

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, July 31, 2007
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 7:01 P.M.

II. Roll Call:

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

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

Guests: Brother Vern Aves introduced Andrew Markell Thomas, Diane and Steve Peak, and Stacy Peak (Vern's great grandson, daughter and son-in-law, and granddaughter, respectively). Brother Dave Arnold introduced Brad Conklin, Matt VanAcker, and John Miller. Brother Keith Harrison introduced Steve Heaven.

III. Approval of Minutes: It was moved and seconded that the May 30, 2007 meeting minutes be approved as transmitted; motion passed.

IV. Concern for Brothers:

Commander-in-Chief Pahl indicated that National Chaplain Jerry Kowalski from Illinois has been diagnosed with skin cancer, which fortunately is treatable.

V. New Members and Initiations:

Andrew Makell Thomas was elected and initiated as Junior into the Camp. His

ancestor is his great great great uncle, Private Thomas Dissinger (Dysinger), Company E, Third Michigan Infantry. Junior Thomas was initiated into the Order by Commander-in-Chief James B. Pahl.

VI. Committee Reports:

Camp Council – The Council indicated that had approved between the May 30th and this Camp meeting a requested expenditure reimbursement of Junior Vice Camp Commander Arnold for \$60.00 for a power washer. Junior Vice Camp Commander Arnold stated that he had secured the \$260 power washer and a \$200 discount donation from Lowe's. The \$60 was the difference in the price.

Bylaws - No report.

Graves Registration – Camp Commander Shull read Jim Lyon's email which stated that "This report for the Camp Graves Registration Committee is unofficial as I do not hold that office. However, I find my name is on the Department listing of Camp contacts to respond to inquiries regarding these records. I have the Camp Graves Registration files pending the appointment of a new Chairman for the Committee. I have informed Rick Danes that I will continue to respond to research requests as they come in until someone else is appointed to handle these things.

During the past spring I provided assistance to Sister Vicki Scribner of Tent 30 in her search for the grave of William Willis, her great-great grandfather. He served in Co. H, 80th Ohio Infantry. He died on 10 Sept. 1877 and his grave has been unmarked for the past 130 years. A government headstone has been ordered for placement on his grave in the Kalamo Cemetery. I believe we should conduct a dedication ceremony when the stone has been set.

Chris Czopek has informed me of the publication of his book on the men whose names appear on the base of the gun in the Delta Center Cemetery. He has indicated an interest in presenting a program on this subject for a Camp meeting in the fall. Suggest that you contact him directly to make arrangements."

Memorials and Monuments - No report.

Eagle Scouts Certificates –Commander Shull indicated that the Camp did not have any requests for Eagle Scout certificates. He stated that he was still looking for a Brother to assume the

Eagle Scout Coordinator responsibilities for the Camp. Senior Vice Camp Commander Rehkopf stated that he would like to try and take on this responsibility.

Membership – Brother Arnold indicated Brad Conklin, Matt VanAcker, John Miller, and Steve Heaven had been or will soon be provided with a membership application.

Military Affairs - No report.

Patriotic Instruction – None

Program and Publicity – Junior Vice Camp Commander Arnold indicated that he was working on obtaining two programs for the future Camp meetings. One of these would be on Lincoln's assassination and one on the 1st Michigan Sharp Shooters. Jim Lyon's email report suggested a third regarding the Delta Center Cemetery.

Hall Restoration - No report.

Grinnell Award – No report.

VII. Orders and

Communications: Commander-in-Chief Pahl presented Certificate of Appreciations to Ron Shull for his participation in the Commander-in-Chief's special color guard at Remembrance Day and Dave Arnold for his work at Mt Hope Cemetery. He also presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Lansing Board of Water and Light for their assistance at Mt Hope Cemetery. Brother Arnold was given the latter certificate to give to the Board of Water and Light.

VIII. Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

IX. New Business: Brother Scott Shattuck provided the Camp with an update on the work that was being done at the Ingham County Court House on the cannon and monument. He also reported on the work that has been done and is planned for the Dubois Cemetery by the Girl Scout that was reported in the *Lansing State Journal*. He offered to serve as the liaison to this project from the Camp and to offer needed Camp assistance to the Girl Scout for her project. He indicated that at last count, there were at least 11 Civil War Veterans

buried including 2 Killed in Action plus two 1812 Veterans.

Brother Arnold reported on all the work that has taken place at Mt Hope Cemetery during the months of June and July, most of which is chronicled on the Camp's website. He also emphasized all the organizations that have contributed thus far to the project. There still remains work to be done including power washing all the headstones, laying of stone around the monument to help enhance drainage and protect it from encroaching vegetation, and possible joint work on the monument itself (to be provided Brother Doug Armstrong from the DeWitt Camp). Work also is continuing on the planning for the upcoming October 14, 2007 rededication of the GAR section by the Camp. As there is still a need for work to be done on the section and some other smaller locations within Mt Hope Cemetery, and there remains a need to secure some equipment to ensure that we can maintain the GAR section after it has been restored, there will be a need to raise funds. Given this, a motion was made and seconded to allow the Camp to start a fundraiser to help offset the extra costs; motion passed.

Requests for donations for an old working lawn mower, a post hole digger and a refrigerator dolly for use at the GAR section of Mt Hope were made. Contact Dave Arnold if you have any of these items.

Brother Paul Hodges suggested that just before the Mt Hope dedication program takes place that the Camp should place into the newspapers a listing of all the people and organizations that assisted in the project thanking them for their assistance.

The Sunfield Farmer's picnic will take place the third weekend in August. Contact Brother Wendel Peabody if you can attend.

X. Good of the Order: Brother Arnold informed the Camp of the news coverage that it had received regarding the GAR Hall, the SUVCW and what the SUVCW does. He passed out copies of some of the newspaper articles. One of the articles also is on the Camp's website. Dave also provided copies for the Camp's history records.

Brother Hodges read some material out of the 1890 GAR rules and regulations for the enjoyment of the Camp.

Treasurer Brian Shumway informed the Camp that Department made available SUVCW merchandise can be ordered off the Department's Website.

XI. Treasurer Report: Camp Treasurer Shumway presented a detailed report on the Camp finances. The Camp has a total of \$4,167.06. This is broken down as follows: Certificate of Deposit: \$2,215.64, Checking account: \$252.00 and Savings account: \$1,699.42. The Camp's "Pass the Hat" resulted in \$53.00. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report; motion passed. A motion was made to have the pass the hat proceeds for this meeting and the September meeting go towards the Mt. Hope project; motion passed.

XII. Closing Ritual: The Camp was closed per Ritual by Camp Commander Shull at 8:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted in
Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Keith G. Harrison

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

Mt Hope Cemetery Project Request for Donations

All members are encouraged to donate what they feel comfortable in donating to the Mt Hope Cemetery project. All donations will be acknowledged by letter and the donor's name will be made a part of the official October 14th Rededication Ceremony Program. No donation is too small. We are looking at raising between \$500 to \$1,000 to help defray the costs to date and the anticipated costs between now and October 14th. Donations should be made payable to Curtenius Guard Camp #17-SUVCW and sent directly to Brian Shumway, Camp 17 Treasurer, 127 W. Walnut, Hastings, 49058-2260.

Pictures of what has been done to date at the cemetery are on the website under news:

(<http://suvchw.org/mi/017/017home.htm>)