

Curtenius Guard Camp #17

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Minutes

Meeting of the Camp
Tuesday, 30 March 2004
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 7:09 P.M. on Tuesday, 30 March 2004 at the Samuel W. Grinnell G.A.R. Hall, Sunfield, Michigan. Commander Shumway draped the charter noting that this is in mourning for Brother Horace N. Rumsey, True Son, of David G. Caywood Camp No. 146, Department of New York, and for Brother Aaron Martin Landis, Jr. of John Hartranft Camp No. 15, Department of Pennsylvania. The charter will be draped through 30 April. It was also reported that Commander-in-Chief Kent Armstrong's stepfather passed away.

II. Roll Call:

Brothers present:

Lavern Aves, Marc Bennetts, David Coon, Kyle Emerick, Thomas Emerick, Keith Harrison, Andrew Hart, Paul Hodges, Tom Huggler, Charles Langworthy, Jim Lyons, David Neese, Mark Neese, Michael Neese, James B. Pahl, Wendel Peabody, Ken Rousseau Brian Shumway, Dana Traub, and Dick Williams

Brothers excused:

Luke Coon, Zach Coon, Nathan Harrison, James Hilts, Richard Lee, Michael Mitchell, John Nash, James A.K. Pahl, J Douglas Park, Todd Rakestraw and David Rehkopf.

Sick Call:

None reported.

III. Welcome to Guests:

Bro. Gary Gibson, PDC, of Camp No. 20 was warmly welcomed as well as Robert Walter, Dan Ayres & Don Lake of Lake Odessa whom were introduced as guests of Bro. Dana Traub. Joe Jones of East Lansing, Brad Likewise, and Arthur Pickering of Needmore visited out of curiosity due to his interest in collecting Civil War artifacts and memorabilia.

IV. Approval of Minutes:

Bro. Lyons moved, seconded by Bro. Coon to approve of the minutes of the November 25th, 2003 meeting. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

Concerns for Brothers:

None reported.

New Members and Initiations:

JVC David Neese presented the application of Ervin H. A. Stahl for membership as an associate brother. Bro. Neese indicated the paperwork was in order. Bro. Kieth Harrison moved to accept the application and to vote on the membership by voice vote. Bro. Hodges seconded the motion and it passed with one dissenting vote by Bro. James B. Pahl who preferred the traditional use of the ballot box. The Camp proceeded to unanimously "voice" vote to accept Mr. Stahl's application. Acting Chaplain Lyons and Commander Shumway then initiated Mr. Stahl by the prescribed ritual.

VII. Recess:

Camp was recessed for a break at 7:37 P.M. and the meeting reconvened at 7:55 P.M.

Committee Reports:

Bylaws:

No report

Memorials and Graves Registration:

No report.

Membership:

No report.

Memorial Day/ Day of Remembrance:

No report.

Military Affairs:

No report.

Patriotic Instruction:

No report.

Program and Publicity:

No report.

Grinnell Award:

No report.

Camp Council:

No report.

Hall Restoration:

Bro. Aves reported about the committee's plan to build a ramp up to rear porch. Money donated by Jackson National Life will help cover the cost of the construction. A letter was received from the Eaton County Historical Commission regarding application, nomination and selection of grants and awards for historical sites and organizations within the county. Information was included on sponsoring meetings at the old court house in downtown Charlotte.

Color Guard:

No report.

Orders and Communications:

Bro. John Nash has moved to Arkansas. He can be reached at 3986 Oak Grove Loop, Mountain View, AR 72560. Ph. (870) 269-2788, email jnash@mvtel.net. A letter was received from the John A. Logan Camp No. 1 endorsing the renomination of Bruce Butgereit as Department Commander. Bro. Shumway read the letter aloud before it passed through the camp. An announcement was received by Mike Hook of the History Preservation Association of Barry County that they will be presenting a program on the Life and Times of General George A. Custer. An application was received for subscriptions to a newspaper called "Civil War Courier". Information can be obtained at ctclass@lcs.net. A letter was received by Richard Greene, Department JVC, member of the Gov. Henry Crapo Camp No. 145 in Flint, advocating his reelection at the upcoming Department encampment. Bro. Keith Harrison presented and read aloud a letter informing the Camp and its Brothers that he and his wife will be including Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17 in their will as a recipient of part of the proceeds of their estate. He also presented the Camp \$200, which is the first of 5 installments totaling \$1000 to be used by the Camp for needs it deems appropriate.

X. Unfinished Business:

Due to the cancellation of the snowed out January meeting, the Camp still needed to nominate delegates for the Department Encampment slated for April 24th in Grand Rapids. Brothers volunteering to be delegates were Dick Williams, Michael Neese, Kyle Emerick and Tom Emerick. Discussion ensued and it was determined that the balance of camp members would be nominated as alternate delegates. Being an off schedule election, the slate of delegates was first approved by the Camp Council. Bro. Keith Harrison moved with motion seconded by Bro. Lyons, that the slate of delegates be approved as determined by the Camp Council. Motion carried.

XI. New Business:

Bro. Keith Harrison presented and read aloud a letter of endorsement by Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17 for the candidacy of James B. Pahl for the office of National Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief at the upcoming 123rd National Encampment. It was moved by Bro. Harrison and seconded by Bro. Lyons that the camp endorse Bro. Pahl as mentioned in the letter. Motion carried unanimously. Copies of the letter were signed by the Camp Commander and Secretary and forwarded to the Department and National Secretaries.

XII. Good of the Order:

Bro. Traub will be presenting martial and other old music on a vintage Victrola cylinder record player he brought to the camp after the meeting is adjourned. Bro. Hodges presented five Eagle Scouts with certificates for their genealogical research into their Civil War Veteran ancestors. He & Bro. Peabody will be attending several more ceremonies in the near future. Bro. Lyons attended a day long session of the Sunfield Historical Geneological Society on March 20th that was attended by more than 70 people. He spoke to the attendees about genealogical information recovery and the related G.A.R. records after which 40 to 45 people were allowed to tour the hall. Bro. Peabody presented information on a genealogical research website called ancestorplus.com. Bro. Pahl mentioned that the infamous "Teabox Papers" at the Marshall Historical Society are now available for public viewing. Bro. Aves announced Flag Day dinner and presentation will be held at the Michigan

Historical Museum in Lansing on June 14th at 6pm in which traditional Civil war era music will be played, military reenactors will be sharing stories about everyday life of the Civil War soldier, and the Civil War battle flags of Michigan will be on display. Information can be obtained by calling (517) 373-1905. Bro. Shumway announced that he and his wife will be in Germany from May 18th through June 2nd to visit his wife's family.

XIII. Treasurer's Report:

Bro. Williams reminded the camp that the dues were increased to \$30 at the November meeting. Bro. Williams moved to drop the \$5 January late fee due to the snowstorm induced cancellation of the January meeting and to reimburse late fees already paid. Motion seconded by Bro. Keith Harrison. Motion carried.

Bro. Williams moved, seconded by Bro. Bro. Harrison that the Camp shall pay Helen Edwards Tent No. 30 DUCVW rent for use of the G.A.R. hall. Motion carried with one dissenting vote by Bro. James B. Pahl.

Bro. Williams Treasurer's report showed a balance of accounts as of March 30, 2004 with \$23.40 in checking, \$ 1775.99 in the Hall Restoration Fund, \$62.98 in the Memorial Fund, and \$1789.25 in savings.

Bro. Harrison moved, seconded by Bro. Lyons to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

XIV. Closing Ritual:

Commander Brian Shumway closed the meeting per ritual at 8:49 P.M..

Respectfully Submitted,
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

Michael T. Neese

Secretary

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

Michael Neese
903 S Bostwick St
Charlotte, Michigan 48813-2172
(517) 541-0054

neesemic@pilot.msu.edu