

Curtenius Guard
Camp #17
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 27, 2005

Samuel W. Grinnell
GAR Post #283 Hall
115 Main Street
Sunfield, Michigan

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

I. Opening Ritual:

Camp Commander Brian Shumway opened the meeting per Ritual at 7:10 PM.

II. Roll Call:

Brothers Present: Marc Bennetts, Keith Harrison, Paul Hodges, Charles Langworthy, Bill Miller, David Rehkopf, George Roux, Ron Shull, Brian Shumway, Ervin Stahl, Dana Traub, and John Warren.

Brothers Excused: Nathan Harrison, James Hilts, Jim Lyons, Michael Mitchell, John Nash, James A. Pahl, and James B. Pahl.

III. Approval of Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as transmitted, motion passed.

IV. Concern for Brothers:

Commander Shumway referenced the passing of Brother Floyd E. Wallace of Governor Crapo Camp #145. Brother Wallace was the father of Past Department Commander David Wallace.

V. New Members and Initiations:

No applicants were brought forth for the Camp's consideration; however, Junior Vice Camp Commander Miller reported that he was discussing the matter of membership with his cousin.

VI. Committee Reports:

Camp Council – No Report.

Bylaws - No report.

Memorials and Graves Registration - Brother Miller reported that the Department would be having a Graves

Registration Meeting on September 17, 2005, at the State Library in Lansing.

GAR Monuments - No report.

Eagle Scouts Certificates - Brother Hodges reported that he attended two Eagle Scout Courts of Honor since the last Camp meeting, one in June, and one in July. He indicated that the scout at the July Court of Honor had five Civil War ancestors. Membership was discussed with the scout and his parents.

Membership - Brother Miller reminded the Camp that a recruiting desk would be set up at the upcoming Sunfield Farmer's picnic on Saturday, August 27, 2005.

Military Affairs - No report.

Program and Publicity - Brother Traub reported that he is in the process of arranging for the appearance of Dr. Lola Hallar from Lake Odessa to give a first person presentation on Civil War notable, Sarah Edmund. He also indicated that he was talking with Marty Walker of the 3rd Infantry reenactors for a presentation for later this year or early next year.

Hall Restoration – No Report.

Memorial Day Activities – No Report.

Grinnell Award - No Report

VII. Orders and Communications:

Camp Commander Shumway indicated that he was in receipt of the Michigan Department Commander's Orders #1 Series 2005-2006. Most of the Orders were routine. Three Orders were pertinent to the Camp.

- Order #12 encouraged all Camps to appoint a Camp Signals Officers who would be responsible for distributing the *Michigan's Messenger* to those Camp members who do not have email. This duty would begin in January 1, 2006. It was recommended that before the Camp Commander formally appoint a Camp Signals Officer that the Camp Bylaws be consulted to see if such an appointed position existed in the Camp Bylaws (*Postscript, the current Camp Bylaws do not provide for a Camp Signals Officer*). If it were found that the position did not exist in the Bylaws, then the matter would need to be turned over to the

Bylaws Committee for review. In the interim, it was decided to have the Camp Commander ask a Camp Brother to volunteer to take on the described duties until the Camp Bylaws were reviewed and/or revised. Brother Rehkopf volunteered.

- Order #13 encouraged Camps to acquire their own Internet web site. Camp Commander Shumway appointed Camp Secretary Harrison and himself as a committee to look into the matter further.

- Order #17 encouraged Brothers to seek out and photograph monuments to Michigan's Civil War soldiers that exist on Civil War battlefields and to submit those photographs to Brother James B. Pahl. Brother Warren indicated that he had already submitted some photographs to Brother Pahl.

VIII. Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

IX. New Business: Camp Commander Shumway had the Camp participate in a "Strategic Planning" session to help determine which events (and hopefully help ensure participation in those events) that the Camp should participate during the year. The choices provided included: Memorial Day Parade and Activities, Veterans Day Parade, Sunfield Farmer's Picnic, Department Encampment, Department Midwinter, National Encampment, and a write in category for other ideas. Each Camp member was provided four votes to distribute among the listed events.

In addition to the above exercise, Camp members were asked to indicate on a separate paper entitled "Doing My Part" the Camp activity or activities that they personally would be interested in participating. The choices provided included, Being a Camp officer, Being a Camp committee member, Participating in some Camp event, and a write in category for other ideas. Camp members could choose any or all of the listed activities.

X. Recess:

The Camp was recessed for 15 minutes to allow Camp members to complete their "Strategic Planning" assignment. The results of the exercise will be reported on at the September meeting.

XI. Good of the Order:

Camp Commander Shumway indicated that a nominating committee would be appointed at the September meeting to develop a slate of Camp officers for consideration at the November meeting. He asked the Camp members to consider running for one of the Camp positions.

Brother Harrison presented the Camp Commander Shumway with a picture for display in the hall of Camp members taken with the Governor of Michigan following the Lansing, Michigan Memorial Day parade in June 2005.



Brother Harrison asked the Camp if it was necessary to continue to include a map to the hall that goes out in the meeting notices. It was a consensus of the Camp that the map did not need to be sent along with the agenda. In addition, Brother Harrison stated that he would begin transmitting the Camp minutes and agendas as Adobe Acrobat PDFs (Portable Document Format). Recipients of these documents need only have Adobe Acrobat Reader (which is free on the Internet) on their computers to access the minutes and agendas. Individuals who do not have email would still be sent the minutes and agendas via U.S. mail.

Brother Harrison indicated that a new membership and mailing listing would be sent out along with this meeting's minutes. Any corrections to this listing should be sent to Brother Harrison via email or US mail.

Brother Rehkopf informed the Camp that on Saturday, August 13, 2005, there would be a historical miniature war-gaming convention held in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The convention will be held from 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM at the Kalamazoo Valley Community College, 6767 W. O Avenue, Kalamazoo. Admission is \$10.00. For more

information, email Tod Kershner at Kershner@net-link.net.

XII. Treasurer's Report:

Brother Warren reported that the Camp had \$3,948 in the savings and \$373 in the checking accounts. He indicated that he would be developing a motion to be brought before the Camp at either the September or November recommending that the Camp should consider purchasing a Certificate of Deposit in order to make better use of the monies sitting in the Camp's treasury. In a related matter, Commander Shumway indicated that Department had just approved the purchase of a \$12,000 Certificate of Deposit.

A total of \$21.00 was added to the Treasury as a result of "Passing of the Hat" at the meeting.

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

XIII. Closing Ritual:

The Camp was closed per Ritual at 9:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted in
Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Keith G. Harrison, PCinC
Camp Secretary
(pcinc@prodigy.net)