

THE UNION VOLUNTEER

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

Volume XXXVII No. 8 August 2018



7th MI men at 155th Gettysburg – July 6-8, 2018 Photo by TG Davison Photography, posted on Facebook by David Graham.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Our next club meeting is our ANNUAL MEETING –
Sunday, Oct. 21 at Robbins UMC 1:00pm

Please make every effort to attend, as it is at this meeting that we elect new club leadership for the coming year. Your support is needed in this crucial decision-making process. **VOTE** and let your voice be heard!

News Items

Breathe a Nostalgic Sigh for Our Dear Old Flags....

It's been two years, already, since we turned our flags over to the state for safekeeping. Thought I'd share some pictures we took just prior to the ceremony.. We cleaned them up the best we could for their photo shoot...

Gloria Kirschensteiner



NO 2018 Wolcott Mill

It is with a heavy heart that I must share the following information.

The Wolcott Mill event for 2018 has been canceled due to insurance issues. We have been working to ensure it could take place this year, but elements at the park have become increasingly too difficult to work with as a solution could not be reached.

John Fross



"Digging the Latrine" www.wpclipart.com

"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

Photo credit: TG Davison Photography



2018 Club Leadership

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

Julie Everett (civilian)
djkeverett@comcast.net

- President: Dave Downing
- Vice President: Steve Church
- Secretary: Bill Jarrett
- Treasurer: Don Everett
- Military: Doug McComas, Captain
- Civilian Coordinator: Sue Colegrove
- Board Members-at-Large:
Chris Sodman, Joy Henderson, Bill Jarrett
- Quartermaster: Don Everett
- Club Historian: Doug McComas
- Webmaster: David Finch

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.

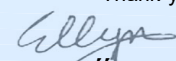
If accompanying maps or images are needed, **please** include them (in jpg format), if possible. Be sure to ascertain that any items coming from another source are properly credited, or have obtained reprint permission.

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



From GAR Memorial Hall and Museum:

4th Annual Civil War Discovery Camp

Wednesday, August 15

Upcoming August Events

Port Sanilac Event Aug. 4-5

We in the 21st Michigan would love to have the 7th join us in helping to make Port Sanilac a pretty major event, and we hope to have you all join us August 4 & 5, with set up beginning at noon on Friday the 3rd, and help to make 1863 come to life once again.

If you have any questions, please feel free to message me.
Thanks.

Ken Giorlando

Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Memorial Hall and Museum in Eaton Rapids, Michigan will be holding its fourth annual Civil War Discovery Camp on Wednesday, August 15, 2018 for students 8-years to 14-years old. The students will be arriving at G.A.R. Island Park (Hamlin Street) in Eaton Rapids at 10 AM, where they will spend several hours of planned activities, including learning the Civil War manual of arms with wooden muskets, how to march, how the Civil War soldier lived, and much more. The students will be told about the park and its association with the G.A.R., the Museum, and the Civil War Veterans. They then will be split into groups and provided information about the life of a Civil War soldier and each allowed to fire a reproduction Civil War musket (with prior parental approval). All musket handling will be under strict adult supervision. Adults will load (with powder only), cap, and hold the musket. Students will only be allowed to pull the trigger. All students that fire a musket will be wearing safety glasses. Lunch will be provided to the students while on the island. Around 2 PM, the students will be marched back to the G.A.R. Museum for a tour and to learn about what the G.A.R. Civil War veterans and their auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps, did after the war. Following the tour, each camper will be paid \$13 in replica 1860s Civil War federal money and then discharged from "military service".

Support for this event this year graciously comes from the city of Eaton Rapids, Meijers, the Jackson Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Austin Blair Camp No. 7, Kalamazoo SUVCW General Benjamin Pritchard Camp No 20, and Lansing/Sunfield SUVCW Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17.

For the registration form, you may go to either the G.A.R. Museum's website at <http://garmuseum.com/civil-war-discovery-camp.html>, to download the Camp registration form or just download the form attached to this email. The cost of the Camp is \$20 per student.

Keith G. Harrison, Board President



Are You Going to Jackson?

For the Jackson event we've been asked by Col. Van to begin to gather numbers for the event: Please let me know if you are planning on attending. I am assuming the following thus far: Doug and Andrew McComas, William Jarrett, Ethan Jarrett, Adam Jarrett, David Graham, Scott Graham, Kim Horning, Chris Sodman, Daniel Malick, Steve Church, Rob Stone, Nick Nau, Colin, Mark D. Heath, Hoping for Wyatt, Ian Searles, Elliott Searles, Craig Searles, and Dan Conklin, George Conklin, Jim MacKinnon, Pinky D'Cat. Anyone else I missed?

Captain McComas

More Jackson info on next page...



Ted Christoff & Craig Searles at Cascades Muster – maybe 2007? Photo by Ellyn Painter

Jackson Muster Update



The Muster has moved... To Ella Sharp Park!

Driving Directions to Ella Sharp Park 3225 4th Street, Jackson, MI

From I-94- get off at Jackson exit 138. Head south on West Ave. From 127, going south toward Jackson, go under the I-94 overpass and continue straight onto West Ave. Take West Ave. all the way through town; make wide curve left and continue through the Parkside school campus to the roundabout. Keep right on the roundabout and take right turn onto 4th Street. Ella Sharp Park entrance is a few hundred feet beyond the apartment complex, on your left. The Village, Museum and main parking lot are to the right.

As everyone is aware, this will be a transition year to conduct the Muster at Ella Sharp Park. I am on the Muster committee and have been attending several recent meetings including walks at Ella Sharp Park to verify the event's logistics.

The first day of registration and setup of the event will begin at 7 am on Friday, August 24th until 11 pm. Registration will begin again on Saturday morning, I assume at 7 am. Saturday's battle will be a reenactment of the Hornets' Nest that occurred at Shiloh. Sunday's battle reenactment will be the Peach Orchard that occurred at Gettysburg.

We are working with the Ella Sharp Park Museum to determine which historic facilities will be open to the public for civilian and military history education. The Park Planetarium will be open and conducting presentations. We are in the process of finalizing a map for the overall layout of the event, which will encompass the majority of the Ella Sharp Park grounds.

An unusual event will be happening Saturday at Ella Sharp Park that is not a part of the reenactment. A wedding had previously been scheduled prior to the decision to move the Muster onto the park grounds. This will occur around 2 pm on Saturday, which is when the reenactment battle will occur. Going forward, no events will be scheduled by Ella Sharp Park on the weekend of Jackson Civil War Muster that are not directly related to the Muster.

New activities being pursued for this year's agenda include a reenactment march from downtown Jackson to Ella Sharp Park on Friday, August 24th to help promote interest in this event. There will not be a special event for school children this year but it will remain on the agenda going forward to involve them more in future Muster events. The Civil War Ball is still on the agenda as well as multiple speakers, including Abraham Lincoln. There will be bleacher options for spectators to observe the reenactment battles. A special handicap parking area will be set up next to the battlefield and commuting vehicles will be available to transport persons from all designated parking lots.

This will be a great transition year. It may not be perfect, but plans are already being discussed for next year's 35th Anniversary event of the Jackson Civil War Muster. Working with Ella Sharp Park staff has been inspirational for continuing to improve and grow this event each year going forward. There are individuals on the committee who are aware of the Civil War event and involvement of school children that our 7th Michigan Co. B conducted at the park a couple of years ago. Anyone wishing to get involved as we move forward is certainly welcome to coordinate military and civilian education and presentations to the public. I am happy to present any thoughts and suggestions any of you wish to share with me so I can pass them along to the Muster's committee. Feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss any details not covered in this update.

Kim Horning

Kim Horning <kimph@comcast.net>

To the Ladies of the 7th Michigan:

At the Jackson event, Nicole Mai's daughter, Lily Wilson, would like to have a tea party on Saturday afternoon to celebrate her birthday. She would like to do it period correct, so please bring your favorite tea cup and join us to help make Lily's birthday a special event!

If questions please contact myself or Nicole Mai.

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

Nicole Mai
517-703-4107
nicole_scarlett_rose@yahoo.com





After Action Report: Gettysburg 155

We brought 11 military men and 3 civilians to Gettysburg. As I looked around the company I realized that it was truly a different group than had arrived at GBurg 150. In fact less than a 1/3 of those present were with the 7th then. This was both wistful and exciting for me with a mix of old memories and the making of new. We were 2nd company throughout the weekend, and we were with our dear friends, the Zouaves, and the 17th Michigan.

We agreed to rotate command and NCO responsibilities and it worked quite well. I had the pleasure of Captaining during the wheatfield and did my normal masterful job of getting my company slaughtered (we left with 33 and came home with 2). I would like to thank Scot Spiekerman, Nick Miner, and Andrew McComas for working so well together all event. The 2nd company was solid, clearly demonstrated; it was the crispest on the field in its company volleys and the GAR became the "foot cavalry" of the Union army, double-quicking all over the field to plug holes and put out fires. Rob Van never misses a fight and we appreciated his knowledge and aggressiveness even though we were afraid he was literally going to back himself into the rebel line a couple of times as he moved us forward.

This was truly a post 150 event with some wonderful things, some things that need to improve, but some clear assurance that the hobby, the GAR, GLB, and 7th remain strong, active, and forward facing. I am truly proud of all of the men of the 7th Michigan and our friends. I will accept the role of the "old man" willingly as we move into the next chapter of reenacting.

Oh--On Sunday, Sgt. Daniel Malick caught a certain private not following his own training on loading. Sergeant, you were completely correct in your correction. That said, who knows the fortune of war? I suspect that chastened private may be in command at the next event.

Weather mostly good. Friendship amazing. Another amazing hobby memory that will grow fonder in the retelling. On to Hastings!

Captain McComas



Photos this page courtesy of Ken Giorlando, shared on Facebook.



After-Action Report: Charlton Park, Hastings

Friday was threatening but rain mostly held off until the canvas went up. We were 7th company and projected strength of 15 but a few last minute drops put us down to 12. Saturday drill and battle was in the high meadow where we did OK, with some of our new boys. Kennedy Wilson attended his first event, Collin was first time in the ranks and a cap no powder, and Jack was there for his 3rd ever event. Saturday was a no show day, however: Missing Jarretts and missing Searles'. While the old folk arrived on time and carried out their duties, the younger folk arrived in the pm (or not at all.

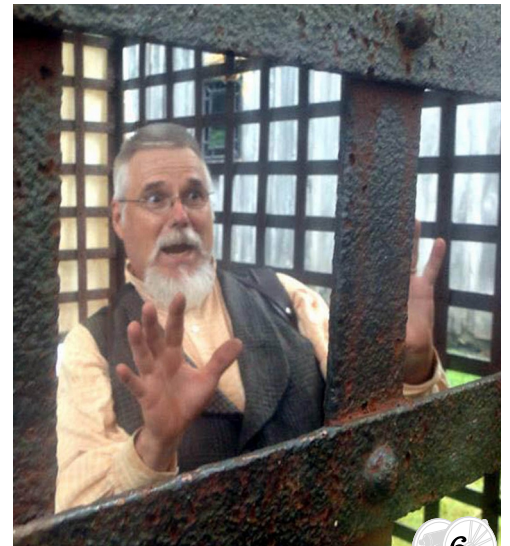
Saturday evening we were treated to a wonderful pot luck by our civilians and we ate all too well. Thank you. Upon our return we prepared for Col. Rob Van's favorite dress parade. I was glad to see my ole Captain Tom Joan Belman Emerick leading the parade.

From there, there was a pesky problem of some maverick Pinkertons. Our friends from the 1st MI brought some Henry rifles; we had a few pistols, Springfields and Enfields, and the 14 of us made short work of Mark D. Heath and the Conklin boys. They promise revenge but as I pointed out to Mark, "You may have Conklins, but I have an army."

Sunday it rained again before tactical, after we drilled, and after the battle. Speaking of the tactical. The boys were only one of 2 companies to take the field and they literally were all over it. Fighting uphill, around obstacles, and through the brush, until we were stalemated by our old friend Ben Cwayna and the 12th SC. Ben requested my surrender and I informed him I was not authorized to do so but was authorized to tell him we were done for the day. The pm battle required us to be slaughtered by a smaller force of Rebs. Just as in last month's Wheatfield at Gettysburg we did our part and ended the battle with 2 survivors.

All in all a positive weekend. We agreed breakfast pizzas are "awesome" and we continue to move through a very positive season. On to Jackson!

In your service, Captain McComas





More Charlton Park photos...

Above, and below, courtesy of Ken Giorlando

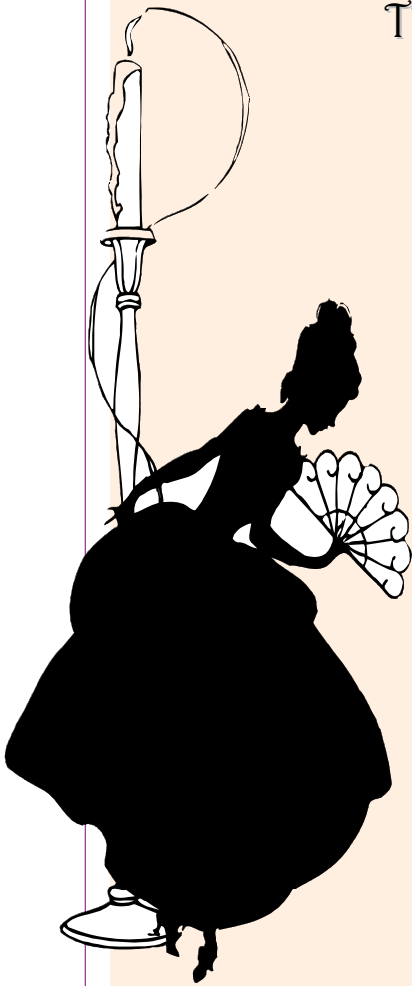


“ Now that Hastings is history for this year, I'd like to take a minute to thank Yonda and the other women who put together the Saturday night buffet. It was great not having to scramble around for food after a long afternoon. It was even better getting the civilians and troops together as a group. Thanks again for your efforts - you guys are the backbone of the Club. ”

Al Baerren (Aka Pinky D'Cat)



Large photo above, and at immediate left, posted by Cyndi Carlson on Facebook.



The 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Co. B
is proud to announce:
**The 2018 Annual Harvest
Civil War Grand Ball**

To be held on Saturday, October 13, 2018
At Central United Methodist Church
215 N. Capital
Lansing, Michigan

Take a step back in time as we enjoy a congenial evening
of dance, refreshments, and merriment with music by
the Ruffwater String Band.
Dance prompt conducted by Glen Morningstar Jr.

Doors open at 6 PM, Grand March begins at 7 PM.
Attendees must be over 12 years of age.
Ticket cost \$25 per person, \$40 per couple.
Youngsters 12-16 years of age \$10 each.
Advance tickets will be available August 1st.
Tickets limited.

Attire is 1860's period formal or modest,
modern formal evening wear.

For more information contact: Gilbert or Cyndi Carlson
(517) 782-8199
Cyndiinhiisservice@yahoo.com



Remember THIS?

In the July 2016 issue I printed this image of
the piece of "artwork" with which the powers
that be at Ella Sharp Museum thought it
appropriate to "grace" the front lawn of one of
Jackson's most beloved historic sites - The
150+ year old Ella Sharp Farmhouse. WELL--
a couple of weeks ago, I was passing by the
house again, and noticed that the yellow "thing"
is GONE! It would seem there are others in the
community who also felt the artwork's location
was inappropriate. Yay!

The Editor

**Remaining Key Effort Events
for 2018**

August 24-25-26 (Kim Horning): Jackson CW Muster MI: Will have a
school program on Fri. Aug 24 for HS students.

-**Change**- reenactment will be at **Ella Sharp Park**

September 7-9 (SueColegrove): Meridian Village

October 13 (Gilbert & Cyndi Carlson): 7th MI Harvest Ball, First United
Methodist Church, Lansing MI

November: None

December : Christmas Party

Other Events 2018:

September 15-16: Van Raalte Farms CW Muster Holland MI: Put on by
our good friends in the 3rd MI Co. F

September 22-23: Gowns & Guns, Greenmead Historic Village, Livonia,
MI. Sponsored by the 17th MI

October 6-7: Mooresville CW Days, South Haven MI, See Chris Sodman.

October 6-7: Wolcott Mills CANCELLED

