



MI

Messenger

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN ~ SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

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REPORT ON THE ANDERSONVILLE PROJECT

Bruce B. Butgereit, DC

What is the Andersonville Project? The Michigan Monument at the Andersonville National Historic Site is in the process of being restored by Mercene Karkadoulis of Karkadoulis Bronze Art, Inc of Cincinnati, OH; she is restoring the missing bronze laurel wreath. Following the restoration, the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, with assistance from our Sisters in the Woman's Relief Corps and Daughters, will conduct a rededication service.

When is the rededication scheduled? The Monument will be rededicated on Sunday, May 30, 2004 at 11:00 AM, exactly 100 years to the day of the original dedication.

What other events are planned? To date, we have received an invitation from the Andersonville Guild, a local group dedicated to preserving the history of the prison, to march in their May 29th Memorial Day parade. An offer has also been extended from the City of Fitzgerald, founded in 1896 by former Union soldiers, to visit their city the afternoon of the 29th.

While our service will take place at 11:00 AM on the 30th, the National Park Service has invited us to remain for the Park's 2:00 PM Memorial Day services in the cemetery.

Who is invited? Everyone is welcome although we understand the distance is great and the time is short. Each person attending is expected to make his or her own arrangements for travel and lodging, although everyone I'm aware of has made reservations at the Windsor Hotel in Americus. For those traveling by air, we will connect in Atlanta

in order to car pool using several rental cars. Car rental expense and gas will be divided equally between each traveler.

Who can participate in the ceremonies? Current plans have myself conducting the program with assistance from my wife Marcia (National Chaplain of the WRC) and Sister Wenda Fore (Department Chaplain of the DUVCW). Brother Mark Heath, PCC of Camp 7 will be playing Taps. There will be a need for a Color Guard, people to place wreathes, hand out printed programs and more...I'd like to include as many as possible for the experience. Please let me know if you will be attending no later than May 15 so that we can print the programs and list everyone participating.

Why are we doing this? On May 30, 1904 General James H. Kidd (6th MI Cavalry) offered this statement in his speech: *"It is a far cry from Michigan to Georgia, but Michigan will not forget or cease to honor the men who filled the ranks of her volunteers..."* On May 30, 2004 we will show others that we did not forget the over 700 Michigan men buried there.

How can EACH Camp participate? Over 700 Michigan men never had the opportunity to step foot in their home state after going to Andersonville. In order to bring a piece of "home" to those men, I am asking and encouraging each Camp to gather about a cup of soil from your community and place it in a small sealable plastic bag and send it to me. During our rededication service, as we are reading the names of the regiments and the counties from which these men came, we will sprinkle the Michigan soil around the Monument. In this way, even if a member of your Camp cannot attend, you can

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TAPS

DEL FARNSWORTH

1936 ~ 2004

GEN. BENJAMIN PRITCHARD CAMP 20

KALAMAZOO

Great Grandson of Joseph W. Ely, 19th Michigan Infantry, Co. B.

MERLE "PETE" CARLSON

1935 ~ 2004

ROBERT FINCH CAMP 14

TRAVERSE CITY

formerly of

HENRY W. QUIGLEY CAMP 147

CADILLAC

Grandson of Henry W. Quigley, 28th Pennsylvania Infantry

PHOTO SUBMISSIONS

WHY ACTUAL PHOTOS ARE NECESSARY

Briefly, the reason electronic photo files are not used is three fold. 1st, my printer is not of a high enough quality to print a photo that is good enough to be "shot" by the printshop to make a halftone for offset press printing. Unless an inkjet or laser printer can print at very high quality or TRUE photo quality, 2400 dpi (dots per inch) or higher, the result looks muddy when converted to halftone.

2nd, the quality of electronic files varies tremendously, especially those taken with digital cameras. A minimum resolution of 3 mega pixels should be used for 4 x 6 photos, especially if they are to be cropped and the cropped area enlarged. What looks acceptable on a computer screen doesn't necessarily look good in print.

3rd, the printshop can take the electronic file and convert it directly to a halftone, but that doubles the processing cost per photo. The Messenger already consumes a major portion of the Department's budget and by having everyone snail mail their photos, the result is the Messenger is a higher quality product and costs the Department (you, our members) less to print.

The **Deadline** for the
Summer 2004 Issue
of
Michigan's Messenger
is
Tuesday, June 1st

All articles and photos must be in the hands of the editor by this date to ensure inclusion. Text files may be submitted by e-mail (attached file preferred). Please use the subject line, *Messenger Article*. Photos **MUST** be mailed (**actual photographs only***). Include a SASE if photos are to be returned. No electronic photo files accepted.

John R. Mann, Editor
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* Please refer to "Photo Submissions" on the left for a brief explanation.

DEPARTMENT ORDERS No. 5

SERIES 2003 ~ 2004

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS,
KENTWOOD, MICHIGAN

1. It is with sincere regrets that I must announce the passing of Brother **Adelbert (Del) Farnsworth** (1936-2004) of Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 of Kalamazoo. Brother Del honored his Great Grandfather Joseph W. Ely, 19th Michigan Infantry, Co. B. Del served the Order in several capacities including Department Treasurer and most recently, Commander of Camp 20. Actively involved in research and the sharing of his knowledge, Del was a member of numerous organizations dedicated to history. His final resting place is the Oakwood Cemetery in Allegan, MI.

2. It is with similar regrets that I must announce the passing of Brother **Merle (Pete) Carlson** (1935-2004) of Robert Finch Camp 14 of Traverse City. Brother Carlson honored his Grandfather Henry W. Quigley, 28th Pennsylvania Infantry. Pete had served the Order faithfully as Department SVC and Camp Commander, Secretary and more, even through a series of medical setbacks and health concerns. Henry W. Quigley Camp 147 (formerly of Cadillac) was established through the efforts of Pete. Pete's last request was that he be buried in his Civil War uniform.

3. With the Department Encampment scheduled for April 24 in Grand Rapids, Camp Secretaries are encouraged to be sure that each Camp Brother has his membership card, and if any Brother is attending the Encampment, that each have a **Form 2 Credential Card** – found on the National website or the Department CD issued to each Camp last year.

At the Department Encampment, we will be electing Brothers to represent Michigan as National Encampment Delegates - please check your calendar and be ready to submit your name for consideration.

4. At the time these Department Orders were submitted, I had received only one nominee for one of the three Abraham Lincoln Certificates of Appreciation Awards available from the Department. A Committee, consisting of Camp 1 Brothers Bill Johnston, Ed Woodard and David Wrightsman has been assigned the duty of choosing the recipients. If you know of someone in your community who has contributed to "keeping green the memory," I encourage you to submit their name and accomplishments to me and I'll forward to the Committee.

5. Camp Commanders are instructed to be sure that their Secretary has submitted the **Form 22 Installation of Camp Officers** to the Department Secretary, Brother Richard Lee.

Camp Commanders are instructed to be sure that their **Camp website information** has been updated with the Department Signals Officer, Brother Eric Kirchberg.

Camp Commanders are instructed to be sure that the Camp Patriotic Instructor has received the **Annual Patriotic**

Instructors Report Form, issued by the Department Patriotic Instructor, Brother Tim Kolean, and that it is completed and returned.

Camp Commanders are instructed to meet with their Camp Secretary and Treasurer in order to prepare the **Form 27 Camp Annual Report** and submit it to the Department Secretary on or before April 30, 2004.

Camp Commanders are instructed to be sure that a complete and updated **Roster** of the Camp's membership and contact information (including email) is submitted with the Form 27.

6. I would like to thank each Camp who has submitted their updated By-laws and the date of their Charter. Based upon conversations and promises from the few outstanding Camps, I believe this issue should be wrapped up by April 15.

7. I would like to thank each Brother who made the effort to attend the February Mid-Winter Conference in Lansing. The weather again played a factor in attendance.

8. As Department Commander, I have participated in the following events (Camp 1 Commander events not included):

- A. January 4 – Attended Camp meeting and installed Officers at Camp 139 in Alpena
- B. January 5 – Attended Camp meeting and installed Officers at Camp 120 in Howell
- C. January 9 – Attended funeral service for Brother Del Farnsworth
- D. January 10 – Attended Camp meeting and installed Officers at Camp 14 in Traverse City
- E. January 13 – Attended Camp meeting and installed Officers at Camp 427 in Dearborn
- F. January 17 – Attended Installation of Officers banquet and installed Officers for Camp 20 in Kalamazoo
- G. January 18 – Attended Camp meeting and installed Officers for Camp 259 in Allen
- H. January 23-25 – Visited Andersonville National Park to meet with Park Rangers concerning rededication ceremony and to survey the Michigan Monument once again
- I. January 26 – Attended Camp meeting and installed Officers at Camp 180 in Ann Arbor
- J. January 29 – Attended Camp meeting and installed Officers at Camp 9 in Port Huron
- K. February 7 – Attended Camp meeting and installed Officers at Camp 266 in Marquette
- L. February 21 – Attended Department Grave Registration Committee meeting
- M. February 21 – Coordinated and conducted Department Mid-Winter Conference
- N. February 21 – Attended and hosted Washington-Lincoln Dinner
- O. February 22 – Met with Department SVC Brother Neal

SECRETARY

Richard Lee

CAMP STATUS REPORT (FORM 30) UPDATE

To: All Camp Commanders and Secretaries

Re: Form 30 – Camp Status Report

Brothers:

We have recently received a new directive from National in regards to the proper filing of the Form 30 – Camp Status Report.

As you are probably aware, this is the form used throughout the year to submit 1) the dues and application of a new member, 2) address changes, 3) a Brother's passing, and 4) a Transfer and/or a Dropped Brother. This form is to be submitted by the 15th of the month following a meeting.

The problem this form created was when a Camp submitted a new Brother's application and dues any time during the first quarter (January thru March), because when the Camp then filed the Form 27 Annual Report in April, you were required to once again submit the dues for this new Brother, causing a duplication of records and a shortage of funds to the Camp.

Immediately from here on out, NO NEW member applications and dues are to be submitted via the Form 30 – Status Report during the FIRST QUARTER of the year. Each Camp is requested to process the new application per the usual procedure within each Camp and to deposit the dues and application fees into the Camp banking institution. This new Brother will then be included in the Form 27 – Camp Annual Report with the rest of the regular membership.

This will only happen during the FIRST QUARTER; for the remainder of the year, Camps will still be required to submit new applications and application fees and pro-rated (quarterly) dues per the Form 27 by the 15th of each month following a meeting.

If there are any questions, please contact me.

TREASURER

Dick Williams

Camp Secretaries and Treasurers please read and understand the article submitted by the Department Secretary.

Since Camps are required to have a full payment for Camp membership for the year submitted to the Department Secretary no later than the last day of April (earlier is acceptable), it isn't necessary to pay for new members or send in membership applications for new members joining from January to April. The application and payment will be submitted along with the Form 27 due to the Department Secretary no later than the last day of April.

Yet, we still want new members to be included in the Department and National databases for the purpose of receiving the Michigan Messenger and the Banner. So, for new members joining between January and April each year, please submit a Form 30 to the Department Secretary without the application and payment.

Here's the current status of finances:

Alger Medal of Honor	\$735.66
Checking	\$169.14
Savings	\$14,365.55
Memorial (liability).....	\$2,151.84

At this point in the fiscal year we are slightly over budget.

CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS CMTE.

Douglas Armstrong, Chair

The weather report as I write this article is forecasting daytime highs near 50. This is welcome news after we have mustered through the cold and snow of another Michigan winter.

As springtime nears we will again be venturing into local cemeteries and recording the graves of the men we honor. I'd like to encourage each Brother as we do this to also notice the several monuments and memorials erected in honor of those men. These memorials rest in nearly every community in Michigan. As the rest of the world hurries by without a glance, let us remember the purposes of our Order. We can better perpetuate the memory of the G.A.R. and of the men who served to save the Union by promoting the preservation of these memorials. By observing their proper care and upkeep, we are educating the public of their historical importance.

At the Mid-Winter Conference, I distributed a Civil War Memorials Assessment Program Manual to a Brother of each attending Camp. The manual is an update to the previously issued information that each Camp received in 1999. A manual will be sent by mail to those Camps not represented at the Mid-Winter Conference. All newly elected Camp Commanders and Camp Civil War Memorials Officers should review the information and share it with your membership at your next Camp meeting. Please contact me with a report of your Camp's progress with the project and any questions you may have.

The intent of the program is to locate and assess the condition of all Civil War Memorials, from the grandest and ornate sculpture to a small bronze plaque. Each has historical significance and deserves proper respect and honor. The information is recorded on a form and once submitted to the department, is maintained in a database. If a memorial is in urgent need of treatment, the care of that memorial can then be brought to the attention of the community government where the memorial is located.

I thank those Camps that have a program already in place and have continued to submit assessments. I have spent the winter months entering the recorded information you have submitted into the department's database. To date we have recorded 178 monuments and memorials across the state.

For those Camps that have not yet initiated a program, the manual is meant to encourage your participation. With the assistance of each Camp by their participation with the program we are ensuring the education and appreciation of future generations.

In December, I received an e-mail from Brother Dick Williams that included a letter that was sent to him to be published in the Messenger. The letter was from Brother David Schneider, Secretary-Treasurer of Nash-Hodges Camp 43. The content of the letter included monuments that Brother Schneider must have visited and was reporting their "...particular interest to S.U.V.C.W. members." Thank you Brother Schneider for your report and I hope that each Brother will duplicate your interest in these pieces of our heritage and assist us in this project. The following is the letter transcribed as Brother Schneider wrote it.

"Although this may be slightly out of the scope of the 'Messenger', I was wondering if you could include this announcement in a future edition. There are 4 monuments of particular interest to S.U.V.C.W. members, the Soldier's and Sailor's Monument in Downtown Detroit, and the Civil War/G.A.R. Memorial, the Maj. Gen. Alpheus Williams Memorial and the General O.M. Poe Memorial, all located on Belle Isle. There are also monuments to Abraham Lincoln, The War of 1812 and the Spanish American War that may be of interest. Thank you very much."

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Neal F. Breaugh

I have just returned from attending our Department's Mid-Winter Meeting. It was fairly well attended with between 40 and 50 present. However, many of those there were veterans from years past, which is good because we need their guidance, input and council. What is bad is that we did not have many SVC, JVC, and Patriotic Instructors. We did have some Commanders, Secretaries, and Treasurers. We will definitely have to work on getting more Camp Officers to attend this very valuable in service workshop meeting. Things like Doug Armstrong comments on and the distribution of an updated Civil War Memorials Assessment Program packet, Bill Lowe's presentation of the Department of Michigan Education Project and the great opportunity for our Camps to help out by contacting the 4th grade teachers to offer our assistance in visiting the cemeteries with the students, and Commander Bruce's report on the Michigan Monument restoration and rededication at Andersonville on May 30, 2004 are very important to all of our Camps. In the future, we need to have at least one representative from every Camp at this very significant annual meeting.

Not everyone stayed on for the banquet and that is understandable. However for those who did, they were treated to a great and inspiring presentation on George Washington and Abraham Lincoln by State Senator Cameron S. Brown, who we found out has Civil War Ancestors, was given an application, and is hoping to be able to join us in Andersonville.

With the installation of Officers, January was a very busy month, as were February and March. I had the privilege of installing Officers from Camp 2 in Berkley, Camp 3 in Grand Haven, and Camp 85 in Berrien Springs. I was also able to join Commander Butgereit at installations at Camp 139 in Alpena, Camp 120 in Howell, Camp 427 in Dearborn, Camp 180 in Ann Arbor, and also enjoyed being with Camps 58 and 250 as Commander-in-Chief Kent Armstrong installed their Officers in a combined ceremony, and PDC Keith Harrison as he installed the Camp 1 Officers. We appreciated Treasurer Dick Williams helping us out by installing Officers at Camps 7, 22, 101, and 160; PDC Keith Harrison covering Camps 1 and 17, and PDC Jim Lyons handling the installation at Camp 145.

Amazingly, despite all the snow, we were able to make all the Camps on schedule with one exception. Ironically, that was the Camp closest to me; Camp 28 in Big Rapids. We finally got there in March and also paid my first visit to Camp 101 in Detroit in March along with a return visit to Camp 3 in Grand Haven.

We have a very important Department Encampment coming up on April 24th, and I certainly hope to see many of you there. I will again be a candidate to serve another year as your Department Senior

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Rick Greene

After a slow start, Membership activity has steadily increased in requests to place new prospects. While only two Michigan Camps have referred prospects to the Department Membership Committee throughout the past year, the National Order has sent several prospects for referral. For those unfamiliar with the process, all SUVCW advertising directs all applicants for membership in the Order toward the National Membership Committee, in the person of the Junior Vice Commander- In- Chief. This year the JVC-in-C is Brother Donald Darby, of Ohio.

After receiving the application, fees and substantiating documentation from the applicant and ascertaining that all seems in order the JVC-in-C sends the material to the Department Junior Vice Commander of the Department in which the applicant lives. Using various criteria, the DJVC selects a Camp near the prospect's home and recommends it to him. The DJVC then proceeds to notify the Camp of the applicant's interest in joining the Camp. I like to make the "introduction" by way of a copy of a personal e-mail to the prospective member. He is told that, by copy of the e-mail, so and so of such and such Camp is aware that he wishes to join up; that the representative of the Camp is ready to take him by the hand and guide him toward membership. I let the prospect know that if he should become dissatisfied with anything or just feels that he needs my help to feel free to e-mail or phone me.

So far, this administrative year, this process has yielded at least one member each for Camps 20, 85, 145, 67, 120, 14, and 2. So far, only one applicant is unplaced. We feel that he may be a "snowbird" and will return to Michigan in the spring. We'll be waiting to make contact with him then.

By far, the most prolific source of member prospects is the National Organization. I would also like to thank Camps 7 and 145 for forwarding names on to me for referral.

A word of caution; when gathering names for recruiting be sure to get all of the contact information. Name, complete postal address, at least one phone number and, if possible, the prospect's e-mail address.

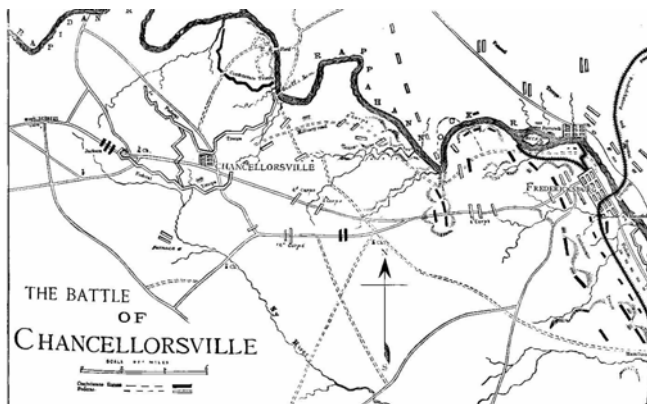
Camps are reminded that the Department maintains a tent for loan to all Camps for use in recruiting events. Thanks to the generosity of Brother Max Newman, P.C.C. of Camp 145 we have a brand new tent this year. Brother Dick Williams of Camp 17 and Department Commander Bruce Butgereit, P.C.C. of Camp 1 also contributed materials and labor to get the new tent ready for use. Thanks to all. The Department tent may be scheduled for use through the Department Junior Vice Commander's office at (989) 843-5967 or via e-mail at rgreene@tds.net.

In closing, permit me to thank each and every one of you for allowing me to serve as your Department Junior Vice Commander during the past year. Membership and recruiting—the main thrust of the DJVC's job—provides a great source of satisfaction in meeting new prospects and then working with various Brothers from the local Camp to bring the prospect to the altar for sacred vows.

CORRECTION

The Pvt. John Huff article, page 16, Winter issue 2004, Editor's note:

Robert Shoecraft is a member of Russell A. Alger Camp 462, not Israel B. Richardson Camp 2 as printed. Editor's error.



G.A.R. RECORDS COMMITTEE

Jim Lyons, PDC

The month of February 2004 turned out to be a great month of discovery, particularly the first two weeks.

As the G.A.R. member data base project progresses, work was started on Chauncey Perry Post 50 Chartered on March 20, 1882. While checking the folder containing the application to form a Post and the Mustering Officer's report, a small typed note was found. This note indicated that Department Commander Wm. Humphries, of Lansing, granted a Charter to a Post 50 on Oct. 12, 1869. Thirteen Charter members are listed. Note is made that the Charter is "ON FILE", and had been found in a box of old correspondence. Leah M. Simpson, Department Secretary typed the note, dated October 20, 1949.

After searching several Record Groups at the Archives the Charter was finally located. It is in excellent condition. No Post name or location was indicated. A check of the 1870 census showed that nine of the thirteen Charter members lived in Corunna and it seems safe to conclude that this was the location of the Post.

This charter is significant for two reasons. First, it is the only Charter to have survived from the first period of G.A.R. operation in the state of Michigan, from 1867 to 1872. Robert Beath in his *History of the Grand Army of the Republic*, published in 1888, notes "No records, however, have been preserved of the early organization, and the only roster of officers published in the Journals of the National Encampment was for the year 1871: ..." Listed as Chaplain was C. Van Horn, Corunna, a Charter member of Post 50.

The second reason is that there is no other record of this Post's existence. Only two documents from this period have survived. In addition to this Charter are the Proceedings of the 1868 Department Encampment. Two copies of this document are known to exist. One is in the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. The other is in the collection of Brother Roger Heiple.

On February 5, Max Newman of Camp 145 after attending his wife Nancy's DUVCW Tent meeting in Corunna, wrote me about a new member from Lansing. She brought a large collection of old records to the meeting. They had been handed down to her mother by her grandmother and ultimately to her. Max indicated that she had the Memorial Book and two Minute Books from the Charles T. Foster Post 42 of Lansing. He sent me contact information.

I called her the next day and arrangements were made to meet at the Archives. She brought the books to me there and included were 103 Applications of members and about 35 Transfer Cards for those coming from other Posts. She also indicated that she had the Post Charter but that it was very fragile and she was hesitant to move it at this point. We will make arrangements to get it into the Archives later.

The Memorial book contains 391 records of members plus thirty pages of the Appendix containing continuances of military records too long to fit on the original page. There is a final section, of 11 pages, listing the death of members, the date and the cemetery where they are buried. The Minute Books cover Sept. 8, 1885 to Dec. 29, 1896 and Jan. 12, 1909 to Dec. 26, 1915.

On February 9, Matt Adair, JVC of Camp 145 noted that a Post Descriptive Book was up for auction on eBay. He notified Commander Rick Green (also Department JVC) who immediately contacted several of us who would be concerned. Brother Kurt Vouk of Anna Ross Camp in Philadelphia jumped on this immediately. He has been successful over the years in working with eBay and a variety of sellers to recover items.

Brother Kurt was successful in convincing the seller, in Traverse City, to withdraw the item from auction and donate it to the SUVCW. The exchange was accomplished on February 13 as the seller met with Commander Neal Breaugh of Camp 14 (also Department SVC) at the VFW Hall in Traverse City. Neal brought the book to me at the Mid-winter Conference.

After some research at the Archives it was determined that this was the Descriptive Book of Post 227 at Eastport in Antrim County. The book is in very poor and fragile condition and has been photo copied to facilitate reference and other work.

On the whole this has been a very productive time and through the alertness and quick action of a number of our Brothers, the collection has been expanded. We also now have more information to share on how the G.A.R. in Michigan functioned and what they did during their operation our state.

If you know the location of any G.A.R. Post records, please contact the G.A.R. Records Officer, James T. Lyons, PDC, 14650 Willowbrook Drive, Lake Odessa, MI 48849-8491, (616)

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY...

Bill Lowe, Austin Blair Camp 7

The Michigan History Magazine distributes a publication to Fourth Grade pupils only in every school district in Michigan called "The Mitten". Their emphasis is Michigan history and the current issue focuses on Michigan men at Gettysburg.

Accompanying The Mitten is an additional page titled "Teacher's Supplement". For a group field research project it is suggested that the class make a field trip to a local cemetery to locate the graves of Civil War veteran's and possibly determine if they served at Gettysburg.

To assist in this project it was suggested they contact their "local historical society, museum or cemetery sexton to determine where Civil War Veterans in your county are buried." However, rather than have them contact one of the above groups that each Camp in the Department contact the Fourth Grade teacher in their schools and volunteer the assistance of your Camp in this program After all, who should know any better than your Camp as to where the Civil War veterans are buried in your county? If possible perhaps one of the Brothers in the Camp could accompany them to the best cemetery for this project.

Dyer's Compendium of the Civil War identifies the following Michigan regiments as serving at Gettysburg: 1st, 5th, 6th and 7th Cavalry, 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 16th and 24th Infantry and Battery L of the 1st Michigan Light Artillery.

You will note that the objective is to "visit a local cemetery", not speak to them in the classroom about the Civil War, Gettysburg, the SUVCW and etc. To assist in this a web site has been created for them to help identify Civil War veteran's graves. It may be found at:

<http://www.geocities.com/austinblair2000/identifyingcivilwargraves.htm>

This web site, as well as that of Department of Michigan's Grave Registration list, was included in the Teacher's Supplement.

During the remainder of this school year this is truly a *unique opportunity* for the Camps of the Department of Michigan.

GRAVES REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

Rick Danes, Chairman

"March 1st" "Spring." If you like to solve word puzzles, you know that the next phrase in the series is..... "graves field work". Are you ready? Do you have a plan? Now is the time to finalize those details, and get your committee motivated. Remember, if you have completed your initial area of responsibility, please sign on to work in an area that does not have an active Camp. Please contact me if you are planning to do any graves work in cemeteries outside of your Camp's designated area to see whether those cemeteries have already been surveyed or not. My e-mail address is SUVMIDGRO@AOL.COM.

In December I noted that we had 41,400 records in the Department Database, the entries now stand at 46,600, including all soldiers from all wars to the Spanish American buried in the State of Michigan, and all Civil War Soldiers from Michigan buried anywhere. Since our information comes from many sources, we depend on the Camp GROs to utilize the quarterly CD and review the information from their counties for correctness. In this manner we will have a correct, quality reference that will be meaningful to the user.

An issue that came up at Mid-Winter was that at least two Camps have discovered that previous surveys only included graves that were marked with a military headstone or a flag. We all know that if we use this criteria for a soldier's gravesite, we are missing as many as 50% of the possible burials in a cemetery. Please make sure that your Camp committee knows to **document all graves that could be** a Civil War Veteran, and research all of those.

As I looked around the table at our Mid-Winter Graves Meeting, I noticed that 12 Camps were represented. This was a good representative number, as we had 11 last year. The bad part was that all Camps except for one were at the Mid-Winter Conference; where were the other 13 Camps? I know, the weather was bad, we had colds, our cars would not start...but the Department meets only twice a year, it seems that ALL Camps could make some kind of effort to show our elected officers some respect.

And we all know that meetings aren't everything, I am pleased to welcome (or welcome back) to the committee as GROs Brothers Jim Harris from Camp 2 in Oakland County; Jerry Gerughty from Camp 266 in the Upper (John Gorto is headed west); Max Newman from Camp 145 in the western thumb area; George Allen from Camp 120, who is working with Dick Hutchins. I have also been in contact this past year with Brothers Mike McMillian from Camp 160; Gordon Jacobs from Camp 28; Gary Holmes from Camp 43; Kim Leese from 67; and Michael Nick from 101. Please keep in mind, that Article VI, Section A of the Department Bylaws states that "...The appointed Officers of the Camp **shall** beGrave Registration Officer...". I would expect that each Camp Commander would contact me with a good contact and a good address (preferably e-mail) of the Camp GRO so that we can start working together.

As we seek ways that we can fulfill our commitment to "Keep green the memory" of our Civil War ancestor, I would like to mention a new website developed by members of Camp 7 for use by the State Teachers Association in educating grade school children about the Civil War. This site was initiated by a request from the State Historical Center, through their magazine, *The Mitten* to Bill Lowe. The site will concentrate on the soldiers from Michigan who fought at Gettysburg, their units, the battle, and then show state-wide examples of headstones so the students know what to look for on a field trip to experience graves identification. They then will research the gravesites found so that they could see if the soldier was at Gettysburg. We can all share in this effort by contacting a school or a teacher to help them on cemetery outings. Want to find a local soldier who was at Gettysburg? Ask your Camp GRO to look on the quarterly CD for one, or go to the Department Graves Website!!

The web address for Camp 7's effort is <http://www.geocities.com/austinblair2000/identifyingcivilwargraves.htm>.

Be safe, and thank you for your efforts on behalf of our Civil War ancestor and the Department of Michigan.

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

Tim Kolean

It is that time of year again. No, I'm not talking about Tax time. Nor am I talking about springtime or March madness. Rather, I'm talking about the Michigan Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department Encampment on April 24th 2004. What does that mean to all of us who are members? What are our responsibilities?

First of all, we must support the National, Department and Camp leadership that will be conducting this year's state encampment. Keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Second, make sure each Camp completes its responsibilities that are required for the Department Encampment. That means having delegates assigned to represent the Camp and all reporting completed and returned to the responsible Department Officer. Though National, Department and Camp reporting is not as exciting as long lists of grave registrations or a grave or monument dedication, it is the grease that keeps the wheel called the SUVCW turning. Like any business, SUVCW leaders and members make crucial decisions based on what is reported from departments and Camps. A lack of good reporting hurts us all and is an obstacle for us to complete our goal to continue to honor our Civil War ancestors.

As Department Patriotic Instructor, I will be sending to all Department of Michigan Camps a form for Camp Patriotic Instructor or Camp Commander to fill out. These need to be returned to me on or before April 10, 2004. These forms are normal Department reporting of Camp activities per the responsibility of the Department Patriotic Instructor. Please return your Forms to:

Tim Kolean

Department Patriotic Instructor
6955 Archway Drive
Rockford MI 49341

All Department Officers with Michigan Department encampment reporting responsibilities, including me, appreciate all efforts by camps to submit Camp reports.

Anyone having questions can contact me at Kolean@iserv.net

GEN. JOHN A. LOGAN**CAMP 1 ~ GRAND RAPIDS***Timothy Kolean, CC*

During the December 2003 meeting of John A. Logan Camp 1, the following Brothers were elected as Camp Officers for 2004:

Commander	Timothy Kolean
SV Commander	David Wrightsman
JV Commander	Edward Woodard
Council	Harold Becker
Council	Harry Robinson
Council	Lee Stroschine
Secretary	Bruce Butgereit
Treasurer	Cleon Duryea
Patriotic Instructor	Bruce Butgereit II
Chaplain	Comer Skinner
Graves Registration	Bill Johnston

Installation of officers took place at the fourth annual winter banquet for the Allied Orders at the Grand Rapids Veterans Home on January 31st 2004. Present were members of John A. Logan Camp 1 SUVCW, Champlin Corps No. 41 WRC, and Eva Gray Tent No. 2 DUVCW. Special guest was PCC Keith Harrison. After a delicious dinner of Swiss steak and chicken, the afternoon program was started. 2003 Camp Commander Bruce Butgereit's reflections for the previous year were presented by his wife Marcia Butgereit because Commander Butgereit was unable to attend the banquet due to a family funeral. WRC Tent President Marcia Butgereit and DUVCW President Joanne Bailey-Boorsma also presented their thoughts on accomplishments and challenges for 2003.

Following dinner and presentations, Camp 1 Officers were installed by Past Commander in Chief Harrison. Finally, a special memorial tribute for "True Son" Edward Blakely was presented to John A. Logan Camp 1 from Bruce and Marcia Butgereit. The Tribute included a white wood and wicker chair that Mr. Blakely sat in many times at SUVCW events and a special plaque explaining the history and contributions of Mr. Blakely to the memory of the Civil War Veterans. These items will be permanently displayed in the Grand Rapids Veterans Home boardroom where Camp 1 meets. All in all, a good time was had by all in attendance.

ISRAEL B. RICHARDSON**CAMP 2 ~ OAKLAND COUNTY***Bruce Miller, CC***SUVCW GETS WARM RECEPTION AT
"COLD MOUNTAIN"**

As members of Michigan's Civil War heritage community, the Brothers of Israel B. Richardson Camp 2 attended a special pre

release screening of the Miramax film "Cold Mountain" on December 17, 2003. The Camp was also given a unique opportunity when its Camp Commander, Bruce Miller, was invited to set up a "recruiting station" at the following night's preview screening exclusively for Detroit market PBS supporters. Miller attended the event in uniform, distributed brochures and chatted with people during the pre screening reception. The Miramax invitation to the event promised a "special guest speaker." Fully expecting PBS contributor Ken Burns, no one was more surprised than Commander Miller when he was informed that HE was the speaker!

Taking advantage of the opportunity, Miller addressed the crowd on how 140 years later the Civil War still fascinates many Americans who actively pursue their interest through reenacting, skirmishing, round tables and, of course, the SUVCW.

At the regular January meeting, Department SVC Neal Breugh braved the wretched winter weather and installed the Camp officers for 2004 including:

Commander	Bruce Miller
SV Commander	Bill Nash
JV Commander/GRO	Jim Harris
Secretary/Treasurer	Kevin Lindsey
Council	Tim Harris
Council	Ray Shedd
Council	Bill Nash
Historian	Kevin Lindsey
Patriotic Instructor	John Ellis
Guide	Tim Harris
Color Bearer	Bill Phillis
Guard	Ray Shedd
Chaplin	Bill Nash
CW Memorials	Kevin Lindsey

The Camp was also proud to welcome and initiate a new Member, Richard A. Justice (Zelek C. Smith, 33rd Iowa Infantry).

HENRY E. PLANT**CAMP 3 ~ GRAND HAVEN***Daniel Grable, Secretary/Treasurer*

This winter Henry E. Plant Camp held their 4th annual Holiday Muster. This is where the Camp members, wives and friends go out to a local restaurant. We also encourage people to bring Civil War artifacts to share with the group. This year some of the items we enjoyed were an officer's spyglass, a soldier's shoe and a photo of one of our Commander's Civil War ancestors. This was followed by a very enjoyable dinner. Then Neal Breugh, Department Senior Vice Commander, conducted the installation of our 2004 Camp Officers. The Officers are:

Commander	Richard Scott
SV Commander	Donald Ogdon
JV Commander	John Baldus

Secretary/Treasurer	Daniel Grable
Council	John Baldus
Council	Paul MacDonald
Council	Jon Scott
Chaplain	John Baldus
Patriotic Instructor	Paul MacDonald
Guide	Donald Ogdon
Guard	John Scott

This was the first installation of Camp Officers conducted by Senior Vice Commander Breugh.

The Camp is working on and will be approving our Camp Bylaws. Our meeting location is in the Tri-Cities Historical Museum in Grand Haven, which is currently in temporary quarters. The museum is renovating former department store in the downtown area and hopes to move into these new quarters early this summer. The new quarters will also be our new meeting location. We also hope to be involved in any activities the museum conducts when opening the building.

AUSTIN BLAIR**CAMP 7 ~ JACKSON***Ron Lewis, CC*

The Camp has continued to keep busy this winter, despite the cold and snow.

In early January, several of us participated in the Greater Jackson Chamber of Commerce annual recognition dinner. The Camp presented the colors and led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance. There was up to a thousand people present and we were well received and complimented on our appearance and presentation. We also appeared on the Lansing Channel 47 Fox News weather report broadcast live from the dinner. It was a fun night and we had a great meal, compliments of the C of C.

The Camp at the February meeting settled on a format for celebrating our 90th Birthday. It will be an informal pizza party on April 12, 2004, at 7:00PM at the Richard Smith American Legion Hall at 3200 Lansing Road, Jackson. Planning for a short program is underway including some special length of service awards. Special invitations are being extended to all current and past members of the Camp and Auxiliary and to other Camps and Department personnel. All food and drinks are being provided by the Camp.

Eight of our Camp Brothers attend the Department's Mid-Winter Conference held in Lansing, Saturday, April 21st. It was an interesting and informative meeting. Twelve Camps from around the State were represented as well as several of the National Officers, including the Commander in Chief.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

It is interesting to learn what the other Camps and Department is planning and doing and to enjoy the camaraderie of other Brothers from all over the State. I would recommend all Camps try to attend one of these gathering sometime. They provide a larger picture and instill more meaning into what we are all about.

Plans are moving forward on the refurbishment and rededication of the Defense of the Flag monument on its 100th birthday in downtown Jackson this summer. The City of Jackson has contracted to have the bronze portion of the sculpture cleaned and Camp 7 will clean and re-caulk the granite base of the monument. The rededication ceremony will be on May 30, 2004.

Camp 7 Brother Mark Heath, immediate Past Commander, is a candidate for Department Junior Vice Commander this year. The Camp extends its complete and whole hearted support for Brother Heath and encourage delegates from other camps to support his candidacy as well. Brother Heath is committed to the SUVCW will make an excellent Department Officer.

ROBERT FINCH

CAMP 14 ~ TRAVERSE CITY

Wm. E. Skillman, SVC

On January 10th meeting the installation of Robert Finch Camp officers was conducted. Camp 14 had in attendance 12 Members and five Associates, plus eight visitors and family members. Michigan Department Commander Bruce Butgeriet and his wife, Marcia traveled from Grand Rapids to Traverse City to perform the official 'swearing in' duties. The officers and their duties are as follows:

Commander	Neal Breugh
SV Commander	Bill Skillman
JV Commander	Robert Clark
Treasurer	Jim Slis
Secretary	Jim Ribby
Council	Al Pifer
Council	Jan White
Council	Bill Skillman
Camp Delegate	Neal Breugh
Patriotic Instructor	Jeff Morse
Color Bearer	Jan White
Guide	Tyler Putnam
Guard	Chuck Heffer
Historian	George Goodrich
Graves Registration	Jim Slis
Memorials Officer	Fred Knoodle

The meeting was also well attended by members of the former Camp 147 (Cadillac). These members are: Jeff Augustat, Pete Carlson, Roger Church, Dean Finney and

Chuck LaBar.

Camp 14 unanimously endorsed the motion to accept these new Brothers into our Camp. Departing Commander Skillman welcomed them and hoped that they would be active in their new Camp and continue to represent the finest traditions of our Order

Former Camp Commander of Camp 147, Pete Carlson, sent his regrets but could not attend the meeting due to a severe illness. We have subsequently learned from Brother Chuck LaBar that Brother Carlson passed away on Saturday, January 24th. Condolences on behalf of Camp 14 were sent to his surviving family.

Commander Neal Breugh has been elected to the post of Executive Officer in charge of the fundraising effort to restore the Grand Traverse County Soldiers monument. Camp 14 Brothers Johnston, Slis and Skillman have been assisting him in this endeavor. Commissioner Margaret Underwood and her son represent the County government, Chuck Lerchen (Director of Veterans Affairs), Bob Wilson (GT Historical Soc.), Dick Crampton (GT Heritage Soc. and the Grand Traverse School Board) round out the core group. Dept. Commander Bruce Butgeriet lent his support to the staff by attending two of the meetings and describing the various pitfalls and triumphs from his own fundraising efforts for the Kent County monument. He also provided us with a CD ROM disk of stationary, brochures and other invaluable 'hardware'. We are currently contacting community representatives who would be interested on serving on the Restoration Committee. A rough draft of a brochure has been produced with material of the original dedication and photographs provided by Mr. Wilson of the Historical Soc. The Committee has set the tentative date to 'kick off' formal fundraising efforts during the week of Memorial Day—which coincides with the 114th anniversary of the original dedication.

Commander Breugh has taken possession of the laser copy of the Ladies Auxiliary Charter from Mr. Sam Bravata of Sam's Joint Restaurant. We are planning for the reactivation and installation of the Frances Finch Ladies Auxiliary Camp 9 during Camp 14's July picnic. He has also carefully 'brought order out of chaos from among the dozens of documents found in a pair of Archival record boxes that traces the transfer of Camp 14 from Grand Rapids to Traverse City in 1988.

Camp Council Breugh undertook the annual audit of Camp 14's treasury accounts. Officers in attendance were Brothers White, Skillman, and Slis. The audit was conducted at Tendercare Nursing Facility so Past Commander Al Pifer could also participate. The audit revealed that all of the Camp accounts were balanced and correct. Commander Pifer was in good spirits and health and wanted to

thank those who had sent him cards and well wishes for his recovery.

The celebratory dinner to honor the 90th year of Robert Finch Camp 14 founding will be held on Friday March 26th at the Elks Lodge in Traverse City. Festivities will begin at 6 p.m. We hope that you can come and join the celebration.

LOCKWOOD

CAMP 139 ~ ALPENA

William J. Kuzenski, JVC

Year 2004: Can you believe it! At Camp 139 we are full steam ahead. The year began with the meeting dedicated to install Camp officers. We were honored with the attendance of Mich. State Commander Bruce Butgeriet and Mich. State Senior Vice-Commander Neal Breugh. Many thanks to these gentleman that embarked on a winter trip to God's Country for this Installation.

After the installation the meeting shifted to the presentation of Service Medals by Neal Breugh to the following members: Guy Decker, Vietnam War Medal; James Furbush, WW II War Medal; Gary Lacross, Military Service Medal. Following the presentation we took time to congratulate these men and the new Officers.

Our Camp has the privilege of an Eagle Scout that has come on board to erect a monument to the Civil War Veterans buried at Alpena's Evergreen Cemetery. This project is to fulfill part of his Eagle Scout program. This young man has impressed this Camp with his drive, common sense, and his ability to design and work with our committee. We will keep you posted on the outcome of this special endeavor.

Brother, Don Londo and I were honored recently by being invited to speak to students at Alpena Senior High School history classes. We were there to talk about Alpena Civil War Veterans and their impact on the area. Brother, Londo held the class spellbound with his knowledge of area veterans and their molding of the Alpena area. From schools named after them, to streets and platted blocks and subdivisions. I was there to speak as a descendant of local veteran Lt. James D. Turnbull, my great grandfather. He became a teacher, then self-studied to become a lawyer after the war. He also held many political offices in the following years as Alpena's City Comptroller, State Representative and Senator, he was also the father of the Michigan Lien Law, as written. I cannot stress enough how I was inspired by these students attention and the question they presented about the veterans and our area.

(Continued on page 10)

Every Camp should get in touch with the respective learning institutions in their area and offer a similar presentation to those students. Well, from our Camp to yours, God be with you.

GOV. HENRY CRAPO

CAMP 145 ~ FLINT

Rick Greene, CC

On January 31, 2004 the Gov. Crapo Camp 145 met to install new Camp Officers. Elected Officers were:

Rick Greene, PCC,	Commander
Don Simons	SV Commander
Matt Adair	JV Commander
Tom Holmes	Council
Max Newman, PCC	Council
Kim Shaw, PCC	Council
Dennis Derr II	Secretary
David F. Wallace, PDC	Treasurer
Dennis Derr II	Delegate

In the past year the Camp has worked extensively with Genesee County as the county revamped the interior and grounds of the county court house. On September 14, 2003 these efforts were culminated when various veteran's groups, dignitaries and a large gathering of citizens drew together as the Camp delivered a SUVCW. ceremony to re-dedicate the GAR Monument. The monument to the Gov. Crapo GAR Post had been relocated to a different, more prominent location on the court house grounds. The Gov. Crapo Camp thanks representatives of Camps 17, 67, 120 and 160 as well as DUV Tent 14 and the WRC for their assistance.

The Camp's attention has now turned to restoring the long-disappeared ordinance pyramids that accompanied each of two Parrot rifles, also located on the court house lawn. Genesee County has pledged up to \$500 toward that end. Best and most cost effective means are now being considered for this restoration, with a view toward a late summer or autumn completion.

SGT. JOHN S. COSBEY

CAMP 427 ~ DEARBORN

Rick Danes, SVC

Our Camp members continued their New Year's Celebration by welcoming Department Commander Butgereit and Senior Vice Commander Breagh to Dearborn. After a gala dinner at Buddy's Pizza, we joined other members for a Camp Officer's Installation.

In February, the Dearborn Historical Museum invited us to attend the Mayor's State of the City Address. As we expected, he announced that further budgetary cuts were eminent, especially in the historical (museums) and arts areas, which are non-

essential to the health and welfare of the residents. This situation keeps in the spotlight the need for volunteers to "fill the gap" and help keep the historical facilities open.

To that end, Camp members donated over 250 volunteer hours to make the 13th Annual Dearborn Historic Guild Antique Show a success. Most of our time was spent interfacing with the public about our uniforms, about period weapons, about battles, about the GAR and the "Sons", and about history in general....truly an application of the goals of our organization.

This year will be a busy one, probably climaxing on August 7 and 8 at the Dearborn Homecoming. As an emerging "go-to" group in local volunteerism, we have been asked to expand our annual Civil War interpretive history campsite to include a time-line of camps to reflect military periods of Colonial period Native American, Revolutionary War, French and Indian War, War of 1812, Civil War, Mexican War, Spanish American War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Viet Nam, and Desert Storm as resources and space permit. In addition, local experts will develop exhibits of the Blacksmith, Pottery, Woodcarving, Gun Making, and Cooking crafts. Such events as walking tours are being developed. This event is being coordinated as part of the Dearborn 75th Anniversary Celebration, and will highlight the Sons of Union Veterans.

Springtime brings the opportunity to get outside and either start or complete projects associated with the Graves Program and the Monuments and Memorials Project. With Memorials surveys in Macomb, Monroe, and Wayne County completed, we will go back and re-photograph some areas to replace some



COMING EVENTS

APRIL

12th Jackson

In honor of Austin Blair Camp 14's 90th Anniversary, the Camp will be hosting a pizza party. All SUVCW members are invited. See page 16 for further information.

24th Grand Rapids, MI

Department Encampment at the Airport Hilton Hotel. The Encampment will be hosted by the WRC. Further information about the Encampment, along with pre-registration and meal reservation forms may be found on pages 14 and 15.

24th Buy-a-Brick Deadline

Last minute orders for Memorial Bricks will be taken at the Department Encampment.

30th Camp Reports Due

All Camps should have Form 27, the Camp Annual Report and per capita dues turned into the Department Secretary by this date.

MAY

1st Lansing, MI

Graves Registration meeting, 1:00 pm at the Library of Michigan. Open to all SUVCW members.

30th Andersonville, GA

Memorial Day ceremony to rededicate the Michigan Monument. Further information may be found in the article on page 1.

JUNE

1st Messenger Deadline

24th Detroit, MI

— Postponed —

Grand opening/rededication of the Michigan Soldier's and Sailor's Monument in Detroit. This event will take place sometime in the Fall. Details will follow in the Summer or Fall Messenger.

JULY

14th Lansing, MI

125th State Capitol Building Anniversary Celebration. More information to follow in the Summer

ALBERT S. PIERSON
PRIVATE
COMPANY B
30TH MICHIGAN INFANTRY

Great, Great Uncle
of
John R. Keith
Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20

Albert S. Pierson was born on October 10th 1840 in Armada, Macomb County, Michigan to Edgar & Elizabeth Ingraham Pierson. Albert is an older brother of my Great Grandmother, Maria Pierson Keith! Together with their siblings they spent their childhood in the Armada area.

Albert married Miss Amelia Jane Rexford on November 4th, 1863. She is the daughter of Peter Sylvester & Mary Dodge Rexford. Amelia Jane was born on March 9th, 1837 in Oxford County, Ontario, Canada.

A few weeks after they celebrated their 1 year wedding anniversary and two months after the birth of their first child, Mr. Pierson enlisted in Company B, 30th Michigan Infantry at Armada, Michigan. The date of his enlistment is November 29th, 1864. At this time he is described as: 5' 7" tall, light complexion, blue eyes, light colored hair and his occupation is a farmer. On December 7th, 1864 he was mustered as a private into the Union Army.

The Thirtieth was organized at Detroit, for a special purpose. The Confederate sympathizers and rebel refugees in Canada were becoming so outspoken in their sentiments and so bold in their actions that a raid was anticipated on the towns and cities on the Michigan side of the river, and as a matter of safety it was deemed expedient to organize a regiment of Michigan troops to prevent the occurrence of such an event.

General Hooker, then in command of the department, suggested to the Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton that a regiment be recruited to protect the border along the Detroit river and Lakes Huron & St. Clair from any attack of Confederates known to be in Canada. The Governor of Michigan, Austin Blair was given authority by the Secretary of War to organize a regiment whose term of service should be one year for this purpose.

The 30th Michigan Infantry was quickly recruited and mustered into service, with an enrollment of 995 officers and men. The field, staff and line officers at organization were as follows;

Colonel, Grover S. Wormer, Detroit
 Lieutenant Colonel, John D. Sumner, Charlestown
 Major, Samuel E. Graves, Adrian
 Surgeon, John Willett, Flint
 Assistant Surgeon, Theron T. Hubbard Saginaw
 Second Assistant Surgeon, Owen Ellison, Jr., Jackson
 Adjutant, Jerome W. Turner, Corunna

Quartermaster, William W. Wade, Jonesville
 Chaplain, Lyman H. Dean, Morenci
 Company B
 Captain, William Belles, Chesterfield
 First Lieutenant, Charles C. Lamb, Mt. Clemens
 Second Lieutenant, Barlow Davis, Pittsfield

The companies of the regiment were stationed along the Detroit and St. Clair rivers and accomplished what the regiment was organized for, and though no actual fighting was participated in by the regiment its duty was performed thoroughly and well. The regiment continued in service until June 30, 1865, when it was mustered out of service.

Total enrollment.....998
 Died of disease.....15
 Discharged for disability.....2

Private Pierson contracted measles while serving at Fort Gratiot, Michigan. This case of measles resulted in rheumatism. This condition would be with him the rest of his life!

Fort Gratiot was constructed by Capt. Charles Gratiot. When Capt. Gratiot left Canada on May 11, 1814, with 183 men, he had one mission - to build a fort to guard the mouth of the St. Clair River. This fort was built during the War of 1812 to control the St. Clair River. British troops had battled Americans for control of Great Lakes waterways - the expressways of the era. Fort Gratiot which was built atop an abandoned French fort, was 190ft by 290ft in size. There were eight buildings and it could host up to nine cannons. The cost of this structure was more than \$3,000 to construct. Captain Gratiot was an 1806 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the chief engineer. Gratiot served as a commander at West Point from 1810 to 1811, but his most notable job was commander of the Army Corps of Engineers from 1828 to 1838. The captain died in May 1855. There's little left of the fort today, which the military abandoned in 1879. Archeologists unearthed the fort's walls in 1985.

Albert & Amelia Pierson had 5 children. They are:

1. Ada F., Born 9-27-1864, she married Curtis S. Benjamin in Plainwell, Michigan.
2. Edith C., born 4-18-1866
3. Arthur H., born 7-5-1868, he married Thersea Taylor in Heath Township, Allegan County, Michigan
4. Mary A., born 11-25-1875
5. Frances M. born 5-6-1881. She was only 11 years old when she died.

The places Albert & his family lived were Armada, Michigan until 1866. Then to Plainwell & Diamond Springs both in Allegan County, Michigan. On to Kalamazoo, Michigan until 1901. Their final moved was to King County, Washington State.

On December 30, 1918 in Kent, King County, Washington Private Pierson passed on. The official cause of death was heart trouble due to old age.

His widow Amelia received a widow's pension till her death on February 17, 1923. They are buried next to each other

LETTER FROM IRAQ

The following is a letter which was written by LTC Max Riekse, PCC and Life Member of Henry E. Plant Camp 3 of Grand Haven. Brother Riekse is a Vietnam War veteran and a member of the Army Reserve. He was called up and since March 2003 has been in Kuwait and Iraq. The letter was written just before Thanksgiving telling of his experiences since March. He is working in oil security for the provisional government and lives in the former Presidential Place in Baghdad. Also included is part of an earlier letter in which he states his complaints from over there. His letter also included a front page article from Stars and Stripes telling of the surprise visit of the Commander in Chief, President George Bush, and the Thanksgiving Day dinner with the troops in Baghdad. With the article was a picture of Max and President Bush. It was probably one of the biggest events occurring to Brother Riekse while over there.

I am sure Max would appreciate any letters and messages from his SUVCW Brothers. Brother Riekse's address is:

LTC Max Riekse
Unit #91406 CTTF-7
308th Ca Bde Hq
APO, AE 09342-1406
Baghdad, Iraq

*Daniel Grable,
Secretary/Treasurer
Henry E. Plant Camp 3*

Well, this now finds me in Baghdad, Iraq working for Task Force Shield which is under the CPA Ministry of Oil. (CPA = Coalition Provisional Authority – which translates into the U.S. ‘lead’ government or governing authority for Iraq). As of 5 November 2003, I became the Deputy Commander for Task Force Shield, which is under the CPA Ministry of Oil and overseas security for all of Iraq’s oil infrastructure, including oil and gas refineries and pipelines. Since anti-coalition elements are sabotaging Iraq’s oil and gas infrastructure on a regular basis, this has become a high CPA/US priority mission. TF Shield oversees a private company, **Erinys**, British based – Brits’, Americans, South Africans, etc., security personnel who have the contract to train, employ and deploy Iraqi nationals to help protect Iraq’s oil infrastructure. The CPA Ministry of Oil people are American civilian oil people for the most part; and act as “advisers” to the Iraqi Oil Ministry in

Baghdad. Bottom line, CPA Ministries run things in Iraq; the Deputy Oil Adviser (Minister) is a guy named Gary, nice guy, and retired from Exxon Oil; as is one of his chief DOD civilian advisers. One story they told me was about the 1970’s energy crisis; which I guess was a bad time for the oil industry; Texans had bumper stickers on their cars; “Turn the heat up to 80 & let them freeze up north in the dark”. Texas oil humor. A warning was put out on Iraqi “activity” tonight – November 14; considering wearing my helmet and flack vest to the shower which is just outside the palace. Another inconvenience here.

I landed in Kuwait on 31 March 2003, and spent around two weeks on a U.S. Army base called Arifjan near the coast of Kuwait, in processing, taking classes, and just sitting around wasting time; from there I went to Camp Virginia out in the desert of Kuwait where few Kuwaitis go and I spent another two plus weeks in that filthy, primitive dirt hole where I was 2nd shirt Battle Captain at the Civil Affairs HACC (Humanitarian Action Coordination Center), V Corps Real Headquarters. V Corps was/is the U.S. Army controlling ground force Headquarters. The Main Headquarters was somewhere in Iraq at the time. Around the 1st of May, I moved with the HACC to LSA Anaconda (Iraq Balad Airport) around 60 miles north of Baghdad. We drove up from Kuwait – it was a dirty, hot two day ride in the sun, on – for the most part – a four lane highway, going past areas of roadway that had highway fencing and guard rails looted. Also past numerous vehicles along the side of the road with their tires taken off (looted). The Iraqi’s are expert looters, even to the point of taking down power lines for the copper and then complaining they don’t have electric power. After a few days, I went back to the 308th CA Public Facilities team as its Communications Officer which had moved to LSA Anaconda.

At Camp Arifjan, I slept in a warehouse with around 500 to 800 other people, men and women; the good news was that I had a mattress; and unlike Fort Bragg, NC, I did not have a top bunk to content with. Also, it was not real dirty. That “experience” was around two weeks. Then there was Camp Virginia in the middle of the Kuwaiti desert; hot & just plain dirty; sleeping on a cot; and while I ended up moving into a tent with air conditioning, I slept many nights with a face mask and goggles on because of all the dirt in the air. Also did my washing by hand, which went on for months. But I did manage to take a shower once or twice a day, sometimes by just using bottled water. Food was MRE’s or

worse.

I now sleep in the CPA Palace, in a huge room with marble walls, in a corner by myself; a safe corner in case of rocket or mortar attacks. And no one on the top bunk. OK. 11 November 2003 – Veterans Day: CPA grounds and Palace and/or the Al Rasheed Hotel in the Green Zone was the subject of a 127mm Brazilian rocket attack at around 0930PM – 2230 hours; two rounds landed outside the CPA HQ causing no casualties; however around 48 vehicles in the CPA parking lot were damaged. The parking lot is approximately 250 meters from the front of the CPA Headquarters – Saddam’s Baghdad Presidential Palace. One of the vehicles heavily damaged belonged to our Task Force Shield. It will be scrapped. It was not clear if the Hotel or the CPA was targeted; possibly both with two rockets each. The U.S. Marines forcefully directed everyone in the Palace into the basement for safety where we stayed for 1½ hours – going back upstairs at 10:55PM. At the time of the impact, the building was locked down and no one could leave or enter the Palace or Green Zone. The new U.S. Marine (Palace-CPA) protection force – around a company, replaced the Guerkas outside guard; and U.S. Marines are now outside, on the roof and patrolling with the Guerkas inside the building. This building is one of the primary targets of Iraqi insurgents and also one of the best protected in Iraq.

16 November 2003: There were three rocket attacks, six rounds fired, and three impact points in Baghdad; times were 7:40PM and 9:00PM. One round landed around a ½ mile from the Palace; it was a rather loud explosion. No casualties. These guys are not giving up. CPA directed all people to go to the basement; no one could leave the Palace. I was on my way to the shower outside, but the Marine guards would not let me outside. Locked down.

I sleep in the CPA Palace itself, in a huge open room with a few hundred others, in a corner. We were all moved from another part of the Palace and I got to the new location first and picked out a good and secure spot – in case the roof gets hit, I should be well protected. I’m not so sure about other parts of the room which don’t have the overhead cover I have, and also lots of glass chandeliers over their bunks. Not me. I like my corner. Eventually, they want to move me to a trailer, but for now this is a lot better. 13 November: watched

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

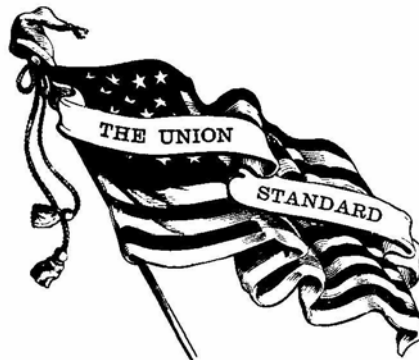
the movie "The Dirty Dozen" in Saddam's Palace movie theater in the basement; great seats and real cozy. No popcorn, but better than when we had movies at Camp Victory – which was real hot in August – had to drink two big bottles of water just watching the movie. It was so hot (8-10PM). Then it got cold in October watching the movies there. Note from Nelly: Russian TV news reported early November 03 that Islamic people/Arabs in Los Angeles CA, New York City and Washington, D.C. were being told to leave ASAP.

19 and 20 November: Went to the Convention Center – about 2.5K's from the Palace in the Green Zone for a six hour Force Protection seminar put on by the U.S. State Department. Most people just drive over there with no flack vest or helmet on, but I was driving alone so put my helmet and vest on with a magazine in my 9mm. It's not Green enough for me. 24 November: Went to Eriny's Baghdad headquarters and stayed the night with a hot shower, nice bed and good food. Watched the movie Tomb Raiders with Eriny's South African contract security personnel; nice people. Iraqi celebratory firing was going on at the time signaling end of Ramadan. While their HQ's appeared to be well secured, all outside security is Iraqi and everyone (ex-packs = expatriates/European personnel) keeps their weapons close by, as I did. Also enjoyed interacting with the British owners and security personnel. Interesting!

I spent May, June and July at LSA Anaconda – Balad going out into the field working on communications issues, to include doing assessments and looking at bombed out communications sites and working with local Iraqi area telephone and postal personnel. I really enjoyed doing that as part of my job as a Civil Affairs Communications Officer. What I didn't like was the highly unprofessional attitude of the Public Affairs team and Headquarters element up there towards Force Protection. It's a wonder they didn't get me or anyone else killed. For being part of Special Operations, they were especially screwed-up. Not special. LSA Anaconda was the subject of frequent nightly mortar attacks while I was there. As to sleeping, I ended up in a building in a room with two others, a major – an OK guy – he even lived and worked in Fruitport (MI) for awhile; and one real whacked out, crazy and bad attitude 308th LTC – he was Polish by birth. The good news is that he slept

most of the time up on the roof because of the intense heat. There were floor fans in the room, but that was not enough. At night I slept under the dirt filled mosquito netting, which made it hotter and harder to feel the effects of the fan generated air; but the alternative was getting bit by mosquitoes. The room did however have a refrigerator, but my COL kept taking my Cokes. The cold water though was a real life saver. Three days after our room got air conditioning and I got my first three days of decent sleep, I had to move down to Baghdad.

Around August 1st I was moved down to Baghdad to Camp Victory to our 308th BDE HQ's to be the LNO for the Public Facilities team up in LSA Anaconda – where one of my many duties was to brief the BDE Commander every morning at 0800 hours on the Public Facilities issues happening in Baghdad and North; or the entire northern half of Iraq. This included the areas covered and controlled by the 1AD (in and around Baghdad), 4th ID MEC North of Baghdad, the 101st ABN DIV north of the 4th ID, which is also where (Balad) LSA Anaconda is and also was the area where part of the 3rd ID was before being re-deployed. I also covered the area west of Baghdad where the 3rd ACR and the 82nd ABN DIV were. Like LSA Anaconda, Camp Victory was periodically rocketed and mortared. I also went on the 308th Karbala mission. Another very unnecessary 308th CA mission. I moved into a tent with air conditioning that was just okay, no refrigerator, but had access to one in our air conditioned office where I spent most of my time working. The good news was I did not have to have my mosquito netting up – lots of bats around; but while the tent had a cement floor (the tent was in a driveway), I ended up being bit by sand fleas – a lot – all over my body. While I was at Camp Victory I got to go down to Karbala, south of Baghdad, and



MATTHIAS JUDD CORPORAL COMPANY I 1ST TENNESSEE MOUNTED INFANTRY

Great, Great Grandfather
of
William Nash
General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2

Matthias Judd lived in Cookeville, Putnam County, Tennessee as a farmer. His great, great grandfather Rowland Judd and great grandfather John Judd served in the Revolutionary War as part of the "Overmountain Men" who fought at the Battle of King's Mountain. He had an uncle that also participated in the same battle.

When the Civil War broke out, the Judd family, like many families, had divided loyalties. Some of the Judd men joined the Confederacy. Matthias Judd enlisted in the Union Army as a 21 year old volunteer. I was perplexed (but pleased!) that Matthias joined the Union when many of his relatives chose to wear the gray. I discovered a family oral tradition that gave me the answer: One of Matthias' brothers, 12 year old Silas Jefferson Judd, was gunned down in 1862 in front of his home by the notorious Confederate Officer Champ Ferguson and his band of "guerillas." Champ Ferguson was eventually hung as a war criminal.

It is said that Matthias had become determined to join the Union to avenge his brother's murder. He enlisted August 20th 1864, but not before marrying Mary "Polly" Bullington in Nashville January 4th 1864. During his enlistment he saw action at Carthage, Livingston, Salma, and Butler's Landing (all in Tennessee). It is not known if he ever actually engaged against Champ Ferguson. He was discharged July 22nd 1865.

After the war he was an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He also became a circuit-riding preacher, Pastor, and builder of churches. It is said that the his wife Mary had a gift for healing. People would bring their sick babies for her to blow in their mouths. Matthias died February 2nd 1925 at the age of 80 and his buried next to Mary in the Judd Cemetery, Cookeville Tennessee.

2004 DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

Hilton Hotel

4747 - 28th Street SE
(Intersection of 28th St. and Patterson Ave.)
Grand Rapids, MI 49512
1-877-944-5866

Rooms are \$75.00 plus tax.

You must mention you are with the Allied Orders to get this rate when making reservations.



From the South:

Follow US 131 North through Grand Rapids
Exit onto I-196 East
I-196 will merge with I-96
Exit off of I-96 at 43A
Turn right—hotel will be on right about .75 miles

From the North:

Follow US 131 South to I-96 East
Exit off of I-96 at 43A
Turn right—hotel will be on right about .75 miles

From the East:

Follow I-96 West to Exit 43A
Merge right—hotel will be on right about 1 mile

This is not just your ordinary meeting! This is the event your Department Officers have been encouraging you to attend each time we share with you. The Encampment offers each of you an opportunity to actively participate in the “business” of the Department and to cast your vote accordingly. I highly encourage each Camp making the effort to attend and share a great experience. Although only delegates from a Camp may vote, all are welcome and your thoughts and input are desired in discussion.

THE SCHEDULE

(Breaks will be called as meeting schedule permits)

- 8:00 am Registration Opens
- 9:00 am SUVCW Encampment begins
- 12:15 pm Break for luncheon
- 12:30 pm **Luncheon**
 - Greetings to Allied Orders
 - Recognition of Officers
 - Gift Exchange
 - Presentation of Scholarships
 - Camp's 7 & 14 Anniversary Celebration—
 - Cake for all!
- 2:00 pm SUVCW Meeting Resumes
- 4:00 pm Meeting Ends
- 6:00 pm GAR Memorial Banquet
 - Speaker—Maryann Greketis, a nationally

REMINDER

Austin Blair Camp 7 and Robert Finch Camp 14 are celebrating their 90th Anniversary's this Spring and are providing beautifully decorated Anniversary Cakes at the Encampment Luncheon for all.

Camp 14 was chartered March 26, 1914
and

Camp 7 was chartered April 21, 1914

*Come Help Our Two Senior Camps
Celebrate!*

DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT PRE-REGISTRATION

Pre-Registration is \$7.00

(Registration at the door is \$10.00)

Checks should be made out to:

Department of Michigan, SUVCW

Mail to:

Rick Greene, Chairman
Dept. Encampment Credentials Cmte.
9245 Willits Rd.
Mayville, MI 48744-9535

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St. _____ Zip _____

Camp No. _____ Name _____

Delegate Alternate Camp Commander

Past Camp Commander Dept. Commander

PDC C-in-C PC-in-C

Pre-Registration Deadline is April 19th!

(Please circle one)

DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT NOON LUNCHEON

Turkey and Provolone Sandwiches with Vegetable Soup and Coffee or Tea. — \$11.00 ea.

Number to Reserve _____

Total Cost of Luncheons \$ _____

DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT GAR MEMORIAL BANQUET

Raspberry Chicken with Potatoes, Vegetable, Garden Salad, Baked Rolls and Coffee or Tea. — \$20.00 ea.

Number to Reserve _____

OR

8 oz. Prime Rib with Potatoes, Vegetable, Garden Salad, Baked Rolls and Coffee or Tea. — \$22.00 ea.

Number to Reserve _____

Total Cost of Dinners \$ _____

Dessert with either Dinner will be Assorted Pies

Total Enclosed (Luncheons & Dinners \$ _____)

Name _____

Make check payable to:

Address _____

Department Convention

City _____

Mail Dinner Reservation form and check to:

State _____ Zip Code _____

Department Convention

Joanne N. Boorsma

2050 Michael SW

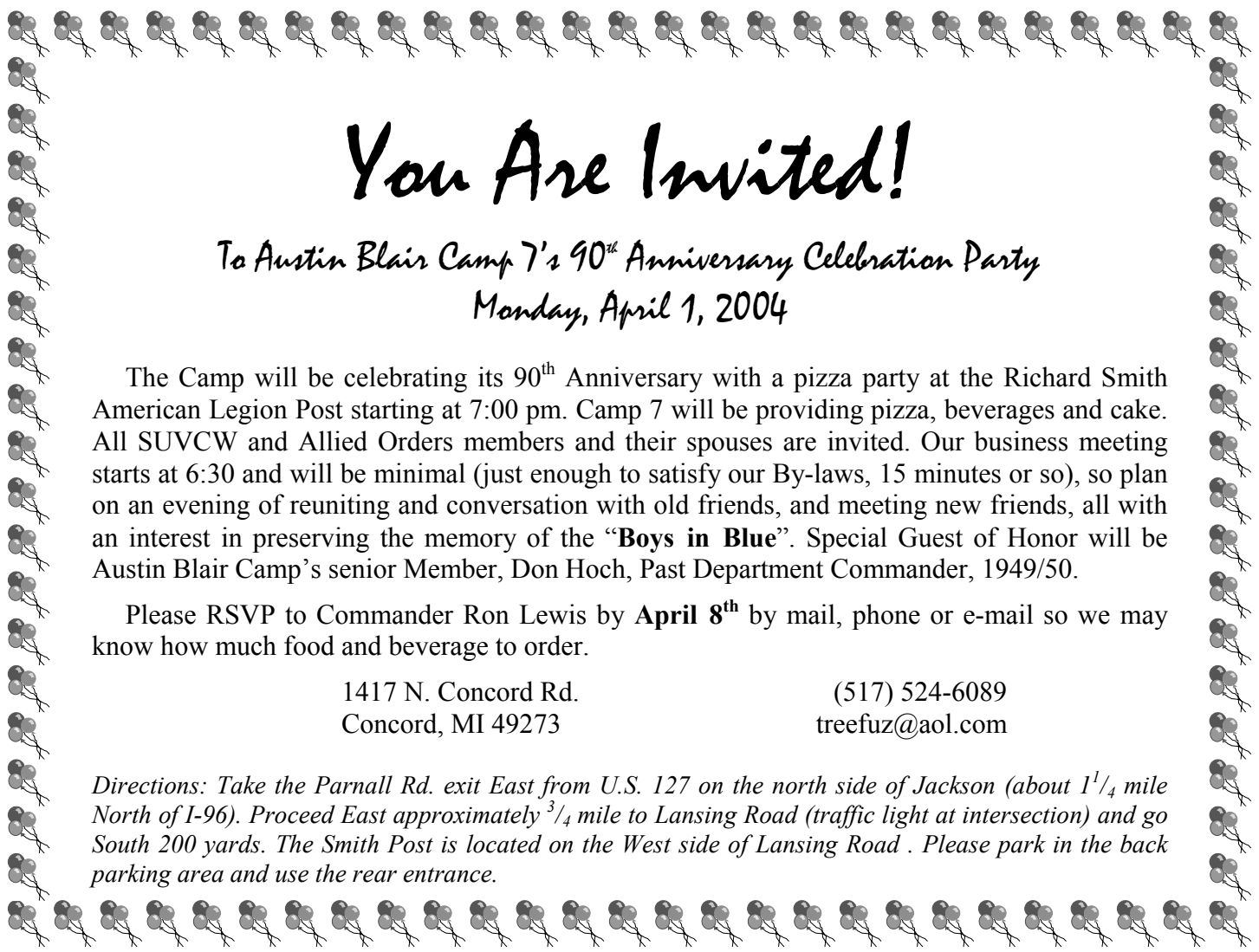
Wyoming, MI 49509

Phone _____

Please include your area code

A confirmation will be mailed back.

Deadline for Reservations is April 16th



You Are Invited!

To Austin Blair Camp 7's 90th Anniversary Celebration Party
Monday, April 1, 2004

The Camp will be celebrating its 90th Anniversary with a pizza party at the Richard Smith American Legion Post starting at 7:00 pm. Camp 7 will be providing pizza, beverages and cake. All SUVCW and Allied Orders members and their spouses are invited. Our business meeting starts at 6:30 and will be minimal (just enough to satisfy our By-laws, 15 minutes or so), so plan on an evening of reuniting and conversation with old friends, and meeting new friends, all with an interest in preserving the memory of the "Boys in Blue". Special Guest of Honor will be Austin Blair Camp's senior Member, Don Hoch, Past Department Commander, 1949/50.

Please RSVP to Commander Ron Lewis by **April 8th** by mail, phone or e-mail so we may know how much food and beverage to order.

1417 N. Concord Rd.
Concord, MI 49273

(517) 524-6089
treefuz@aol.com

Directions: Take the Parnall Rd. exit East from U.S. 127 on the north side of Jackson (about 1¹/₄ mile North of I-96). Proceed East approximately ³/₄ mile to Lansing Road (traffic light at intersection) and go South 200 yards. The Smith Post is located on the West side of Lansing Road. Please park in the back parking area and use the rear entrance.

The Department of Michigan is on the Internet at: <http://suvchw.org/mi/deptmi.htm>

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