

THE UNION VOLUNTEER 7TH

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

Volume XXXIV

No. 7 July 2015

Club Leadership

New Member Chairman:

Jeff Verstraete (military & civilian)
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

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 (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

Charlton Park Church, Hastings, MI – July 2014 Photo by Ellyn Painter



Captain Dave Slayton

Military Minutes - May - June 2015

“ The future looks good for Company B, as I prepare to return to the ranks next year. I hear tell the demotion has something to do with the payroll records I kept and a Chief Musician/Bugler questioning his level of pay as being unworthy of his esteemed rank. Out of the goodness of my heart, and constant concern for the men in my command, I made amends for his perceived slight with a substantial donation of \$20. Good Federal money at that. Plus he had a Sharps rifle. ”

---Captain Slayton

After-Action Report: May 23-25 - Greenfield Village Civil War Days

At Greenfield village this year, the weather cooperated, mostly. We had a few sprinkles and one little rain shower, but got to set up and pack-up with dry canvas. Not until Monday did it get fairly warm and muggy, but an excellent weekend. But the wind was strong most of the time. The tents that opened to the west puffed out like parachutes and threatened to sail away. The 7th military ended up with nine in attendance for various lengths of time, and the civilian contingent was fairly robust as well. Thank you all for making the trip to Dearborn.

One of our highlights was breaking in a new corporal (Dan Malick) and sergeant (Andrew McComas). Veterans 1st Sergeant Doug McComas and Sergeant Dan Conklin helped with advice and incomparable wisdom, whilst keeping the Captain in line. All three Sergeants rotated in through the various Sergeant positions, and lone Corporal Malick performed well.

We also did a scenario wherein we were on our way home after the war. It was arranged that we got on the train at the Susquehanna Plantation, and debarked at Smiths Creek Depot. There we were greeted by family and friends, and mustered out of service. It was very interesting to be on a steam train, going through woods with no sights or sounds of our modern world. There was just the sound of the steam engine, and wondering what it was like 150 years ago to have survived the war and being able to go home. It gives me an appreciation for all veterans from any period in our history.

A personal highlight for me at Greenfield Village is always the Memorial Day Commemoration for past and current members of the Armed Services. A special tribute was given to the Vietnam Veterans, who were called onto the field first and honored for their service. Honoring them is so well deserved. It is a privilege to show our respect to any and all veterans, who sacrifice and protect our Nation.

After-Action Report: June 20 - 21. Turkeyville Civil War Reenactment

We had a total of fifteen military members able to attend over the course of the weekend, so thank you all for the good showing. We some other units that fell in with us we had a decent little company, with the battalion commander Keith Harrison. No rain, no high winds and not many bugs, so it was successful on that account. The reenactors were treated well with free pizza and beer/pop on Friday night, donuts/muffins and coffee Saturday and Sunday morning, a free meal Saturday night with turkey sandwiches (go figure) and potato salad. Plus you can buy ice cream at the restaurant!

There were lots of our Confederate counterparts, so we were outnumbered again. But since the Captain and two Sergeants had pistols, our rapid fire and fearless demeanor simply wreaked havoc on the Rebel defender of the earth works. We prevailed on Saturday thusly, but Sunday some of us (the right wing, of course) behind the earthworks fought like tigers (perhaps small ones) and had to surrender. ---continued next page



The left wing, however, ran away to fight another day, under the command of a sergeant of whom we do not speak. They did have orders it seems to retreat, but still. The artillery was there in force, supporting the infantry or defending the earth works, depending on the day. We truly appreciate the effort and commitment it takes to portray that branch of the Civil War armies. We had time to relax, and time around the camp fire with friends. All in all a good event. I'm glad to be a part of the 7th Michigan, and enjoy the privilege to be Captain for such knowledgeable and excellent companions. Thank you all that attended, including all the civilians - ladies, gentleman and the barber.

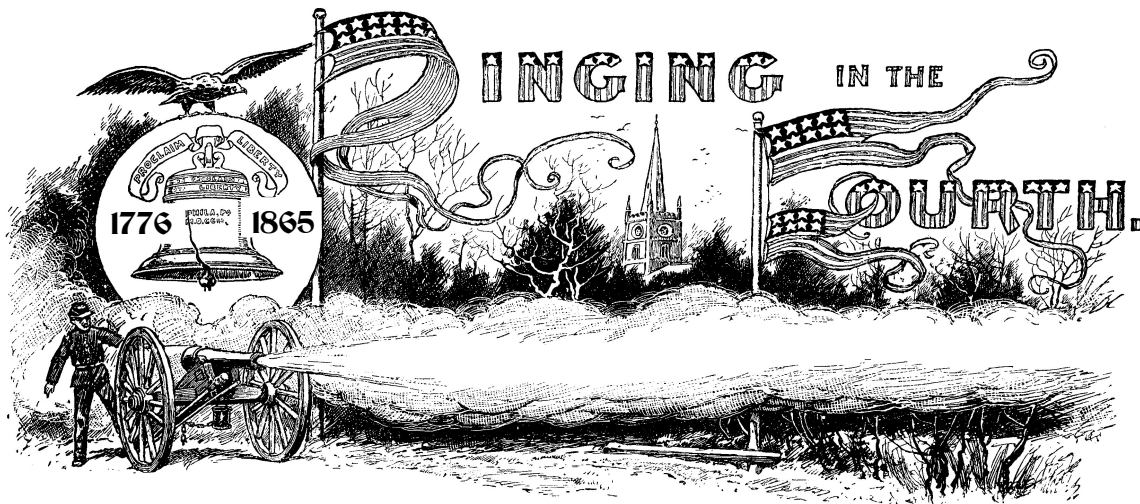
I hope to see you at Charlton Park. **Dave Downing submitted our entire roster, so we should not have to pay the late fee for registering when you arrive. You still should check in, but at no cost.**

God bless you and yours. Let's continue to support this unique living history hobby together. See information below on our other two maximum effort events.

Captain Dave Slayton.

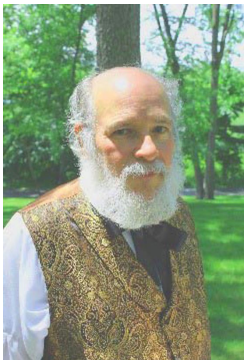
July 18 - 19. Charlton Park Civil War Muster (2545 S. Charlton Park Road, Hastings, Michigan). Hosted by Battery D, 2nd Michigan Light Artillery, 3rd Michigan Volunteer Infantry Company F., and Barry County Parks. Confederate and Union Infantry, Cavalry, and Artillery units. Shop on Sutler Row, play 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. Contact: info@charltonpark.org. (See map on page 5).

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 a tactical. 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://vanraaltefarmcivilwarmuster.com/>. Contract: VanRaalteMuster@gmail.com, or by Telephone at 734-277-6369.



Club Meeting Highlights

(from June 20th meeting at Turkeyville)



President's Report: Participation in the Meridian Village event (Sept. 19) will not be possible for our Military due to conflicts with the Van Raalte event on the same day. However, Katie Everett reported that we do plan to have a civilian presence at Meridian Village. More info later. Mason Down Home Days is also that same weekend – we will have the ladies doing games for the children, and military conducting drills with kids using the wooden guns. On July 4th we will be participating in the ongoing Sesquicentennial celebration in Mason, MI. Anson has secured a trailer which will serve for the ladies to ride on during the parade. (See next page for more details).

Doug McComas is in charge of the AED. The AED will go to all Maximum Effort Events and be housed in the Captain's tent in a bag marked with a RED CROSS.

President *Anson Roland*

Meeting Highlights, continued...

Harvest Ball: The date is October 24; volunteers will be needed. Glen Morningstar has again been retained.

Costs: to Members \$5.00; preregistered Non-Members \$15.00; Non-Members less than two weeks before the ball \$30.00. PLEASE NOTE: The Williams's would like to step down as chairpersons of the Ball due to ongoing health concerns, but are willing to help train the next Chair. A unanimous "Thank You" was extended to Dick and Linda for their years of service to the club. Please contact Dick or Linda if you would be willing to take over as organizer of our annual Ball.
517-484-2496 lsinglinda@comcast.net dwlsingmi@comcast.net

Antietam Battlefield Monument: (New Business): Doug McComas and Dave Downing volunteered to head up an "Antietam Battlefield Marker" sub-committee to eventually create a marker to commemorate the 7th Michigan's participation in that battle. It will be located on private land at the location the 7th MI fought. More to come.

Education Report: Don Everett reported that we were scheduled for two school programs this year; only the Birney Middle School program on May 15 occurred. The Ovid school presentation was canceled because student testing needed to be done due to lost "snow" days during the winter. They would like us to come in 2016.

Good and Welfare: Congratulations are due to Andrew McComas who, on June 4, became engaged to be married, with a wedding planned for June 2016.




Doug McComas will become a grandfather in late November or early December.

Happy birthday to Katie Everett and Joy Henderson.

Please make welcome new member **Mark Parks**.

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

William Jarrett, Club Secretary

 bjjarrett@aol.com



The Mason 4th of July activities our club will be involved in are being held at the Mason Area Historical Museum at 200 E. Oak St., from 2:00pm – 6:00pm. Anson and some others will be there in the morning to set things up. Please come dressed in period clothing (if desired, you may use the Emerick home for changing clothes); ladies may wish to bring along sewing or other handwork, AND a chair. You will also need your chair for the trailer in the parade. As mentioned in the "meeting highlights," we will be conducting activities for children, as well as interacting with the general public.

Between 6 and 6:30pm we will need to begin assembling at the High School, 1001 S. Barnes, for the parade, which steps off at 7:30. Transport to the school will be available.

Following the parade, at dusk, there will be a fireworks display at 700 E. Ash, just east of Ingham Co. Fairgrounds.

(See map on the following page for these locations).

July 4th (Saturday) Living History Encampment and Parade - Mason, Michigan

Joan & Tom Emerick are opening their home to 7th Michigan members beginning at 10:00 AM in case anyone needs to change or freshen up. At 11:00 AM they will be hosting a light, potluck lunch for those who want to participate. They will also be hosting a potluck dinner (hot dogs and buns provided) later in the evening (exact time flexible based on contingencies of the parade). Members are welcome to bring food and there will be room provided in a refrigerator and freezer for those in need of storing cold food.

The Emerick residence is located four blocks (3/10 of a mile) from the Mason Historical Museum, at corner of Jefferson and E. South Streets (four blocks south of downtown Mason). It is 5/10 of a mile from Mason High School where the parade begins and ends. The museum is 6/10 of a mile from the high school in the same direction.

Please feel free to contact Joan or Tom if you have any questions regarding the meals or location of their home.

Joan & Tom Emerick

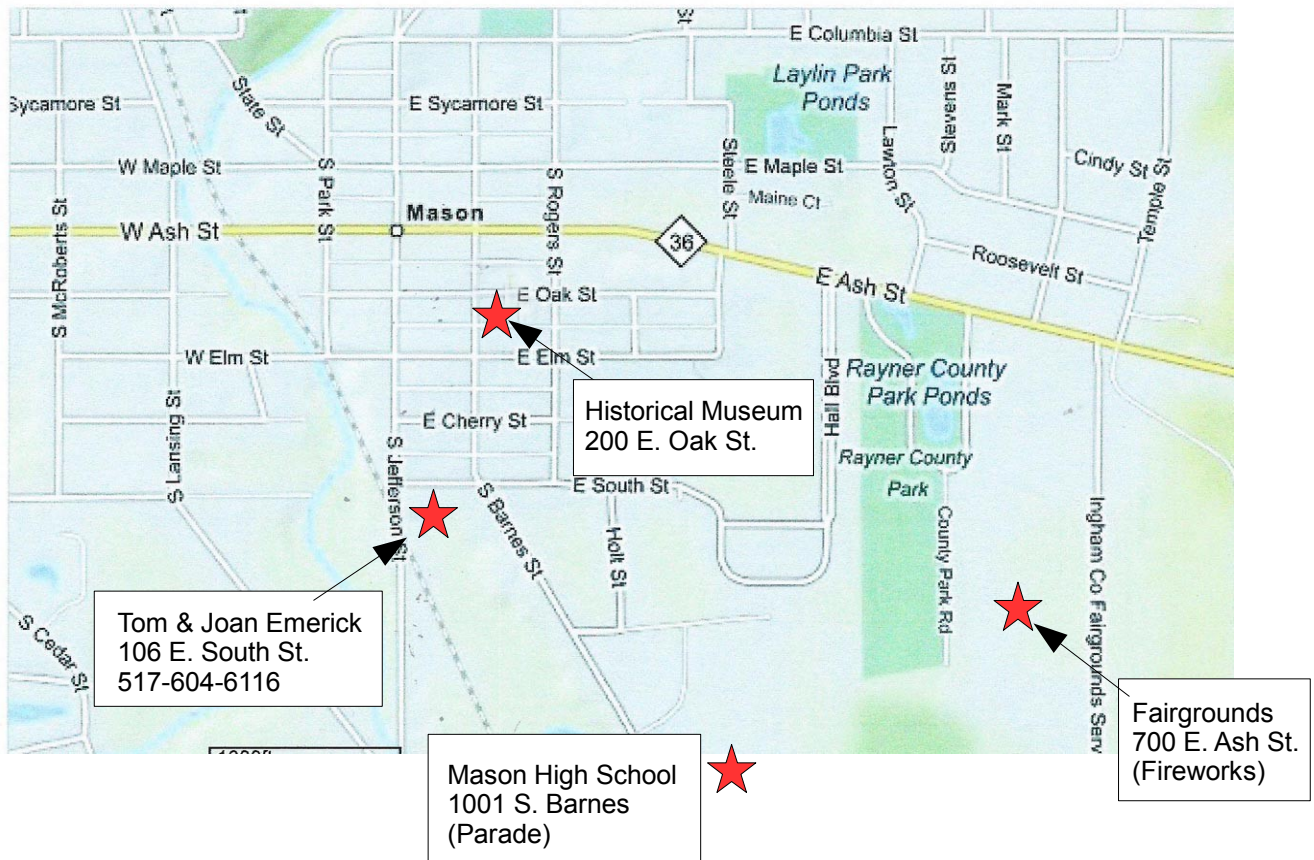
106 E. South Street

Mason, Michigan 48854

(517) 604-6116

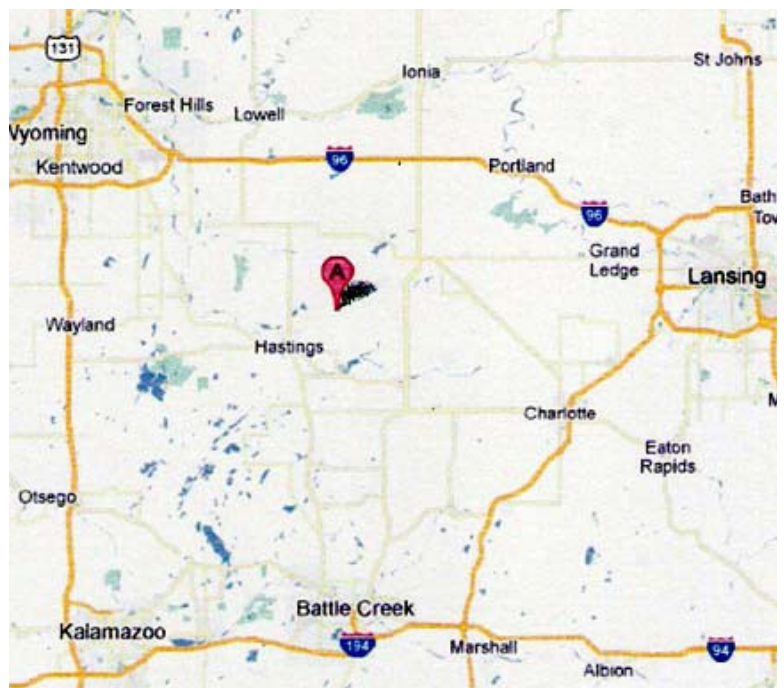


Downtown Mason, Michigan



I would like to remind everyone that up-to-date club membership rosters are available from our treasurer, Don Everett. PLEASE make every effort to obtain a current roster, so that you'll have access to people, but the privacy of those who prefer their contact information not be published in the newsletter can be retained.

Thanks very much.
And have a Happy Holiday 4th!



July 18-19 – Charlton Park Civil War Muster
2545 N. Charlton Park Rd., Hastings, MI

July 2015 Civil War Sesquicentennial Report

Of the 144 Sesquicentennial events currently listed on the Reenactors' Civil War Sesquicentennial Calendar for 2015 on the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners' website (www.micw150.us), there are seven events listed for July. Additional information on each of these and future month's events may be obtained by going to www.micw150.us/2015events.htm and clicking on the month in question. Michigan events and events of interest to Michigan for 2015 can be added anytime by contacting pcinc@prodigy.net.

--July 2015--

2 & 9 . 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/>.
Contact: Deb Malewski, Board Secretary, at GARmichigan@gmail.com

4. Independence Day Exhibit: 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/>.
Contact: Deb Malewski, Board Secretary, at GARmichigan@gmail.com.

4. Historical Marker Dedication: Camp Monroe (St Mary's Avenue near Loraine Street, Monroe, Michigan). 9:30 AM. In the 1860s the Monroe County Fairgrounds existed in this area. It was approximately 20 acres in size. In 1861 and 1862, the fairgrounds served as *Camp Monroe*, which was a Civil War Training Camp for three different military units - 7th Michigan Infantry, 15th Michigan Infantry and 1st Michigan Light Artillery, Battery H.
Contact: Dave Engle at dcicw@yahoo.com.

11-12. Annual Underground Railroad Days (Vandalia, Michigan). Saturday: 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Sunday: 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The Village of Vandalia, Michigan and the Underground Railroad Society of Cass County (URSCC) will co-sponsor the annual Underground Railroad Days. The two day celebration of the history of the Underground Railroad (UGRR) in this area will feature guided tours of UGRR sites, information booths and displays, tours of the Underground Railroad, Bonine House, Civil War Living History Encampment, a replica of a Ramptown cabin for storytelling and song, as well as presentations on various aspects of the UGRR in Cass County. A complete schedule of activities will be published closer to the celebration. Website: <http://www.urscc.org>. Contact: Cathy LaPointe at info@urscc.org.

17. Presentation: Monroe County and the Civil War: 1864 (Monroe County Historical Museum , 126 South Monroe Street, Monroe, Michigan). 7:00 PM. The presenter is Scott Roy. Scott is Monroe County Historical Museum's Programs Specialist. He will be discussing the progression of the Civil War from the war front to the ballot box. Contact Andy Clark at andy_clark@monroemi.org.

18 - 19. Charlton Park Civil War Muster (2545 S. Charlton Park Road, Hastings, Michigan). 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 Pre-register at no charge. The on-site registration fee is \$10.00 per reenactor. Website and registration form/information at http://www.charltonpark.org/news_events/special_events.html.

25. Summer Ice Cream Social [Theme: Thank God for Michigan] (Pine Grove Museum/Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society, 405 Cesar Chavez Ave. Pontiac, Michigan) 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM. The theme *Thank God for Michigan* will be highlighting stories of Civil War soldiers from Oakland County and where they are laid to rest. Contact: Tom Berlucchi at thomas.g.berlucchi@usps.gov.

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

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 host the annual Reenactors' Conference in November and creates the statewide Reenactors' Events Calendar.

