

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

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 25, 2006
Samuel W. Grinnell
GAR Post #283 Hall
115 Main Street
Sunfield, Michigan

Commander Ron Shull assigned Brothers to fill vacancies of absent officers by appointment Pro Temp.

I. Opening Ritual: Camp

Commander Shull opened the meeting per Ritual at 7:06 PM.

Three Guest were introduced: Jesse LaSorta, Scott Shattuck, and Jordon Page. Jesse is a local historian and was responsible for the rededication of 10 Civil War soldiers (from the 102nd U.S. Colored Troops and the 54 Massachusetts) in the Mt Hope Cemetery. Scott Shattuck, local historian and middle school teacher in Mason, Michigan, specializes in the history of the Curtenius Guards, also known as Company B of the 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry and other Civil War soldiers from Ingham County. Scott also is very active in Civil War soldier tombstone restorations and rededications. He takes his middle school classes each year to places such as Gettysburg, Antietam, and Harpers Ferry. Scott will be the speaker for tonight's program. Jordon is a Grand Valley Community College student and a former student of Scott's from Mason.

II. Roll Call:

Brothers Present: Arnold, Aves, Traub, Keith Harrison, Hodge Langworthy, Lyons, Miller, James B. Pahl, Peabody, Roux, Shull, Taub, and Warren.

Brothers Excused: Aumaugher, Bennetts, Luke Coons, Zack Coon, Emerick, Nathan Harrison, Hilts, Mitchell, Nash, and James A. Pahl, Park, Shumway, and Stahl.

III. Approval of Minutes: It was moved and seconded that the minutes as transmitted be approved, motion passed.

IV. Concern for Brothers:

Brothers Harrison and Pahl brought the Camp up-to-date on the status of Brother Mike Mitchell. According to Carol Mitchell, Mike's wife, Mike is currently recovering from surgery to remove fluid from the outside of his right lung. Mike has been ill now for over a year. His prognosis has remained poor for all this time. The doctor had an x-ray taken last Monday afternoon and there was no sign of leakage back into the plural cavity, so he feels that the surgery to glue the pleura to the lining of the chest wall was successful. They need to wait for another week or so to get the report back on the fluid contents that were drained off. If it is free of malignant cells, then they can continue with treatment. If malignant cells are in the fluid, there is not much that can be done. They are scheduled to see the radiologist on August 1. The family hopes to have more information by then. The Camp will keep Mike in its prayers.

V. New Members and Initiations:

Brother Miller reported that there have been no new applications.

VI. Committee Reports:

Camp Council - The Camp Council will have a report later in the meeting.

Bylaws - No report.

Graves Registration - Brother Miller indicated that he attended the June 20, 2006 Department Graves Registration meeting. The next one will be in September.

Memorials and Monuments - No report.

Eagle Scouts Certificates - No report.

Membership - No report.

Military Affairs - No report.

Patriotic Instruction - No Report.

Program and Publicity - No report.

Hall Restoration - Brother Aves indicated that the foundation of the Hall was in good condition. In response to a question about the eventual need to totally redo the foundation, Brother Ave indicated that it was unlikely and would be unwise to do this, as it would most likely jeopardize the integrity of the Hall. The best approach is

to continue to inspect the foundation and to fix areas, as they need attention. He also indicated that, based on his and Brother Lyon's inspection, the windows are in need of reglazing and the outside of the Hall should be repainted sometime this fall. Brother Aves indicated that he would no longer be able to chair the Hall Restoration Committee but continue in the capacity as a consultant. Camp Commander indicated that the Camp would need to begin to the planning process in order to complete the needed repairs. Brother Pahl indicated that we should be able to repaint the Hall in about a day if all the preparation work has been completed and the material is available. Brother Pahl offered his assistance. Commander Shull also indicated that he had been contacted by Brother Doug Park, who will also inspect the Hall in the near future.

Grinnell Award - No Report

VII. Orders and Communications:

Commander Shull indicated that there were no orders or communications other than what appeared in the most recent *Michigan's Messenger*.

VIII. Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

The Camp took a brief recess during which time Mr. Scott Shattuck provided the Camp with a most informative presentation on the history of the Curtenius Guards of Ingham County and the 7th Michigan Company B. Scott presented about 40 pieces of fabulous memorabilia associated with the Curtenius Guards. Among these were historical items associated with Philip Kernan and Amos Steele, who were the first and second captains of Company B. He also presented material associated with the two Mason, Michigan Grand Army of the Republic Posts named for each man (McKernan Post and Steele Brothers Post).

As a person specializing in the conservation of pieces of historical memorabilia, Scott suggested the Camp and Daughters should consider the process of getting all the pictures and paper memorabilia in the Hall reproduced similar to what the Ingham County Historical Society is currently doing with all of its pictures and paper artifacts in the Mason, Michigan courthouse. He

indicated that the process could not be done overnight; however, the end product would be worth it should the worse ever scenario ever happen and the Hall and its contents would be damaged or destroyed. He recommended Lansing Repo Graphics as the local company that could do this. Ingham County is using this company.

Certificates of appreciation were presented by Brother Dave Arnold and Camp Commander Shull to both Scott and Jesse in recognition of their efforts to help preserve the memory of the men who help save the union of the country during the Civil War. Applications for membership also were presented.

The Camp meeting was again resumed.

IX. New Business: Brother Bill Miller indicated that due to family issues, he needed to step down as Junior Vice Commander. The Camp Council indicated that in response to this resignation, it had met and elected Brother Dave Arnold to complete the term as Camp Junior Vice Commander. Camp Commander Shull asked for someone from among the Camp membership to consider replacing Bill as the Camp's representative to the Department's Graves Registration Committee.

X. Good of the Order: Brother Pahl indicated that the annual Sunfield Farmer's picnic will take place on the weekend of August 19 & 20 and that volunteers were needed to assist the Daughters at the Hall. Also, he indicated that the Department will have a hospitality tent at the Jackson, Michigan Civil War Muster on the weekend of August 25 – 27 and that members of the Camp are encouraged to stop in at the tent.

Brother Peabody indicated that former member Thomas Huggler had contacted him and expressed an interest in again becoming a member once he has completed his current task of writing his Civil War book.

Brother Harrison reminded the Camp of the upcoming National Encampment and encouraged Camp members to consider attending this special 125th National Encampment at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Anyone who has not already done so should contact Brother Harrison as soon as

possible if they intend on making the National Encampment.

Brother Harrison also reminded the Camp that, assuming all goes well, the next meeting our own Jim Pahl will be in attendance as the newest Commander-in-Chief of our Order.

XI. Treasurer Report. Camp Treasurer Warren reported that the Camp currently had 213.51 in its checking account, \$2,042.08 in its Hall Restoration Fund, and \$2,057.36 in its CD. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer Report; motion passed.

XII. Closing Ritual: The Camp was closed per Ritual by Camp Commander Shull at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted in
Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

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



Presentation by Scott Shattuck on Curtenius Guards of Ingham County (Scott Shattuck, Keith Harrison, Ron Shull John Warren, and George Roux



Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to Jesse Lasorda by Paul "Dave" Arnold.