincoln back to Kalamazoo, and they believe camp members throughout Michigan can help make that happen. Brother Worley's committee will be reporting back to Commander McKinch with their proposal to help the SUVCW Department of Michigan promote this unique project. In the meantime, individual camps and members can donate online at KalamazooLincolnInstitute.org. Checks can be made payable to Kalamazoo Abraham Lincoln Institute and mailed to 2037 Quail Cove Dr., Kalamazoo, MI 49009. (Brown's phone contact is c: 269-625-0275)

Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427

Rick Danes, PCC

Department Commander McKinch installed officers for the 2021 season by Zoom at the November 10th meeting.

Elected

Commander - John McGill
 Senior Vice Commander - Gary Pritchard
 Junior Vice Commander - Dennis Schlemmer
 Secretary - Dennis Fyke
 Treasurer - Jerry Jacobs
 Council - Jerry Jacobs
 - Jon Reed
 - Keith Kushnir

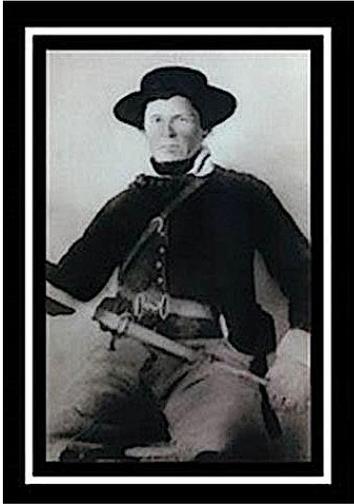
Appointed

Patriotic Instructor - George Boller
 Graves Registration - Dennis Fyke
 War Memorials - Richard Bower
 Chaplain - Richard Bower
 Historian / Archivist - Jerry Jacobs
 Eagle / ROTC - Dennis Schlemmer
 Color Bearer / Guard - Aaron Schrader

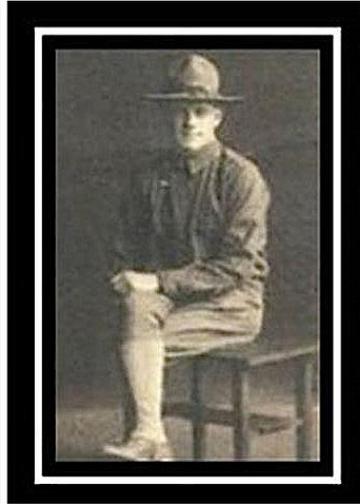
Unique Interment Service: Great Lakes National Cemetery

Submitted by Paul Davis, PDC

Members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Michigan, and Company A of the 14th Michigan Sons of Veterans Reserve, all from various Camps within the Department of Michigan, on August 26, 2020, participated in a very special interment at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan.



Peter Armisted (Armstead)



Earl Armstead



Robert Armstead

Civil War Veteran Peter Arm(i)sted, served in Company H, 3rd Michigan Cavalry. He enlisted at Port Huron, Michigan on September 25, 1861 at the age of 30. He mustered in on October 12, 1861. Peter participated in battles at New Madrid, Missouri, March 26, 1862, and Island Number 10, Tennessee, April 1862 and was captured on July 20, 1862 at Rienzi, Mississippi. He was pardoned on September 7, 1862 at Vicksburg, Mississippi and rejoined his unit and participated in battles at: Corinth, Mississippi, October 3 and 4; luka, Mississippi, September, 19, 1862; Hatchie's Bridge, Tennessee, October 5, 1862; Hudsonville, Tennessee, November 16, 1862; Lumkins Mill, Mississippi, November 30, 1862; Oxford, Mississippi December 2, 1862; Coffeerville, Mississippi December 5, 1862; and, Jackson, Mississippi, June 13, 1863. Peter was discharged on a Surgeon's Certificate of Disability at St. Louis, Missouri on March 29, 1864. Peter is the Great Great Grandfather of Robert Armstead.



Company A, 14th Michigan SVR Casket Bearers

Continued from the previous page

Great Lakes National Cemetery Assistant Director Christopher English said this was a very special service as it is the first time a Civil War Veteran has been buried in the Great Lakes National Cemetery.

Earl Armstead was a veteran of World War I. Earl is the Great Uncle of Robert Armstead . Robert Armstead served in World War II. Robert was drafted in 1944 and served in Company B, 804th Tank Destroyer Battalion. Robert is the Father of Robert Armstead.

Their decedent, Robert Armstead, arranged to have all three of his ancestors re-interred at the Great Lakes National Cemetery where they could reside side-by-side.



Masking for Safety. 14th Michigan SVR



Co A, 14th Michigan Sons of Veterans Reserve Funeral Detail