

# Curtenius Guard

## Camp #17

<http://suvcw.org/mi/017/017home.htm>

### Department of Michigan Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

#### Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 28, 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 7:05 PM.

One Guest was introduced, Steve Janeke. Steve is from Lansing. His Civil War ancestor was Henry Lapp, a residence St Joseph County, Indiana who enlisted on November 16, 1864 as a Private into Company G of the 29th Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered out on November 16, 1865.

Also, upon acknowledgment of three knocks on the Camp door and the checking of his membership card by the Camp Guard, it was announced that the James B. Pahl, National Commander-in-Chief (CinC) of the Order, was seeking admission to the Camp. The National CinC was escorted to the alter where upon he saluted the Camp Commander and was introduced to the Camp. He then was asked to join the Camp Commander upon the podium for the duration of the meeting.

#### **II. Roll Call:**

**Brothers Present:** Arnold, Keith Harrison, Hodges, Langworthy, James B. Pahl, Park, Peabody, Rehkopf, Roux, Shull, Shumway, Traub, and Warren.

**Brothers Excused:** Aumaugher, Aves, Bennetts, Luke Coons, Zack Coon, Emerick, Nathan Harrison, Hilts, Lee, Lyons, Miller, Mitchell, Nash, James A. Pahl, Shattuck, and Stahl.

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

**IV. Concern for Brothers:** It was reported that Brother Ervin Stahl is recovering from eye surgery and that Brother Lyons and Kay Lyons were in an automobile accident. Both Jim and Kay were reported as being ok though. It also was mentioned that Brother Chuck Worley of the Kalamazoo Camp also was in an automobile accident. He currently is in the hospital in Kalamazoo and is getting better.

**V. New Members and Initiations:** Junior Vice Camp Commander Dave Arnold reported that he had a complete application from Robert Z. Burgin, a student from Norfolk, Nebraska, who was seeking membership with the Camp. His qualifying ancestor was his great great grandfather, Velie Sowles, who was mustered into service on November 28, 1863 as a Private in the Illinois 2nd Light Artillery Battery F and was honorably discharged on July 27, 1865. He was recommended by Brother Harrison. A motion was made and seconded to elect Robert Burgin into the Camp; motion passed. Brother Burgin was enrolled into the Camp membership.

*The Camp took a brief 15-minute recess.*

**VI. Committee Reports:**  
**Camp Council** - No report.

**Bylaws** - No report.

**Graves Registration** - No report.

**Memorials and Monuments** - No report.

**Eagle Scouts Certificates** – Brother Hodges reported that he had presented certificates at four Courts of Honor but that there were three additional Courts that he could not attend. Since he became involved with the SUVCW Eagle Scouts Certificate program in 2000, he has presented 68 certificates and attended 58 Courts of Honor. He indicated that since he was going to repeat venues for his presentations and in order keep his presentation fresh, he started to relate to the audiences what had transpired during the Civil War on the date corresponding to the month and day of the Court of Honor. According to Brother Hodges, it had got to the point

that the Boy Scouts and their parents started asking him prior to the meeting what aspect of the Civil War he was going to talk about. All in all, and especially due to Brother Hodges' dedication, the Eagle Scout Certificate Program has been a tremendous success. He also indicated that he would be stepping down from this role as of this year. His shoes are going to be hard to fill.

**Membership** - Junior Vice Camp Commander Arnold reported that he wants to start going out to various groups and organizations that traditionally have not been sought after by the Camp. In order to do this, he was looking at putting together a traveling presentation that could be taken to the different venues. One idea for this was putting together a professional presentation board and also developing a DVD presentation. It was requested that Brother Arnold put together a price package for the stated presentation board that the Camp officers could review and act upon prior to the next Camp meeting.

CinC Pahl indicated that he was aware of professionally done radio spots that were in the process of being put together by the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief and that these may be useful to the Camp in the future.

**Military Affairs** - Camp Secretary Harrison reported the Camp's involvement in the Friends of Michigan History and the City of Lansing's Veterans Day programs. He also talked about the Camp's and the Michigan Departments involvement in the highly successful 50th anniversary programs that took place in Gettysburg for Remembrance Day. From the Camp, CinC Pahl, Camp Commandery Shull, and Camp Secretary Harrison participated in the Remembrance Day activities.

It was indicated by CinC Pahl that approximately 40 Brothers from Michigan and a highly dedicated contingent headed up by Marcia Butgereit from the Michigan Department's Woman's Relief Corps participated. The Michigan contingent decorated the graves of Michigan soldiers, and participated in the annual ceremony at the Grand Army of the Republic monument of Albert Woolson,

the annual Remembrance Day parade, and a ceremony remembering the Third Michigan at its Gettysburg monument. In addition, a new member to the Michigan Department's Camp-at-Large was sworn in at the monument to the 16th Michigan.

Following the day's activities, a military ball was held by the SUVCW's Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) with the profits from the ball going to the upkeep of the Civil War monuments at Gettysburg. CinC Pahl indicated that since the SUVCW's SVR started donating the profits of the ball to the park, close to \$50,000 has been collected.

Commander Shull also indicated that a new SVR unit was in the process of being formed and that anyone who has an interest in participating should contact him.

Brother Harrison indicated that CinC's color guard for the annual Remembrance Day parade was composed Michigan men from the 14th Michigan SVR, representatives from five Camps and a contingent from the 102nd US Colored Troops. It was very impressive. In addition to carrying the CinC's colors, the Michigan Color Guard also was afforded the honor of carrying the colors of the SVR Commanding Officer in the parade. The next National event that the 14th Michigan SVR (and, who knows, maybe the CinC's entire color guard) could possibly participate in will be the Springfield, Illinois Lincoln Tomb ceremony on April 14, 2007.

*Patriotic Instruction* - No Report.

*Program and Publicity* - No report.

*Hall Restoration* - No report.

*Grinnell Award* - No Report

#### **VII. Orders and Communications:**

CinC Pahl discussed some changes in the organization of the Annual Lincoln Tomb programs that takes place in Springfield, Illinois. He also indicated that the next National Encampment should have in attendance all five of the National Orders. He encouraged the Camp members to access the web and the National Quartermaster's supply list since there were several new items available.

**VIII. Unfinished Business:** There was no unfinished business.

**IX. New Business:** There was no new business.

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

Camp Commander Shull indicated that he was disappointed in the Camp's turnout for the two Veterans Day program and encouraged everyone to try to do better next year.

Brother Harrison indicated that interior pictures of the hall were now on the web site and that pictures from Remembrance Day will be on both the Camp's and Department's web pages soon.

Brother Park indicated that he has come across of plat book from Oceania County that documents the presence of Camp Houk and that he was planning on investigating that when he has some time.

Brother Warren indicated that he has received feedback from Charleton Park regarding why they prefer not to hold any additional reenactments. Apparently, there have been problems (various types of problems) caused by a few reenactors that end up resulting in the Park expending more money to correct or clean up than the Park takes in during the event.

The Camp Treasurer indicated that the checking account contained \$207.96, the savings account contained \$2,150.12, and the CD contained \$2,132.76. He also indicated that there were three members in arrears for 2006 dues and despite attempts to contact them, no dues have been forthcoming. A motion was made and seconded to drop Brothers Charles Brown, Ralph Larson, and Mark Neese for non payment of dues; motion passed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report; motion passed.

#### **XI. Nominations and Elections**

The following individuals were nominated and elected for Camp officers for 2007:

Camp Commander: Ron Shull,  
Camp Senior Vice Commander: David Rehkopf,  
Camp Junior Vice Commander: Dave Arnold,

Camp Secretary: Keith Harrison,  
Camp Treasurer: Brian Shumway, and  
Camp Council: George Roux, Wendel Peabody, and Dana Traub.

Camp Delegates: A motion was made and seconded that all Camp Brothers with names beginning with the letter "A" and continuing down the alphabet who otherwise do not have standing credentials be elected as Camp Delegates to the Department Encampment up to the number of delegates allowed by the Order's Constitution and Regulations and that the remaining Camp Brothers who otherwise do not have standing credentials be elected as Camp Alternate Delegates; motion passed.

The Camp Commander announced several of his appointments for 2007:  
Camp Guard: Wendel Peabody  
Color Bearer: Dana Traub  
Chaplain - George Roux  
Camp Historian: Scott Shattuck  
Program and Publicity Chair: Dave Arnold  
Military Affairs Chair: Keith Harrison.  
The remaining appointments will be announced at the January 2007 meeting prior to Installation of Officers.

**XII. Camp Raffle:** The Camp conducted a small raffle in lieu "Passing the Hat." Items raffled include some books and, in particular, a real live (well, not really live) American flag-clothed roster that Brother Doug Park was fortunate enough to win. To say the least, Brother Park was speechless with delight. It is almost certain that this priceless American Icon will most likely re-appear at future Camp raffles.

**XIII. Closing Ritual:** The Camp was closed per Ritual by Camp Commander Shull at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted in  
Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

*Keith G. Harrison*

**Keith G. Harrison, PCinC  
Camp Secretary  
([pcinc@prodigy.net](mailto:pcinc@prodigy.net))**

## Curtenius Guard Camp #17

Some Photographs from the Remembrance Day Celebration at Gettysburg November 18, 2006



A portion of the Michigan soldier's graves at Gettysburg with U.S. and Michigan flags placed.



Camp Commander Ron Shull



A portion of the Michigan Color Guard at Woolson Monument Program



More of the Michigan Color Guard



**Woolson Grand Army of the Republic Monument**



**Camp Commander Ron Shull, Carol Pahl, CinC Jim Pahl, PCinC Keith Harrison at Woolson Monument**



A portion of the 102nd USCT with CinC Jim Pahl before the parade.



A little boy who had his wish come true (from "Make-a-Wish") to participate in the Remembrance Day Program. The Boy was made a junior in the Order (His SUVCW medal is visible on his The sack coat).



Most of the Michigan Color Guard for the Commander-in-Chief



Front file of Michigan Color Guard for the Commander-in-Chief



The beginning of the almost two-hour parade.





Part of the parades reviewing dignitaries including the Captain and two officers from the *USS Gettysburg*



Department of Michigan Ceremony at Third Michigan Monument



**Department of Michigan Ceremony at Third Michigan Monument  
CinC Jim Pahl Speaking at Ceremony**



**Department of Michigan Ceremony at Third Michigan Monument**



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