

Curtenius Guard Camp #17

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Minutes

Meeting of the Camp
Friday, September 30, 2003
Samuel W. Grinnell
GAR Post #283 Hall
115 Main Street
Sunfield, Michigan
49058

Commander Brian Shumway, assigned Brothers to fill vacancies of absent officers by appointment Pro Tem.

I. Opening Ritual:

Commander Shumway opened the Camp meeting per ritual at 7:14 P.M. on Tuesday, September 30, 2003 at the Samuel W. Grinnell G.A.R. Hall, Sunfield, Michigan.

II. Roll Call:

Brothers present:

Marc Bennetts, David Coon, Zach Coon, Kyle Emerick, Thomas Emerick, Andrew Hart, Paul Hodges, Charles Langworthy, Jim Lyons, John Nash, David Neese, Michael Neese, James B. Pahl, J. Douglas Park, Wendel Peabody, David Rehkopf, Kenneth Rousseau, George Roux, Ronald Shull, Brian Shumway, and Dana Traub, and Dick Williams

Brothers excused:

Robert Aumaugher, Lavern Aves, Luke Coon, Nathan Harrison, James Hilts, Richard Lee, Michael Mitchell, Mark Neese, James A.K. Pahl, and Joshua Rousseau.

Sick Call:

None reported.

III. Welcome to Guests:

Tom Huggler, of Sunfield, identified himself as a freelance writer interested in applying as an Associate in the Camp. The Camp acknowledged Bros. Bob Hoffman and John Mann of the Austin Blair Camp #7. Many Brothers recognized former Bro. Jim Albaugh. His

introduction was followed by that of Ken Lyon of Mulliken. Mr. Birdsell Holly introduced himself and his wife, Audrey.

IV. Approval of Minutes:

Bro. Nash moved, seconded by Bro. Park to approve of the minutes of the July 29, 2003 meeting. Discussion was called for. No discussion was forthcoming. Motion carried.

V. Concerns for Brothers:

It was reported that Bro. Aves brother, Ted, recently passed away. The entire Camp expressed its condolences for Bro. Aves loss. Bro. Pahl announced National Commander-in-Chief Kent Armstrong has ordered all charters be draped in memory of a Pennsylvania Brother recently killed in Afghanistan. The National Organization will propose honoring him with the appropriate military medals posthumously.

VI. New Members and Initiations:

JVC David Neese presented the application of Tom Huggler as an Associate. Bro. Neese moved to accept the application. Bro. Lyons seconded the motion and moved to elect Mr. Huggler via a voice vote. Bro. James B. Pahl expressed his dissent on the voice vote amendment preferring to utilize the proper ceremony and the ballot box. Bro. Pahl's objection was duly noted in the minutes of the meeting. The Camp then proceeded to unanimously "voice" vote to accept Mr. Huggler's application.

VII. Recess:

Camp was recessed for a break at 7:34 P.M. and the meeting reconvened at 7:50 P.M..

VIII. Committee Reports:

Commander Shumway directed that all committee heads submit their annual reports to him before the November business meeting.

Bylaws:

No report

Memorials and Graves Registration:

Bro. Williams reported entering all of the Ingham County graves registration form data from 1986 into the Camp's database. He has forwarded this information to the Department's Graves Registration Officer. He indicated Eaton and Ingham Counties information has been electronically

formatted. Barry County's information is 80% complete.

Bro. Lyons reported repairs to the Charlotte Court House gun base have been completed. The repairs involved tuck pointing, reinforcement, and crack patching. He is diligently working on the Ingham County monument survey. Measurements of some monuments need to be retaken but the project should be completed before the 2004 Mid-Winter Conference.

Bro. Lyons reported on the upcoming October 26 headstone dedication for Private Clark Koon. All of the ceremonial positions have been filled. Hughes 3rd Battery and the 7th Michigan Vol. Inf., Co. B will provide the firing squad. All Brothers are encouraged to attend the ceremony.

Membership:

No report.

Memorial Day/ Day of Remembrance:

Commander Shumway read from a letter sent by Department Commander Butgereit encouraging all Brothers to support and attend Remembrance Day activities.

Military Affairs:

No report.

Patriotic Instruction:

No report.

Program and Publicity:

Commander Shumway expressed the Camp's deep appreciation for Bro. Traub's efforts in organizing the Campfire Program scheduled for this evening. Unfortunately, it had to be cancelled due to inclement weather. Bro. Traub has committed to organizing the program next year on a date the weather will be more cooperative.

Grinnell Award:

No report.

Camp Council:

No report.

Hall Restoration:

Bro. Lyons read Bro. Aves report to the Camp. Paint has been applied to touch up the Honor Board and building exterior. The flashing on the Honor Board was replaced. Bro. Aves son and grandson assisted him with sealing the front and rear porches.

Color Guard:

No report.

IX. Orders and Communications:

Bro. Pahl reported on the 122nd National Encampment. Michigan's own Kent Armstrong was elected as Commander-in-Chief. The S.U.V.C.W. Auxiliary recruited Bro. Pahl to be its National Counselor. Bro. Pahl announced his intentions to run for the office of Junior-Vice Commander-in-Chief at the 123rd National Encampment to be held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Bro. Pahl complimented the Kentucky and Ohio Departments on their hosting of the 2003 encampment.

X. Unfinished Business:

Commander Shumway indicated the need for a Camp contingent to attend the Grand Rapids G.A.R. monument dedications ceremony on Saturday at 10:00 A.M.. A homeless person recently damaged the monument as it was being assembled. The damage was slight and quickly repaired.

Bro. Lyons reported on the September 24 G.A.R. Hall tour, living history camp, and genealogy research session. He expressed thanks to Bros. Aves, Kyle & Tom Emerick, Rousseau, and Williams for their efforts in the living history encampment. Bros. Langworthy, and Peabody were identified as being part the "spectators". 30 people attended the genealogy session and 45 people toured the hall. Commander Shumway thanked Bro. Lyons for his efforts in organizing the event.

XI. New Business:

No report.

XII. Good of the Order:

Bro. Hodges reported on a book review in a recent Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society newsletter. A Stan Reed reviewed a book regarding the story of a Robert Sneedan. The keynote article was provided by Mark Havitz who has 11 Civil War letters printed in the aforementioned Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society newsletter. Bro. Hodges circulated a photograph of himself holding a photograph of his Civil War ancestor and photographs of the genealogy/tour/living history program at the G.A.R. Hall.

Bro. Hodges reminded the Camp of the upcoming Lansing Veteran's Day Parade. The troops are to muster at 6:30 P.M. with the parade stepping off at 7:00 P.M.. There will be a memorial service and refreshments served in City Hall immediately following the parade.

Bro. Hodges reported on an upcoming presentation of Eagle Scout honors for Troop #63 in Williamston this Sunday. The keynote speaker is Mark Hobitz who has 11 Civil War letters printed in the aforementioned Mid-Michigan Civil War Society newsletter.

Bro. Tom Emerick announced the receipt of an annual grant awarded by Jackson National Life. The \$200 donation is to be applied to making the hall handicapped accessible.

Bro. Bennett announced the upcoming Family History Month, Archeology Month, and Civil War Sunday to be held at the Michigan Historical Museum. He distributed brochures amongst the Camp attendees.

Bro. Park reported his family has recently relocated back to Michigan from Maryland and he is once again gain-fully employed in the Great Lakes State.

Bros. Bob Hoffman and Mann (Camp #7) spoke out on a 2004 fundraising event in regards to the G.A.R. Island located in Eaton Rapids. The local "Friend of Island Park" organization is attempting to save the island from erosion by rebuilding the northern sea wall. It has initiated a project to sell bricks to raise the necessary funds. The bricks will cost \$25 for a single and \$50 for a double-sized brick. A separate "pod" of G.A.R./S.U.V.C.W bricks will be provided if enough requests are received. Purchasers must indicate their preference for being in the "pod" on their application. Wording on the brick can memorialize ancestors, relatives, etc.. An en masse donation from the Sons is being organized to encourage the City to rename Island Park to G.A.R. Park. Funds will also be utilized for the cleaning the G.A.R. granite monument, rebuilding the bases for the 2 Civil War cannon, and construction of a playground and a brick path to the bandstand. Bro. Mann, representing the Michigan Department, is working to

encourage donations from Camps within the Department. A special presentation is to be made at the 2004 Mid-Winter Conference. Sample photographs and a brochure were circulated amongst Camp attendees. Commander Shumway noted the Curtenius Guard Camp will consider making a donation and will encourage individual contributions from its members. Bro. Williams suggested discussing the use of the Camp Memorial Fund to purchase bricks. Commander Shumway tabled discussion of the matter until the next Camp meeting.

XIII. Treasurer's Report:

Bro. Williams Treasurer's report showed a balance of accounts at \$2,776.72 as of September 30, 2003 with \$ 30.90 in checking, \$ 1,499.69 in the Hall Restoration Fund, \$62.90 in the Memorial Fund, and \$ 1,183.23 in savings. Liabilities included \$259.40 earmarked for the Max O'Neil Fund. The Profit & Loss Statement for July 29, 2003 through September 30, 2003 showed total income for the period of \$30.00 and total expenses of \$54.03 for net loss for the period of \$-24.03

Bro. Park moved, seconded by Bro. Lyons, to accept the Treasurer's report. Discussion was called for. No discussion was forthcoming. Motion carried. +

\$33.24 in donations was raised as part of "Passing the Hat".

XIV. Closing Ritual:

Commander Brian Shumway closed the meeting per ritual at 8:40 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

**Thomas L.
Emerick**
Secretary

Any additions, corrections, or inquiries regarding the newsletter can be directed to:

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