

# Curtenius Guard Camp #17

Department of Michigan

## Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

### Minutes

Meeting of the Camp  
Tuesday, March 26, 2002  
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.

### I. Opening Ritual:

Commander Lyons opened the Camp meeting per ritual at 7:05 P.M. on Tuesday, March 26, 2002 at the Samuel W. Grinnell G.A.R. Hall, Sunfield Michigan.

### II. Roll Call:

#### Brothers present:

Jeff Adams, Robert Aumaugher, Marc Bennetts, David Coon, Kyle Emerick, Tom Emerick, Keith Harrison, Paul Hodges, Charles Langworthy, Jim Lyons, Brian MacVean, John Nash, David Neese, James B. Pahl, J. Douglas Park, Todd Rakestraw, David Rehkopf, Kenneth Rousseau, George Roux, Ron Shull, Dana Traub, and Dick Williams.

#### Brothers excused:

Lavern Aves, Nathan Harrison, Keith Krinn, Mike Mitchell, Mark Neese, Michael Neese, James A K Pahl, Joshua Russeau, and Brian Shumway.

#### Sick Call:

None reported.

### III. Welcome to Guests:

Commander Lyons introduced Garry Veale from the Ionia County Genealogical Society.

Commander Lyons introduced Greg Tobias whose ancestor, William Edwins, was the founder of our Camp and originally supplied the maple trees located

at the front of the hall. Mr. Tobias lives in his great-grandfather's house with the tree lot the original trees were taken from. The original trees succumbed to age and disease and were recently removed. Mr. Tobias generously donated the replacement trees and labor to replace them. Commander Lyons noted Greg had copied his grandfather's journal entries regarding the construction of the hall and the gun bases. These documents will be added to the Camp's history files. Commander Lyons presented Mr. Tobias with a framed certificate of appreciation from the Camp.

Commander Lyons introduced Ralph Larson of 9350 Pineview Drive, Olivet, MI, 49076. Mr. Larson was recognized and announced he was applying for membership in our Camp as an Associate this evening.

### IV. Approval of Minutes:

Bro. David Rehkopf moved, seconded by Bro. Shull, to approve of the minutes of the January 29, 2002 meeting. Motion carried.

### V. Concerns for Brothers:

Bro. Brian MacVean was welcomed back from his recent absence due to illness.

### VI. New Members and Initiations:

Junior Vice Commander Dave Neese moved, seconded by Bro. Nash, to accept the application of Associate candidate Larson, dispense with the formal balloting, and vote on the nomination. Given that Bro. James B. Pahl was delayed from attending the first part of the Camp meeting, there was no further discussion. Motion carried. Bro. Nash performed the initiation ceremony per ritual.

### VII. Recess:

Camp was recessed for a break at 7:30 P.M. and the meeting reconvened at 7:40 P.M..

### VIII. Committee Reports:

#### Bylaws:

Commander Lyons reported the Department had started a new committee in 2000 to review starting a Department Color Guard. Further discussion on the project was to be delayed until after the National Encampment in August 2002.

Commander Lyons reported a proposal was submitted to designate a Department Ceremonials & Ritual officer and related advising committee. If passed the

Department bylaws would require amendments.

### Memorials and Graves Registration:

Chairman Dick Williams reported over 900 service records for graves surveyed in Eaton County have been entered into the Camp database. Not all have been confirmed yet. The database is searchable by unit and cemetery name. An additional 500 records have been recently submitted by Bro. Aumaugher. They will be forwarded to the Department when converted into electronic format.

### Membership:

Junior Vice Commander Dave Neese submitted a report on the 2002 recruiting schedule for the Camp. +

Dates are as follows:

June 15-16	Bowens Mills
July 20-21	Charlton Park (tentative)
Aug 17-18	Sunfield Farmers Picnic
Oct 12-13	Bowens Mills

### Memorial Day/ Day of Remembrance:

Bro. Nash submitted a report on the March 21, 2002 Ceremonies Committee meeting including dates for upcoming Memorial Day services. He noted the Sunfield cemetery ceremony consistently has a fantastic turnout of citizens for the ceremony. +

Dates are as follow:

#### Saturday, May 25

10:00 A.M. Lansing Memorial Parade  
11:00 A.M. Mt. Hope Cemetery ceremony  
12:00 P.M. Evergreen Cemetery ceremony

#### Sunday, May 26

3:00 P.M. Sunfield Cemetery ceremony

#### Thursday, May 30

7:00 P.M. Curtenius Guard ceremony  
Bro. Bennetts reported he is organizing ceremonies to be held on Flag Day, June 14, at the Michigan Historical Museum. All Brothers interested in participating are encouraged to contact him.

### Military Affairs:

Bro. David Coon encouraged Brothers to support the Camp's Color Guard at the May 4<sup>th</sup> Victorian Days Parade in Grand Ledge as well as all of the Memorial Day activities on the Camp's calendar.

### Patriotic Instruction:

No report.

### Program and Publicity:

No report.

### Grinnell Award:

No report.

### Camp Council:

No report.

### Hall Restoration:

Commander Lyons report the Camp is applying to the Eaton County Historical

Commission for funds to paint the cannons, the privy roof, and trim on the porches.

**IX. Orders and Communications:**  
No Report.

**X. Unfinished Business:**

Commander Lyons reported the need to elect delegates for the upcoming Department Encampment. Bros. Rehkopf, Roux, and Williams were elected to 3 of the 5 open positions. Bro. James B. Pahl moved, seconded by Bro. Keith Harrison, to designate the first 2 names on the Camp roster to fill the remaining open delegate positions. In addition, the remainder of the Camp roster, excluding "sitting" members, would be designated as alternates. Camp Council concurred with motion presented. Motion carried.

Bro. Larson of Grand Ledge spoke out on the upcoming Victorian Days event/parade in Grand Ledge. He noted period dress was being encouraged and Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Lincoln would be in attendance.

**New Business:**

Commander Lyons encouraged all Brothers to provide current email addresses to further the circulation of the Yankee via electronic means.

Commander Lyons reminded all Brothers of the registration dates for the upcoming Department Encampment. It was noted Camp Secretary Williams would be running for the office of Department Secretary and Bro. Keith Harrison will be running for a Department Council seat.

Bro. Hodges reported the extreme difficulty he has had in obtaining Eagle Scout awards and the accompanying C-in-C signature. He has missed five recent opportunities to present these awards at the Boy Scouts Court of Honor due to National Quartermaster supply problems. Commander Lyons and Bro. James B. Pahl spoke at length on problems obtaining award certificates and the C-in-C signature on said certificates. The forms are to be put into PDF-format and maintained on the SUVCW web page. The requirement for the C-in-C signature is also being eliminated. Bro. Keith Harrison noted a word of caution about reducing the solemnity of the awards by over-issuance of certificates to ROTC candidates.

Bro. Keith Harrison there were now two good pictures of G.A.R. post flags on the National website. The National organization is looking for pictures of other post flags in electronic format to display on the site. Commander Lyons reported he saw the Post 2 flag in Quincy, Michigan just recently.

**XII. Good of the Order:**

Bro. Harrison presented a large framed SUVCW badge with the Camp # to JVC David Neese for use at our recruiting events.

**XIII. Treasurer's Report:**

Bro. Williams Treasurer's report showed a balance of accounts at \$2,886.12 as of March 26, 2002 with \$76.93 in checking, \$885.42 in the Hall Restoration Fund, \$62.50 in the Memorial Fund, and \$1,861.27 in savings. Liabilities included \$259.40 earmarked for the Max O'Neil Fund. The Profit & Loss Statement for January 29, 2002 through March 26, 2002 showed total income for the period of \$644.00 and total expenses of \$95.00 for net income for the period of \$549.00.

Bro. Williams reported he is seeking permission from the widow of Max Oneil to spend the fund on improvements to the hall this year.

Bro. Park moved, seconded by Bro. Adams, to accept the Treasurer's report and drop two members for non-payment of dues. Motion carried. +

\$31.00 in donations was raised as part of "Passing the Hat".

**XIV. Closing Ritual:**

Commander Lyons closed the meeting per ritual at 8:40 P.M..

**Notes on the Program of the Evening**

II Corps Post Win  
'Civil War Trivia Challenge' Contest

The II Corps again captured the prize at the 7<sup>th</sup> annual event. The winning team was composed of Brothers Aumaugher, Tom Emerick, MacVean, Park, and Rakestraw. Our deepest thanks go out to Brothers Nash and Shumway who researched the questions and organized the competition too.

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

Thomas L.  
Emerick  
Secretary