

# THE UNION VOLUNTEER

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

Volume XXXIV No. 2 February 2015

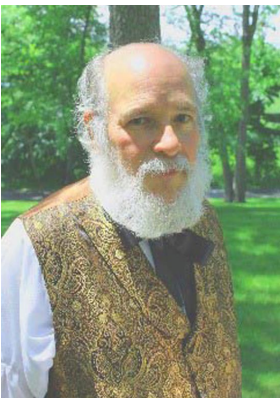


Meridian Historical Village, Okemos, MI., Dec. 14, 2014. L to R: Joy Henderson, Don Everett, Vonda Warren. Photo by Sue Colegrove.

## *To my friends at the 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan:*

We are off and running for another year. The attendance at the January meeting was great. I am looking forward to reenacting in 2015. I am going to start the reenacting year in May with the Lincoln Train in Springfield IL. I hope some of you will get to do this too. My goal is to walk in the parade from the train to the cemetery, and take in the history of Springfield, Lincoln's birthplace. We as a club have a lot of things happening in our unit this year. We have Casey and Melissa, as well as Zack and Heather getting married, and Brittney and Erik Meyers expecting a baby in August. We're excited for you all! I am sure there is more going on that I don't know.

We have a lot of events planned and still more that we can do if we want to. We have school events to teach children history of the Civil War. Mason has its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, and the list goes on. We have the live shoot coming up where you can bring any and all of your guns. You better get ready for the memorial shooting contest which will also be taking place on April 18, 2015, along with our monthly meeting. The AED training will take place following our February meeting. The club will be covering the cost, so I hope you will all participate.



If winter is getting to you, there is a ball in February here in Lansing and another in Coldwater in April. Well, it's time to get back to the real world we live in, so I hope to see you all again at our February meeting.

Respectfully,

*Anson*, President

# Club News

**New Club Roster:** As was mentioned in a previous issue, an updated club roster is being prepared for distribution to members. If you have any changes in address or contact info since the last roster, and have not informed Don Everett, please do so as soon as possible. The deadline is March 1.

[djkeverett@comcast.net](mailto:djkeverett@comcast.net) 517-393-3475

For all of us who attended the January club meeting, it was a great privilege to be able to sing "Happy Birthday" to our new president, Anson Roland, whose natal day coincidentally falls on the same date as was our meeting, January 18. We are told his mother was much relieved by his appearance.



The Lansing Historical Society has issued an invitation to the 7th Michigan to participate in a tour of Mt. Hope Cemetery in Lansing, which will feature the graves of several Civil War soldiers, and their stories.

Date: Saturday, April 25

10:00 am - Tour Begins

12:00 noon - wreath laying at the grave of a Civil War soldier who won the Medal of Honor and is buried at Mt. Hope. For More Information Contact: Dave Downing [Downing\\_Dave@hotmail.com](mailto:Downing_Dave@hotmail.com) 517-676-5998

A training class has been scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 15, from 2-5 pm. for those wishing to learn how to operate the AED (heart defibrillator) the club has purchased, along with general first aid skills. It is the same date as our regularly scheduled club meeting, thus, we will have a short meeting that day, followed by the AED training for those who will be participating. Contact Jeff Verstraete by email - [jbvisme@gmail.com](mailto:jbvisme@gmail.com) - to be put on the list. A training mannequin for each person will be available to practice on. AED training: Sunday, Feb. 15; 2:00-5:00pm; Robbins UMC, Eaton Rapids; contact: Jeff Verstraete [jbvisme@gmail.com](mailto:jbvisme@gmail.com)

Celeste Hude reported at the January meeting on the 18th that we, as a club, have been offered several opportunities to participate, this coming year, in the 150th Anniversary of the founding of Mason, MI. This town is significant to us as a club, in that it is here that the Curtenius Guard Militia Company was formed, which, at the start of the Civil War, mustered as Company B of the 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry. (The 7th Michigan regiment was organized in Monroe, MI).

We had some discussion during the meeting about the possibility of having some sort of event there during the latter half of August, to take the place of our lost Jackson Muster. There are also many specific dates on which the Mason organizers of the 150th have scheduled activities. Participation from 7th MI reenactors, as individuals or as a group, would be welcome. For more information or if you wish to participate in some way, contact Celeste Hude. [victoriantailor2000@yahoo.com](mailto:victoriantailor2000@yahoo.com) 517-525-3583

We will be discussing this further at the February club meeting.



## 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

# Dues are Due!

March 1 is the cutoff date for paying 2015 club dues if you wish to continue to receive the newsletter. Those who have not paid up by March 1 will not be getting the March issue, nor any others until dues are paid. You will also not be permitted to attend Greenfield Village this year if dues still are unpaid after the deadline.

Greenfield Village Civil War Days Registration: As it was last year, each individual will need to register him/herself online at the Greenfield Village website. However, your name must first appear on the master list we send to the event organizers in order to be accepted as a participant. All club members who have dues paid up, are included on the list. The deadline for inclusion is March 1.

The following list is of members that have not paid their dues as of Jan 24, 2015. This is the last newsletter that you will be receiving if your dues are not paid by March 1, 2015.

Allison Bailey  
Armin Berg  
Aaron Bolder  
Bernadette Butgereit  
Bruce/Marcia Butgereit  
John Chamberlain  
Mark Chamberlain  
Craig/ Gretchen Chrispin  
Kevin Doyle  
Diane Geck  
Ian Halbeisen  
Keith/Jean Harrison  
Jim Haynor

Joy Henderson  
Ron Lobbezoo  
Dale Marvin? Debra VanElst  
Andrew McComas  
Douglas/Jerri Munn  
Loraine Reynolds/Sheryl Diamond  
Jeff/Lin Sandborn  
Craig/Ian Searles  
Marie/Audrey/Elliot Searles  
Robert/Dawn Smit  
Sudan Swanson  
Jeff /Andrew/Ryan Verstraete  
Ryan/Melanie/Seth Woll

-----submitted by Don Everett, Treasurer

**Club Meeting Dates for 2015:** Jan. 18, Feb. 15, Mar. 15, Apr. 18, Sept. 27, Oct. 18 (Annual Mtg), and Nov. 15. Sat. Dec. 5, 2015 will be the Christmas Party. Please note also that the April meeting day is a Saturday, rather than Sunday.

## Quartermaster Report

We are planning on renting the Eaton Rapids Sportsman's Club for our annual Charlie Colegrove Memorial Military Shoot on Saturday, April 18, 2015. The ladies are planning a sewing party at the same time. Come join us for breakfast at 9am cooked by Jeff Verstraete. After the shoot the Ladies will be serving a potluck lunch. After lunch we will hold our April membership meeting before cleaning up. Also it is rumored that there will be a special surprise by yours truly. Bring something to shoot and a dish to pass. Please note that this is a change of meeting date from April 19<sup>th</sup> to April 18<sup>th</sup>. Directions to the range will follow in the March and April newsletter. Don Everett, Quartermaster

## Education Report

At this time we have 2 School programs planned. First is May 8, 2015 Birney Middle School in Southfield, 1:00 to 3. We will make carpool arrangements. Second Ovid Middle School, Ovid 1 to 3 again we will try to carpool. We need both military and civilian presenters for both programs. Contact: Don Everett

## Trivia Contest

Name the 4 people in this photo and win a prize. Submit your answer at the Feb meeting in writing and include your name. The Quartermaster is the final judge in case of a tie.







Captain Slayton

# Military Minutes–January 2015

We spent the January Military meeting discussing 2015 National events and what Michigan events we'd support as a "maximum effort" for the 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan. First up is the Battle of Bentonville, being coordinated by Tom Emerick, and here is his information.

## OTHER NATIONAL EVENTS

There is interest from some Military and Civilian members in attending the **Lincoln Funeral** in Springfield, Illinois. The website is [http://lincolnfurtrain.org/2015\\_event.php](http://lincolnfurtrain.org/2015_event.php). We have been invited to join the 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan in this event, and so far we have 7 people planning to go. Please contact Craig DeCrane at [decrane@buckeye-express.com](mailto:decrane@buckeye-express.com) if you plan to attend. Here is an email of his with some details:

*Greetings all!*

*I thought I would send out an update of the 24th Michigan and its involvement in the 150th Lincoln Funeral in Springfield, IL the first weekend in May, 2015 (only a little over 3 months away!). So far there are 12 members of the 24th Michigan and 11 or so from other units who are planning on attending the event with the 24th Michigan (total = 23+). Eric Martens will be the captain for our company. If more join us, we can always form more companies.*

*For more information about the event and to register, see [lincolnfurcoalition.org](http://lincolnfurcoalition.org). For planning purposes, please let me know if you decide to join us. I have listed below the people who said they were planning on attending the event. Let me know if there are any errors or corrections. Some are camping and others are moteling for the event. Take care.*

*Pvt. Craig DeCrane,  
24th Michigan Volunteer Infantry,  
[decrane@buckeye-express.com](mailto:decrane@buckeye-express.com).*

## 2015 MICHIGAN EVENTS

### March 20-22, 2015 - 150th Anniversary Battle of Bentonville – Four Oaks, NC

Men of the Gallant 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan,

The end of the sesquicentennial celebration of the U.S. Civil War is close upon us. At our January meeting we voted to designate the 150<sup>th</sup> Battle of Bentonville to be the Military's national-level, maximum-effort event for 2015. Captain Slayton reported he would be unable to lead the troops due to family commitments and has passed the responsibility on to me to rally our men to engage the Army of the Tennessee in one of the final battles of the war.

The event website is located <http://www.fobb.net/150thbentonville> and event address is **5466 Harper House Rd., Four Oaks, North Carolina, 27524**. Registration is \$20.00 per individual until January 31<sup>st</sup>. It rises to \$25.00 per individual until March 1<sup>st</sup>. After March 1<sup>st</sup> it is \$35.00 per individual for walk-ons. There is no registration fee for children under 12.

We will be registering individually for the event using the information on the event website. **Unit** would be **7th Michigan, Co. B**. Specify **Tom Emerick** as **Commander/Contact Name**. Our **Organization Affiliation** will be **Army of Ohio** (a big thanks goes out to Gen. Bob Minton). Please notify me after you have registered so I can track and report our total numbers to Headquarters.

At our meeting the following troops reported they will be participating in the event: Steve Church, Tom Emerick, Jim MacKinnon, Rob Stone.

We will be brigading with J.R. Schroeder and the men of 21<sup>st</sup> Michigan, Co. H. The 21<sup>st</sup> Michigan is attending to walk in the footsteps of their original company who fought in this late-war battle. We will take every advantage of falling in with (or vice versa) other units in order to field a larger company or two.

I will be coordinating the carpooling of 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan members to the event for those desiring riders or a ride down. After you register please respond to me with the following information.

- Do you want to carpool or caravan?
- Would you be willing to drive or do you need a ride?
- If driving, how many passengers and equipment can you comfortably transport?
- What date and time do you wish to depart?
- What date and time do you wish to return?

I will be circulating news as I receive updates from our troops, other units, or Headquarters. If you have any questions at all please feel free to contact me.

Most Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant  
Tom Emerick  
7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Co. B  
(517) 669-5607

For the Michigan events in 2015, the 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan civilian and military discussed possible ones to support and decided on the following as Maximum Events to support.

The first three (more to be determined later) are Greenfield Village, Turkeyville and Charlton Park. **FOR GREENFIELD VILLAGE, YOU MUST HAVE YOUR DUES IN BEFORE MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> TO THE 7<sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN.** We send our member list to Greenfield Village, and you must be on that list to get registered and be allowed in.

**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 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).

*No decision has been made yet for August, September or October events, but information will be distributed when available!*

Please make plans to attend the Michigan "Maximum Events" for the 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan. It is always good to have as many comrades as possible join us. Thank you to all the military members for your support. You make the 7<sup>th</sup> a great unit to be in, and one of the best around.

In your service, Capt. Dave Slayton.

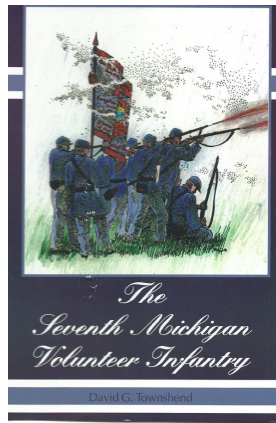
## *One of the Reasons We Reenact*

Last year at Turkeyville, a few of us met Linda Williams of Battle Creek (not the Linda of the 7<sup>th</sup>) who brought with her a lot of research on her Civil War ancestor which she and her family had been working on. The soldier was Stephen Patterson and he had served in Co. I of the 7th Michigan. We enjoyed applying our collective knowledge to help her decipher the handwriting and explain some of the details on the rolls and records she had gone to no small trouble to collect.

Later that summer she sent more information and we arranged to send her a copy of David Townshend's book on the Seventh (of which we have a few extra copies). Very briefly, Stephen Patterson was born in Canada in 1839 and his family arrived in Berrien County, Michigan in 1855 by way of New York. He enlisted in Company I which was raised in the Kalamazoo area as a corporal. He rose through he ranks and was a lieutenant by the last winter of the war. After a furlough in February 1865 to visit a sick relative back in Michigan, he returned to the regiment in March in time for his rendezvous with destiny at Hatcher's Run. For accounts of Lt. Patterson's fate, please consult your copy of Townshend, pages 210-211 and 225.

Linda was very pleased to receive in our gift of that book a near eyewitness account of the wounding of and some of the last words spoken by the ancestor she had been spending so much time with. It has been gratifying to share in her experience.

---submitted by Steve Church



Editor's Note: For any new members to the unit who do not have a copy, the book Steve referred to is *The Seventh Michigan Volunteer Infantry: The Gallant Men & Flag in the Civil War, 1861-65* by David G. Townshend. We aren't sure who is in charge of whatever copies might still be available (I'd start with our Quartermaster, Don Everett), but if you want one, getting it through the club is the way to go.

Amazon.com has a few used copies starting at \$120.00. (Yes, the decimal point is in the correct spot). New copies are \$316.00. Good luck.

# Civilian Report

Hello All!

The New Year is off to a great start and hopefully spring time is right around the corner. I would like to thank Lorrie Roland for opening up her home to host the January sewing party. Our February sewing party will be right around the corner at Sue Colegrove's house on February 14th. If you would like to join us for breakfast we will be meeting at 9am at the Flap Jack on Waverly Rd. If you do not wish to join us for breakfast you can meet us at Sue's house at 10am. For our new members who have not been to a sewing party you don't have to just bring Civil War related projects. You can bring anything you would like to work on or just come to talk. As always we will have a potluck lunch so please bring a dish to pass. I hope to see you there!

We have had a little change in the schedule for our sewing parties for the next few months. Our March sewing party will now be at Sandy McCarrick's house and our April sewing party will be with the guys at their live shoot; more information to follow.

If there are any topics you would like to discuss or something you would like to try to accomplish at our breakout sessions for the club meetings please let me know!

Katie Everett  
Civilian Chair

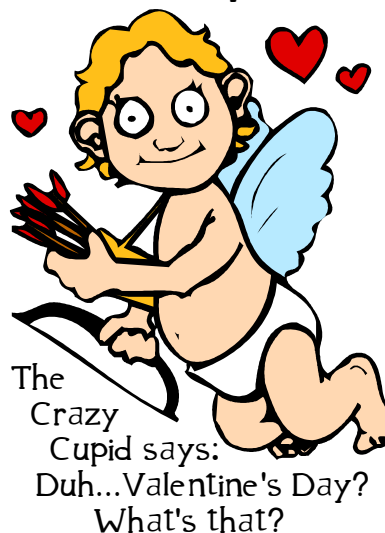
Sue Colegrove:  
3415 S Catherine, Lansing, MI 48911  
517-626-0144

Flap Jack:  
1601 South Waverly Road, Lansing, MI 48917

"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

Valentine's Day is Feb. 14



Abraham Lincoln's Birthday - Feb 12



**Black History Month** has its origin in 19th Century celebrations of Lincoln's birthday in African-American communities in the United States. By the early 21st Century, black communities were annually celebrating Lincoln's birthday in conjunction with the birthday of former slave and abolitionist Frederick Douglass on February 14. The precursor to Black History Month was created in 1926 when historian Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History announced that the second week of February would be "Negro History Week" to coincide with the traditional Black commemorations of both men's birthdays. Source: Wikipedia

Frederick Douglass' Birthday - Feb 14





# February 2015 Civil War Sesquicentennial Report

Of the 100 Sesquicentennial events already listed on the Reenactors' Civil War Sesquicentennial Calendar for 2015 on the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners' website (<http://www.micw150.us/>), six have been reported for February. Additional information on each of these events may be obtained by going to <http://www.micw150.us/2015events.htm>

**7 - April. New Exhibit- The Grand Army in Post Cards (Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum, 224 S. Main Street, Eaton Rapids, Michigan). 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM.** The GAR Memorial Hall and Museum will be presenting a new exhibit chronicling the Grand Army of the Republic in Post Cards. Highly colorful post cards were very popular during the turn of the 20th century and lasting through the 1930s and 1940s. There were many themes associated with the various postcards. In terms of the Grand Army of the Republic, there was Memorial or Decoration Day, Remembrance of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln – especially during his 100th anniversary of his birth in 1909, and World War I and II with shadows of Grand Army Veterans providing moral support to the World War I or II soldiers. The Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum was opened in September 2013. The Museum is opened the first two Wednesdays each month, most patriotic days, special events, and by appointment. Admission to the GAR Memorial Hall and Museum is free. Different levels of sponsorships (\$25 - \$200) are available for those individuals who wish to help support the GAR Museum. Website: <http://garmuseum.com/> Contact: Deb Malewski, Board Secretary, at <mailto:GARMichigan@gmail.com>

**10. Presentation: Michigan Engineers** (Meijer Branch of Jackson District Library, 2699 Airport Rd. Jackson, Michigan). 6:30 PM. The presenter will be Mark Hoffman. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/710679885680603/> Contact: Jim Grose at <mailto:jegrose@comcast.net>

**12. Annual Abraham Lincoln Birthday Commemoration** (Lincoln Memorial, Washington, DC). Sponsored by the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Wreath laying. Website: <http://suvchw.org/mollus.htm>

**12. Exhibit: Lincoln's Birthday (Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum, 224 S. Main Street, Eaton Rapids, Michigan). 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM.** The Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum was opened in September 2013. The Museum is opened the first two Wednesdays each month, most patriotic days, special events, and by appointment. Admission to the GAR Memorial Hall and Museum is free. Different levels of sponsorships (\$25 - \$200) are available for those individuals who wish to help support the GAR Museum. Website: <http://garmuseum.com/> Contact: Deb Malewski, Board Secretary, at <mailto:GARMichigan@gmail.com>

**21. 19th Annual Mid-Winter Civil War Grand Ball** (Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capital, Lansing, Michigan) 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, 2015. Tickets also will be available at door. Contact: Diana Means at <mailto:Dmeans13@hotmail.com> or by Telephone at 810-599-5935.

**24. FREE Sesquicentennial Civil War Seminar - Presentation to be Announced** (Sunfield United Brethren Church, 8436 West Grand Ledge Hwy (M-43) in Sunfield, Michigan). 7:00 PM. Each year, the Lansing/Sunfield, Camp #17, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War sponsor a series of FREE Civil War History Seminars. Website: <http://suvchw.org/mi/017/announcements.htm> Contact: Paul David Arnold at <mailto:arnoldsuvchwmi@sbcglobal.net>

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.

