

# Curtenius Guard Camp #17

Department of Michigan

## Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

### Minutes

Meeting of the Camp  
Tuesday, May 30, 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.

### I. Opening Ritual:

Commander Lyons opened the Camp meeting per ritual at 7:36 P.M. on Tuesday, May 30, 2001 at the Samuel W. Grinnell G.A.R. Hall, Sunfield Michigan.

### II. Roll Call:

#### Brothers present:

Jeff Adams, Lavern Aves, Marc Bennetts, Charles Brown, Steve Church, David Coon, Kyle Emerick, Tom Emerick, Charles Langworthy, Jim Lyons, Brian MacVean, John Nash, David Neese, Mark Neese, Michael Neese, James B. Pahl, Wendel Peabody, David Rehkopf, Kenneth Rousseau, George Roux, Ron Shull, Brian Shumway, Dana Traub, and Dick Williams.

#### Brothers excused:

Keith Harrison, Nathan Harrison, Paul Hodges, Mike Mitchell, James A K Pahl, J. Douglas Park, and Joshua Russeau.

#### Sick Call:

None reported.

### III. Welcome to Guests:

Commander Lyons introduced Elijah Brown (infant son of Bro. Charles Brown).

### IV. Approval of Minutes:

Bro. Brown moved, seconded by Bro. Shull, to approve of the minutes of the March 26, 2002 meeting. Motion carried.

### V. Concerns for Brothers:

No report.

### VI. New Members and Initiations:

No report

### VII. Recess:

Camp was not formally recessed for a break due to the Memorial Day service preceding the business portion of the Camp meeting.

### VIII. Committee Reports:

#### Bylaws:

No report

#### Memorials and Graves Registration:

Commander Lyons reported most of the Eaton County photographs and memorials information has been forwarded to the Department Civil War Memorials Officer. Bro. Williams reported all of the Eaton County graves information has been entered into the Camp's database. The information will be forwarded to the Department Graves Registration Officer before the July business meeting.

#### Membership:

Junior Vice Commander Dave Neese submitted a report on the upcoming 2002 recruiting events for the Camp. On June 15-16 we will be manning a recruiting tent at the Bowen's Mills event. Bro. MacVean will heading up this activity. There will be a candle light tour on Saturday night for the public to observe camp life scenes (i.e. injured soldiers being tended to, card playing, etc.). The camp is planning on staffing a recruiting tent at the July 20-21 Charlton Park event in Hastings, Michigan. Brothers were encourage to provide feedback on participants supporting the Aug 17-18 Sunfield Farmers Picnic event. On October 12-13 the Camp will be manning a recruiting tent at the Bowen's Mills event.

#### Memorial Day/ Day of Remembrance:

Bro. Nash presented his committee report on the Camp participation at the following events: +

May 9 burial service for Brother Layton Aves.

May 25 Memorial Day ceremonies at the Lansing Memorial Parade, Mt. Hope Cemetery ceremony, and Evergreen Cemetery ceremony.

May 26 Sunfield Cemetery Memorial Day ceremony with the DUVCW tent.

May 30 Curtenius Guard Memorial Day ceremony at the front of our hall preceding the business meeting.

Bro. Nash reported there was sparse attendance at the May 25 ceremonies due to inclement weather. Taps were not played at the Mt. Hope due to conflicts of scheduling for the musician. Bro. Rehkopf volunteered to learn to play taps for future ceremonies. Bro. J.B. Pahl noted he would check with his son who is also a musician.

Bro. Bennetts reported there will be 400 flags distributed during the June 14 Flag Day ceremonies to be held at the Michigan Historical Museum. All Brothers interested in with the noontime ceremonies are encouraged to contact him.

#### Military Affairs:

Bro. Coon reported on the participation of Bros. Aves, Williams, and himself on behalf of the Camp in the Grand Ledge Victorian Days parade.

#### Patriotic Instruction:

Bro. Aves reported Eunice Black, Mary Aves, and he hosted their annual program in the G.A.R. hall for the local 4<sup>th</sup> grade class. They regaled the youngsters with the history of the site and permitted them to fire the period Civil War rifle.

#### Program and Publicity:

No report.

#### Grinnell Award:

No report.

#### Camp Council:

No report.

#### Hall Restoration:

Bro. Aves reported the Camp has applied to the Eaton County Historical Society for grants to finish the rear porch. During the last work party Bros. Peabody and Williams finished installing the front porch trim and Bro. Aves completed the landscaping. Bro. Aves noted volunteers would be needed to paint the cannons and outhouse before the Sunfield Farmers Picnic in August.

Bro. Emerick reported the Camp is applying to Jackson National Life Insurance for a grant to assist with restoring and preserving the hall.

### IX. Orders and Communications:

Bro. J.B. Pahl spoke at length on the National Encampment officer elections. He noted the National Graves registration and search program would be available on the National website by year-end.

### X. Unfinished Business:

No report.

### XI. New Business:

Commander Lyons reported Marilyn Smith, Grand Ledge, has submitted two requests

for the Camp to participate at the Grand Ledge Fall Color Tours in October. He had to decline noting the conflict with our recruiting tent at the Bowen's Mills event. Commander Lyons reported on a request for G.A.R. records from researchers for a movie actor Tom Selleck will be starring in. The request regarded the policy discharges for G.A.R. members and a sample document was needed for a movie prop.

The Camp requested the insertion of a calendar in future newsletters.

Commander Lyons spoke at length on the recent news Bro. Park's early retirement from the ranks of State of Michigan employees. Bro. Park is relocating to work at College Park, Maryland. He intends to maintain dual Camp membership and plans to eventually return to the state when his retirement is final.

Commander Lyons noted the recent purchaser of the Dimondale G.A.R. hall will make a presentation on the structure at the next (July 30) Camp meeting.

#### **XII. Good of the Order:**

Bro. Williams spoke out in recognition of Bro. Charles Langworthy and his donation of water and hot coffee at every Camp meeting. Bro. Langworthy noted how Bro. Art Woodruff (deceased) and he joined the Camp together. Bro. Woodruff passed away 2 years later. Bro. Langworthy made a deathbed promise to Bro. Woodruff to "keep the coffee boiling" and has faithfully executed that promise ever since. The Camp recognized Bro. Langworthy's contribution with a hearty round of applause.

#### **XIII. Treasurer's Report:**

Bro. Williams Treasurer's report showed a balance of accounts at \$2,668.91 as of May 30, 2002 with \$22.00 in checking, \$900.18 in the Hall Restoration Fund, \$62.62 in the Memorial Fund, and \$1,684.11 in savings. Liabilities included \$259.40 earmarked for the Max O'Neil Fund. The Profit & Loss Statement for March 26, 2002 through May 30, 2002 showed total income for the period of \$85.63 and total expenses of \$267.91 for net loss for the period of \$182.28.

Bro. Nash moved, seconded by Bro. Adams, to accept the Treasurer's report

and drop two members for non-payment of dues. Motion carried. +

\$41.00 in donations was raised as part of "Passing the Hat".

#### **XIV. Closing Ritual:**

Commander Lyons closed the meeting per ritual at 8:41 P.M..

#### **Notes on the Program of the Evening**

As per directed by General Order No. 11, the Camp performed the customary Memorial Day ceremony prior to our normal business meeting. The ceremony was held on the front porch of the hall and was attended by the local townspeople and political dignitaries. Commander Lyons read the General Order No. 11, Chaplain Nash performed the invocation, Bro. J.B. Pahl was the guest speaker, and Bro. Kyle Emerick provided the musical background. The Camp was assisted in its ceremonial duties by the local Boy Scout troop and Cub Scout den.

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

**Thomas L.  
Emerick**  
Secretary