

Curtenius Guard Camp #17

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Minutes

Meeting of the Camp
Tuesday, January 26, 1999
Samuel W. Grinnell
GAR Post #283 Building
Main Street
Sunfield, Michigan

Commander Nash assigned Charles Langworthy to serve duties as Color Bearer, David Rehkopf as Patriotic Instructor, and James Neal as Senior Vice-Commander.

I. Opening Ritual: Camp Meeting was opened with prescribed ritual by Commander Nash at Samuel W. Grinnell G.A.R. Hall at 7:17 PM.

II. Roll Call: Brothers present: Marc Bennetts, Charles Brown, Dale Calder, Thomas Emerick, Keith Harrison, Paul D. Hodges, Ronald Kruger, Charles Langworthy, James Lyons, John Nash, James Neal, James B. Pahl, J. Douglas Park, David Rehkopf, Kenneth Rousseau, George Roux, Ronald Shull, Brian Shumway, Richard Williams.

Brothers excused: Nathan Harrison, James AK Pahl, Todd Rakestraw, Adin Shank, Gordon Warren, and William Warren.

Sick Call: None reported

III. Welcome to Guests: Commander Nash welcomed Dana Traub of 5661 Saginaw Hwy., Sunfield, Michigan 48890.

IV. Approval of Minutes: In the minutes of the November 29, 1998 meeting, PDC Hodges noted the absence of a list of the newly elected Camp Officers. Bro. Lyons indicated the correct date of May 30, 1999 for Memorial Day. Bro. Harrison moved to accept the minutes with aforementioned changes, seconded by Bro. Park. Ayes all.

V. Concerns for Brothers: Orders for the Camp Charter to be draped in remembrance of Clark Mellor (PDC) and David Gage (Wa-Bu-No Camp #53) and for Howard Nunemaker (Pritchard Camp #20). It was noted Gordon McAllister has been diagnosed with liver cancer. Our condolences and prayers go out to our Brothers and their loved ones.

VI. New Members and Initiations: JVC Roux introduced applicant Dana Traub, noted his papers were in order, and had remitted the required fee. JVC Roux moved to accept Dana as a member, seconded by Bro. Harrison. Bro. Park moved that the black box be used for the roll call. A show of hands was called for in order to disperse with the ceremonial voting method. It was dispensed with by a vote of 7 to 6. A motion was made to accept Dana's membership application and it was approved by unanimous acclamation. The initiation ceremony for Dana was immediately commenced.

VII. Recess: Camp was recessed for a break at 8:00 PM and the meeting reconvened at 8:15 PM.

VIII. Committee Reports:

Bylaws: No business was reported.

Commander Nash recommended any changes be submitted to allow enough time for review before the Department Encampment.

Memorials and Graves Registration: No report

Membership: SVC Roux reported we will be manning a table at the Genealogy and Book Fair to be held at the Lansing Center on April 11, 1999. A call was made for 4-5 volunteers to work from 10:00-4:30.

Military Affairs: No report.

Memorial Day/Day of Remembrance: Chaplain Calder is holding an organizational meeting on March 11, 1999 for all interested in assisting with the Memorial Day programs.

Patriotic Instruction: PI David Rehkopf short report on progress to date.

Program and Publicity: Secy. Shumway announced the second annual Civil War Trivia Challenge will be held at the March meeting. Bro. Lyons suggested the Challenge be featured again at the Grand Rapids Remembrance Day event.

Grinnell Award: No Report.

Hall Restoration: No report.

IX. Orders and Communications: a) Bro. Gordon Warren sent a communication noting he has had multiple operations over the last 16 months. He recovery is progressing and he hopes to become an active member in the near future. b) The Michigan Messenger contained an article that the Department will be hosting the Central Region Conference in October 1999. Dept. Commander Kent Armstrong was quoted as requesting help for the event. c) Nominations were requested for the Abe Lincoln Certificate of Appreciation & Furtherance of the G.A.R. in Michigan. d) Bro. Pahl - reviewed topics from the National organization: The reported auctioning off of G.A.R./SUVCW property by the EBay company was discussed. Deadlines for articles in the National newsletter. Keith Harrison's impending award of the Meritorious Service Star. e) Bro. Pahl encouraged all to attend the National Encampment in Indianapolis, Indiana this August. Bro. Harrison embellished further on this topic by noting this is a very special National Encampment. It is the 50th anniversary of the last G.A.R. encampment held in Indianapolis. f) Bro. Harrison also reminded the Camp of the Remembrance Day activities to be held in November.

X. Unfinished Business:

a) Bro. Williams headed up a discussion regarding donating funds to support the Iowa cannon lawsuit. He noted we had accumulated \$110 in our memorial fund. Bro. Lyons moved we donate \$25 from the fund to defray the legal expenses, seconded by Bro. Harrison. Motion carried. Bro. Williams moved we donate \$25 towards the reinternment of Dale Caulkins, seconded by Bro. Calder. Motion carried. b) Bro. Hodges complemented Bro. Traub for contacting State of Michigan Rep. Terry Geiger to obtain the donation of a State of Michigan flag for the Hall. Bro. Pahl recommended we forward the necessary correspondence to Rep. Geiger accompanied by an invitation to attend our meetings.

XI. New Business:

The upcoming MidWinter Conference on February 13, 1999 from 1:00-4:30 PM was mentioned. Department Commander Kent Armstrong has requested that each camp vote on the idea of assessing the Department Per Capita tax annually instead of the current quarterly remittance. Bro. Lyons noted the change would require changes to

the Department Regulations. Shortcomings of this idea were expressed regarding the processing of additions for new members and the discharging (removal from the rolls) of existing members. Bro. Park expressed his opinion that we should not change our Customs and Regulations in order to encourage those members/camps who are tardy in remitting their dues. Bro. Pahl moved the Camp recommend against the change, seconded by Bro. Park. Motion carried. Bro. Harrison requested the National Quartermaster's form be inserted in the Camp newsletter for the benefit of the Brothers. Bro. Hodges reminded all of the upcoming Washington-Lincoln Dinner on February 13, 1999.

XII. Good of the Order:
None reported.

XIII. Treasurer's Report: Treas. Williams presented a report showing a balance of accounts at \$1,595.46 as of January 26, 1999 with 33.90 in checking, 846.79 in the Hall Restoration Fund, 110.00 in the Memorial Fund, and 604.77 in savings, with anticipated expenses of 0 currently due. Bro. Calder moved to adopt the Treasurer's report as submitted, seconded by Bro. Shumway. Motion carried. +

\$31 was taken up in a drawing for a Civil War calendar with drawings by Mort Kunstler. Bro. Brown was the winner of the drawing.

Nominations Committee - PDC Paul Hodges presented the remaining recommendation for Camp officer for 1999: Camp Commander -James Lyons. Bro. Hodges moved to close nominations and adopt the recommendation by the Nominating Committee by unanimous ballot. Seconded by Bro. Pahl. Ayes all.

The meeting then proceeded with the ceremony for Installation of Officers conducted by Bro. Park. New Camp Commander Lyons proceeded with a brief acceptance speech including a notation of how he served in the same capacity 10 years ago. He touched on a few items he planned to emphasize during his tenure. These included preservation of the G.A.R. hall, greater participation in service to our Camp and the surrounding communities, and additional graves registration. He mentioned the upcoming October

centennial celebration of the cornerstone for the G.A.R. hall. Commander Lyons proposed a committee be formed to work with the D.A.R. to purchase and install a plaque identifying the Hall as National Historical Registered property.

XIV: Closing Ritual: Commander Lyons closed the camp per ritual at 9:55 PM.

+ indicates that a written report has been submitted and is available for inspection.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas L. Emerick,
Secretary