THE UNION VOLUNTEER INFANTRY, Co. B, INC.

Volume XXXV No. 4 April 2016

March 12, 2016 - Officer & NCO School of Instruction – Mason, Michigan. Photo by Bob Griggs, in front of the home of Tom and Joan Emerick, where the event was held.

"On behalf of my Srothers of the Austin Slair Camp No. 7 S wish to thank you and the members of the 7th Michigan for inviting us to attend your School of Soldier yesterday...."

God Bless the U.S.A In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty Bob Griggs

Signals Officer ~ Past Camp Commander

14th Michigan ~ Irish Rifle ~ SVR

Department of Michigan Department Council Austin Blair Camp No. 7 Department of Michigan S.U.V.C.W.

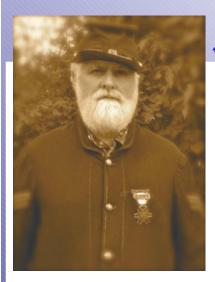
www.austinblair.com





Sat. April 3, 2016 - The Michigan version of April showers??





To arms! On March 20 several members of the Seventh, along with men from other units, started brushing away winter's cobwebs by attending a drill session at Tom and Joan Emerick's beautiful 1882 brick

home in Mason. Everyone had a good time and profited from Private Tom's instruction. The Emericks' hospitality was first-rate, too!

Soon the 2016 Campaign Season will be underway. I'd like to take special notice of the first "Civil War Days at Ella Sharp Museum" (May 20-21). The organizer is expending a tremendous effort to draw school groups and the general public to Ella Sharp, as well as catering to participants' every need. We will have a great opportunity to show modern-day kids what things were like for the Civil War soldier. I'm proud the Seventh Michigan is the host unit for this brand-new event, which has great potential, and sincerely hope the unit will turn out in big numbers to support it.

The list of key events for '16 will be found elsewhere in the newsletter. I am reminded of something else worth mentioning: volunteers were sought to act as coordinators for each key event. This role encompasses acting as a "clearing house" for information; being an event's "cheerleader" (talking it up among the membership), and making certain the groundwork is laid to recruit new members. The season's coordinator slots are almost entirely filled: I wish to thank the folks that have agreed to serve the club in this capacity. Speaking of recruiting, our brochure has been thoroughly freshened, and will be available at the beginning of the season.

P.S. It is common knowledge that the challenges our club faces, and which the Strategy Committee is working hard to address, are pervasive in the re-enacting hobby. To this end I commend to you "Join, or Die," by Jesse Marx (Narratively, August 6, 2013. http://narrative.ly/join-or-die/). The article details how members of the Fourteenth Brooklyn Regiment, Company E are dealing with the realities of post-Sesquicentennial re-enacting in a variety of interesting ways.





Civilian Coordinator: Katie Everett Board Members-at-Large: Doug McComas, Joy Henderson, Dave Downing Quartermaster: Don Everett Club Historian: Doug McComas Webmaster: Dennis Zank

Website: www.7thmichigan.us

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

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

reenacting are also desired.

Thank-you.

Ellyn Painter, Editor

March 12, 2016 - Officer & NOO School of Instruction -Mason, Michigan

After-Action Report by Tom Emerick

Twenty hard souls ventured to our old homestead located in the village of Mason (home to the original 7th Michigan, Vol. Inf., Company B no less). The weather was perfect (mid-thirties to start, almost sixty at the end) for our winter "school" of instruction. It warmed up so much (or, was it just the wool we were wearing?) that everyone sat in the sun and ate lunch on the back deck. Early arrivals started at 8:00 and everyone filled up on coffee and breakfast snacks before school commenced. The sit-down portions of our class were held under the carport. We used a large dry-erase board to illustrate movements and positioning of NCOs and officers within various formations and maneuvers. We then practiced the company-level drill movements in the backyard. We "marched" to the front yard for firing positions instruction, review of battalion maneuvers and Dress Parade practice. Mark Heath was exceptional as always in refreshing our memories regarding bugle signals and purposes for each. Jim MacKinnon ably assisted with drilling the men in facings and stacking arms whilst I put the officers through sword play instruction. It was a good day to kick off the season for all of the comrades in arms attending and was over before we really got started.

Most Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant

Tom

Education Director's Report

We have two confirmed school programs so far this year. Ovid Middle School, Ovid, on April 15th, Ella Sharp program May 20th/21st, (this is a big one and we need major support!),and Birney Middle School, Southfield, on June10th.

Quartermaster Report

We have a supply of powder at \$15 per pound and a supply of caps at \$7 per 100. I will have Quartermaster merchandize at the Feb, March, and April meetings. If you would like to look at a rifle let me know and I will bring it to a meeting. After April I will be publishing an inventory list in the newsletter so you can shop from the list.

Charlie Colegrove Memorial Shoot......continued on next page.....







Friends,

One more month and we shall be in the field once again. As I stood at our last meeting with the company before me, Jim said, "You know you've got 4 captains in the ranks right now". I should feel frightened (OK, I am a little bit) but mostly I'm incredibly awed and honored and will need the help and support of them and all the rest as we enter the spring campaign.

A wonderful drill weekend with amazing weather took place at Tom and Joan Emerick's home. We learned much and worked well together. Thanks to the Emericks for their hospitality.

We have two school events, then our first max of the season will be Ella Sharp.

As a military we are recreating Captain Withington's spring 1861 recruitment camp. This was the 90-day regiment that became the 1st Michigan. Infantry can/should come in civilian militia, or early war impressions. Tentage is Wall, Atent or Sibley if you have them, and bring anything you like (period appropriate); it's 1861! Friday is a school day with presentations every 20 minutes from 9 am til 2 pm and Saturday will be a living history with garrison camp through the day and a candle light tour, provided dinner and entertainment (including a cash bar) at night. I hope we have a great turnout.

We follow this up with Greenfield village the next week.

Don't forget to register for Perryville!

See you in the field.

I remain your most obedient servant,

Capt. McComas (ah hell, Doug)

Eaton Rapids Conservation Club 4388 Freeman Rd. Eaton Rapids, MI 48827 Winght St. Eaton Rapids United the Research Rapids United St. Eaton Rapids Conservation Club Winght St. Eaton Rapids United St. Eaton Rapids United St. Eaton Rapids United St. Eaton Rapids United St. Winght St. Eaton Rapids United St. Eaton Rapids United St. Winght St. Eaton Rapids United St. Winght St. Eaton Rapids United St. Winght St. Eaton Rapids United St. Eaton Rapids United

Charlie Colegrove Memorial Shoot:

Eaton Rapids Conservation Club has been rented on Sat April 23rd for breakfast (club to provide if we can find some members to prepare it) at 9am, the shoot, lunch (pot luck), and April meeting. Dan Conklin has offered his Spencer carbine for the competitive shoot. Jeff Verstrate will have something special for us to look at and try out. I have seen it and it is wild, so if you want to find out what it is come to the shoot. If you are going to shoot there is a \$5 donation to defray the cost of the rental. Bring what firearms you would like to shoot. The 7th Sutler will be at the meeting. Anson will be cooking breakfast for the nominal cost of \$3. If you are planning to eat breakfast please RSVP to me at dikeverett@comcast.net . WE REALLY NEED YOUR RSVP FOR THE BREAKFAST. AS OF NOW THE ONLY RSVPs ARE FROM MY FAMILY! SEND IN YOUR RSVP NOW. We will open the club house at 8 and try to serve breakfast at 9. The shoot will start at 10. The Ladies will be having a sewing party while the shoot is going on. The Ladies will be providing lunch. Please consider bringing a dish to pass.

Thanks. Don 4

Key Effort Events for 2016

As mentioned in an earlier report by the Event Strategy Committee (which has now disbanded, as its work is complete), the club has adopted a policy of designating one or more coordinators for each event we have deemed "Key Effort Events." Listed below are the chosen events, and their coordinators.

Sat. April 23: 3rd Annual Charlie Colegrove Memorial Shoot, Eaton Rapids Conservation Club - Don Everett

May 20-21: Ella Sharp Museum Event, Jackson, MI - Doug McComas (military); Ellyn Painter, Sue Colegrove (civilian)

May 28-30: Greenfield Village, Dearborn, MI - Dave Downing, Jim Kirschensteiner

June 18-19: Turkeyville, Marshall, MI – Katie Everett

July 9: Return of the Flags Ceremony, Lansing, MI – Dave and Pat Downing

July 16-17: Charlton Park, Hastings, MI - Don Everett

August 12-14: Linden, MI event - Bob Smith

September 17-18: Van Raalte Farm, Holland, MI – Al Baerren

October 22: 7th MI Annual Harvest Ball – Gilbert & Cyndi Carlson

December 4: 7th MI Christmas Party – Pat Downing, Julie Everett



Greenfield Village Registration Deadline is April 15

You MUST pre-register individually or by family. People who don't have internet can contact Dave or Pat Downing, who will register them. 517-676-5998 Downing_Dave@ hotmail.com NOTE: The "tools" from GFV that need to be used to register are attached with this issue. Http://registration.thehe nryford.org

July 9: 150th Anniversary-Return of the Slags Peremony - Ransing, MS

"On July 4, 1866, Governor Henry Crapo accepted on behalf of the state of Michigan the war-weary, bullet-torn and blood-stained flags that our proud Michigan volunteers bore into battle during the recently ended Civil War. On that historic day in the center of the Campus Martius in Detroit, Governor Crapo pledged that the flags 'would not be forgotten and their history left unwritten.'

On Saturday, July 9, 2016 at 1:00pm, we will be commemorating the 150th anniversary of the return of the Civil War battle flags and the 25th anniversary of Save The Flags, the project to preserve this truly amazing collection. The ceremony will take place on the east steps of the State Capitol in Lansing and we would be honored by your attendance at the ceremony. Please join numerous state dignitaries, historians, donors and Civi War re-enactors (many of whom will be in attendance with their replica battle flags) as we honor the sacrifice of our proud Michigan Civil War soldiers." (from the flyer at left)

"On July 2, 1991, Governor John Engler and the Adjutant General assisted in recreating the return of the battle flags on the 125th anniversary of their original return and initiated the Save The Flags project. Since 1991, Save The Flags has worked to fulfill Governor Crapo's and Governor Engler's promises by raising funds and awareness for this incredible collection of 240 battle flags, carried by Michigan soldiers in the Civil War, the Spanish American War and World War I." (from micwc.typepad.com Michigan Civil War Blog).

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Ceremony to commemorate the return of the Civil War Battle Flags to the state of Michigan. The flag ceremony will take place at 1:00 PM. Several other activities will take place during the day including the retirement of two reenactor flags. Dave and Pat Downing are 7th MI coordinators for this event. Contact info: Phone: 517-676-5998. .5

Email: Downing Dave@hotmail.com. Pat: Downingp@msu.edu





Please "SAVE THE DATE" on your calendars. For more information and updates please go to the following website:

http://capitol.michigan.gov/battleflags

Other 2016 Events:

July 4, 2016 - Independence Day Parade - Mason, Michigan – Contact: Tom Emerick. The Club participated in the parade for the first time last year. Joan and Tom have offered to have a cookout at our house following it. Katie Everett indicated she should be able to procure a flatbed trailer for the Civilian contingent to ride on too. Parade steps off at 7:30 p.m.

September 10, 2016 - Frontier Days Parade - Charlotte, Michigan Contact: Tom Emerick. Vonda has invited the Club to participate in her hometown parade along with a potluck dinner to follow. This was a Club favorite for several years. Parade steps off at 10:30 a.m.

Woldumar – American Heritage Festival September 24, 10:00 am-5:00pm

Oct. 7-9: Perryville, KY – National event

Meridian Village, Okemos – Bob Smith reported that they have not contacted us.

Remaining club meetings for 2016 : Apr. 23 (at the Shoot), May 22, June 19, Sept 18, Oct 16, Nov 20, Christmas Party Dec 4.

Members, please note that the information on dues amounts and deadlines, and the club mailing address (to which checks should be sent), is ALWAYS in the newsletter. This, along with other useful information, such as the names of those in the current key leadership roles, (so you know who to contact regarding a specific issue) is listed in the column (usually on page 1 or 2) under the heading "Club Leadership." Please make note of it.

---The Editor





Update: Ella Sharp Museum School-Says May 20-21

The event organizers require all participants to be set up and ready to go at their stations by 8:30am on Friday, as the first students are due to arrive at 9:00am. As mentioned in the military report, at least 250 students are expected (and maybe more) to pass through the various stations on Friday. They will go through in groups of 30; each session will last 20 minutes, with a 5-minute bathroom break between. Military coordinator Doug McComas asks that the men wear frock coats if you have them, as it is a very early war scenario you will be presenting. See the military report for further details.

The civilian Coordinators think it would be a good idea to arrange shifts for Friday that ladies can sign up for (so everyone doesn't need to be on duty every minute all day) - perhaps 8:30-10:00am; 10am-12:00; 12:30-2:00pm. (Lunch break- 12:00-12:30). Hopefully, we can discuss this at our April meeting (Sat. the 23rd).

Please contact Sue Colegrove (517-626-0144 scolegrove@rocketmail.com) or Ellyn Painter (517-782-4387 cwseamstress@sbcglobal.net) to volunteer for one or more shifts. (You can do all three if you wish, but it might be nice for everyone to have some time to walk around and view the other activities taking place).

On Saturday, ladies in the farmhouse will be working on hand-made rosettes for the July flag presentation. Supplies will be provided, but ladies should bring some basic handsewing tools: scissors or snips, needles, thread. See the Civilian Report on page 8 for more info on ladies' activities.

report continued on next page......

Ella Sharp Event Update, concluded:

Two home school groups have committed to come. Robert Beach will be doing period photography. Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and the 5th MI Band will be there. There is modern camping available, across the street from the planetarium. Dick and Jim will do recruiting. Anson Roland will be cooking for the 7th MI and 5th MI Band.

A wooden coffin will be needed for a court martial scenario.

FRIDAY schedule: The military will be presenting guard mount, wood rifle drill, a court martial, and bayonet drill. Don Everett will present a quartermaster scenario. The school program ends at 2:00pm.

SATURDAY schedule: Open to the public. Our living history will include a paymaster scenario. There will be a candlelight tour for the public after dark

On Saturday the Granary will also be open for reenactors to purchase lunch; also there will be other vendors providing food, or you can bring your own.

Saturday programming will begin at 9:00AM and end between 4 and 4:30pm, at which time there will be a break for reenactors until 6:00pm, when a candlelight tour is planned for the public, with programming continuing until about 7:30pm. A Sat. pm dinner and social for reenactor participants is planned for 5:00pm in The Granary (the Museum restaurant). After the candlelight tour ends, the Granary will be open for reenactors to socialize, with a cash bar, and entertainment provided by the Palmer Trio (one member of the group is a staff person at the Ella.)

NOTE: Bill Jarrett has lovely PDFs of full-color aerial maps of the Ella campus. However, they are very large files and I felt it wise not to attach them in the mailing of this newsletter, since there are already 3 attachments. If you want copies, please contact Bill. Thank-you —The Editor



Recognize this lovely young lady?

Looking Back in Time...



In honor of our club's 35th anniversary, starting in next month's issue, the Editor will be printing some OLDie but GOODie photos of our members/ past members, from the early years. The one at left dates from approx. 1986-90. Anybody know the event or exact year? Photo courtesy of Vonda Warren.

The Blue Bottle Respite Tent Update

Our 2016 Goals:

- 1. Present a historically accurate, well-researched impression that demonstrates the direct and indirect ways in which the Civil War and Spiritualism affected one another.
- 2. Provide a place for brief respite from the adversities of reenacting a war for military and civilian re-enactors in need of such respite.

Possible re-enactor needs from survey:

- #1. Ice Water (to drink on hot days) We are currently debating whether to invest in a 2 gallon or 4 gallon period stoneware cooler for water.
- #2. Ice (to cool oneself on hot days) We are currently modifying a wooden trunk to serve as ice chest camouflage.
- #3. A place to rest when tried/overheated (non-emergency/brief time) We have acquired a backed bench with arm rests that will seat 3 to 5 (depending on girth). This will have to serve for this year; if experience at events shows a need for more seating, we'll add it. There will be no pallets for brief resting; there simply isn't enough room in the tent we are using at this time.

2016 presentations:

- 1. GOOD DEATH: How Spiritualism and the Civil War affected one another
- 2. FROZEN TEARS: Tracking the Cause, Symptoms, and Treatment of Soul Wound Trauma (PTSD) in war time
- 3. HEALER'S HAVERSACK: Homemade medicines from plants

If you have any comments or suggestions, contact Julie Sarge at 616.241.3004 or at thewindweaversholding@gmail.com.

LETTER TO ZULEIKA DEAN ATTIE

My dear Zuleika,

I'm sendin you a shovel to dig a privy hole. I cut a hole in a hinged bench to surve you as privy seat. I'm sendin you a tent to put over them two for your privacy.

You got to think about packin up and movin out fast, or you'll git left behind. Best to be prepared for the wurst, then smile if the wurst don't happen.

Your frend,

Former Corporal Jack Peasely

P.S. Please stop by the Dead House. They're visitin me every night and I don't know as I can help any of em. You might could do so. You are right good at talkin with them.

FROM THE JOURNAL OF ZULEIKA DEAN ATTIE

Elspeth tisked a bit over the spelling. "Old Peasely just cannot seem to get the hang of orthography."

"I'm just glad he's well-educated in privies." I said. "So, have you any idea where the Dead House is?"

"No." Elspeth shook her head. "That's not where I shine best either."

"Ah, well, I'll ask about it tomorrow." I yawned. Time for sleep. But I, too, had visitors that night, and in my dreams, they whispered faintly, "Help us...Please...somebody, please....help us....

Pivilian Report

Hello All! Our season is quickly approaching and we only have one club meeting left before events start. Our April club meeting and sewing party will be on Saturday April 23rd at the Eaton Rapids Conservation club. Like last year we will be combining the sewing party with the guys' live shoot and having a meeting afterwards. If you would like to go down to the range and shoot you are more than welcome. There will be a \$5 charge to those who wish to shoot to help cover the cost of the range rental. The club will be providing breakfast for \$3 per person. If you are planning on coming for breakfast please let me or Don Everett know. Like last year lunch will be potluck. There are tables and chairs in the clubhouse but not a lot of outlets so if you are planning on bringing a sewing machine you might want to bring an extension cord/surge protector.

In May we will be participating in the event at Ella Sharp Park in Jackson. Friday May 20th will be a day for schools and the 21st will be open to all. For Friday we have been asked to be at the Michigan Aid Society station and our activity with the children will be rolling bandages. I will have information for all of you on Michigan Aid Society and what women did on the home front to support the war at the April meeting. We will also have toys/games set up in the picnic area for the children during their lunch break. Saturday night they will be doing a candle lit tour and have asked us to provide an impression of parlor games in the house. I will have the question and answer game and we can look at some other game ideas in April.

I am so excited for this season and to try out some of the ideas we have been talking about all winter. At the meeting I would like to try to coordinate some activities for each event this year. I am looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting and events this summer!

Katie Everett Civilian Chair cinderellie_2003@yahoo.com (517)420-6837

Don Everett djkeverett@comcast.net

DEARJOHN



In our Easter bonnets.... Ladies' Spring Retreat, at Vonda Warren's home, April 1-3, 2016. Outside, it was SNOWING!!!

I WILL NOT MARRY YOU. YOU ONLY
WISH TO HAVE SOMEONE TO SEW YOUR REENACTING
UNIFORMS. THERE ARE SEAMSTRESSES

WHO GET PAID GOOD MONEY FOR THAT! I WILL NOT BE YOUR SEWING STRUMPET! GOOD DAY SIR!

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

William Jarrett, Club Secretary

btjarrett@aol.com