

THE UNION VOLUNTEER

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



Volume XXXVII No. 11 November 2019

2019 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:
Julie Everett, Anson Roland, Daniel Malick
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

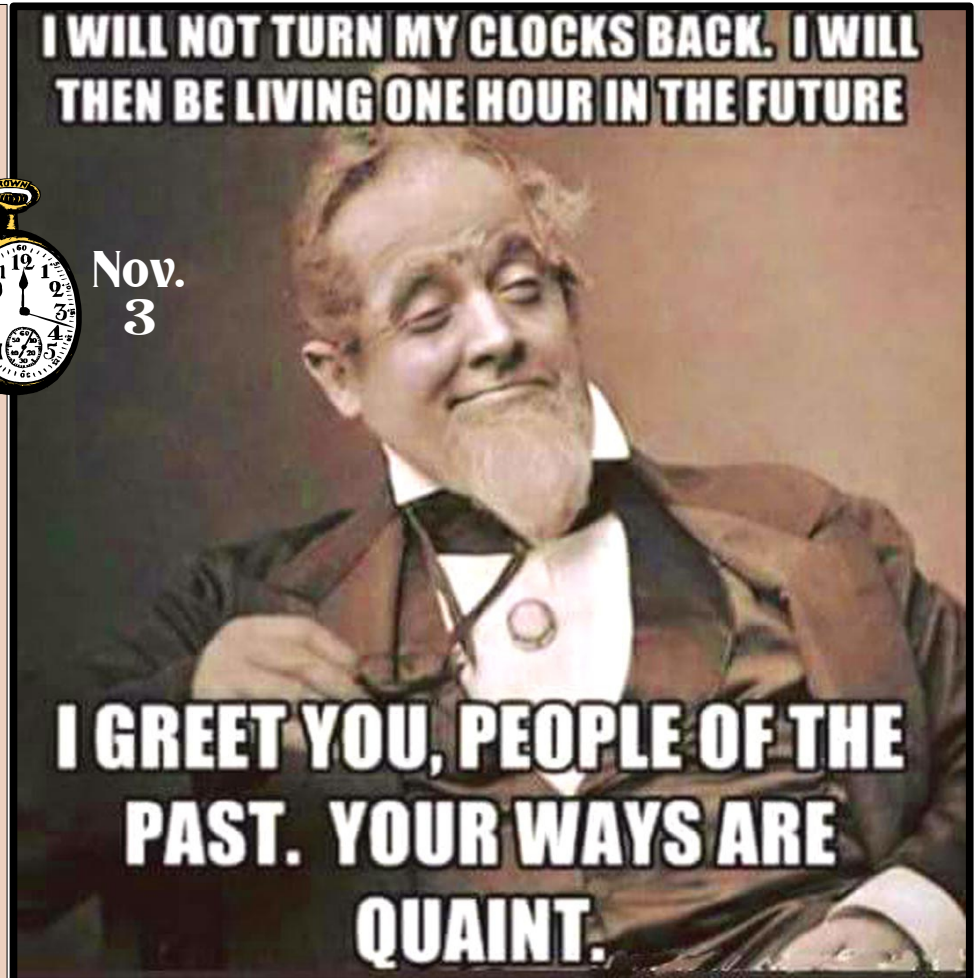
Or mail to:
736 Gettysburg Ave.
Jackson, MI 49203

Thank-you.


Ellyn Painter, Editor



Nov.
3



In this Issue:

*Annual Meeting Highlights
& Election Results*

Condolences – Jean Wank

“Dues are Due” Issue page 8!

Christmas Party Info

And much more!!!

Next Club Meeting:

Sun. Nov. 17 1:00pm-Robbins UMC

Annual Meeting Highlights

Election Results:

There were not many changes from last year in this new season's club officer list:

Executive Committee

President: Dave Downing

VP: Steve Church

Treasurer: Don Everett

Secretary: William Jarrett

At Large members: Julie Everett, Daniel Malick, Anson Roland

Military

Captain: Douglas McComas

Lieutenant: Andrew McComas

1st Sergeant: William Jarrett

2nd Sergeant: Daniel Malick

1st Corporal: David Graham

2nd Corporal: Adam Jarrett

Congratulations to all!

Club Meeting Dates for 2019-2020:

The 3rd Sunday of each month from Oct. thru April, except where otherwise specified.

November 17; Saturday, December 7 (Christmas Party);

January 19; February 16; March 15 (unless the Kalamazoo Gun Show is that weekend); April – TBA

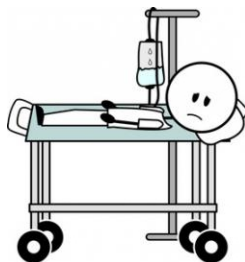
(Charlie Colegrove Annual Live Shoot)

Medical News & Notes:

As most of you know by now, Jim MacKinnon suffered a stroke at the beginning of October. He is currently recovering in the hospital. Cards or flowers can be sent to him at:

Jim MacKinnon
Sparrow Hospital
Room 617, Neumann Wing
1215 E. Michigan Ave.
Lansing, MI 48912

He will be there until Nov. 8, then move to a private rehab facility.



Club members who have visited say Jim is recovering slowly, but steadily.

Oct. 8 – Jim Kirschensteiner: - "I visited with Jim MacKinnon this morning. He said he feels OK, but his left side "went to sleep". He can't feel anything on the left side. He does get a twitch from time to time on in his left thumb and left leg. The stroke seems to be localized. His mouth doesn't droop at all on the left side. His speech is slow and a little garbled, but mental functions are OK. They had to put a pace maker in for his heart. He said when they went to take him to therapy the first time, he passed out before going and that's when they put the pace maker in. I asked if they knew what caused the stroke and he said it was like

high blood pressure. (the silent killer) He doesn't know how long he'll be in the hospital. He's bummed that he can't go to the Mill Spring event, but seems in good spirits... Jim's sister, Kathy was with him today."

Steve Church reported on Oct. 14 that Jim was moved to the rehab floor in Neumann wing at Sparrow, "doing PT, ST, and OT, etc."

Latest report- he is walking some now!



Joy Henderson also had a mild stroke on Monday, Oct. 14, and was in the hospital in Jackson for two days. She is doing fine at home, though with a new diabetic diet.



Joy came to the ladies' sewing party at Vonda Warren's house on the 26th, as well as the annual meeting the next day, and looks well.

Mailing Service:

Doug McComas will temporarily take over the newsletter mailing duties of Jim MacKinnon while Jim recovers from his stroke.



Harvest Ball Report:

We cleared \$125 at the ball this year. While it is not our goal to make money, it is still nice to finish in the black rather than in the red! Participation numbers were down a bit, but those who attended were very complimentary.

Next year's date will be October 10, 2020 so mark it on your calendars now.

We are considering some changes to the event starting next year. First, we are considering having all the food purchased by the club, rather than have members bring food. This will help members by relieving them of this responsibility, but will doubtless mean an increase in the price club members pay for ball tickets. Purchasing the food will also help Lorrie Roland to know ahead of time exactly what items will be available, so as to be able to plan a better, more inclusive menu (ie, such as including diabetic friendly foods, etc.).

A second change we would like to implement is having a parlor or table game area for people who don't wish, or are no longer able, to dance, but who want to spend an evening with friends. If you would like to organize and oversee this aspect of the ball, please contact Cyndi or Gilbert Carlson. The Carlsons also need help with promotion/advertising on social media. Maybe a young person would like to assist with this?? We are trying to attract more teens to the ball by offering a discount (\$10) for those between ages 12-17. Cyndi at: 517-782-8199 or: cyndinhisservice@yahoo.com

Concluded, next page....





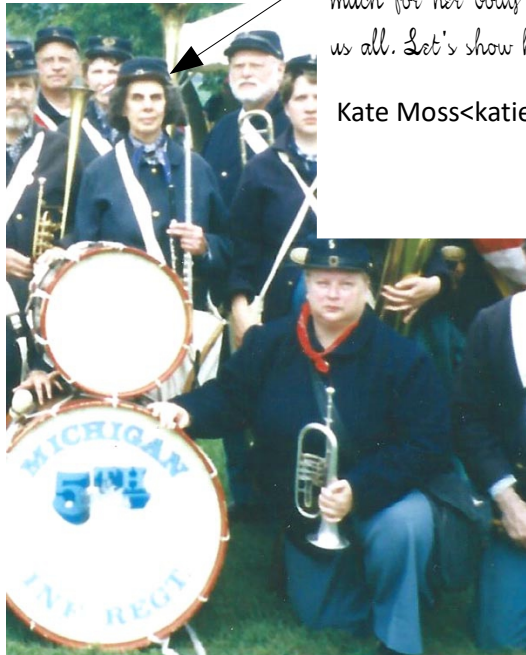
Jean A. Wank: March 14, 1933 - October 13, 2019



Mon, Oct 14, 2019 at 9:00 PM

"Hi everyone. It is with a heavy heart that I share the news of Jean's passing yesterday, October 13th. She had another heart attack/stroke 2 weeks ago and it was too much for her body to overcome.... She was an inspiration to us all. Let's show her family how much she meant to us."

Kate Moss<katiejomoss@gmail.com>



Jean Wank, one of the founding members of the 7th Michigan Vol. Inf., Co. B, has passed away at age 86. She was a member of the 7th's fife and drum corp, back in the days when we had one, as well as the 5th Michigan Regimental Band. Jean was involved in musical groups from a young age, and in addition to her Civil War musical endeavors, she performed with the Meridian Community Band, DeWitt Community Band, Twilight Memories, Senior Class Band, Ein Prosit German Band, Miller Road Band, and New Horizons Band.

Jean was an alumna of Western Michigan University with a BA in mathematics. She was a member of the NRA, and Chief Okemos Sportsman's Club.

A celebration of Jean's life was held on Saturday, Oct. 26 at Chief Okemos Sportsman's Club in Dimondale. A few of our 7th MI members attended. Joan (& Tom) Emerick said there was representation from 7 different bands that Jean played with, including the 7th's former Fifes & Drums. For lunch, "they served grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato soup – Jean's favorite meal."

A full obituary appears in the Lansing State Journal of 10/17/19.

Annual Meeting highlights, continued...

Military Report:

Captain Doug McComas presented a resolution which he wishes to submit to the Cumberland Guard leadership, requesting that the 7th MI Vol. Inf., Co. B be reinstated as members of the Guard. Under the command of Col. Rob Van (who assumed that position upon the retirement of Col. Dave Shakelford), much positive change has occurred during the 6 years since the 7th left that organization. Rob is also now also stepping down as colonel, to be replaced by Nick Miner.



The resolution (see it on the next page) was voted on and passed by the membership. Doug said that it should be noted that it was a unanimous decision by club members to leave the Cumberland Guard 6 years ago, and today the quorum present at the Annual Meeting voted unanimously to submit the resolution for rejoining the Guard. It is stipulated that we would also still remain as members of the Great Lakes Battalion.

Meridian Village: New Opportunity

Civilian coordinator, Sue Colegrove discussed with the club a significant meeting she and President Dave Downing attended with the leadership of Historic Meridian Village, in Okemos. Heritage Village promoters are excited about the possibility of expanding the use of their site for the annual Blue & Gray Days event, with a vision of hopefully, within 5 years or so, enlarging their reenactment to rival the Jackson Muster. The Village has two large parks which could give plenty of space for camping and a battlefield. They would like the 7th Michigan to host/co-host this event, possibly with the help of the 102nd USCT, and perhaps other clubs, as things develop. We are presently looking at possibly a September weekend as the annual date, but everything is still very much in the planning stages.

WELCOME

To new 7th Michigan club member
Anthony Disano, from E. Lansing



A Harvest CW Grand Ball Thank-You Note



from Cyndi

I can't begin to tell you how much I appreciate those in the 7th that truly went above and beyond to make the ball a success. Once again, those in the reenacting community and a few newbies, (who have never experienced a ball before) absolutely raved about the wonderful time they had . There was enough food to feed the entire Union Army!

A big thank you to Lorrie and Anson Roland for once again providing marvelous food and serving throughout the evening. A big thank you also to Julie Everett for keeping the plates filled throughout the evening.

Douglas McComas and William Jarrett: you guys are the best!! You always provide a very moving patriotic display during intermission and absolutely hilarious antics during the Fan dance!

To Lin Becker Sanborn and Jeff, Lana and Dan Clore, Dorothy and Drayson Doyle, Nancy and Don Buck for all your help in decorating, donating food and providing the extra help throughout the evening.

To our young men of the 7th, I know how much you enjoy playing soldiers but, at the ball, you truly make our ladies, (left behind on the Homefront), enjoy a enchanted evening!

Cumberland Guard Resolution with reply from Rob Van: posted on Facebook:

"Welcome back, 7th Mi Infantry Co B!"

Rob Roy to Cumberland Guard - October 27 at 8:33 PM
Received from Douglas McComas

Gentlemen:

It is my great pleasure and honor to submit this request for readmission to the Cumberland Guard for the 7th Michigan Company B. The 7th unanimously voted to leave the guard 7 years ago. Today in a vote of the military and general membership we unanimously request consideration to be readmitted to the Cumberland Guard.

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE 7TH MICHIGAN COMPANY B TO REJOIN THE CUMBERLAND GUARD

The 7th Michigan Company B is and shall remain a loyal member of the Great Lake Battalion. GLB accepted us at a time of great need and we are eternally grateful and thankful to be a member.

The 7th Michigan was also historically a founding member of the Cumberland Guard. The circumstances leading to our leaving the Guard are well known and will not be rehashed.

Over the past several seasons there has been a great effort to work collaboratively together in the Midwest and Michigan. The 7th Michigan thanks Rob Van for making a concerted effort to help heal old rifts, put in place cooperative agreements between groups such as the GLB, Cumberland Guard and Atlanta Campaign and encourage, by word and example, cooperation between the various reenactment groups in the state and region.

We believe that we are well on the way to becoming one single strong reenacting community with different perspectives and voices once again, and as such, in gratitude and respect for Colonel Van and as a vote of support for the incoming Colonel Nick Miner we offer this request for consideration.

Whereas the 7th Michigan Company B has strived to work with all factions of the hobby in the Midwest, whether mainstream or progressive, and since there is a renewed sense of mutual respect, support, and cooperation among the various reenacting clubs in the region, the 7th Michigan Company B requests consideration for reinstatement in the Cumberland Guard and will brigade with our GLB brethren whenever and where ever feasible.

Submitted to a vote of the 7th Michigan Military on October 27, 2019

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

Submitted to a vote of the 7th Michigan General Membership on October 27, 2019

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

Forwarded to the Colonel of the Cumberland Guard for consideration on October 27, 2019





Meridian Village

Annual

*Blue
and
Grey*

Event

October 4-6



Photos by Dave Downing



"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

Civilian Meeting News

From Sue Colegrove:



"I would like to Thank the 7 th Michigan, the 17 th Michigan and the 102nd US Colored Troups for coming to the Meridian Village to put on the Blue and Grey Days. We had a large turn out for military and civilian . I heard lots of good comments from the public.

A Big Thank you To Nicole Mai and her husband, Paul, and family. Also to Bob and Carol Smith and their daughter Becky, for authentic camping the entire weekend.

Special thanks also to Doug and Andrew McComas, Steve Church, and Dave & Pat Downing, and Celeste Hude. You all made this weekend very special.

We have had a lot of interest in the Blue and Grey weekend and some great comments from the public."

Sue

Editor's NOTE: WILX-TV did a segment live at Meridian Village the weekend of the Blue & Grey event that featured Dave Downing, talking about his Civil War ancestor, as well as other members of the 7th MI and the 102nd USCT. Link to the Youtube video below:

https://www.wilx.com/content/news/Civil-War-reenactment--562284401.html?fbclid=IwAR1vKC9mw9u8ef7fkAoYZYYNeNIOoobqgqO1cqIZG2_c

At the civilian meeting we also chose the Christmas party committee: Pat Downing (as Chair), Vonda Warren, Sue Colegrove, Joy Henderson, and Julie Everett. Julie showed samples of the table decoration we will make at the November sewing party.

We decided on the dates, and host homes for our Saturday sewing parties for the rest of 2019 through spring 2020. They are as follows:

November 16 – at the home of Elyn Painter – 736 Gettysburg Ave., Jackson, MI 517-782-4387

December 7 – NO SEWING – CHRISTMAS PARTY

January 18 – Celeste Hude (Vonda will be backup)

February 15 – Sue Colegrove

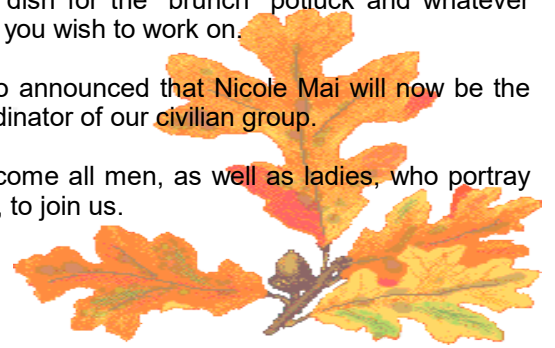
March 14 or 21 TBD – possibly we will have a shopping trip rather than a sewing meeting.

April – Charlie Colegrove Annual Live Shoot – date TBD. This will be a combined meeting, as usual, with potluck lunch (and breakfast, for you early birds) ladies' sewing, and a general membership club meeting.

Please make a note of these dates. The sewing parties begin at 10am, and you should bring a passing dish for the "brunch" potluck and whatever projects you wish to work on.

Sue also announced that Nicole Mai will now be the co-coordinator of our civilian group.

We welcome all men, as well as ladies, who portray civilians, to join us.



October Newsletter - Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum

Attached is our October Newsletter as compiled by our editor, James B. Pahl. (NOTE: See Separate PDF)

Among the material included is information on our two upcoming programs in October and a synopsis with pictures of our Kids' Civil War Discovery Camp Program in August.

Also included in the back of the newsletter is a donation application for museum sponsorship for this upcoming 2020 year. Later this month, in a separate email, we will be introducing an additional on-line method that may make donating to the museum easier and more convenient for some of our annual sponsors.

We hope that you enjoy our newsletter and please feel free to come and visit Michigan's only museum in the state that is solely 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.

Keith G. Harrison, Board President

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

Vol. 38. W. M. Hubbard, Author
P. 547. 20th October 1863

NEW NATIONAL THANKSGIVING HYMN.

Words and Music composed and arranged by REV. W. M. HUBBARD.

Hymns for Thanksgiving Published During the Civil War Years

The President's Hymn:

GIVE THANKS, ALL YE PEOPLE,

IN RESPONSE TO THE PROCLAMATION

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

RECOMMENDING A GENERAL THANKSGIVING,

ON NOVEMBER 26th, 1863.



Give Thanks, all ye People.

With spirit.

1. Give thanks, all ye peo - ple, give thanks to the LORD,
with joy - ful ac - cord;

It's fascinating to see what the technological revolution can bring us now. The Library of Congress online catalog features a "Thanksgiving Day—Songs and music" subject heading that you can browse for both printed scores and sound recordings. Two of the older (1860's!) music printings piqued my interest. First, there's Rev. W.M. Hubbard's "**New National Thanksgiving Hymn**," registered for copyright in the District Court for the District of Massachusetts in 1863 shortly after President Lincoln's proclamation recommending a general day of thanksgiving on Nov. 26, thus ushering in our national Thanksgiving holiday. Then there is "**Give Thanks, all ye People: A National Hymn**", also known as **The "President's Hymn"**, composed by William Augustus Muhlenberg with music by Joseph W. Turner also to commemorate Lincoln's Proclamation. It became a popular hymn and was published in several Church Hymnals. It's confusing, though, since there is also a "**Thanksgiving Hymn**", by Muhlenberg, that seems to have the same words as the President's Hymn, but lists James B. Taylor as co-composer. So is it the same song or not? Hmm.

Nonetheless, the person to really be credited with creating a national Thanksgiving Day is Sarah Hale. We know her as the author of the poem "Mary Had a Little Lamb" but she was much more. By the time of the Civil War she was quite an old lady, but for decades she had petitioned every U.S. President requesting the establishment of a national day of Thanksgiving. To God. Abraham Lincoln was the first to grant her request. An ardent abolitionist, she also used her influence as editor of two women's magazines to advocate for the end of slavery. Quite a lady. ---The Editor

Sources: <https://www.loc.gov/resource/lprbcsms.scsms0143/?sp=1>; <https://blogs.loc.gov/music/2017/11/thanksgiving-music/>; <https://www.loc.gov/item/ihas.200002043/>; <http://www.colonial.org/Content/HtmlImages/Public/Documents/General/Sermons/20151122-pm.pdf>



Annual 7th Michigan Christmas Party

Saturday Dec. 7, 2019

12:30 – social time / 1pm Lunch
Robbins United Methodist Church
6419 Bunker rd.
Eaton rapids, mi 48827

*Lunch – main dish – beverage and dinner service all 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
517-676-5998



Quartermaster Report:

The new supply of powder is in and it is still \$19 per pound, caps are \$7 per hundred and we still have 7,000 available. We have a new supplier for cartridge paper and have cartridge and arsenal wrappers cut. Due to the minimum order we had to purchase enough paper for 26,400 cartridges. I have cut half of it to cartridge size. Contact me if you need paper djkeverett@comcast.net . 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.

Treasurer's Report:

Dues for 2020 are due. Individual dues \$16.00, family \$19.20 and can be sent to the PO Box. **Reminder** dues must be received by Feb 20, 2020 for you to be included in the roster for Greenfield Village. There are no exception to this, **dues must be received by Feb 20, 2020.** Dec newsletter will include a list of people that have not paid dues.

Don Everett Treasurer/Quartermaster



Eat fish,
Love
turkey!