

Curtenius Guard Camp # 17

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

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Camp # 17 Meeting Minutes:
May 30, 2017

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

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

I. Opening Ritual:

Camp # 17 Commander Robert Payne
opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

II. Roll Call of Officers:

Brothers Present: P. Arnold,
B. Benedict, D. Grimes, K. Harrison, M.
Hoffman, H. Holcomb, S. Latchaw, R.
Payne, R. Shull, and W. Peabody.

Officers Excused J. Pahl,
B. Shumway. and D. Zank.

Roll of the Camp - Not called.

IV. Welcome to Guests:

Douglas Alan Swix present as a new
applicant for membership.

V. Approval of Minutes:

Motion made to approve the March 28,
2017 Meeting Minutes, as transmitted.
Second. Motion passed.

VI. Treasurers Report: No Report.

Treasurer James B. Pahl is in Georgia
and unavailable to provide a report.

VII. Concern for Brothers:

Concerns expressed for the following
Camp # 17 Brothers: Mark Hoffman
parents, concerns, Doug Park wife has
health challenges, and Dave Thompson.

VIII. Reading of Applications from Candidates for Membership:

Ronald Shull presented an application
for membership. Application turned in

by Brother Keith Harrison. The
application is for Douglas Alan Swix.
His Civil War lineage is to his Great,
Great Grandfather William G. Swix who
mustered into the 16th Michigan
September 7, 1861 as Private. He was,
honorably discharged July 8, 1865 as
Private.

IX. Balloting for Candidates for Membership:

The Old Ballot Box retrieved,
conveniently placed, and Camp # 17
Brothers lined up and cast individual
ballots. Commander Payne announced
Douglas Alan Swix voted into Camp #
17 membership.

X. Initiation of new Brothers:

New Brother Douglas Alan Swix being
present, he guided to the Alter and
initiated into Camp # 17. Following the
initiation, a big round of applause
welcomed him into Camp # 17.

XI. Recess:

We did not take a meeting recess.

XII. Committee Reports:

Bylaws: No Report.

Memorials and Graves Registration:

Brother Mark Hoffman stated he sent in
17 Grave Registrations and 140
Corrections. These completed at Maple
Grove Cemetery, Mason, Michigan.

G.A,R Monuments: No report.

Eagle Scouts Certificates:

Brother Dave Bankhead indicates
Brandon Kane, from Charlotte, is
eligible to receive an Eagle Scout
Certificate. Camp # 17 Commander
Robert Payne signed the Certificate. The
time and place to present the Certificate
is to be determined.

Military Affairs: No Report.

Membership: Douglas Alan Swix,
added to the Camp # 17 Roster.

Veterans Day: No Report.

Patriotic Instruction: Paul (Dave)
Arnold Camp # 17, Patriotic Instructor
provided the following, "National Day of
Memorial", is the title of an article read
by Brother Arnold. The article clearly
states what, "Memorial Day", intended
for and the meaning..

Program and Publicity:

-Brother Hoffman indicates a Civil War
Seminar scheduled:

- June 27, 2017 Camp # 17 will sponsor
a Civil War Seminar titled, "Things you
might not know about Michigan, (and a
few other places too), in the Civil War".
The speaker is Bob Griggs.

-Camp # 17 is looking for seminar
programs. If anyone knows of possible
programs please contact Mark Hoffman.
Due to a lack of programs, we are
coordinating with The Michigan G.A.R.
Memorial Hall and Museum helping
them on seminars.

The planned Seminar held at the United
Brethren Church on West M-43,
Sunfield, Michigan. The events
scheduled for 7 PM.

Hall Restoration:

-The Old G.A.R. Hall entry door
threshold has deteriorated. It needs
repaired.

-Dave Bankhead brought up concerns
over Hall security and the need of secure
windows. He promises to look into the
above two items.

Memorial Day:

Memorial Day events we participated in
included:

-May 27, 2017, in Lansing, Michigan at
Mt. Hope Cemetery, Soldiers and Sailors
plot. Little Arlington Cemetery event
followed, immediately after.

-May 28, 2017, Sunfield Michigan,
Daughters Memorial Day event at the
United Brethren Church in Sunfield,
Michigan.

-May 29, 2017 Hastings Michigan
parade, Veterans, Tyden Park Project
dedication, and Riverside Cemetery
Memorial Day event.

Remembrance Day Activities:

No Report.

Grinnell Award: No Report.

XIII. Orders and Communications: SUVCW National issued the following General Orders:

-#20 - General Order reminds us that
Memorial Day is a day we remember our
ancestors and their Comrades who gave
their lives for this country.

-All, issued, National Orders are
published in their entirety on the
SUVCW National web site.

SUVCW Department of Michigan issued the following Department Orders:

- #17 - Department Order announces the 133 Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan, held May 6, 2017 in Lansing, Michigan. The tentative Order of the Day outlined.
- #18 - Department Order is a notice about filing times for IRS Form 990N.
- #1 - Change of Command, Department of Michigan Commander David Smith takes control for 2017-2018, term.
- #2 – Department of Michigan Commander David Smith issued this General Order stating; “While Memorial Day observed on May 29, 2017, the date of traditional Decoration Day recognized by the Grand Army of the Republic is May 30, 2017”.
- #3 -Department of Michigan Camp geographical boundaries, realigned. Camp # 17 area covered remains unchanged.
- #4 –Instructs Camps to communicate the scheduled date for their Camp Officer Installations for the up coming term, early, with the Department of Michigan and to obtain confirmation a Department of Michigan Officer will be present to perform their Camp’s Installation of Officers.
- All Department of Michigan General Orders published, on the Department of Michigan website.

XIV. Old Business:

- April 15, 2017 Rob Payne and Ron Shull from Camp # 17 traveled to Springfield, Illinois for the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony.
- May 8, 2017 Dansville Cemetery, Dansville, Michigan, many, G.A.R. Flag holders, flags placed, and SUVCW dedication held for the Flag Holders.
- Wendel Peabody reports he replaced the rope on the flagpole in front of the Old G.A.R. Hall in Sunfield. Thank you Brother Peabody.
- Civil War Memorials, and Cannons Documentation Project assigned by The Department of Michigan. No Report provided at this meeting.

XV. New Business:

Newly Elected, 2017-2018 Officers and Staff of the Department of Michigan:

- David S. Smith, PCC - Commander
- Robert Griggs, PCC - Senior Vice Commander
- Robert R. Payne, CC- Junior Vice Commander
- Charles Worley, PDC - Council
- Kevin Lindsey, PCC - Council
- Michael Maillard, PCC - Council
- Dick Denney, CC - Secretary
- Bruce S.A. Gosling, PCC - Treasurer
- Nathan Smith CC – Counselor
- Rev. Charles Buckhahn, PCC - Chaplain
- Robert Boquette - Patriotic Instructor
- Edward J. Dowd, PCC - Color Bearer
- David F. Wallace, PDC - Signals Officer
- Richard E. Danes, PCC - Editor, “Michigan’s Messenger”
- John R. Keith, CC - Historian
- Nathan Tingley - Guide
- Theodore Mattis, CC - Guard
- Richard E. Danes, PCC - Graves Registration Officer
- Gary L. Gibson, PDC - G.A.R. Records Officer
- John H. McGill - Civil War Memorials Officer
- Nathan Tingley - Eagle Scout Coordinator
- George L. Boiler - Camp-at-Large Coordinator
- Paul t. Davis, PDC - Aide de Camp

A Motion made to prepare a resolution and forwarded it to National indicating, this resolution to be, read at the 2017 National Encampment. Resolution to state, “Curtenius Guard Camp # 17 Department of Michigan unanimously states the date of, May 30, to remain as the date to celebrate Memorial Day”. Second. Motion passed.

-SUVCW 136th National Encampment is August 10 to 13, 2017 at the Radisson Hotel in Lansing Michigan. Volunteers needed to assist in making the Encampment a success. We encourage all Camp #17 Brothers to attend and to consider volunteering to assist in any way needed.

- Activities planed for those attending the National Encampment include:
- Thursday evening we plan to attend the Lansing, “Lugnuts”, ball game.
- Day trip scheduled to tour the, “Michigan G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum” Eaton Rapids, Michigan.
- Day trip to Sunfield for tours of the,

“Old G.A.R. Hall”, and the, “Welch Museum”.

-Don Shaw is running for the National Office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Camp # 17 Brothers need to attend and to support him.

- The 2018 National Encampment is in Boston, MA.

-Congratulation to, newly elected, Department of Michigan Junior Vice Commander Robert Payne

-We needed a ground stake Flag holder for the new G.A.R. Flag. Commander Payne mentioned it. Photos of the, present ground stakes, taken. Steve Martin volunteered to check with his father to see if he could make them. Thank you to Steven Martin and his father for the two new ground stake Flag holders. Brother Martin presented them to Camp # 17 during the meeting.

-We, also, need an additional, Flag carrying strap. Brother Bankhead volunteers to look into acquiring this.

-Motion to have the July Meeting at the, “Michigan G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum”, in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. Second. Motion passed.

-Commander Payne announced Camp # 17 intent to participate in the Eaton Rapids, Michigan Memorial Day Parade 2018. This will help, and show support for the, “Michigan G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum”.

XVI. Good of the Order:

-Mt. Hope Cemetery soldiers and Sailors plot, flagpole rope needs replaced. Tree needs trimmed first. Brother Bankhead indicates will look into how it can be accomplish.

Michigan G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum:

-Brother Keith Harrison reports: May 23, 2017, 7 PM, Michigan G.A.R. Memorial and Museum Showcased a Seminar titled, “Things you mite not know about Michigan, (and a few other places too), in the Civil War”. The presenter was Bob Briggs. The seminar was well attended and enjoyed by all attending.

April 1-2, 2017 we held a 151st Commemoration of the G.A.R. This celebrated the Michigan G.A.R.

151st Anniversary. A special artifact display present and silent auction held.

-“2017 Sponsorships”, are available for the “Michigan G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum, Inc.”

- Watch our web site for listings of future events.

- Volunteers, needed, to work days at the Museum when it is open. Additionally,

volunteers needed for purposes of scanning repository records and typing. Please consider volunteering.

-Brother Doug Swix, from the Paranormal Society reports something paranormal definitely exists at the, “Michigan G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum”.

Pass the Hat: We did not pass the hat.

XVII. Closing Ritual: Camp #17
Commander Payne closed the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Harold E. Holcomb
Curtenius Guard Camp # 17 Secretary
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