

# Curtenius Guard

## Camp #17

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

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

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 30, 2007

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

The Camp conducted a Memorial Day Ceremony at the front of the GAR Hall. Commander-in-Chief (CinC) James B. Pahl and Sunfield Boy Scout Troop 157 assisted in the ceremony. Following the ceremony, the Camp retired to the Camp room for its meeting.

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 7:20 P.M.

### II. Roll Call:

**Brothers Present:** Arnold, Aves, Bennetts, Keith Harrison, Hodges, Langworthy, James B. Pahl, Peabody, Roux, Shull, Shumway, and Stahl.

**Brothers Excused:** Burgin, Luke Coons, Zack Coon, Emerick, Nathan Harrison, Hiltz, Lee, Lyons, Miller, Nash, and James A. Pahl.

Guest John Miller was introduced. He had a relative that served in the 114th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. DeWitt Camp 58 Member Ken Rousseau also was present for the meeting.

**III. Approval of Minutes:** It was moved and seconded that the March 27, 2007 meeting minutes be approved as transmitted; motion passed.

**IV. Concern for Brothers:** Dave Arnold reported that Brother Bill Miller's wife was doing much better and that her cancer appears to be in remission. He also reported that Brother

Miller's 105 year old mother also was doing well.

### V. New Members and Initiations:

Junior Vice Camp Commander Arnold presented to the Camp a membership application for Robert Charles Goodyear from Warminster, Pennsylvania. His qualifying ancestor was his grandfather, Ezra Goodyear, who served in Company K, 8th Illinois Volunteer Cavalry from July 18, 1863 to July 17, 1865. Mr. Goodyear was recommended for membership by CinC Pahl. A motion was made and seconded to accept Mr. Goodyear into the Camp; motion passed.

### VI. Committee Reports:

**Camp Council** - No report.

**Bylaws** - No report.

### Graves Registration - Camp

Commander Shull indicated that he has asked the Department for a second copy of the Graves Registration computer disk containing data that was given to all the Camps about 2 years ago. Our Camp apparently lost its first copy. Junior Vice Camp Commander Arnold suggested that this would be a good tool to have when we are talking to the public at various events.

**Memorials and Monuments** - No report.

**Eagle Scouts Certificates** –Commander Shull indicated that SUVCW's Eagle Scout certificates had been provided to 8 eagle scouts since the last Camp meeting. Brother Hodges read a nice thank you note that he had received (recognizing his service as the Camp's Eagle Scout Coordinator) from Scoutmaster Ralph Shuck, Williamston Troop #63.

**Membership** - No report.

**Military Affairs** - No report.

**Patriotic Instruction** – Brother Hodges shared with the Camp a collection of Civil War stamps from 1996.

**Program and Publicity** – Junior Vice Camp Commander Arnold showed the Camp a new generic Camp informational brochure that he had put together for use at various events. Brother Shumway indicated that he would be able to have copies made of the new brochure.

Brother Arnold indicated that he has come across of newspaper reporter from the *Grand Ledge Independence* that wants to do a piece on the GAR hall and the Order. CinC Pahl indicated that a similar article was done around 1987 in conjunction with the historical GAR Hall marker dedication and that a new newspaper article would be helpful to help promote the Camp.

Brother Arnold indicated that he has been looking into what would be needed to clean the GAR section at Mt Hope Cemetery. Thus far, he has been able to get advice regarding what would be needed to clean GAR monument and also all the individual tombstones. He also has been in contact with the Jackson Camp regarding the best way to raise and realign all the individual tombstones using the Jackson tombstone tripod (Brother Aves indicated that he too had that equipment). Brother Arnold has been in contact with the Lansing Board of Water and Light to possibly assist in the painting of the flagpole, with the veterans groups to provide a new "Civil War" US flag (to be flown beneath the current US flag), and with a local turf management company to completely redo (replant, treat, etc) all the grass within the plot. He is currently in the process of trying to obtain a grant for a good share of the material and supplies needed to do all the work and will be applying for a grant from the National Organization to help cover the costs for some of the items not capable of being obtained through donations or other grants. Finally, Brother Arnold indicated that the Mt Hope Cemetery officials had given the Camp authorization to proceed with whatever was needed to improve the GAR Plot.

It is envisioned that a rededication program of the GAR monument and graves could take place late summer or early fall. Brother Harrison indicated that plans also were already underway to help ensure that such rededication program have in attendance troops from the various Civil War reenactment organizations. A motion was made and seconded to proceed with the Lansing Mt Hope Cemetery GAR Plot restoration and rededication plan as outlined by Junior Vice Camp Commander Arnold; motion passed.

**Hall Restoration** - No report.

**Grinnell Award** – No report.

#### **VII. Orders and**

**Communications:** Commander Shull indicated that he was in receipt of a letter from Donald W. Shaw, current National Counselor, announcing his candidacy and requesting endorsement for one of the upcoming vacancies on the National Council of Administration this coming August. A motion was made and seconded to endorse Brother Shaw for the position; motion passed.

**VIII. Unfinished Business:** It was indicated the Daughters were planning a flag retirement ceremony on Flag Day (June 14, 2007) and that the Camp was invited to attend. The ceremony would take place during the evening. Brother Peabody indicated that he could attend and represent the Camp. Brother Shumway also indicated that he might be able to attend.

**IX. New Business:** Brothers Harrison and Peabody indicated that they had been approached regarding Eagle Scout projects associated with the GAR Hall. More information will need to be obtained and coordination with the Daughters before anything will take place.

**X. Good of the Order:** CinC Pahl indicated that he was privileged to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington, DC on Monday, May 28th on behalf of the Order

Brother Bennetts donated to the Camp a copy of the recent (Volume 91, Number 3) issue of *Michigan History Magazine*. Contained in this issue was an article by Jerome Fallon recognizing Michigan native and poet Will Carleton and his poem that he delivered at Arlington Cemetery in 1877. The exceedingly long poem entitled, *Converse with the Slain*, was hailed as a great success when it was first presented.

Brother Aves reported on the Grand Ledge Parade in which he, Ken Rousseau from DeWitt Camp 58, and Lavern's great grandson, Makell Lavern and a neighbor boy of Ken's named Christen, participated in the parade.

Brother Hodges indicated that the Mid Michigan Genealogical Society and Abrams Foundation will be sponsoring

noted genealogist, Colleen Fitzpatrick at the upcoming Abrams Genealogy Seminar on July 20 and 21 in Lansing. Ms. Fitzpatrick presentation will focus on the analyses of old photographs. Additional information on this program may be obtained by going to: <http://www.msu.edu/user/pfaff/MMGS/flyer.pdf> on the Internet.

Brother Harrison indicated that photographs (thanks to Brother Shumway) from the Camp's May 26th Mt Hope Cemetery Memorial Day program were available on the Camp's website under News.

Brother Shumway indicated that due to reorganization of the Park's Board, Charleton Park will again be hosting an annual Civil War reenactment. In addition, many other types of activities will take place at the Park again.

Brother Arnold reported on the acquisition and significance of the GAR Altar Swords that he brought to the Camp meeting.

Brother Arnold presented CinC Pahl with plaque depicting the new SUVCW challenge coin. One of the new coins was passed around the Camp to look at.

**XI. Treasurer Report:** Camp Treasurer Shumway presented a detailed report on the Camp finances. The Camp has a total of \$4,098.35. This is broken down as follows: Certificate of Deposit: \$2,187.36, Checking account: \$239.00 and Savings account: \$1,671.99. The Camp's "Pass the Hat" resulted in \$26.00. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report; motion passed.

**XII. Closing Ritual:** The Camp was closed per Ritual by Camp Commander Shull at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted in  
Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

*Keith G. Harrison*  
**Keith G. Harrison, PCinC**  
**Camp Secretary**  
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