

# THE UNION VOLUNTEER<sup>TH</sup>

NEWSLETTER OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY, CO. B, INC.

Volume XXXIII No. 12 December 2014



Members of the 7<sup>th</sup> MI, Co. B, in Durand, MI, in the winter of 2002- 2003. We are pictured with our new monument, which later in 2003 was transported to its present home on the banks of the Rappahannock River in Fredericksburg, VA. It was dedicated in September of that year, and commemorates the crossing of the Rappahannock by 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan troops during the battle of Fredericksburg, Dec. 11-15, 1862. Photo courtesy of Jim Kirschensteiner..

*Merry  
Christmas!*

7<sup>th</sup> MI

## Christmas Party

Saturday, Dec. 6

12:30-1:00pm Social Hour

1:00pm Lunch

Robbins UMC

Please bring a passing dish (or two-  
depending on family size)

Bring reenactment photos to share

Period dress optional

## Next Club Meeting:

Sunday, January 18, 2015

1:30 pm

Robbins United Methodist Church  
6419 Bunker Rd. Eaton Rapids, MI

## 2015 Club Meeting Dates:

Meetings are third Sunday of the month,  
except for Sept., and begin at 1:30pm

Jan. 18

Feb. 15

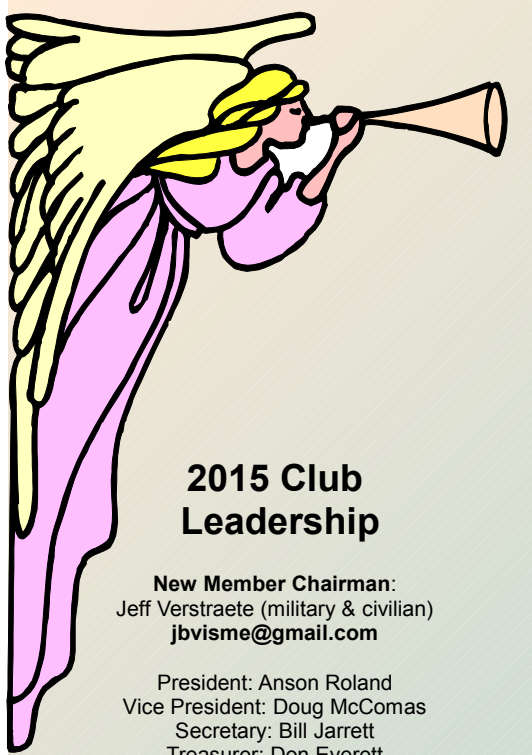
Mar. 15

Apr. 19

Sept. 27

Oct. 18

Nov. 15



## 2015 Club Leadership

### New Member Chairman:

Jeff Verstraete (military & civilian)  
[jbvisme@gmail.com](mailto:jbvisme@gmail.com)

President: Anson Roland

Vice President: Doug McComas

Secretary: Bill Jarrett

Treasurer: Don Everett

Military: Dave Slayton, Captain

Civilian Coordinator: Katie Everett

Board Members-at-Large:

Jeff Verstraete, Rob Stone, Melissa Bateman

Quartermaster: Don Everett

Webmaster: Casey Wallick

Annual Membership Dues:

\$16.00 – single

\$19.20 – family

\$6.00 – to receive newsletter as  
non-participating/non-voting member

Website: [www.7thmichigan.us](http://www.7thmichigan.us)

### Newsletter Submission Guidelines:

Thanks to all who submitted information for this month's issue.

Deadline date for submissions is the 25<sup>th</sup> 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 (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](mailto:7thminewsletter@gmail.com)

Or mail to:

736 Gettysburg Ave.  
Jackson, MI 49203

Thank-you.

Ellyn Painter, Editor

## News & Announcements :

★ We have been invited by Ms. Jane Rose of the Meridian Historical Village to participate in "Christmas in the Village," which will take place on Sun. Dec. 14, from 2-4pm. It is preferred that members of the 7<sup>th</sup> MI dress in period clothing for the event. For more information, contact Jane Rose at 517-347-7300, or Anson and Lorrie Roland. The Meridian Historical Village is located just north of Meridian Mall in Okemos. Address: 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos, MI Mailing: P.O. Box 155, Okemos, MI 48805-0155

Ms. Rose was present at the November club meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Meridian Village is very interested in having the 7<sup>th</sup> MI do other events there. They have 2-3 acres, which could accommodate a small battle or skirmish, and have buildings suitable for scenarios. More discussion will take place regarding this site and its possibilities for us.

★ The club membership roster is being updated. If you have had any changes to address, phone numbers, or email address since last year, please report them to the club treasurer, Bill Jarrett, no later than January 4, 2015. [btjarrett@aol.com](mailto:btjarrett@aol.com) 517-784-2178

★ **Reminder!** Club dues are due. Those who have not paid up by the end of February will not receive any more newsletters, beginning with the March issue.

★ The position of club Historian vacated by Steve Hainstock will be taken over by Doug McComas.

★ The following is a summary of information of interest received by Tom Emerick from historian Brian Egen, of The Henry Ford:

A non-profit group (Michigan CW Association—of which Brian is a founding member) has been formed and in cooperation with the Michigan Historical Society has purchased an easement on property adjacent to the Antietam Battlefield with the intention of erecting a monument to Michigan units which fought there. The location of the 20 by 20 foot easement is where the 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan crossed the Hagerstown Pike/Dunker Church Road right where the West Woods juts westerly before jutting north again. More information will be forthcoming after the first of the new year about costs, fundraising, and so on. The 7<sup>th</sup> MI has been invited to participate in raising awareness of the project and hopefully to contribute monetarily.

----submitted by Tom Emerick

★ President Anson Roland has been in contact with attorney William Worth who represents Cascades, Inc. in reply to the letter sent to the 7<sup>th</sup> MI regarding the Jackson Muster (see Nov. newsletter). There are still issues remaining unresolved. In addition, a thank you letter has been prepared to be published in the Jackson Citizen Patriot, as well as reenactor publications –Camp Chase Gazette, and Citizen Companion. (See page 4 for text). Letters will also go out to CW units and to the various sutlers who participate at Jackson.



## *News & Announcements concluded:*

★ Also submitted by Tom Emerick for our consideration:

Dear Friends of the 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan Volunteer Infantry,

This past Saturday, the 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan added the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lincoln's funeral to its calendar for 2015. This event will be in Springfield, IL on the first weekend in May, specifically May 2 & 3, 2015. The event will include two parades. The first on Saturday is about 1 mile and will accompany a hearse from the train station to the Old Capitol. There will also be some ceremonial activities to mark the occasion. I should add that a replica of the original train will be pulling to the station containing the casket. On Sunday, the parade will be from the Old Capitol to the crypt and will be about 3 miles long. You can find details about the event at [lincolnfurcoalition.org](http://lincolnfurcoalition.org)

The original 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan was stationed at Springfield at the end of the war and participated as part of the honor guard for Lincoln's funeral. I can't think of a better way to end this cycle of 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary events! I would like your organization to consider joining us for this event. For that matter, we are such a small unit anymore, we can join you! However, wouldn't it be cool to go as the 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan who were actually there?

This will be a dress uniform event – shine your brass and wear white gloves. Hardee hats and frocks coats would be preferred, but actually, many of the original Iron Brigade members wore sack coats. There will be no firing by infantry, so no ammo. There will be a military camp, and authentic civilian camp and a mixed camp. It is about 6 ½ hours from Toledo, Ohio to Springfield so not too bad of a ride.

Registration is on line and is by the individual. Cost is \$20.

I strongly urge you to join the 24<sup>th</sup> for this event. I am even putting on the blue suit and carrying my rifle! Please let me know if you decided to join us so the unit can make some appropriate planning.

Sincerely,  
Pvt. Craig DeCrane  
24<sup>th</sup> Michigan Vol. Inf.

★ The 8<sup>th</sup> Arkansas / 22<sup>st</sup> Michigan will have their annual mid-winter ball on Sat. February 22, 2015. Their ball is held at the same place as our annual Harvest Ball –Central United Methodist Church in Lansing.

---submitted by Linda Williams


This info appears on the Civil War Sesquicentennial Events website:

**18th Annual Mid-Winter Civil War Grand Ball and Swap Meet** (Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capital, Lansing, Michigan) Swap Meet 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Ball: 6:00 PM. Music provided by the Golden Griffon. Sponsored by the 8th Arkansas/22nd Michigan Volunteer Infantry. Tickets cost \$15.00 per person. Advance tickets will be available November 15, 2013. Tickets also will be available at the Swap meet and at the door. Contact: Diana Means at [Dmeans13@hotmail.com](mailto:Dmeans13@hotmail.com) or by Telephone at 810-599-5935.

★ The 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan website is under construction. Webmasters Casey Wallick and Allison Bailey request photos to post on the site of 7<sup>th</sup> MI activities and events (and not just Jackson!)

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

William Jarrett, Club Secretary

 [bljarrett@aol.com](mailto:bljarrett@aol.com)





7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry  
Company B., Inc.  
P.O. Box 16206  
Lansing, Michigan 48901-6206

Internet: <http://www.7thmichigan.us>  
(A federally recognized 501 (c)(3) Organization)

November 24, 2014

**Cascades Civil War Muster  
Jackson Michigan**

Thank You, Jackson, Michigan!

An illustrious chapter in the history of the Jackson community and American Civil War re-enacting has come to an end.

At the request of the board of Cascades, Inc., after a run of thirty years the Seventh Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B re-enacting club will no longer co-host the Cascades Civil War Muster at Cascades Park. Three decades ago a dedicated group of Civil War enthusiasts, in cooperation with the Jackson County Parks and Cascades, Inc., organized what grew into the largest annual Civil War re-enactment in the Midwest.

Each August thousands of re-enactors from around the United States, Canada and Europe journeyed to Jackson to display a wide variety of period military and civilian impressions, educating the public about the War Between the States and honoring our forebears' patriotism and sacrifices. Over a two-day period tens of thousands of spectators descended upon Cascades Park to take in the sights and smells of mid-Nineteenth Century life, coming away with a greater appreciation of a crucial period in the nation's history.

The Seventh Michigan is proud and honored to have contributed to establishing the Cascades Civil War Muster and making it a resounding success. Our heartfelt thanks go out to the Jackson community, event sponsors, re-enactors, sutlers and the Boy Scouts of America for their unwavering support.

Anson Roland  
President

7<sup>th</sup> Michigan Volunteer Infantry Company B., Inc.



# Military Minutes - November 2014

At a meeting where it was good to be inside because of the cold, we went over Skirmishing Drill. We plan to focus on this in 2015, so we can volunteer or accept that assignment at events. It's more interesting and fun to do that, and we want to be really good at it. So if you have Casey's Manual, please go over the Skirmish Drill (Volume I, Title IV) and try to get familiar with it. We will be training on that, among other things, at our monthly meetings. The next one is January 18, 2015, at Robbins Church, 6419 Bunker Road, Eaton Rapids, MI, 48827. The meeting starts at 1:30 pm. And don't forget the Christmas Party on December 6<sup>th</sup>, same location, 12:30 pm.



Capt. Dave Slayton

Below is the list of events I know of (thanks Tom Emerick for providing the National events) and which we will be discussing at the January meeting. We need to decide which ones the 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan will support as "maximum effort" events, and the ones individuals want to go to other times. I hope to see you at the January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. May each of you and your families have a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays!

## **NATIONAL EVENTS**

### **March 21-22, 2015 – Battle of Bentonville, Bentonville, North Carolina:**

Peter Berezuk (Fredericksburg Adjunct Battalion Cmdr., he built the pontoon boats we used and commanded our battalion at the 150<sup>th</sup> Fredericksburg) has invited us to fall in with his company or form another company and attend.

Bob Minton (Army of the Ohio commander, First Federal Division commander, and one of the event organizers) has extended an invitation to the 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan to participate.

Earl Zeckman and the Military Division of Mississippi is attending.

21<sup>st</sup> Michigan (J.R. Schroeder and gang) is attending as to follow in the footsteps of the original 21<sup>st</sup> Michigan at Bentonville.

3<sup>rd</sup> Michigan, Co. F is leaning towards attending and someone has registered already.

Website is at [www.ffobb.org](http://www.ffobb.org)

### **March 28-29, 2015 – Battle of Sailor's (or Saylor's) Creek, Rice, Virginia:**

Website at <http://www.150thsailorscreek.com/> is not yet populated with any information

### **April 11-12, 2015 - Battle of Appomattox, Appomattox, Virginia:**

Website at <http://www.appomattoxhistoricalsociety.org/150th.htm>

## **2015 MICHIGAN EVENTS**

*These came from the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners website:*

<http://www.micw150.us/2015events.htm>

***It is not a complete list so please check online for all events known to date!***

**March 21 - 22. Black Powder Gun Show:** 40th Annual Kalamazoo Living History Black powder Gun Show (Kalamazoo Fair Grounds, 2900 Lake Street [off I-94, Exit 80 North], Kalamazoo, Michigan). 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM – Saturday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM - Sunday.

**April 11 - 12. 58th Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony** (Oakridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois). Sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. Parade to and Wreath laying at the Tomb of Abraham Lincoln. Contact [rpetro7776@aol.com](mailto:rpetro7776@aol.com) or by Telephone at 636-274-4567.

**April 25 - 26. POSSIBLE Battalion Drill:** (Historical Fort Wayne, 6325 Jefferson, Detroit, Michigan). Check back occasionally for more information. Website: <http://www.fortwaynebattaliondrill.com>. Contact: Will Eichler at [will@williameichler.com](mailto:will@williameichler.com).

**May 2. Grand Victorian Ball** (Grand Ledge Opera House, Grand Ledge, Michigan). 7:00 PM. Enjoy an evening of elegance and gaiety in the Grand Victorian Style. Ticket are limited. Reserve yours now. Early price admission is \$25.00; after March 29, tickets are \$30.00. For more information visit <http://www.victoriandays.org/ball> or call 517-316-6694.



May 2 - 4. Civil War Muster at Grand Ledge Island Park (Grand Ledge Island Park, Grand Ledge, Michigan). Activities include skirmishes, living history, firing demonstration/contest, and vintage baseball game. This is being held in conjunction with Grand Ledge's Victorian Days. Water, bathrooms, firewood, and straw provided. Hosted by the 22nd Michigan and 8th Arkansas. Contact [sylvania@victoriandays.org](mailto:sylvania@victoriandays.org).

May 23 - 25. Greenfield Village Civil War Remembrance (20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, Michigan). Hosted by Greenfield Village. Hundreds of Union and Confederate reenactors, civilians, musicians and historic presenters — all in period clothing — converge, eager to share their knowledge with you. There are dozens of opportunities to learn more about this pivotal time in American history: exhibits, presentations, battle tactics demonstration, hands-on activities and insights from historians. Join us in honoring the sacrifices and achievements of all those who bravely fought and continue to fight in defense of our great nation. The Henry Ford will participate in a national moment of silence at 3 pm Monday as signaled by the Armington & Sims shop whistle. Amenities include firewood, straw, modern camping, military ball, sutlers. This event is by invitation only for reenactors. Website: [www.thehenryford.org/events/civilwarremembrance.aspx](http://www.thehenryford.org/events/civilwarremembrance.aspx).

June 7. Annual Jackson Rose Parade (Jackson, Michigan). The parade steps off at 1:00 P.M. sharp. The parade route is from the corner of S. Jackson/Greenwood to Fourth Street ending at the Middle School at Parkside. Staging is on W. Wesley/W. Franklin/Mason (starting at 11:00 a.m.). Website: <http://www.jacksonrosefestival.org/parade.html>.

June 20 - 21. Turkeyville Civil War Reenactment (Turkeyville U.S.A., 18935 15 1/2 Mile Road, Marshall, Michigan). Free to the public, but donations appreciated. Battles, Grand Ball Saturday night, Night Artillery Firing, ladies tea and fashion show, and pie eating contest. Special Impression Area to include Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, General Ulysses S. Grant, Post office, Barber, Storyteller, Blacksmith, Quartermaster, and Surgeon. Thursday and Friday set-up, Modern day RV campsite on location with hook-ups (offered at discounted rate for reenactors), wood & hay provided, free reenactor meal Saturday at Turkeyville Restaurant, coffee and donut breakfast free to reenactors. Artillery Bounties (\$100/first six guns each side), Cavalry Bounties (\$20/horse first registered) Registration can be by via the web or by email. Website: <http://www.turkeyville.com>. Reenactor Contact: Email [elyse@turkeyville.com](mailto:elyse@turkeyville.com) or by Telephone at 517-626-4336.

July 18 - 19. Charlton Park Civil War Muster (2545 S. Charlton Park Road, Hastings, Michigan). Hosted by Battery D, 2nd Michigan Light Artillery, 3rd Michigan Volunteer Infantry Company F., and Barry County Parks. Confederate and Union Infantry, Cavalry, and Artillery units. Shop on Sutler Row, play parlor games, Two battles on Saturday, one battle on Sunday. Admission is Adults \$5.00, Kids \$3.00 ages 5 - 12 years, 4 and under are free. All Reenactors are requested to Preregister at no charge. The on-site registration fee is \$10.00 per reenactor. Preregistration required/fee for walk-ons. Website and registration form/information at [http://www.charltonpark.org/news\\_events/special\\_events.html](http://www.charltonpark.org/news_events/special_events.html). Contact: [info@charltonpark.org](mailto:info@charltonpark.org).

August 8 - 9. Chesterfield Civil War Days (Chesterfield Historical Village Park, 47275 Sugarbush Rd - Between 21 Mile and Cotton Rds, Chesterfield Township, Michigan). Hosts: 15th Michigan, Company B and 8th Arkansas. Living history encampments, drills, battle skirmishes, cannon firing demonstrations, and special appearances by the 102nd US CT. Straw and firewood, but no bounties for artillery.

Sponsored by the Chesterfield Historical Society, 15th Michigan and 8th Arkansas. Suggested donations: \$1.00 per adult, \$2.00 Families. Website: <http://chesterfieldhistoricalsociety.org>. Contact: Tommy Spanski at 313-779-3357.

August 22 - 23. 31st Annual Jackson, Michigan Cascades Civil War Muster (Cascades Falls Park, 1401 S Brown St, Jackson, Michigan). Free to the public, but donations appreciated. Battles Saturday and Sunday, Military Ball Saturday night, Night Artillery Firing. Special Impression Area. Website: <http://civilwarmuster.org/>. Contact: Kim Conant at [kimc62@gmail.com](mailto:kimc62@gmail.com) or by Telephone at 517-262-6391.

September 11 - 13. Civil War Days (Historic Fort Wayne 6325 West Jefferson, Detroit, Michigan). Tactical demonstrations both days, Battle Reenactment, Vintage Baseball Game, Civilian Camps, Ice cream social, Civilian activities, Special Impressions, firewood, and showers. Artillery Bounty for the first 4 full scale cannon registered. The Chief Executive Officer of the Harrisburg Civil War Museum and the leading interpretive guide at Gettysburg will be present and bringing for viewing Quantrill's pistol used at Lawrence Kansas. Website: <http://historicfortwaynecoalition.com/cwdays.html>. Contacts: Doris Julian at [Juliandoris2@aol.com](mailto:Juliandoris2@aol.com) or Tom Berlucchi at [Tberlucchi@yahoo.com](mailto:Tberlucchi@yahoo.com) or by Telephone at 248-840-5234.

September 19 - 20. Van Raalte Farm Civil War Muster (Historic Van Raalte Farm Park, 1076 E. 16th Street, Holland, Michigan). Free Dinner Saturday Night. Battle both days, and possibly tacticals. Bounties are offered for cavalry and artillery. Portraying the final months of the war: the battles of Five Forks and Appomattox Courthouse. Registration website: <http://www.hollandmuseum.org/Muster>, Contract: Wendy VanWoerkom: [jberg@hollandmuseum.org](mailto:jberg@hollandmuseum.org) or by Telephone at 616-796-3325.



# December 2014 Civil War Sesquicentennial Report

Of the 139 Sesquicentennial events already listed on the Reenactors' Civil War Sesquicentennial Calendar for 2014 on the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners' website [www.micw150.us](http://www.micw150.us), four have been reported for December. Additional information on each of these events may be obtained by going to [www.micw150.us/2014events.htm](http://www.micw150.us/2014events.htm)

The November 8, 2014 annual Michigan Reenactors' Conference was a great success. Sixty-plus participants attended and updates were provided on the activities of the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, Michigan Historical Center, and the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners. In particular, people were invited to see the new Civil War Museum exhibit in the Michigan Historical Center and reference was made to a new Civil War monument proposed for Antietam by the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission and the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners.

The conference again was sponsored and hosted by the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners, Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, Michigan Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, Michigan Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Friends of Michigan History, Inc., Michigan Historical Center, Historic Fort Wayne Coalition, and History Remembered, Inc. As a result of the conference, the 2015 Michigan Reenactor Calendar has been posted. Currently, 90 events are noted for 2015. Michigan events and events of interest to Michigan for 2015 can be added anytime by contacting [pcinc@prodigy.net](mailto:pcinc@prodigy.net).

## --December 2014--

**3 & 10. Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum** (224 S. Main Street, Eaton Rapids, Michigan). 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Website: <http://garmuseum.com/> \t "\_top. Contact: Deb Malewski, Board Secretary, at <mailto:GARmichigan@gmail.com/> \t "\_top.

**6. A Civil War Christmas at the Fort** (Historic Fort Wayne 6325 West Jefferson, Detroit, Michigan). Website: <http://historicfortwaynecoalition.com/christmas.html> \t "\_top. Contact: Thomas Berlucchi at <mailto:tberlucchi@yahoo.com> \t "\_top or by Telephone at 248-840-5234.

**6. Eaton Rapids Christmas Program & Parade Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum** (224 S. Main Street, Eaton Rapids, Michigan). Noon - 8:00 PM. Come to Eaton Rapids to see the annual Christmas Parade. Many stores will be opened with various deals for you to peruse. The parade starts at 6 PM. The GAR Memorial Hall and Museum will be open with hot chocolate and coffee to help you stay warm. Website: <http://garmuseum.com/> \t "\_top. Contact: Deb Malewski, Board Secretary, at <mailto:GARmichigan@gmail.com/> \t "\_top.

**9. Presentation: Company K - 1st Michigan Sharpshooters** (Meijer Branch of Jackson District Library, 2699 Airport Rd. Jackson, Michigan). 6:30 PM. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/710679885680603/> \t "\_top . Contact: Jim Grose at <mailto:jegrose@comcast.net> \t "\_top.

Keith G. Harrison, Chair  
7th Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee

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The Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners is composed of over 1,000 Civil War reenactors and living history historians; patriotic and hereditary organizations; scholars and educators, roundtables; local and statewide libraries, historical societies, genealogical societies; local and statewide museums; and numerous local Michigan communities that sponsor special and annual historical programs related to the Civil War. Each year the History Partners hosts the annual Reenactors' Conference in November and creates the statewide Reenactors' Events Calendar.

