THE UNION VOLUNTEER INFANTRY, Co. B, INC.



Next Club Meeting:

Sunday, March 20, 2016 1:00pm - Robbins UMC Eaton Rapids



April 23rd - Combined 3rd
Annual Charlie Colegrove Live
Shoot (\$5 per person to
shoot)-Ladies Sewing PartyPotluck, and Club Meeting At Eaton Rapids
Conservation Club

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

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

Ellyn Painter, Editor

"Oh! Tt was a terrible day... Trish blood and Trish bones cover that terrible field... We are slaughtered like sheep, and no result but defeat..."

Capt. William J. Nagle, 88th New York, Irish Brigade
Letter to his father following the Battle of Fredericksburg

The Famed "Irish Brigade"

Perhaps the best known military unit of the Civil War, the Irish Brigade was initially formed from the 69th and 88th New York regiments, and the 2nd New York Light Artillery Battalion. The 69th, originally a pre-war militia unit, was re-formed as the 69th New York State Volunteers after the ninety-day enlistments of the militia members ran out. Captain Thomas Francis Meagher of the 69th was commissioned colonel, and charged by the War Department to arrange the raising of a brigade with the colonels of four other regiments. Ultimately the unit consisted of the 63rd, 69th, and 88th New York, the 28th Massachusetts, and the 116th Pennsylvania, regiments almost entirely composed of Northern men of Irish descent. Meagher was later designated brigadier general in command of the Irish Brigade.

Commanding officers of the Irish Brigade, 1865 Standing, I. to r.: Maj. Seward F. Gould, 4th NY Heavy Artillery, Lt. Col. James J. Smith, 69th NY; Maj. W. H. Terwilliger, 63rd NY. Seated, 1. to r.: Col. Denis F. Burke, 88th N Y; Brevet Brig.Gen. Robert Nugent, Irish Brigade; Lt .Col. James Flemming, 28th Massachusetts

Although the brigade fought valiantly in a number of major battles, including First Bull Run, where it bravely held its ground and later retreated in good order while much of the Union Army around it "skedaddled" in disarray, it is principally known for its courageous but failed assault on Marye's Heights during the Battle of Fredericksburg on Dec. 13, 1862, in which the brigade suffered nearly 50 percent casualties. A portion of the advance required the troops to march across an open field heavily exposed to Confederate batteries. Passing over the shattered remnants of brigades

that had preceded them, the Irish advanced to within thirty yards of the stone wall at the base of the heights. The advance finally stalled after enduring sustained and devastating fire into the Irish ranks from Confederate infantry behind the wall. Vulnerable to enemy bullets during the remainder of the afternoon's Union failed assaults, the survivors staggered, or were carried, back to Fredericksburg after nightfall.

Northern Irish-Americans reacted with despair and outrage to these staggering casualties, and many lost their faith in the Federal cause, figuring this was proof of the government's wanton disregard for the lives of Irish soldiers. Irish feeling was epitomized by Capt. William J. Nagle of the 88th New York in a letter to his father the day after the battle: "Oh! It was a terrible day. The destruction of life has been fearful, and nothing gained...Irish blood and Irish bones cover that terrible field to-day... We are slaughtered like sheep, and no result but defeat..."

But it was not the end of the Irish Brigade. Continual combat over the next two years left the brigade nearly decimated, yet it was re-formed on November 1, 1864 as the 2nd Brigade of the 1st Division of the II Corps, comprised of the original three New York regiments of the old Irish Brigade, and joined again by the 28th Massachusetts. A month later the 7th New York Heavy Artillery was added (replaced by the 4th New York Heavy Artillery in the early part of 1865). Command of the brigade was assumed by Colonel Robert Nugent of the 69th New York. At the Siege of Petersburg, and through the remainder of the war, the Irish Brigade continued to uphold its well-earned reputation as valiant warriors for the Union cause.

Sources: Irishcentral.com;

Civil War History, vol.47, No.3, Sept. 2001 (on www.muse.jhu.edu)

www.hauntedfieldmusic.com



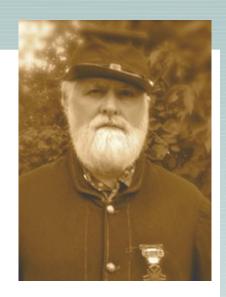
A Word From the President...

Friends.

You will remember how I invited the membership to email me a short list of criteria they consider crucial to deciding whether or not to attend a re-enactment. I'm grateful for the responses I received, and wish to share the results with all of you.

With twenty-five campaign seasons under my belt, I have to say that nothing particularly earthshaking came my way. To wit, people generally preferred events within easy driving distance (with Friday set-up); the availability of modern camping sites; battles on Saturday and Sunday; and adequate water and firewood in close proximity to camps and available first aid services.

Other factors included a good selection of sutlers; events for attendees such as a military ball, tug-of-war, period base-ball game, etc.: the presence of other Michigan units; high level of authenticity, including drill and guard mount; and, the option of presenting the historical/first-person impression of one's choice.



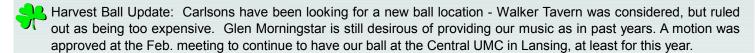
A great suggestion was scheduling a club activity during re-enactments such as a meeting, campfire or meal.

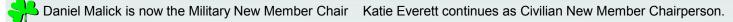
February's meeting witnessed Bob Smith's presentation of a slate of events in 2016 recommended by the Strategy Committee, as a result of its deliberations. I appreciate how the members present at last month's meeting voted to accept the list of proposed events.

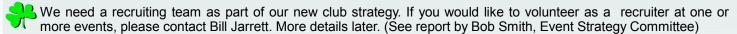
Good things are happening for the Seventh Michigan!

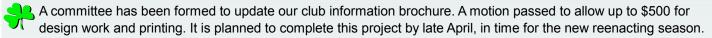
Rob

NEWS ITEMS:









The Conklin brothers' father recently passed away. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.



Thank you very much for your kind expression of thoughts and sympathies we received last month due to the passing of my grandmother, Garnet Mees. It meant a lot to Gretchen and I that we were in everyone's thoughts and prayers.

Thank You,

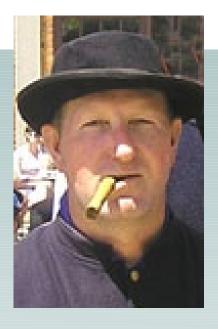
Craig and Gretchen Crispin —

More news on next page.....



Club News Items, concluded:

Tom & Joan Emerick announce that their eldest son, SMSgt Robert Warren, his wife and youngest daughter are being reassigned from Ramstein AFB (Kaiserslautern, Germany) to McChord AFB in Washington state. Robert's oldest daughter, A1C Carrissa Warren, is currently stationed at Cannon AFB (Clovis, New Mexico). Robert's son, A1C Thomas Warren, is soon to complete C17 loadmaster training and will be stationed at McGuire AFB (New Jersey). Tom & Joan's youngest son, SSgt. Kyle Emerick, is being reassigned from Spangdahlem AFB (Spangdahlem, Germany) to a NATO airbase (near Brunssum, Netherlands). Tom & Joan's second oldest son, Richard, his wife and three kids will be relocating from Michigan to Nashville, Tennessee where he has accepted a teaching assignment at a private school and position as head rowing coach. Tom is not looking forward to all of the miles he will be logging on the old pickup but is anxiously anticipating seeing the great U.S. of A.



Military Report

While I watch the snow coming down, I take heart that the season is almost upon us.

We spent the majority of our military meeting going over plans for the Ella Sharp school/public event with special guest Traie Shelhart. This is a topnotch opportunity for us and all were impressed with the planning and preparation already in place. We need a very good showing at this event as there will be a minimum of 250 elementary students going through on Friday.

We will be representing a recruiting camp for Capt. Withington's company in 1861. As such a mashup of uniforms, civilian clothing, militia would be all appropriate. There will be recruiting scenarios, company drill for both military and students, we will also be participating in a candlelight tour on Saturday and will be reenacting a court martial. All hands are needed.

Rations will be provided throughout the event and it will be a great opening to our season.

We have been invited to a early company drill/skirmish with the 12th SC at Hastings April 2. At this point there are 3 soldiers committed and we will arrive as a day trip on Saturday. Contact me or your NCO if you can attend.

March 12: Officer/NCO Training/drill: Tom Emerick's Mason Michigan: Breakfast at 8, lunch provided. Camp of instruction will run from 9 am to 3 pm. Please come with full kit including weapons and street shoes. RSVP to Tom Emerick. (sgg thg Fgbruary issug for dgtailgd rgport from Tom)

May 20, 21: Ella Sharp: You will be contacted shortly by you NCO. Please make every effort to attend.

May 28-30 Greenfield Village: Registration will be online on TheHenryFord website. You can register any time after March 1. The event will be similar to past years.

October 8,9: Perryville National Event: Registration is through the Perryville event website. Registration is individual and costs 20 dollars. We will be with the Cumberland Guard (note this in your registration). Should be a great national.

Please look for a listing of the major events agreed to at the February meeting in this newsletter.

We will spend most of our March Military breakout in drill.

I remain,

Your most obedient servant,

Doug

Have a Happy St.
Patrick's Day
March 17



Ella Sharp Event Update - May 20-21

Updated maps of the event were made available by Traie Shelhart at our Feb. club meeting and are at the back of this issue. Ellyn Painter is the 7th MI liaison/event coordinator for civilians for this event. Captain Doug McComas is the military coordinator. Please contact them if you have questions or concerns. (Consult your club roster for contact numbers and emails.)

It is expected that Museum staff will be conducting much of the activity taking place on Friday, as this, of course, is a work day for most people. If you are available to help out on Friday (the purpose of which is to accommodate primarily school students) you will be most welcome.

Traie will be needing nurses or hospital stewards (male and female) to assist him in his medical program (he portrays the surgeon) at the Wood Shop.

Traie is in need of alot of patriotic bunting, flags, etc. to decorate several buildings in the Village on that weekend, if anyone has these items to lend, please contact Ellyn or Doug.

On Saturday, as many ladies as possible in period dress will be needed to be stationed in the Ella Sharp House, as it will be open to the public for tours. We can sit inside the house, or on the front porch, and have the run of the entire first floor of the house. Bringing a chair would be a good idea if you want to sit on the porch. Our 7th MI ladies will be demonstrating children's games and toys, discussing period fashions, and on Sat. evening, will host parlor games in the house.

On Saturday, there will be a program of some kind going on somewhere on campus about every hour on the hour.

More details to follow in the April newsletter.

Ellyn Painter

Education Director's Report

We have two confirmed school programs so far this year. Ovid Middle School, Ovid, on April 15th 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.

Charlig Colggrove Memorial Shoot -Sat. April 23

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. 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



Sue Colegrove

7th Sutler will be at the meeting. Anson will be cooking breakfast for the nominal cost of \$3. If you are planning to eat breakfastplease RSVP to me at djkeverett@comcast.net. 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 part while the shoot is going on. The Ladies will be providing lunch please consider bringing a dish to pass.

Event Strategy Committee Recommendations

for 2016 Regnacting Season

The committee has developed and presented to the club for approval a list of recommended events for the 2016 Reenacting Season. In the past the club has identified "Max Effort" events that met a variety of criteria that mostly concerned how gratifying the events were for us to attend. While "Max Effort" events will still exist...like the National Event at Perryville, Ky. this year...we needed to create a new category of events that will meet different, but very important criteria. These events are going by a variety of names..."Focus Events", "Target Events", "Criteria Events"...we'll see which one "sticks." But, these events are selected based on their ability to provide us with fertile opportunities to recruit new members, reinforce our relationship with other clubs, and to maintain the significance of the 7th Michigan as a major reenacting group in the state. The list, by month, is as follows:

May...

- Ella Sharp Museum & Village Living History, Fri. May 20 and Sat. May 21st
- Greenfield Village (aka "The Henry Ford"), May 28, 29 & 30 (Memorial Day Weekend)

June...

- Turkeyville, June 18 & 19

July...

- Mason 4th of July Parade
- Flag Presentation Reenactment State Capital, July 9th
- Charlton Park...16th & 17th

August...

- Linden Michigan Civil War Days...new event being co-sponsored by 7th and 114th Pa., 13th & 14th

September...

- Woldumar or Meridian Village...waiting for responses from both. Details to follow.

In order to assure that each of these events meets its potential to benefit the club, an Event Coordinator (sometimes more than one) will be assigned to each event. The coordinator(s) will act as a contact for club members to get information about the event, be a "cheerleader" to encourage attendance, and will insure that a recruiting team will be present. At our next club meeting we will be seeking volunteers to act as coordinators for those events not yet having one assigned and for volunteers to act as military and civilian recruiters.

While this completes the first major task of the Event Strategy Committee, we will continue to exist so as to evaluate the effectiveness of the new strategy and tweek the process as required over the next year or two.

So, with the reenacting season just around the corner, go to the closet where all your clothes and gear are stored, take a deep breath...ahhh, smoke, wet wool, leather...and get inspired! We need your presence and ENERGY (that's for you, Rob!) out there this year more than ever.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Smith

Committee Chairman

Recruiting Brochure Committee Report

We are revising the recruiting brochure for the 7th. We need photos of events that the 7th participated in—especially monu-ment dedications such as Fredericks-burg, Falmouth, Monroe, or Mason.

We also need photos that feature family activities as well as photos of National events. We will return all photos or they can be submitted electronically.

----Don Everett

"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

Upcoming Ladies Events

(Civilian Report, pg. 7))

Sat. March 19 – Kalamazoo Living History Show

April 1-3 – Spring Retreat Home of Vonda Warren Charlotte, MI

Thurs. April 7 – International Quilt Festival Bus Trip to Rosemont, IL (see page 9 for application Sign-up deadline March 19)

Sat. April 23 – Sewing Party at Eaton Rapids Conservation Club (combined with live shoot/club meeting and potluck)

Civilian News

Hello All!

I would like to thank Lorrie for offering to have the February sewing party. Had it not been for the wind storm knocking out the power we all would have had a great time! I would also like to thank Vonda for trying to be a last minute back up.

Our March sewing party will be a little different as we will be going on a field trip! We are going to the Kalamazoo living history show and to some quilt/fabric/yarn shops in the Kalamazoo area. For those who wish to carpool to Kalamazoo we will be meeting at Vonda's at 8am. We will need to leave Vonda's by 8:15am and plan on being at the Denny's in Kalamazoo by 9am. After breakfast we will head over to the fair-grounds for the show. For those who do not wish to car pool you can meet us a Denny's; and for those who don't wish to join us for breakfast can meet us at the living history show (we should be there between 10-10:30). After that we can decide where we would like to go. Admission to the show is \$7.

Our April sewing party will be on the 23rd at the Eaton Rapids Conservation Club with the live shoot. Breakfast will be provided and lunch will be potluck. Everyone is welcome to go down to the range and shoot but if you wish to shoot it will be \$5 to help pay for the range rental.

Also in April we will be having a spring ladies' retreat to help us get ready and enthused for the upcoming season. This retreat will be April 1-3 at Vonda's house. Vonda will be making soup for Friday night dinner, Saturday lunch is potluck, and I will be making dinner Saturday night, and breakfast Saturday and Sunday. We will have patterns available for tracing, pictures of originals, CDV's, and lots of knowledge. You will need to bring you own bedding/something to sleep on (cot, air mattress, etc.) and just a heads up Vonda's house is on the cool side. I will need to know who all is planning on coming by the March club meeting so Vonda knows how many to expect and we can plan meals. Hope to you see there!

I will be working on a contact list for everyone and also making a phone tree in case of emergencies like we had this month. At our breakout session I would like to further discuss our involvement with the event at Ella Sharp. Looking forward to our field trip!

Katie Everett Civilian Chair (517)420-6837 cinderellie 2003@yahoo.com

Vonda's address:

602 E Shaw St, Charlotte, MI 48813 **Denny's:**

3817 East Cork St, Kalamazoo, MI

Kalamazoo Living History Show Kalamazoo Expo Center:

2900 Lake St, Kalamazoo, MI kalamazooshow.com (765) 563-6792

FROM THE EAST

I-94 to Exit 80 North to Bus. I-94 West to Olmstead or Lake FROM THE WEST I-94 to Exit 81 Follow Bus. I-94 to Olmstead or Lake



The Blue Bottle Respite Tent Update

Our 2016 Goals:

- 1. Present an impression that demonstrates the direct and indirect ways in which the Civil War and Spiritualism affected on another
- 2. Provide a place for brief respite from the adversities of re-enacting a war for military and civilian re-enactors in need of such respite

Thank you to all those responding to our survey. Here are the top 4 needs and how we will address them.

#1. Ice water (to drink on hot days) We will provide ice water in period stoneware dispenser and period tin cups and/or period tumblers. Ice water is to be dispensed into period cups/tumblers provided and to be consumed in/near respite tent. Period cups/tumblers to be returned to respite tent as soon as emptied. No one is permitted to drain the dispenser into canteens or pitchers to be consumed elsewhere (because that would leave those in serious need without ice water).

#2. Ice (to cool oneself on hot days) We will provide a number of sandwich-sized muslin bags containing ice for those in need. Muslin bags are to be returned to the respite tent so they can be washed and refilled for use of others.

#3. A place to rest when overheated (Non-emergency) We will provide one bench, two chairs, and two pallets for those in need of a brief rest.

#4. A place to educate others regarding the emotional aspects of war that affect the both military and civilian populations before, during, and after war. We will provide an overview of war stress and trauma in the "Slow Death by Nostalgia" component of our GOOD DEATH presentation, and a more in-depth analysis in the presentation FROZEN TEARS. If you have any comments or suggestions, contact Julie Sarge at 616.241.3004 or at thewindweaversholding@gmail.com.

FROM THE JOURNAL OF ZULEIKA DEAN ATTIE

No sooner had I sealed my letter to Nollie Quist than five officers approached me as I sat at my table in front of the tent. Before I could extend a proper welcome, the foremost officer informed me that he was Major Cleggins and politely requested my name and rank. "My name is Zuleika Dean Attie." I told him that I had no rank beyond the role and responsibilities of a Modern Spiritualist Medium. "What might those be, ma'am?" he asked.

"To provide a clear conduit for information and healing for those in need," I explained. "Have you come for a sitting?"

"Of course not!" The Major snorted, rather like a horse tasting a disagreeable mouthful of hay. "Are you aware, ma'am, that the general order of May 4th, 1861, requires that each chaplain appointee be a regularly ordained minister of some Christian denomination?" Since this was obviously not a social call but an official one, I asked in turn, "Are you aware, Major, that the general order of which you speak resulted in the forced resignation of a Jewish chaplain? That the subsequent refusal of the war department to appoint a rabbi selected by a Jewish regiment caused such a furor that the regulations now state that a chaplain is any properly certified representative of any religious denomination?"

Major Cleggins looked at me shrewdly, taking my measure even as I was taking his. "Surely, Miss Attie, you are also aware that the United States Congress added the requirement that such chaplains must have the endorsement of some authorized ecclesiastical body---"

"---or lacking that, the endorsement of not less than five accredited ministers belonging to said denomination," I finished handily. "Yessir, I am well aware of such matters. However, I have not come here to be appointed chaplain."*

"That's just as well, then, Miss Attie," he said with a smile. "I'm sure no one here is interested in such foolish goings-on as spiritualism. Why, I doubt that you'd find so much as one spiritualist among us."

"Major Cleggins," I began evenly, standing up to my full height, which at 4' 11" was not at all impressive. "According to the Spiritualist Register there were 240,000 spiritualists in the state of New York just before the war broke out. That's one sixth of that state's entire population.+ Estimates for other states and for the territories may be somewhat lower, but I'm willing to bet hard money----as unladylike as that may be---that at least one of the hundreds of thousands of soldiers in the Army of the Potomac is a practicing spiritualist."

This caused an uneasy silence in which two of the other officers struggled to conceal smiles while a third stared at the ground with reddening face.

"If you were to win such an unmannerly wager," Major Cleggins observed dryly, "then you'd have traveled a great distance at enormous cost to serve as chaplain to one spiritualist."

"As I've already informed you, I've not come here to serve as chaplain. I'm here to establish and maintain a respite tent for those soldiers and civilians of any-- or no-- spiritual belief who are affected by the adversities of war."

" 'Adversities of war'?" The Major shook his head. "Miss Attie, please do not liken war to an adversity, like rainfall during a pleasure outing. War is a series of unrelenting hostilities. You, ma'am, seem unfamiliar with hostilities."

"On the contrary, Major Cleggins," I said quietly, "I'm all too familiar with hostilities. There are those who hate, despise, and shun me as granddaughter of a rabbi, daughter of a Jew; those who hate, despise, and shun me as daughter of a lapsed Unitarian independent-thinker given to drink; there are those who hate, despise, and shun me as an educated strong-willed woman who doesn't know nor keep her own place; now there are those who hate, despise, and shun me as a spiritualist and medium. I've dealt with such 'hostilities' since the day I was born, sir, with precious little respite."

"Yet you intend to provide respite for others, many of whom revile you?"

"Is that not the Golden Rule?"

"Well, if you stay long enough to follow that rule here, Miss Attie, keep well away from the troop camps and drilling grounds. Stay out of battles and skirmishes." The Major gave me a long, sober look. "As for hostilities, you seem very well equipped to find enough of them on your own."

^{*}UNITED STATES AT LARGE, chap.IX, sec9; William R. Eastman, "The Army Chaplain of 1863,"Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the U.S. Commandery, Personal Recollections of the Rebellion, IV(N.Y.,1912),339-340;O>R>,series3,I,154,157,II,223,III,175-176; Bertram W. Korn,"Jewish Chaplains in the Civil War," American Jewish Archives, I (Cincinnati, 1948), 8-12; Edwind C. Bennett, Musket and Sword,on the Camp,March and Firing Line in the Army of the Potomac, 178-179; [VIA THE LIFE OF BILLY YANK]

⁺THE REPUBLIC OF SUFFERING, Faust, Drew Gilpin, 2008, ISBN 978-0-375-70383-6 page 181

International Quilt Festival Donald E Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, IL

Thursday April 7, 2016 Bus Trip

\$45 Transportattion/Entry

Deadline to Sign up is MARCH 19, 2016

Depart – 7:00 a.m. Charlotte
Arrive Quilt Festival approximately 11:15,

Depart Quilt Festival 4 p.m Chicago Time/5 p.m. Michigan Time Arrive – Charlotte approximately 9 15 pm.

\$45 includes transportation and entry to Quilt Festival.

Name:	× 2	> ·
Address:		
City:	4-	
Email:		
Phone:		

Pick me up at CIRCLE ONE

Charlotte MDOT Park N Ride 169 Exit 61 Marshall MDOT Park N Ride

169/194BL Exit 36

Battle Creek SW MDOT Park N Ride 194 Exit 92/Columbia Ave.

Mail check payable to <u>Wendy Hoard</u> (trip coordinator) and mail to the Hen House. Carolyn has graciously offered to receive these checks so as not to have my mail box filling up with checks while I work my real job.

The Hen House 211 Cochran Ave Charlotte MI 48813

Questions: Wendy 517-543-2801, email: hoardw@att.net

Facebook Group is International Quilt Festival April 7 Charlotte MI 69/94 Bus

