

Curtenius Guard Camp #17

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Minutes

Meeting of the Camp
Tuesday, January 29, 2001
Samuel W. Grinnell
GAR Post #283 Hall
115 Main Street
Sunfield, Michigan
49058

Commander James Lyons, PDC, assigned Brothers to fill vacancies of absent officers by appointment Pro Tem. Past Commander-in-Chief (PCinC) Keith Harrison was requested to serve as Camp Secretary pro temp for the meeting.

I. Opening Ritual:

Commander Lyons opened the Camp meeting per ritual at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 29, 2001 at the Samuel W. Grinnell G.A.R. Hall, Sunfield Michigan.

Special Notation:

Former Camp member, Dale Calder, spoke to the Camp concerning the November, 2001 elections and past conduct of Camp Commander Lyons. He concluded his presentation with a request the Camp take action for the removal of Commander Lyons from his office. He then left the hall.

When the Camp returned to it's normal order of business, Commander Lyons asked if any Brother desired to initiate a recall of the November election results. The Camp expressed no support for challenging the outcome of the November elections. Commander Lyons indicated he would not respond to former Bro. Calder or discuss the allegations made by him in future Camp meetings. The matter was considered closed.

II. Roll Call:

Brothers present:

Marc Bennetts, Charles Brown, David Coon, Keith Harrison, Paul Hodges, Charles Langworthy, Jim Lyons, John Nash, David Neese, Michael Neese,

Wendel Peabody, David Rehkopf, George Roux, Ken Russeau, Ron Shull. Brian Shumway, and Dick Williams.

Brothers excused:

Robert Aumaugher, Lavern Aves, Kyle Emerick, Tom Emerick, Nathan Harrison, Brian MacVean, Mark Neese, James A K Pahl, Joshua Russeau, and Dana Traub

Sick Call:

LaVerne Aves, Brian Mac Vean, and Tom Emerick.

III. Welcome to Guests:

Commander Lyons introduced guest Paul Black (Eunice Black's son) and presented to him a certificate of appreciation from the Camp recognizing his tremendous assistance in building the front and rear entries.

Commander Lyons introduced guest Garry Veale from the Ionia County Genealogical Society. Commander Lyons indicated he had recently made a presentation to the society.

Commander Lyons also indicated another guest, Greg Tobias, who was planning on attending but had to cancel due to illness. Mr. Tobias generously donated the replacement trees outside the front of the hall. He will try to attend a future meeting.

IV. Approval of Minutes:

It was moved and seconded that the minutes from the Camp's November meeting be accepted as transmitted; motion passed.

V. Concerns for Brothers:

No report.

VI. New Members and Initiations:

Junior Vice Commander Dave Neese reported he had mailed out an application to a prospect and was planning recruitment activities for the following events: Charlton Park, Bowen Mills, and the Sunfield Farmers Picnic. Commander Lyons indicated the Camp could obtain, with prior notification, the Department's tent and fly to use at the events. Bro. Dick Williams indicated he would assist Bro. Neese.

VII. Recess:

The Camp recessed for 10 minutes

VIII. Committee Reports:

Bylaws:

No Report.

Memorials and Graves Registration:

Commander Lyons reported work was progressing on verifying the service records of those graves surveyed in Eaton County.

Membership:

No report.

Memorial Day/ Day of Remembrance:

A committee meeting will be scheduled to review the events for the upcoming year. Commander Lyons requested that Bros. Hodges and Langworthy continue to represent us with the city of Lansing to coordinate planning of Memorial Day activities

Military Affairs:

Commander Lyons indicated Bro. David Coon will be in charge of the Camp's Color Guard this year.

Patriotic Instruction:

No report.

Program and Publicity:

It was reported the Lansing State Journal published an article regarding the Camp's newly elected officers.

Grinnell Award:

No report.

Camp Council:

Bro. Shumway reported the Camp Council met on January 23, 2002 and spent most of the evening brainstorming on items that needed to be completed at the hall. Some of the ideas were (1) to have a professional study of the needs for the hall conducted, (2) to have a professional study conducted on the accessibility of the hall, and (3) landscaping, underground power line, window replacement, linoleum replacement, enhancement of the security for the hall, and the painting of the cannon. Bro. Shumway indicated prioritization was currently ongoing for these and other projects. It was indicated a list was being prepared in an attempt to develop a Hall maintenance schedule.

Hall Restoration:

Commander Lyons indicated additional work was needed for the front and rear porches (lattice work). He also indicated it may not be possible to do anything about the stone bases for the cannon but that the cannons could be cleaned and painted.

IX. Orders and Communications:

Commander Lyons indicated the latest edition of the *Michigan's Messenger* has been distributed. Within it is a tear out sheet

available to be used to register for the Department Midwinter Conference and Department Encampment. During the February 23, 2002 Midwinter Conference, Brother and current Senior Vice Department Commander Bruce Butgereit will be the speaker. For the April 20, 2002 Department Encampment, Mr. David Finney will be the speaker. Mr. Finney will be speaking on *Notables Civil War Personalities Buried in Michigan*.

X. Unfinished Business:

No report.

XI. New Business:

There was a discussion about having the local Boy Scouts jointly participate in a patriotic program with the Camp. Bro. Wendel Peabody, Scout Master for Sunfield, indicated the Scouts currently participate in the annual Daughter's Memorial Day program. It was suggested to extend an invitation for the Scouts to participate in the Camp's Memorial Day program held at the G.A.R. Hall.

XII. Good of the Order:

Patriotic Instructor Paul Hodges reported on the Federal Flag Code and the proper presentation of the flag. He also reported Bro. Langworthy will soon be celebrating his 80th birthday. The Camp recognized Bro. Langworthy with applause and a resounding rendition of *Happy Birthday*.

Bro. Peabody reported on the flag retirement program his scouts perform and will notify the Camp when the next one will occur.

Commander Lyons presented a check to the Camp given to him for speaking before the Ionia County Genealogical Society. The money was designated as seed money for a Camp Maintenance Fund.

Commander Lyons reported, subsequent to his installation of the Pritchard Camp #20 officers in Kalamazoo, he invited a delegation from that Camp to participate in the Curtenius Guard Camp's next Civil War Trivia Contest. The Pritchard Camp has accepted the challenge (why I don't know, they'll just lose – editorial comment)

Two books were raffled off with the winners being Bros. Hodges and Williams.

XIII. Treasurer's Report:

Bro. Williams Treasurer's report showed a balance of accounts at \$2,115.33 as of January 29, 2002 with \$42.00 in checking, \$873.79 in the Hall Restoration Fund, \$62.38 in the Memorial Fund, and \$1,137.16 in savings. Liabilities included \$259.40 earmarked for the Max O'Neil Fund. The Profit & Loss Statement for November 27, 2001 through January 29, 2002 showed total income for the period of \$1,274.69 and total expenses of \$185.00 for net income for the period of \$1,089.69.

Bro. Williams reported that Jackson National Life Insurance had graciously donated \$200 towards restoration of the hall. The Camp has submitted an application to ensure that it is a candidate for the company's annual non-profit donations.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report; motion passed.

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\$45.00 in donations were raised as part of "Passing the Hat".

XIV. Closing Ritual:

Commander Lyons closed the meeting per ritual at 8:25 P.M..

Notes on the Program of the Evening

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

Respectfully Submitted,
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

Keith G. Harrison, PCinC
Secretary