

Curtenius Guard Camp # 17

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

Department of Michigan Sons of Union Veterans Of the Civil War

Meeting Minutes

May 30, 2015

Samuel W. Grinnell
G.A.R. Post #283 Hall
115 Main Street
Sunfield, Michigan

Camp # 17 held a traditional Camp Memorial Day Service before opening the meeting.

Several Eagle Scouts were present for the Memorial Day Service. They received recognition for achieving Eagle Scout. Each Eagle Scout asked to give a short description of completed achievements that allowed him to receive the level of Eagle Scout. Commander Bankhead then individually presented each Eagle Scout with a Camp # 17 Achievement Award. The Eagle Scouts present to receive the Award included: Cameron Cotter, Matthew McDonald, Gregory Trimmer, and Jared Worden.

Commander Bankhead assigned Brothers to fill vacancies of absent Officers by appointment Pro-Temp.

I. Opening Ritual:

Following the traditional Memorial Day Service Camp Commander Dave Bankhead opened the meeting per the Ritual at 7:35PM.

II. Roll Call of Officers:

Brothers Present: P. Arnold, B. Benedict, D. Bankhead, K. Harrison, M. Hoffman, H. Holcomb, W. Peabody, R. Shull.

Officers Excused: J. B. Pahl, R. Payne, D. Traub, D. Zank.

III. Roll Call of Camp:

Roll of the Camp not called.

IV. Welcome to Guests:

Guests present include; Warren Best and Dave Grimes.

V. Approval of Minutes: Motion made to approve the March 31, 2015 meeting minutes as transmitted. Second. Motion passed.

VI. Treasurers Report: Treasurers Report dated March 31, 2015 to May 28, 2015. In the absence of Treasurer James B. Pahl, Commander Bankhead gave an overview of the report. Motion accepted for approval of the Treasurer's Report, as transmitted. Second. Motion passed.

VII. Concern for Brothers:

Concerns expressed for the following Camp # 17 Brothers: Laverne Aves, Brian Shumway has hip replacement surgery scheduled June 10, 2015, his mother Betty Jean Shumway passed away May 16, 2015, John Shumway is doing a little better, but still is in need of all our prayers. Concerns expressed for Charles Bauer, and Paul Hodges. Kenneth Rousseau is out of the hospital and is now at Okemos Rehabilitation 5211 Marsh Rd. Room #117 Okemos Michigan 48864. Commander Dave Bankhead and his wife have suffered recent medical issues. His wife is having back problems, there daughter has recently been diagnosed with a rare pulmonary/heart problem. Our Thoughts and Prayers go out to all included on extensive this list. Get Well Cards signed by all Camp # 17 Brothers in attendance for Brothers Shumway and Rousseau. Motion made to purchase a hearing device for Kenneth Rousseau. Second. Motion Passed.

VIII. Reading of Applications from Candidates for Membership:

Brother Mark Hoffman presented the application for membership into Camp # 17 from new applicant David Grimes. Brother Hoffman indicates he has reviewed and vetted the application and finds it in proper order for balloting. He indicates David Grimes is from Lansing, Michigan and had four relatives who served in the Civil War. Motion made to accept the candidate into membership. Second.

IX. Balloting for Candidates for

Membership:

The old ballot box was located and a ballot taken. Commander Bankhead announced we have new Brother. Brother David Grimes.

X. Initiation of New Brothers:

Brother David Grimes being present initiated into Camp # 17. Following initiation, he was welcomed into the Camp # 17 with a big round of applause.

XI. Recess:

We did not take a recess.

XII. Committee Reports:

Camp Council: No report.

Bylaws: No report.

Memorials and Graves Registration:

No report.

GAR Monuments: No report.

Eagle Scouts Certificates:

No report.

Military Affairs: No Report.

Membership: Brother Hoffman indicates we should have another applicant to consider at the July meeting.

Veterans Day: Veterans Day is November 11, 2015.

Military Affairs: No report.

Patriotic Instruction: Brother Arnold provided the following while the Eagle Scouts present. One stop on the Historical Society of Lansing Mt. Hope Cemetery walking tour Saturday April 25, 2015 included a stop at the Grave of Dr. George Ranney, a Civil War Medal of Honor Recipient. To honor him Korean War Medal of Honor recipient Duane Dewey was present and asked to place a wreath. Mr. Dewey's daughter asked Brother Arnold and, Brother Holcomb, if she could introduce us. We said yes. During the conversation, he pulled two Medal of Honor coins out of his pocket and presenting each of us with one. Brother Holcomb prepared and mailed a thank you note to him. The thank you note included an affidavit signed by two, Berdan 1st U. S. Sharpshooter First Sergeants. Company I, First Sergeant, from Michigan, being

Brother Holcomb's Civil War relative, and the other First Sergeant Allen Berdan 1st U. S. Sharpshooter Company F of Vermont. The Company F First Sergeant took up residence in Battle Creek, Michigan after the war. Together they put together an affidavit for Alonzo Woodruff, of Berdan 1st U. S. Sharpshooter Company I, to receive the Medal of Honor. The affidavit is likely the document that got Alonzo Woodruff The Medal of Honor. Alonzo Woodruff was originally from Ionia County, Michigan. He buried in Luther Michigan.

Program and Publicity:

-The Seminar April 28, 2015, titled, "The Wreck of the Sultana", presented by Gary Holmes was enjoyed by a full house.

-The June 30, 2015 Seminar scheduled titled, "South Carolinians in Lee's Army; Gregg/McGowan's Brigade".

-The Seminar scheduled for October 27, 2015 is titled, "Canada and the Civil War", by Mike Unsworth. The planned Seminars held at the United Brethren Church in Sunfield, Michigan. The events scheduled for 7 PM.

-The 31st Annual Jackson Civil War Cascades Muster scheduled for August 22-23, 2015.

Hall Restoration: Paint is falling off some of the back of the Hall. Brother Bankhead indicates Rob Payne has a contractor willing to give the Camp an estimate for scraping and painting the Hall exterior. He hopes to have an estimate for the July, 2015 meeting.

Memorial Day Activities:

Camp # 17 Brothers participated in several events including;

-Annual Memorial Day Program at Mt. Hope Cemetery Soldiers and Sailors Lot, located at Mt Hope and Aurelius Road Lansing, MI. May 23, 2015. Service immediately followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

-United Brethren Church Memorial Day Sunday Service 8436 West M-43 Sunfield, Michigan May 24, 2015. Six Brothers attended.

-Annual Memorial Day Program Woodland Memorial Park Cemetery

South of M-43 on Velte Road Woodland, Michigan May 25, 2015. Six Brothers attended.

Grinnell Award: No Report.

XIII. Orders and Communications:

-SUVCW National issued General Orders;
-# 5 - Passing of Past Commander-In-Chief Richard Greenwalt.
-# 6 - Established of the Department of Columbia.
-Department of Michigan issued General Order # 22 - Memorial Day celebrated May 30, 2015.

XIV. Old Business:

-The legal documents are prepared, that allow, storage of Camp # 17 records at the Sunfield Historical Society Welch Museum. Camp # 17 Officers will sign the documents.

-Brother Gerry Grieve is on the Department of Michigan Civil War Committee. They are in the process of accumulating information on, and recording all Civil War Cannon located in Michigan. Camp # 17 responded indicating we will be happy to collect and provide desired information on any Civil War Cannon in our covered area. We have recently received a reply indicating possible cannon we need to try to, locate, research and obtain documentation. Camp # 17 will need to bring this back up at the next meeting to determine action taken or needed action.

-Discussion about what to do with the collection of Civil War 150th Anniversary set of CD's. CD's previously donated to Camp # 17. No decision made.

-Discussion of Flag purchased for Mt. Hope Cemetery. A tree needs trimmed before we fly the flag to prevent it from being torn.

Delta Township Library requests our presence June 6, 2015, 1-3PM. No real determination to participate made during the meeting. If we do participate, it will be a last minute notification by E-Mail.

XV. New Business:

Motion made to donate \$100.00 to the, "James B. Brainerd G.A.R. Post # 111

Memorial Hall and Museum", Eaton Rapids. Second. Motion passed.

XVI. Good of the Order:

-The Confederate Gold story continues. WZZM TV 13 reports searchers have found a sunken ship off Frankfort, Michigan. To read the latest articles go to WZZM TV on the internet.

-Department of Michigan awarded the 2017 National Encampment. Encampment location is to be the Radisson Hotel Downtown Lansing, Michigan. Congratulations to the Department of Michigan. This will require a sizeable commitment from Camp # 17 Brothers. Please consider making yourself available for the large responsibility

-Brother Keith Harrison indicates the following:

-Brother Bob Griggs is throwing his hat in the ring as a candidate for Department of Michigan Vice Commander.

-The 150th Commemoration of the Assassination of President Lincoln held on April 11-12, 2015 in Springfield, Illinois. Several from Camp # 17 attended.

-150th Anniversary of Appomattox was April 10-12, 2015. Some from Camp # 17 attended.

-"James B. Brainerd G.A.R. Post # 111, Memorial and Museum, Inc.", Eaton Rapids, Michigan;

- "Sponsorships", are available for the "James B. Brainerd G.A.R. Post # 111 Memorial and Museum, Inc.", Eaton Rapids, Michigan.

- "James B. Brainerd G.A.R. Post # 111 Memorial Hall and Museum, Inc.", has several scheduled events. They are in need of volunteers to work days at the Museum when it is open. Additionally, volunteers needed in the future for purposes of scanning repository records. Please consider volunteering.

Door Prize: Collected of \$ 36.00.

XVII. Closing Ritual: The Camp closed at 8:35 PM.

**Harold E. Holcomb
Curtenius Guard Camp # 17
Secretary
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