

THE UNION VOLUNTEER

NEWSLETTER OF THE 7TH MICHIGAN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY, CO. B, INC.



Volume XXXIX No. 7 July 2020



At the 7th Michigan Potluck at Vonda's trailer – Charlton Park, July 16, 2016. Photo by Ellyn Painter

Happy Independence Day *Happy Independence Day* *Happy Independence Day*



From the President

**WE'RE HAVING A
(REAL, FACE-TO-FACE)
CLUB MEETING!**
SUNDAY, JULY 19, 1:00PM
CASCADES PARK IN JACKSON.

Sunday, July 19 (the weekend of what would have been the Charlton Park event) we'll meet at the band shell at Cascades Park in Jackson.

We will have separate military and civilian meetings beginning at 1pm, and then will bring everyone together around 2pm for a meeting of the whole club.

To practice safe health PLEASE:

- wear masks when appropriate, otherwise keep safe distancing of a minimum of 6ft
- bring your own chairs
- if you want water or drinks, please bring your own - the same with snacks

We need everyone to stay safe and well - please help keep others and yourself safe by not spreading the virus. This is not an official business meeting. That will happen in October. This is an opportunity for us to get together and discuss this year's events and moving forward into 2021.

---Dave Downing



It's sad but not surprising.... **MORE EVENT CANCELLATIONS:**

Charlton Park *Though most of you have probably heard by now, we share this Facebook post of June 4, from our dear friend Marty Walker:*

It is with a heavy heart that I have to announce that the Hastings, MI, Charlton Park event has been canceled for this year.

At best, Barry County would be a level five, which still requires gatherings of no more than 100, and social distancing. Along with the riots and not giving protesters a platform, the Charlton Park committee has decided the risks far outweigh the benefits. Thank you all for your commitment to the event; we are looking forward to 2021.

Hale Farm & Village Civil War Reenactment

(This event would normally be held Aug. 8-9, 2020)

Hale Farm & Village and Western Reserve Historical Society are extremely disappointed to announce the cancellation of the 2020 Hale Farm & Village Civil War Reenactment due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Under the State of Ohio Responsible Restart Plan, Ohio museums are obligated to comply with mandatory guidelines for re-opening to the public that include significant limits on the number of people permitted on the grounds at any given time, social distancing protocols and enhanced sanitizing measures. Museum officials worked very closely with the Hale Farm & Village Annual Civil War Reenactment Command Staff to study options for a 2020 event that could be re-envisioned to align with State standards.

Ultimately, and after much thought, we agreed that reformatting or scaling this spectacular community event that brings large crowds of reenactors, public, staff and volunteers together in close proximity compromises the integrity of the event. With limits on the number of guests and reenactors, this inclusive event that typically welcomes 6,000 people to the museum becomes more 'exclusive,' which is inconsistent with the mission of the museum and event core values.

Please know that Hale Farm & Village values its close and longstanding partnership with the reenactment community and your support of this award-winning event.

Continued on next column....

Event cancellations, continued....

Cancelling the 2020 event ensures the health and safety of reenactors, guests, staff and volunteers.

In the meantime, we are already starting to plan an event in 2021, so mark your calendars for the second weekend in August – August 14 and 15, 2021 and check our website – www.halefarm.org and Facebook page regularly for event updates and information. We thank you for your patience and for your continuing commitment to Hale Farm & Village and our annual Civil War Reenactment.

Sincerely,

Kelly Falcone-Hall, President and CEO, WRHS
Catherine Sterle, Acting Director, HFV,
Hale Farm & Village Civil War Reenactment Commanders

Guns n' Gowns 2020

For my Reenacting Family:

(This event is normally held in late September)

It is with a very heavy heart that I have to announce that Guns n' Gowns 2020 has been canceled. With the inability to properly social distance, sanitize the buildings and bathrooms efficiently/effectively, and ensure the safety of participants and spectators with the current CoVid-19 pandemic/political climate, the 17th MI cannot in good conscience host the event with the risks associated. Thank you all for your continued support of Guns n' Gowns and we are looking forward to seeing you all in 2021!

Stephanie Miner, Coordinator

Civilian Report



There has been an offer of a bonfire at Nicole Wilson's home on August 8th or 9th.

If you are interested in doing this please let me know.

The military is also invited. Thank you.

Sue Colegrove 517-626-0144 scolegrove@rocketmail.com



REOPENING!

Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall & Museum

Given the Governor's Executive Order 2020-110, museums may reopen as of June 8. Consequently, Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall & Museum will be open on our normal 2nd Wednesday of the month (June 10th) (the Order missed our 1st Wednesday) and of course, always by appointment - just call us (517-922-6427) or email us at garmichigan@gmail.com and we will arrange to open up the museum for you. We have hand sanitizer but bring your facemasks.

Thanks.

Keith G. Harrison, Board President

Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall & Museum

224 South Main, Eaton Rapids, Michigan 48827

Telephone: 517-922-6427 Website: <<http://garmuseum.weebly.com>>

Email: GARmichigan@gmail.com or pcinc@prodigy.net

Face Book: [GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum)



MILITARY REPORT

Ten military, including two "fresh fish", attended the first drill of the year at McComas Acres. It was wonderful to see everyone and be in the wool again. Our sutler did a brisk business and the men were attentive. We worked on arms positions, facings, stacking arms and company maneuvers, and after safety briefing and review ended the drill with firing by company rank and file. When

challenged to end only on a perfect "fire by company", the lads nailed it on the first try. It was wonderful to drill and led to possibilities of holding a small "event" on the property later in the year. Stay tuned!!!!

Captain McComas



More photos on page 5



2020 Club Leadership

New Member Chairs:
Daniel Malick (military)
dmalick12@gmail.com

Nicole Mai (civilian)
nicole_scarlett_rose@yahoo.com

President: Dave Downing
Vice President: Steve Church
Secretary: Bill Jarrett
Treasurer/Club Roster: Don Everett
Military: Doug McComas, Captain
Civilian Coordinator: Sue Colegrove
Board Members-at-Large:
Chris Sodman, Anson Roland, Joy Henderson
Quartermaster: Don Everett
Club Historian: Doug McComas
Newsletter Editor: Ellyn Painter
Webmaster: Dick Williams

Website: 7thmich.org/
Email: info@7thmich.org

Annual Membership Dues:
\$16.00 – single
\$19.20 – family
\$6.00 – to receive newsletter as non-participating/non-voting member
Mail payments or inquiries to:

7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Co. B, Inc.
P.O. Box 16206, Lansing, MI 48901-6206

Newsletter Submission Guidelines:

Thanks to all who submitted information for this month's issue. Deadline date for submissions is the 25th of each month. Please have all reports, articles, notices, etc. in print-ready form. I am able to accept documents in most of the usual word processing programs or formats.

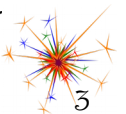
If accompanying maps or images are needed, **please** include them (in jpg format), if possible. Be sure to ascertain that any items coming from another source are properly credited, or have obtained reprint permission.

Personal news items are welcomed and encouraged, or photos of special events. Original articles (800-1000 word limit) pertaining to the Civil War or reenacting are also desired.

Email submissions to me at:
7thnewsletter@gmail.com
Or mail to:
736 Gettysburg Ave.
Jackson, MI 49203

Thank-you.

Ellyn Painter
Ellyn Painter, Editor





Some Items of Interest

NEWLY DISCOVERED MAP SHOWS BATTLEFIELD GRAVES

A previously unknown map discovered shows where thousands of Union and Confederate dead were buried after the Battle of Antietam/Sharpsburg, Sept 17, 1862. <https://www.battlefields.org/news/previously-unknown-map-showing-eng>

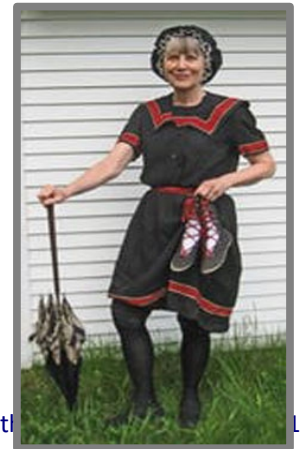
"AMERICANS' LOSS OF INTEREST IN CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS IS PART OF A DISTURBING TREND"

https://thefederalist.com/2019/05/29/americans-loss-interest-civil-war-battlefields-part-disturbing-trend/?fbclid=IwAR2HRzd99Qh5VKTjU_rfyW

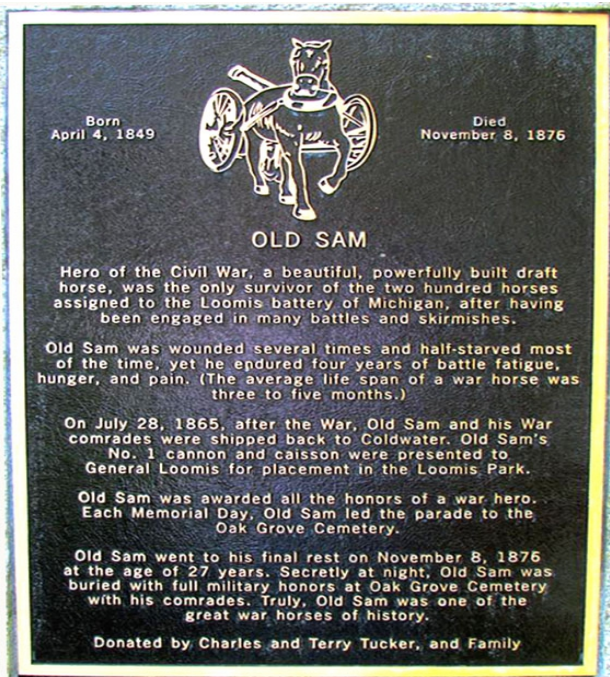
The May 19, 2020 above entitled article in *The Federalist* by John Daniel Davidson describes the alarming decline in visitors to major Civil War battlefields as a sign that Americans are losing their awareness of the importance of knowing our history. The older generations are passing, and the education of the young is now more focused on what the author calls "progressive bias," and American history, if it is taught at all, is portrayed as nothing more than a litany of all the terrible things our forefathers have done in building this nation. "The politicization of history invites ignorance," says Davidson. A large percentage of current college graduates don't even know in what half of the 19th century the Civil War occurred, but they believe firmly that all Confederate monuments should be torn down. It isn't just American history that is being systematically buried beneath the marching feet of political activists. It is ALL history that is at risk. And that puts us all in danger. "There's a ruthless logic to this," Davidson concludes, "just as there's a ruthless logic to reducing American history to a catalog of the worst things we've ever done. If history is just another tool in the pursuit of political power, there's not much of an impetus to get it right."

GLENNA JO'S BATHING SUITS - posted on Facebook June 19 by Bill Christen/shared with the 7th MI Editor by Gloria

Kirschensteiner The Detroit News featured retired reenactor Glenna Jo Christen in a June 18 article called "Trash or Treasure: Collector Concentrates On Bathing Beauties" by Khristi Zimmeth. Among Glenna's favorite antique clothing items to collect are bathing suits. The photo at right (provided by Glenna Jo) shows her in her late-19th or early 20th century bathing costume. She started collecting bathing suits 20 years ago. Though a difficult choice, she says her favorite is the "Annette Kellerman." It was named for the first woman to swim the English Channel. "It is basically a scoop neck, short sleeve, to the ankles body stocking. Very racy!" Glenna and her husband, Bill, also have a superb collection of 19th century clothing and other artifacts, and do exhibits and presentations for historical venues.



<https://www.detroitnews.com/story/life/home-garden/2020/06/18/trash-treasure-collector-concentrates-bat>



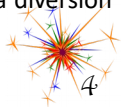
THE CELEBRATED DEATH OF "OLD SAM"

Dena Garms West posted the following on the Facebook page for the group: "Abandoned, Old and Interesting Places in Michigan."

"Craig Doda was posting Michigan Cemeteries he had visited. One of them was Oak Grove Cemetery in Coldwater, Branch County. I asked him if he had seen the grave of Old Sam, a Morgan horse who had been procured by the Union Army to serve in the Civil War.

Sam was one of 200 horses supplied to the famous Loomis Battery, sent off to Fort Wayne, Detroit, for training and went on to be involved in at least 12 battles including Chickamauga. When he returned to Coldwater after his tour, a parade took place.

When Sam died his old battery mates were dismayed they could not bury him with his former mates in Oak Grove Cemetery. Upon learning that the sexton and the sheriff would be out of town, volunteers created a diversion by letting a farmer's cows out, and completed the burial. Sam is buried along with his comrades. I ... found his grave today..."





MORE DRILL PHOTOS.....



Photos by Dave Downing





Michigan's GAR Memorial Hall & Museum

Attached is our July 2020 Newsletter as compiled by our editor, James B. Pahl. (See 2 Separate PDF Attachments)

We hope that you enjoy our newsletter and please feel free to come and visit Michigan's only museum in the state that is exclusively dedicated to ensuring that the memory and accomplishments of our country's first major veterans' organization, the Grand Army of the Republic, and its Union Civil War veteran membership in Michigan are not forgotten.

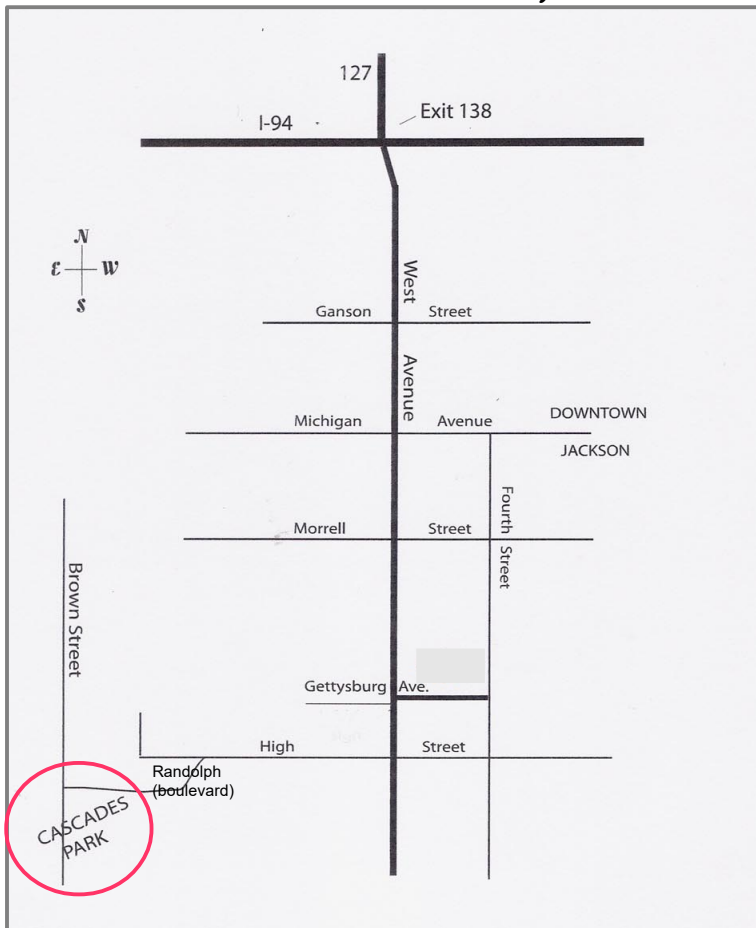
Despite that the museum had to shut down for a period of time, again due to the Governor's directive, we are again now open on the 1st two Wednesdays of each month, some special events, and by appointment. The museum will be open on July 4th in recognition of the anniversary of our Country's Independence.

A couple of additional scheduling notes. First, we will be holding our free Tuesday, 7 PM July 21st Seminar. The seminar is entitled, Emory Parady and the Capture of John Wilkes Booth and will be presented by Mr. Kermit Douse. Social distancing will be observed. Please bring your own facemask. The July 21st Seminar flier is attached to this email. Second, we have had to cancel our annual August Civil War Discovery Camp due to the Chinese virus.

Keith G. Harrison, Board President
Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall & Museum
Email: garmichigan@gmail.com
Phone: 517-922-6427

"A copy of the minutes of previous club meetings is available upon request to all members in good standing."
Bill Jarrett, Club Secretary btjarrett@aol.com

MAP TO CASCADES PARK, JACKSON



I hope you are all able to find some creative ways to enjoy the 4th, despite our current social restrictions, and national woes. Celebrate our wonderful country!

