

THE UNION VOLUNTEER

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

Volume XXXVIII No. 3 March 2020



Cyndi Carlson – just lovin' our Michigan winters!

Posted by Cyndi on Facebook. (Photo taken at Ella Sharp Park roundhouse, I'm guessing –The Editor)



Our Next Club Meeting:
Sunday, March 15 - 1:00PM

Robbins UMC - 6419 Bunker Rd. Eaton Rapids, MI



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:
7thminewsletter@gmail.com
Or mail to:
736 Gettysburg Ave.
Jackson, MI 49203

Thank-you.


Ellyn Painter, Editor

Club News Items

Good Health News!



Joy Henderson recently reported on Facebook: Feb. 5: "Great news - a1ca1c was 8.6 today! Down from 10.8, 3 months ago. It's going down slow, but going down."



Rob Stone Gives 1st-Person Presentations



At 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 17 I will be presenting my first-person talk, "The Soldier's Clothing and personal Equipment" at Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum (224 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids). The presentation is free and open to the public. I'd love to see you there!

--Rob Stone



Editor's Note:
See info flyer on page 3

At left: Rob, at an earlier presentation he gave on Feb. 21 at Ella Sharp Museum in Jackson.

Thanks to All of You!

I want to thank the members of the 7th for thinking of us during a difficult time of losing my younger sister Mary Ann. Mary Ann had Down's syndrome but she was quite high functioning. One of her favorite events was attending the Civil War muster. One year Vonda and a couple other ladies spent quite a bit of time showing Mary games from the 1860s. She loved it!! I came across this photo recently. It was our first year reenacting. (2012)

--From Cyndi Carlson on Facebook Feb. 9



The Carlsons also received a sympathy card from 64th District State Representative Julie Alexander.





MICHIGAN'S G.A.R. MEMORIAL HALL & MUSEUM

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT,
JAMES B. BRAINERD POST #111 MEMORIAL HALL AND MUSEUM, INC.

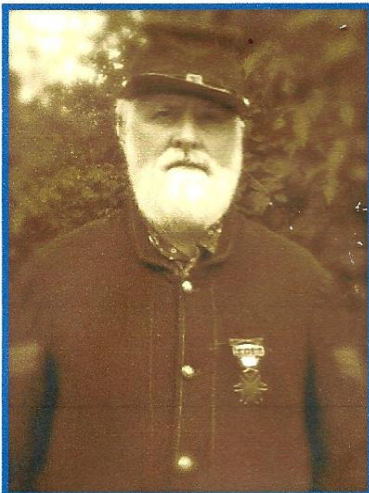
224 South Main Street
Eaton Rapids, Michigan 48827

Email: GARmichigan@gmail.com
Website: <http://garmuseum.weebly.com/>
Face Book: [GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum)



Michigan's G.A.R. Museum Showcases *The Soldier's Clothing and Personal Equipment*

Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Memorial Hall and Museum in Eaton Rapids will be sponsoring a Free Civil War History Seminar on **Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM** at Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall & Museum located at 224 South Main Street in Eaton Rapids. The topic of the presentation is entitled, *The Soldier's Clothing and Personal Equipment*. **The speaker will be Mr. Rob Stone.**



The American Civil War has captivated Rob Stone ever since, as an adolescent, he toured the Gettysburg battlefield in the summer of 1963. Rob's deeply rooted fascination with the war entered a new dimension when he discovered historical reenacting in 1992. Rob cut his teeth on the hobby during a stint as a background actor in the film, *Gettysburg*, Ted Turner's adaptation of Michael Shaara's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *The Killer Angels*. Soon afterwards he joined the 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B, Inc., a mid-Michigan reenacting organization. Over the next quarter century, Rob traveled extensively, participating in living history events and reenactments large and small. Throughout those years, he deepened his knowledge of the war in general, being drawn in

particular to the warp and woof of the common soldier's life.

Rob's interactions with the public convinced him that a significant portion of his fellow citizens had, at best, a foggy notion of the events that altered the course of the nation's history in the 1860s. He came to wonder: was there a way he could aid people in having a better understanding of that tumultuous era? Concluding that a series of talks touching upon the typical infantryman's experiences would be just the thing, in early 2018, Rob founded *Near as I Remember: Reflections of a Civil War Veteran* (www.nearasiremember.com). He elected to perform in the guise of an aging Union veteran addressing audiences in 1896. Remaining in first-person from the moment he arrives at a venue until he departs it adds a unique twist to his presentations.

There is no charge for admission and refreshments will be served. Additional information regarding the seminar may be obtained by going to Michigan's GAR Memorial Hall & Museum Face Book page at [GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum) or to our website at <http://garmuseum.weebly.com/>.





Greenfield Village Registration Info

The Greenfield Village Civil War Remembrance 2020 registration is now open and the link to the application can be found at <http://www.cvent.com/d/3hq6qt>. The same link can also be located at <https://www.thehenryford.org/participants>.

The 7th's roster of those names who are currently active members has been sent in. Once you fill out an application online to attend Greenfield Village's event staff will check your application against that roster. Only those who are current, paid members will be approved.

Each registration will come with 3 visitor buttons as they have in the past. It is suggested that each adult (over 18) who will be participating submit their own registration if you are planning on giving out buttons to several people. Only people who will be active reenactors at this event are to register to be a participant.

Children are registered on their parent/guardian's registration form in the space provided.

Registration will be Friday and Saturday only in the times shown on the web site. If you are planning on arriving at any other time, be sure to have check in for you so you can have your event materials, passes, buttons, etc. This has how it has been for the past several years. You will be sent information about attending once your application has been approved.

Attending this event is by invitation only. Greenfield assesses each group every year to determine if a group will be invited back again the following year. Yes, there have been groups who have not been invited back in the past for various reasons. 2020 marks our 25th year attending this event.

Dave Downing,
President, 7th MI Vol. Inf., Co. B



Please make welcome
our new 7th Michigan members:

Anthony DiSano

Joe DiSano

Russ McKenzie

Dustin/Amanda Mientkiewicz

Civilian Report

Our March ladies' get-to-gether will be a road trip to Shipshewanna, IN.

Date: **Saturday, March 14.**

Meet 8:00 am at Vonda's house in Charlotte (See next page for map).

There will be a stop in Coldwater for breakfast. We'll spend the day shopping in Shipshewanna, including a visit to Yoder's .


Club meeting - Sunday, March 15

Meridian Village update: We are expanding the annual Blue & Gray Days event (2-day, Sat. & Sun.) The event will always be on the first weekend in October - so this year it will be Oct.3-4.

Sue Colegrove, Civilian Coordinator
517-626-0144
scolegrove@rocketmail.com



"A copy of the minutes of previous club meetings is available upon request to all members in good standing."

 Bill Jarrett, Club Secretary bjjarrett@aol.com





UPDATE: 2020 Jackson Civil War Muster: August 22-23

I shared information updates at our February club meeting to announce that the Jackson Civil War Muster is going to occur this year on August 22nd and 23rd. The muster is being planned, supported and funded to continue each year going forward. The new Jackson Civil War Muster "Team" has been working with Jackson City's Ella Sharp Park Services and the Ella Sharp Museum to help get this great event back on track. All supplies and financial information have been officially turned over to the new muster team.

This year's muster will be highlighted by two battles: Saturday – Chickamauga (21st Michigan and Battery D) and Sunday – Spotsylvania Courthouse (26th MI Co K – Jackson Men). Music will be provided by the 5th MI Regimental Band, the 8th Ohio Mounted Band, and the Camp Chase Fife and Drum Corps (tentative). Plans are being developed to have the Civil War Ball actually held in the Ella Sharp Museum.

The Jackson Muster Team is actively seeking assistance to help plan, setup and participate in the Muster activities this year, as well as going forward. I will be working on planning and managing the History Lane. Anyone interested in helping with Muster planning activities, including actual hands on help during the Muster event, should contact me to get involved. The plan is to have teams running the Muster and being involved during the actual event in tasks such as set up, registration and tear down. Additional help will be needed to participate at the Jackson Civil War Muster booth at this year's Jackson County Fair (August 9th through the 15th), to engage and inform the public in Civil War history and the upcoming Muster event at Ella Sharp Park later in August. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or interests you may have.

Kim Horning
517-581-0372
Kimp@comcast.net



Civil War Digital Digest

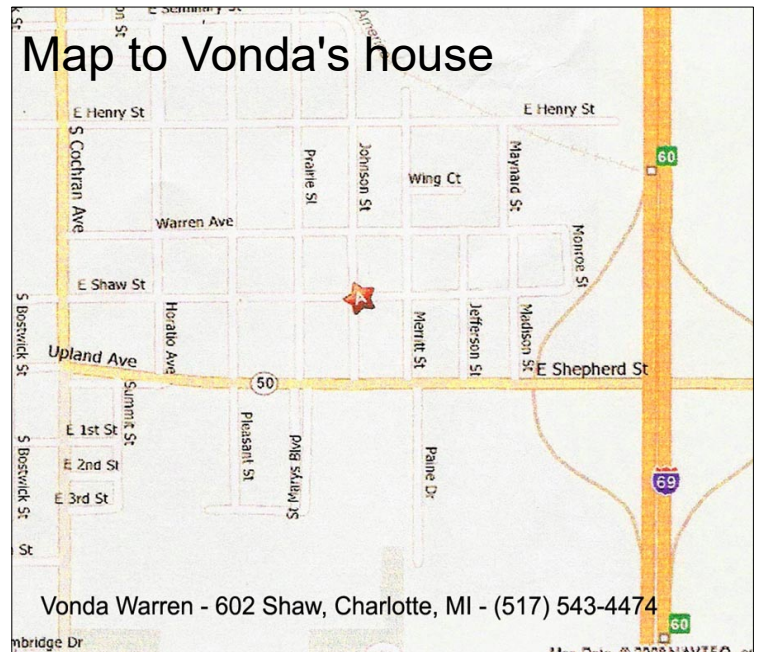
February 12

How do we get younger folks interested in the era? Go beyond the textbook with a unique learning experience. This episode is all about that! Learn how The Historical Campaign is creating that connection.

Civil War Digital Digest is supported by viewers like you. Hosted by Will Eichler.

<https://www.patreon.com/civilwardigitaldigest>

<https://youtu.be/fQqmVBJBTVY>



A Timely Topic:

"The Looming Death of Civil War Reenacting as We Know It"

At *The Victorian Needle* - blog article by Kristen Mroz.
Thursday, February 20, 2020 "The Looming Death of Civil War Reenacting As We Know It"
<https://victorianneedle.blogspot.com>





Quartermaster Report

Uncle Don's Sutlery—oops, I mean the 7th Sutlery—has just acquired some “new” stock. We have purchased the remainder of Chris Sodman's store. With the exception of a few items everything is new. It will be available after it is inventoried and priced. Probably March or April. When done, the stock list will be published in the newsletter. Powder is \$19 per pound, caps are \$7 per tin. I checked at BOB'S GUN SHOP and found powder was \$26 and caps \$9.50! Contact me at djkeverett@comcast.net if you need caps, paper, or powder. Let me know if you hear of anyone leaving the hobby and/or wanting to sell their kit. We are always looking for “new” stock for the Quartermaster.

Save the date: Charley Colegrove memorial shoot and club meeting scheduled for April 25th 2020 at the Eaton Rapids Conservation Club.



Paul Bargardi
Eric/Michelle Behnke
Orin/Beth Duda
David Graham
Scott Graham
Julie (Nick) Nau-Guin
Jay Pearson
Elliot Searles
Marie/Audrey Searles
Mikayla Williams
Kennedy Wilson

Treasurer's Report

Dues for 2020 are due. Individual dues \$16.00, family \$19.20 and can be sent to the PO Box. **If you have not paid dues by Feb 20th you are not included in the Greenfield Village registration and The March newsletter is the last issue you will receive.**

Don Everett, Treasurer



As of Feb 20th the following members' dues have not been received or were at the PO Box. If your name appears on this list and you have paid your dues contact me at djkeverett@comcast.net or 517/393/3475 to correct any errors.

SPRING FORWARD



Military Report

From
Captain McComas:



I strongly recommend it, lads. [ie., falling in with the 5th MI for the Chancellorsville event detailed in the invitation below.] It will be a great experience if you can go. PS: I have a "free" paid for slot I can't use for the first man who takes it.



The max events that were voted on in the February military meeting were: Greenfield Village, Turkeyville, Charlton Park, Greenmead, Meridian Village, Jackson and Hartford City.

The military also decided to do a company mess for Greenfield, Charlton Park, Meridian Village and Jackson.

---submitted by Lieutenant Andrew McComas

ATTENTION: Reenactor friends with a Federal Infantry kit. Looking for more men that would like to have a once in a lifetime experience. Need a few more men to fill out our 5th Michigan Infantry company at Lighting at the Furnace this May 1-3. Held on the actual battlefield at Chancellorsville 157 years to the day retracing their very steps in the area they were deployed and engaged the enemy. Read more below if you are interested. Act fast because this is only limited to 100 men total and this company is only a third of the Federal battalion element commanded by William Eichler. Please join us in honoring these brave men from Michigan.

Scott Cummings
The Fighting Fifth Company
Chancellorsville2020
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/411789343108906/>



Upcoming Events of Interest

Historic Fort Wayne Drill Weekend: April 25-26

(Participants can arrive Friday the 24th)

Company and battalion drill for Union groups, individuals, and musicians. All are welcome! Commanded by Denny Whiting. Demonstrations on safe interaction with artillery. Other presentations are in the works and will be announced as they become finalized. Please contact Russ Paul (rpaul33@wowway.com or 248-515-3349) if you need more info.

Historic Fort Wayne Civil War Days: June 6 & 7

Saturday 10am - 4pm
Sunday 10am - 3pm



Civil War re-enactors both North and South take over the fort and the public is invited! Artillery demonstrations, drills, encampments, and talks. Area premiere of the short film "Hold My Horse," author talks, and historic artifact displays and more.

Join us at Historic Fort Wayne for their annual Civil War Days. Inside the star fort will be a union infantry garrison of men portraying the 19th US Infantry in the spring of 1864.

Hosted by the 102nd US Colored Troops
<https://www.facebook.com/102ndusct/>
<https://www.historicfortwaynecoalition.com/index.html>

The Citizen's Forum of the 1860s March 27-29, 2020



Wolcott Heritage Center
Maumee, Ohio

Our Mission

To organize The Citizen's Forum of the 1860s, to provide educational speakers and workshops for men, women, and teen Civil War reenactors, along with vendors who offer quality reenacting goods. We will create a welcoming environment for sharing knowledge and personal growth as a living historians.

To Register, and see
complete schedule of events:

<http://www.citizensforumofthe1860s.com/location.html>

Editor's Note: Though kind of on the expensive side, (\$110 for adults, and \$45 for teens) some of us have attended, in past years, this excellent seminar, which is jam-packed with tons of informative activities and exhibits, on a variety of Civil War era material culture topics, as well as issues affecting reenactors. Some of the workshops are free, and some require payment of an additional fee. There is lots to choose from! But register soon!



March 17th

Happy St. Patrick's Day

