

THE UNION VOLUNTEER



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



At Meridian Historical Village, Okemos, MI, December 2019. L to R: Paul Mai, Rowan Wilson, Sue Colegrove, Vonda Warren. Photo by Nicole Mai.

ANNUAL 7TH MICHIGAN CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday Dec. 3, 2022 12:30 – social time / 1pm Lunch
Robbins United Methodist Church
6419 Bunker Rd., Easton rapids, MI 48827

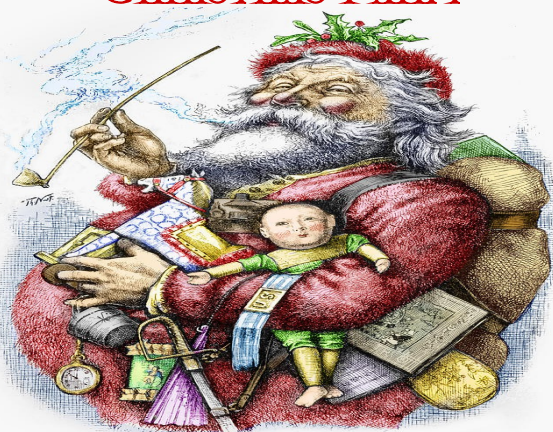
*Lunch – Chicken – beverage will be provided
*Please bring a dish (or two) to pass (depending on family size)
*No alcohol
program / awards

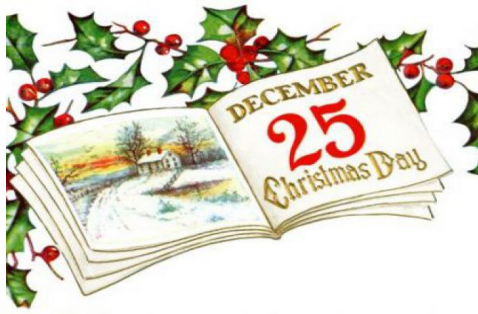
Anyone wanting to give out an award or perform please
contact Pat Downing: 517-930-5378

-You will not be able to prepare potluck dish at the church.
There are plugs for crock pots. We will be providing paper plates and
plastic silver service. (You may use your own table service)

*Due to Food allergies, it is requested that
you list ingredients.

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2023 Club Leadership

New Member Chairs:

Daniel Malick (military)

dmalick12@gmail.com

Nicole Mai (civilian)

nicole_scarlett_rose@yahoo.com

President: David Dzierbicki

Vice President: Rowan Wilson

Secretary: Nicole Mai

Treasurer/Club Roster: Don Everett

Military: Andrew McComas, Captain

Quartermaster: Don Everett

Civilian Coordinator: Avery Williams

Board Members-at-Large:

Dravyn Allen, Julie Everett, Caitlene Malick

Club Historian: Doug McComas

Newsletter Editor: Ellyn Painter

Webmaster: Dick Williams

Website: 7thmich.org/

Email: info@7thmich.org

YouTube Channel: [Lincoln Logs](#)

Email: 7thmichreenactors@gmail.com

Annual Membership Dues:

\$20.00 – single \$25.00 – 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:

7thmichnewsletter@gmail.com

Or mail to:

736 Gettysburg Ave.
Jackson, MI 49203

Thank-you.

Ellyn Painter, Editor

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Well folks, November is here and with it comes the start of my tenure as president of the club, and let me tell you right from the start, I am a nervous wreck to not let you good folks down.

So, I will start with the bad news first: The club is essentially broke. We are hemorrhaging money. We need to find an income stream, somewhere, somehow. To that end we discussed [at the November club meeting] some fundraising ideas; if you have any ideas please reach out to me or Avery Williams, the new civilian coordinator .

I also introduced a new way to chat which is called Discord. It is a chat program similar to Facebook Messenger and is on a secure server. [See instructions below for signing up to use this platform.]

We also, unfortunately, are putting a one year hold on the Live shoot and forming a committee to evaluate ways for it to become profitable in the future.

The lovely ladies who have been serving as our kitchen staff have decided to step down after the Christmas party on the third of Dec., and we would like to have some volunteers to replace them. Well, I have rambled on long enough this month. Until next time,

Humbly, David



Discord

To download Discord go to: www.discord.com/download for your computer. For your phones, you can go to either the IOS store or the Google play store and type in Discord.

Once you have completed your setup, type in the following link:

<https://discord.gg/75GZVBXdRN>

Hello, Friends:

As I hope you all observed, the red-lettered notice at the top of the first page of this issue informs you that I am doing another revision. Our club leadership has alerted me to the fact that certain items in the December issue are in violation of the IRS 501c3 regulations, which govern our tax-exempt, non-profit status as an educational organization. I have been instructed to remove the items.

Those of you who have been in the club for a long time have probably, like me, not looked at our club bylaws for many years. Some of our newer members may never have seen them at all. Article I, section 3 states in part: "The 7th Michigan, being strictly non-sectarian and non-partisan, shall not introduce or discuss or foster sectarian or partisan topics." These words conform to 501c3 rules stating that "To be tax-exempt under section 501c3 of the Internal Revenue Code, an organization must be organized and operated exclusively for exempt purposes....In addition, it may not be an action organization, i.e., it may not attempt to influence legislation as a substantial part of its activities..." nor participate in political activities. That said, I would encourage you all (myself included) to review our 7th

Michigan bylaws, which can be found at:

<https://9g02c5.p3cdn1.secureserver.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/0/>

For more information, see also this government website:

<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/charitable-organizations/exc>



In Your Service, *Ellyn*



CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY – SAT., DEC. 3, 2022

(see Page 1 for details)

Pat, Joan, Julie, & Vonda:
Thank you, ladies,
for your many years
of service!



JACKSON COUNTY MICHIGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOLIDAY PARTY – THURS., DEC. 8

Kim Horning received the below invitation from Maurice Imhoff, President of the above mentioned JCM Historical Society:

I'm writing in hopes that you would let your group know about a Holiday Party sponsored by the [Historical Society], hosted at the Ella Sharp Museum on Thurs., Dec. 8 from 6-8:30pm. In addition to food, fellowship, and a display of county-wide historical societies and museums, the event will offer a special presentation by nationally renowned historian Dr. Anna-Lisa Cox, a Non-Resident Fellow at Harvard University and author of *The Bone and Sinew of the Land*. Her book tracks black settlements in the Northwest Territory from 1800-1860, but her talk for the Holiday Event will focus on "Patriot and Pioneers: Early Michigan and the Revolution."

The Holiday Party is a rare opportunity to hear from a historian whose presentations are in high demand across the country. More information on the event is available at:

<https://ellasharpmuseum.org/classes-and-event>.



Recognize this jaunty fellow?

TREASURER'S REPORT

For those that didn't attend the Annual Meeting the membership voted to change the fiscal year to Oct. 1 to Sept. 30. This doesn't change the dues year. It is still Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. It was also decided that dues will be due by Dec. 31. If your dues are not paid by Dec. 31 the last newsletter you will receive will be the following month's issue. A dues increase was also adopted at the meeting. The new dues structure as follows is single: \$20.00, family: \$25.00, effective Nov. 17, 2022.



---Don Everett, Treasurer

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

MEMBERS THAT HAVE NOT PAID 2023 DUES:

Matt/Dravyn Allen	Thomas Edwards	William/Teresa Jarrett
Al Baerren	Roger/Debra Emelander	Kelly Lewis (Gavin)
Katie Banks	Chris/Hannah Fenrich	Dan/Caitlene Malick
Armin Berg	Diane Geck	Amanda Meintkiewicz
Rev Robert/Sandra Chapman	Keith/Jean Harrison	Dwayne Robiison
Daniel/Lana Clore	Christopher Harward	Jane Rose
Sue Colgrove	Mark Heath	Jeff/Lin Sanborn
Dan "Pete" Conklin	Joy Henderson	Craig Searles
George "Ed" Conklin	Dan/Amber Hershey	Marie Searles
Drayson/Dorothy Doyle	Celeste Hude	Wyatt Strauss
David Dzierbicki	Marilyn/Ned Hughes	Richard/Carol VanDyke

CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE: MERIDIAN HISTORICAL VILLAGE



SUN., DEC. 11

On December 11, 2022, from 2-4pm, Meridian Village, in Okemos, will celebrate "Christmas in the Village." If you would like to come as a volunteer, and stroll the village in period dress, you will be treated to cookies and hot chocolate. Or simply COME, in modern clothes, and enjoy a visit with Santa, and tour the buildings. One way or another, please join in the fun!

---Sue Colegrove



MILITARY REPORT



The men of the military used their meeting time to work with the quartermaster to identify, size, tag and catalog as many items as we could in the time we had. We were able to make it through multiple totes of US uniforms, shoes, and shirts in the time we had to work. In addition, our very own Mr. Rob

Stone decided he would like to serve as a corporal for the upcoming season. A vote was had, and hearing no objections, not even from Rob himself, we have elected a corporal for the 2023 season. Looking ahead to the 2023 season, we were disappointed to hear that the live shoot has been put on hold for the year to look at other cost effective options, but we definitely understood the purpose. We also heard that the event at Billie Creek in Rockville, Indiana, will be back this season, too. May 6-7, 2023 is the scheduled date for the event. While I've never personally been there, I hear it has historically been an excellent event that we should seriously consider attending.

We have been given the opportunity to sign up with Greenfield Village to participate in Holiday Nights. The 17th MI is looking for volunteers to assist them most days of the event. There is a stipend for participating and it was asked that you consider attending and donating your stipend to the club if you feel inclined to do so. If you have further questions, contact Dave Dzierbicki, as he agreed to serve as the contact person for Holiday Nights.

Respectfully Submitted,
Capt. Andrew McComas

QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT

Our cap supply consists of Schuetzen, RWS, and CCI 4 wing musket caps, and RWS pistol caps. Schuetzen musket caps come in sleeves of 100 and the cost for them is \$9 per 100, CCI 4 wing musket caps at \$9 per 100, and RWS musket caps



in tins of 200 and the cost for them is \$19 per tin. We also have some no 1075 (no 11) RWS pistol caps. RWS no 1075 caps come 250 to a tin and cost \$20 per tin. RWS no1075 pistol caps (no 11) are slightly smaller than CCI or Remington no11 caps. Price for Schuetzen powder is \$21 per pound. **NOTICE FOR THOSE USING SCHUETZEN CAPS you will need to save a RWS or CCI tin as Schuetzen caps are packed 100 in flat sleeves like reloading primers.**

BALL CAPS:

The club has a supply of 7th Michigan Ball Caps. For \$10 you can have one of these beautifully embroidered hats. **Act now before our supply runs out.**

TEE SHIRT ORDERS:

THE TEE SHIRTS ARE IN!!! I will have the Tee shirts at the Christmas Party for Pick up. As of now we have 2 large shirts left.

---Don Everett, Quartermaster

BEHIND THE SCENES: MAKING THE FREDERICKSBURG PONTOON BRIDGE

shared on Facebook by Jim Kirschensteiner



Pontoon Crossing of the Rappahannock
150th Anniversary Battle of Fredericksburg, VA
Dec. 7-9, 2012
Photo by: Col. Peter Berezuk

"Behind the Scenes: Making the Fredericksburg Pontoon Bridge"

This 26-minute film by Historical Films tells the story of the making of the pontoon bridge used in "Gods and Generals" and several other historical movies. It also features several members of the 7th MI, and our club's participation in the pontoon boat/bridge project, the flag return ceremony held at Fredericksburg in 2003, as well as the creation and installment of our stone and bronze monument on the bank of the Rappahannock commemorating the 7th's crossing during the Battle of Fredericksburg. An interesting scene showed the discovery of the perfect rock "in a woods somewhere in Michigan."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I1nPzQxkhTI>



Our January 2012 newsletter featured a 5-page spread about the above event, including first-person accounts of the adventure by 7th MI members who participated. Also some neat photos and links to YouTube videos of the event. Thanks to the dedicated work of our webmaster, Dick Williams, PDF versions of all the club newsletters since I became editor (2011) are viewable on the 7th Michigan website. --- Editor Ellyn

Gettysburg- REMEMBRANCE DAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2022



Dean Lamphere, Jr. of the 14th MI, leading the ceremony.

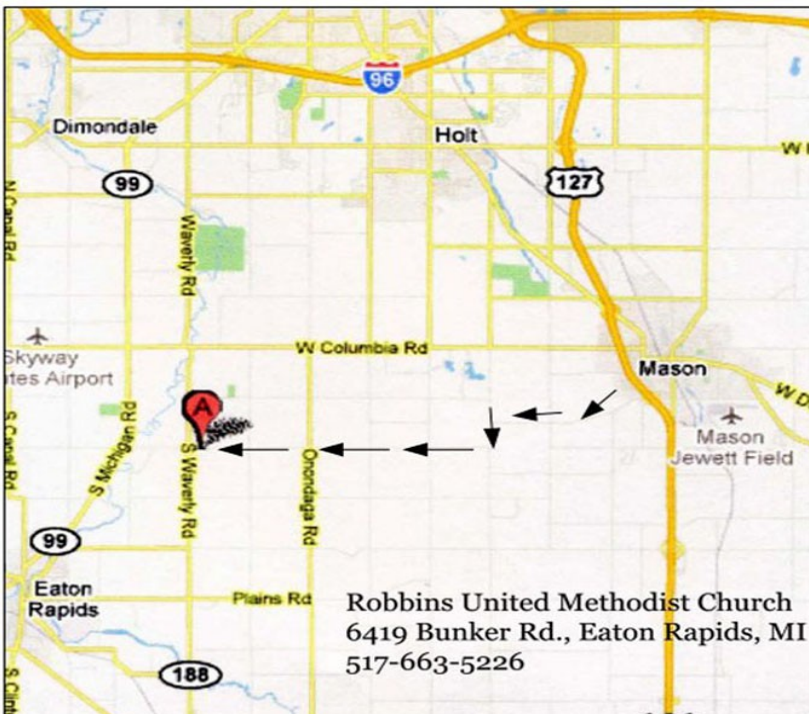
November 19 marks the anniversary of the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery in Gettysburg, PA. It was on this day, in 1863, that President Abraham Lincoln gave his now-famous Gettysburg Address. The cemetery, at Gettysburg National Military Park, stands on the Gettysburg battlefield, at what was then the Union center line.

At Left: Sean Stark and Kim Horning holding flags at the 7th MI monument; Kim and Connie posing at the monument, and at the evening ball. Photos courtesy of Kim Horning

Kim and Connie Horning attended the annual Gettysburg celebration. Kim says: "I was a part of the 14th Michigan at the Gettysburg ceremonies and parade this year. We picked the 7th Michigan monument on Cemetery Ridge as our Michigan Monument dedication honor ceremony after the parade. Each year we pick one of the ten Michigan monuments on Gettysburg battlefield to dedicate."

"It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion."

-- President Abraham Lincoln



MAY YOU ALL
HAVE A JOYOUS
AND LOVE-FILLED
CHRISTMAS!

