

Curtenius Guard Camp #17

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Minutes

Meeting of the Camp
Wednesday, May 30, 2001
Samuel W. Grinnell
GAR Post #283 Hall
Main Street
Sunfield, Michigan

Commander James Lyons, PDC, assigned Brothers to fill vacancies of absent officers by appointment Pro Tem.

I. Opening Ritual:

Commander Lyons opened the Camp meeting per ritual at 7:32 P.M. on Wednesday, May 30, 2001 at the Samuel W. Grinnell G.A.R. Hall, Sunfield Michigan.

II. Roll Call:

Brothers present:

Jeff Adams, Marc Bennetts, Dale Calder, David Coon, Kyle Emerick, Thomas Emerick, Keith Krinn, Charles Langworthy, James Lyons, John Nash, David Neese, Mark Neese, Michael Neese, James B. Pahl, Wendel Peabody, Todd Rakestraw, David Rehkopf, George Roux, and Richard Williams.

Brothers excused:

Laverne Aves, Layton Aves, Nathan Harrison, Paul Hodges, James A.K. Pahl, Ken Rousseau, and Adin Shank.

Sick Call:

None reported.

III. Welcome to Guests:

Larry Ballard, Chairman, Eaton County Historical Commission. Preceding the Sons meeting, Mr. Ballard and the Historical Commission presented an Eaton County Heritage Award to the Daughters in honor of their long-term preservation efforts at the hall. Commander Lyons paid additional compliments to the Helen M. Edwins Tent 30, DUVCW for their efforts at maintaining and restoring the G.A.R. hall.

IV. Approval of Minutes:

Bro. Calder moved, seconded by Bro. Adams, to approve of the minutes of the March 27, 2001 meeting. Motion carried.

V. Concerns for Brothers:

Bro. Calder reported on Bro. Rousseau's recent operation. Bro. Rousseau is still feeling a little under the weather but is recovering nicely. SVC Roux reported that Bro. Adin Shank's, the Camp's true son, pacemaker operation was successful.

VI. New Members and Initiations:

No Report.

VII. Recess:

The Camp bypassed recess due to the Memorial Day ceremonies imposing on the time allotted for the regular business meeting.

VIII. Committee Reports:

Bylaws:

No Report.

Memorials and Graves Registration:

Commander Lyons reported the Memorial and Graves Registration Committee met on May 5, 2001 at the State of Michigan Library. Eaton County cemetery survey information from 1987 was reviewed. Bros. Hodges, Aumaugher and Williams volunteered to divide the existing forms and perform the service verification. Bro. Williams agreed commit the data into electric format as the information is completed. We will use the National Graves Registration Data Base record format. The completed information will be forwarded to the Department on computer disks. Bros. Nash and Shumway volunteered to perform survey work in Barry County. They have already begun to complete the task. After the Eaton County records have been completed, the Committee will finish working on the Ingham County survey files. Bro. James B. Pahl suggested including the Noah Fauver (CSA) site and other Confederate graves in the surveys. Commander Lyons supported the suggestion and provided the Camp with additional background on Noah Fauver

Membership:

JVC David Neese reported there has been no response received to the most recent letters circulated to potential applicants.

Memorial Day/ Day of Remembrance:

Bro. Calder will present a detailed report on all Memorial Day activities at the next

meeting. He did note the Lansing Memorial Day parade was 15 minutes in duration with only 5-6 Brothers participating. Commander Lyons expressed concern on how smaller towns, e.g. Danville, can organize a 1 hour parade with approximately 4,000 spectators versus the small showing in the city of Lansing. He also noted that Jonathan Green of St. John's was a last minute substitution as bugler at the Mount Hope Cemetery ceremony. Jonathan was complemented for his excellent performance on such short notice.

Military Affairs:

No report.

Patriotic Instruction:

No report..

Program and Publicity:

No report.

Grinnell Award:

No report

Hall Restoration:

No report

IX. Orders and Communications:

Bro. James B. Pahl reported the most recent National Executive Director's contract has been terminated.

X. Unfinished Business:

Commander Lyons reported on the Save-The-Flags Fund Raising March covered in the latest issue of the *Yankee*. It begins on June 30, 2001 at 9:00 A.M. in Meridian Township and terminates at the steps of the Capitol building. Commander Lyons will be a guest speaker for the program.

Commander Lyons is awaiting a reply from Mr. Mike Black regarding where our Camp will set up the tent and display at the Charlton Park reenactment this year.

XI. New Business:

Commander Lyons posed a question to the Camp as to whether we would participate in Grand Ledge's Yankee Doodle Days in June. Bro. Calder stated the need to contact the parade organizers for additional information before a decision can be reached. Bro. Bennetts reported he is organizing a Flag Day ceremony on June 14, 2001 at 12:00 P.M. at the Michigan Historical Museum. He asked for volunteers for a color guard. Bro. Calder volunteered to recruit Brothers to participate at the event. Bro. Calder thanked the Brothers who participated as Color Guard at the Jackson, Michigan re-interment of Pvt. Daniel Pine. The ceremony was organized

by the Austin Blair – Camp #7. Bro. James B. Pahl encouraged all Brothers to become involved in some form of patriotic demonstration for honoring Flag Day and/or Independence Day. Bro. Adams suggested the Camp organize a garage sale(s) to raise funds to replace the G.A.R. hall porches. This idea was to be taken under consideration for future use. Bro. James B. Pahl reported on a National Encampment proposal to revise and reinstitute Life memberships.

XII. Good of the Order:

Bro. Langsworthy noted the George W. Anderson – Camp #58 is refurbishing cannon and their bases in Ovid, Michigan. Bro. Armstrong of Camp #58 has volunteered to provide a “recipe” for repairing Camp #17’s cannon bases. Bro. Calder noted Camp #58 is performing a grave marking ceremony in the Gunnisonville cemetery. Brothers are being encouraged to support our fellow camp. Commander Lyons reported that Mrs. Marguerite Daman, of Grand Ledge, attended the Logan Memorial Dedication ceremony last year. She was impressed with the use of syndicated columnist’s Tony Snow’s Memorial Day piece by General Rice in his address. She wrote to Mr. Snow, informing him of the details of the program, and sent him materials from the event. She forwarded a copy of Mr. Snow’s response to the Camp and it will be placed in the Camp Historians files.

XIII. Treasurer's Report:

Bro. Williams Treasurer’s report showed a balance of accounts at \$2,287.16 as of May 30, 2001 with \$81.00 in checking, \$415.03 in the Hall Restoration Fund, \$61.84 in the Memorial Fund, and \$1,729.29 in savings. Liabilities included \$348.94 designated for the Camp Sigel Monument/21st Michigan project. The Profit & Loss Statement for March 27, 2001 through May 30, 2001 showed total income for the period of \$_____, total expenses of \$_____ for net income for the period of \$_____.

Bro. Calder moved, seconded by Bro. Rehkopf, to approve the Treasurer’s Report as submitted. Motion carried.+

\$29.81 was collected in “Passing the Hat”.

XIV. Closing Ritual:

Commander Lyons closed the meeting per ritual at 8:20 P.M..

Notes on the Program of the Evening

No report

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

Respectfully Submitted,
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

**Thomas L. Emerick,
Secretary**