

Department of Michigan Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Curtenius Guard Camp # 17

Camp # 17 Meeting Minutes for January 28, 2025. The meeting is being held at the Old G.A.R. Hall, in Sunfield, Michigan.

I. Opening Ritual:

At 7:05 P.M. Camp # 17 Commander D. Grimes opened the January 28, 2025, Camp # 17 meeting. Brothers were appointed to fill the vacancies of absent Officers by appointment, pro-temp.

II. Roll Call of Officers:

Officers Present: D. Bankhead, S. Carr, A. Dickinson, D. Grimes, M. Hanes, H. Holcomb, S. Martin, J. Pahl, R. Payne, R. Russell, R. Shull, and B. Shumway.

Officers Excused: M. Hoffman .

III. Roll Call of the Camp:

Roll of the Camp not called.

IV. Guests:

No guests present tonight.

V. Approval of Minutes:

Commander D. Grimes asked the Camp # 17 Brothers if they have any objections, or questions about the November 24, 2024 Meeting Minutes. There being no objection Camp Commander D. Grimes asked for a motion to accept. Motion made by Brother D. Bankhead to accept the minutes presented. Second. Motion passed.

VI. Treasurers Report:

Camp # 17 Treasurer J.B. Pahl provided the report dated November 26, 2024 to January 28, 2025. He continued that he has to prepare and mail IRS Form 990 yet. There were no objections. Motion made to accept the Treasurers Report as presented. Second. Motion passed.

-Camp # 17 Treasurer is collecting 2025 dues. The Camp # 17 annual dues amount is \$51.00. Dues may be mailed to him at 445 W. Maple St. Mason, MI 48854-1519.

VII. Concerns for Brothers:

Concerns, thoughts, and prayers were expressed for the following Brothers: D. Bankhead is going in for a spinal implant, continuing prayers for J. D. Park's wife, R. Payne's knee is doing well, Brothers M. Hoffman, W. Peabody, D. Arnold, R. Shull's successful malignancy treatments, and the family of Brother J. Shumway following his passing. Brother B. Shumway gave Camp # 17 a donation of \$100.00 in Memory of J. Sumway. Brother J. Shumway's memorial service was held January 18, 2025 in Hastings.

VIII. Reading of Applications from Candidates, for Membership:

-No applications.

IX. Balloting for Candidates for Membership:

- No new members.

X. Initiation of New Brothers:

-New Brother A. Bowers application was approved by the Investigating Committee. Being in attendance his initiation was held. He was

initiated. Following the initiation hem was welcomed into Camp # 17 with a big round of applause and a hand shake from the Brothers present.

XI. Meeting Recess:

-A recess was not taken.

XII. Committee Reports of the Camp:

By-Laws:

- Brother H. Holcomb brought up the need to reduce the number of Brothers required for a quorum. A long discussion took place. 2025 Commander S. Carr will add it to his agenda.

Investigating Committee Reports:

- Gregory Alan Bowers application for membership was approved by the investigating committee.

Memorials and Graves Registrations:

-Brother M. Hoffman E-Mailed this GRO Report following the meeting: I continue to add and edit records in the National SUVCS graves database. I've completed about 75 of these in December and January. Brothers with suggested changes, including records on their ancestors, can contact me directly.

G.A.R. Monuments:

- No Report.

Eagle Scout Certificates:

Brother D. Bankhead indicates that we have an Eagle Scout that we need to present a certificate to honor him. A convenient time has to be worked out with the Eagle Scout.

Military Affairs: No Report.

Membership:

-No new prospective members.

Remembrance Day:

-No report.

Patriotic Instructor: R. Payne presented the report about the commemoration of Lincoln's birthday under a name unique to the GAR and SUVCW, "Union Defenders Day". It was first celebrated under President Johnson. In 1889 C-in-C George B, Abbott, 8th National Encampment September 10-13, 1889: In General Order No. 17, the request was made that the Camps through the Order generally hold appropriate services for the celebration of the birth of President Abraham Lincoln on the 12th day of February, and that it may hereafter be known as, "Sons of Veterans Day". This was agreed to at that National Encampment. Following the Encampment and by a recommendation of the Commander in Chief it was changed back to, "Union Defenders Day".

Programs and Publicity: No report.

Hall Restoration: The Eaton County Historical Society is, again this year offering grants for needed historical preservation. Brother H. Holcomb mentioned in an E-mail to the Brothers that repair of the porch railings are needed. Brother J. D. Park in a follow up E-Mail expressed the need to check out the Old Hall's wooden structure beneath the floor. He and two others were under the Hall many years ago and worm holes existed in the structure. A lengthy discussion took place. Brother A. Dickinson will look into it. Brother G. Bowers will assist. Coordination to access the building will be required.

Memorial Day:

- We will meet at Mt. Hope Cemetery

again this year and hold a Memorial Day Service. No word yet on any celebration connected with the Michigan G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum, and the Parade in Eaton Rapids.

Grinnell Award: No Report.

Veterans Day: No Report.

XIII. Orders and Communications:**SUVCW National Issued the following General Orders:**

- #8-Announces the passing of the Department of Missouri Commander Robert Petrovic.
- #9-Real Son and Brother William Pool, is approaching his 100th Birthday.
- #10-It announces A New Year's, "Reveille".
- #11-Announces the passing of former President J. Carter.

Special SUVCW Orders:

-None.

Special Message:

-None.

The SUVCW Department of Michigan Issues the following Orders:

- # 15-Department Committee assignments.
- #16- Order # 11 is amended.

Department Special Messages:

-No Orders.

Camp # 17 Orders: No Orders.

XIV. Old Business:

-No old business.

XV. New Business:

-The Department of Michigan Encampment is March 29, 2025. It held at the Okemos Event Center,

Okemos, Michigan. Reservation information and forms are listed on the SUVCW Department of Michigan website. Those planning to attend who lack Standing Credentials need to notify Secretary H. Holcomb they are attending. He will prepare the needed Credentials Card to register the morning of the encampment.

- Commander D. Grimes asked the Department of Michigan Commander Steve Martin to come forward to install the 2025 Camp # 17 Officers. The following is a list of the 2025 Camp # 17 elected Officers that were installed:

- Steve Carr Commander
- Aaron Dickinson Sr. Vice Commander
- Dave Bankhead Jr. Vice Commander
- Robert Payne Patriotic Instructor , & Council
- Ron Shull Council, Eagle Scout Coordinator, and Guide
- Dave Bankhead Council
- J. B. Pahl Treasurer
- Harold Holcomb Secretary --
- Cody Orr Historian
- Mark Hoffman GRO
- Marvin Hanes Chaplain
- Brian Shumway Guard
- J. Armstrong Color Bearer
- David Grimes Memorials Officer

XVI. Good of the Order:

-April 12, 2025 is the Lincoln Springfield, Illinois event.

-Motion made that Camp # 17 provide a recommendation to the 2025 National Encampment in Houston to elect Brother Robert Payne Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief. Second. Motion passed. A motion followed to make it a unanimous ballot. Second. Motion passed.

-The 2025 National Encampment is in Houston, TX, August 7-10, 2025.

-Brother R. Payne presented a 2023 Gettysburg Ribbon to Camp # 17 Brothers. It to be added to the Old Camp # 17 flag.

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

-Please see the 2025, Events and Presentations list on the museum's website.

-“Annual Sponsorships”, from \$25 to \$200 are available to help support the, “Michigan G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum. Volunteers are needed to work the first two Wednesdays of each month.

Camp # 17 Website:

curteniusguardcamp17.org

Pass the Hat:-Passing the hat collected \$70.00.

XVII. Closing Ritual:

-Camp # 17 Commander S. Carr closed the meeting at 8:30 P.M. Our next scheduled Camp # 17 meeting is to be on Tuesday, March 25, 2025. The meeting time is 7:00 PM.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Harold Holcomb

Curtenius Guard Camp # 17, Secretary