

# THE UNION VOLUNTEER

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

Volume XXXVII No. 5 May 2018

## 2018 Club Leadership

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

Julie Everett (civilian)  
djkeverett@comcast.net

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

Website: [www.7thmichigan.us](http://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 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 them (in jpg format), if possible. Be sure to ascertain that any items coming from another source are properly credited, or have obtained reprint permission.

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

Email submissions to me at:  
[7thminewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:7thminewsletter@gmail.com)

Or mail to:  
736 Gettysburg Ave.  
Jackson, MI 49203

Thank-you.

*Ellyn Painter, Editor*

*Christina Carlson at Greenfield Village, May 2017.  
Photo shared by Cyndi Carlson on Facebook.*



# Charlie Colegrove Annual Live Shoot



This year's shoot was held on Sat., April 21. Congratulations to David Graham, this year's contest winner! Photo shared by David on Facebook.



Above photo submitted by Sue Colegrove



Photos by Ellyn Painter, except where noted.

# Key Effort

# MAY

# Events



Greenfield  
Village  
&  
Coldwater -  
Civil War Days



# Greenfield Village May 26-28, 2018

## Greenfield Village Check-In Procedures:

All participants in the 2018 Civil War Remembrance program must check-in at the Check-In tent prior to entering Greenfield Village, Eagle Tavern Gate or Blue Gate. Walk-up Registration will not be allowed.

NEW Check-In location – Northwest corner of the Museum, near the Academy Doors and the Blue Security Gates. Directions and a map will be sent to each participant before the event. All participants must show credentials (participant button) to enter Security Gates. It is recommended that participants bring a copy of their confirmation. \* Please do not get in line or attempt entry into the Village before you pick up your participant packet. \*

Check-In Hours: Friday, May 25, 2018  
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Saturday, May 26, 2018 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. \*No Sunday or Monday Check-In (Contact your Unit Commander for alternate arrangements)

Dave Downing

From: Kristi Best <KristiB@thehenryford.org>  
Date: May 2, 2018 4:26 PM  
Subject: Camping Information - CWR Greenfield Village



Hi all:  
We are looking forward to a great Civil War Weekend here at the Village!

In preparing for the program, we have walked the camp sites and we have some issues due to the late Spring this year. There are areas of grass that will not be usable. We want to make sure you are aware that we are planning as best as we can, but you may not be able to camp in the same exact spot as you have in year's past. Do not assume that you will be directed to the spot you have camped on previously. The areas that seem most affected are the Civilian sites near the Silk Mill. We are working with Lorna Paul to plan the best options for everyone registered to camp as a Civilian. Lorna will share information as she gets the plan nailed down. We are asking for your help with your groups as I know changes can be tough, especially last-minute ones.

Thank you for all you do to make the program amazing. Let us know if you have questions!

Kristi Best  
Manager, Participant Relations & Event Logistics  
Program Production  
P: 313.982.6058  
E: kristib@thehenryford.org  
Gain Perspective. Get Inspired. Make History.  
www.thehenryford.org

.....  
The Henry Ford  
20900 Oakwood Boulevard  
Dearborn, MI 48124

.....  
The Henry Ford provides unique educational experiences based on authentic objects, stories and lives from America's traditions of ingenuity, resourcefulness and innovation. Our purpose is to inspire people to learn from these traditions to help shape a better future.



# Branch County (Coldwater) Civil War Days

May 25-27, 2018 - - Coldwater, Michigan

The 12<sup>th</sup> annual Coldwater event honoring our fallen U.S. Civil War ancestors is fast approaching. Amenities include straw, water, firewood, showers, restrooms, modern and authentic camping, powder issue for infantry, ice for \$1.50/bag, and a Saturday evening pot-luck dinner for all re-enactors. Activities will include Civil War artifacts & displays, a historic schoolhouse with period classes & children's games, Ladies Tea & Fashion Show, and Sunday morning period church service. Glen Morningstar Jr. and the Ruffwater Stringband will be providing the music for the Saturday evening authentic-only period ball. The Battle of Stones River (1862-1863) is the battle scenario for the weekend. The military will be serving under the command of Captain Jeff Mattix (1<sup>st</sup> Michigan) and alongside John Hughes and our long-time compatriots in Robinson's Battery.

Public hours for the event are Friday (School Education Day), Saturday, and Sunday. Onsite registration and set-up are all day Thursday (5/24) and Friday (5/25). You can drive up to your site to unload except on Friday during the school program from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Vehicles are not permitted in the camps during those hours but you can carry in camp equipment if you so choose. Early arrivals are welcome to participate in the school program too. The event officially ends on Sunday (5/27) but participants are permitted to camp onsite until Monday (5/28) afternoon. All re-enactors who stay overnight Sunday are invited to participate in the local Memorial Day parade/cemetery ceremony Monday morning. For more information, you can contact the committee host at (517) 462-1054 or visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/civilwarboard/>

The venue is located north of US-12 and one mile west of downtown Coldwater.

Directions to Branch County Heritage Park:

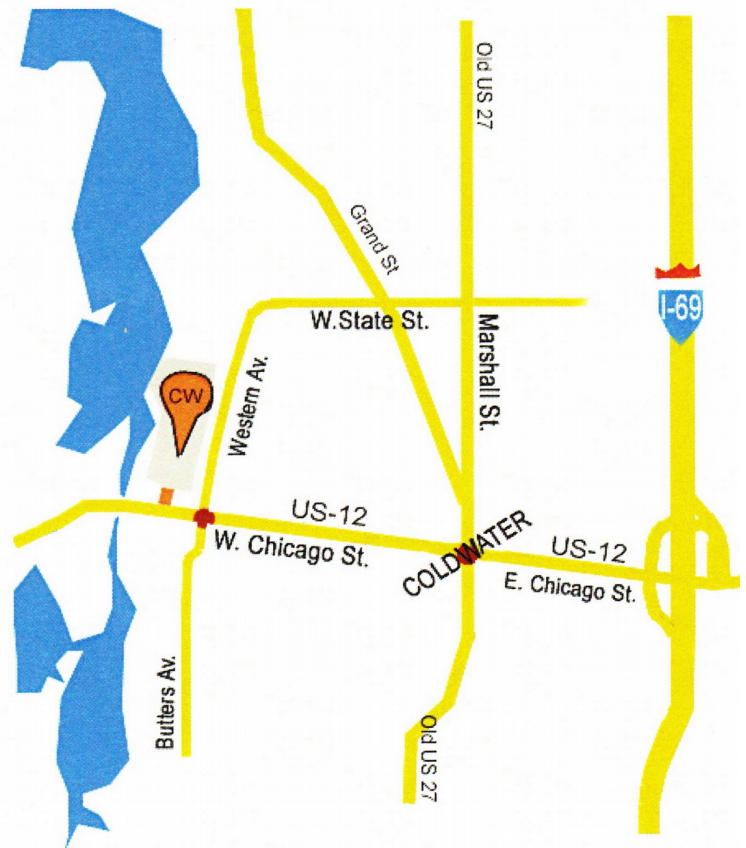
Travel I-69 to US-12 (aka Michigan Avenue). Take Exit 13 for US-12/Interstate 69 Business. Drive westbound (towards Coldwater) 2.3 miles on US-12. Turn right (north) onto Western Avenue. Drive 0.4 miles and turn left (west) onto Heritage Drive. The event address is Branch County Heritage Park, 1776 Heritage Drive, Coldwater, Michigan 49036.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan event coordinator is Tom Emerick. Tom will be sending in a registration by April 25<sup>th</sup> for all interested 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan attendees.

You can contact Tom at

[tomjoanemerick@hotmail.com](mailto:tomjoanemerick@hotmail.com)

or (517) 604-6116.



## GAR Memorial Hall and Museum Newsletter

Attached (separate PDF) is the new Newsletter from Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum. It is our intent to have our newsletter come out quarterly. We hope you will enjoy it.

Thank you for all your past support and we hope that you will come again to the museum. Things are continually changing in the museum with many new exhibits. .

Keith G. Harrison

Board President



# Military Report



At this writing we have 14 military registered for our first max event (Greenfield Village). We will have breakfast each morning with estimated cost per man at under 5 dollars for the weekend. It is also a special birthday for someone and we will celebrate that as well. Please review "rest ib arns:" on our Facebook page as Col. Eichler has prepared an excellent video tutorial for the upcoming weekend. While it's a June event, please check out the March to Turkeyvilled. For those who are interested, we will gather at the Marshall Fairgrounds, march though the square and to the event site. I'm told the march will be about 8 miles. Our thanks to our friends from the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan for arranging this event and for Corporal Sodman for being our liaison for this event.

Gettysburg looms on the horizon and we have 11 registered there; I'm sure this will lead to a mixed company of some sort. Stay tuned.

I am very excited that I just was able to secure a letter written home for a member of the 7th Michigan Company B. The soldier had just survived surgery for a head wound and a letter is written on his behalf to the family. He later died. It is a sobering reminder of our trust, to faithfully tell the story of these brave men who in many cases gave their lives for a cause. Let's enjoy our time this season but commit to demonstrating the valor, faithfulness, and commitment of the men we humbly try to represent.

Congrats to David Graham for his sharp shooting at the live shoot this month. I'm done with my southern vacations and looking forward to our upcoming season.

I remain your most obedient servant,

Captain McComas

# Civilian Report



We had a nice turn out for the Charlie Colegrove Annual Shooting Contest. Congratulations to David Graham , for shooting a 10x.

A Big Thank You to Don and Julie Everett for all that they did to make the day a special one and for all of their work. Thank you to all the ladies that furnished the pot luck lunch.

Our season starts with Memorial Day weekend. Some will be going to Greenfield Villiage; others will be choosing the Coldwater event.

Our next event will be June 16 – 17, at Turkeyville. The club will be holding a members' meeting during the reenactment.

Sue Colegrove  
Civilian Coordinator



Cathy & Rob Stone  
and Boy Scout Troop 5  
cordially invite you to attend the  
Eagle Scout Court of Honor for

Justin N. Stone

Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ 3:00PM  
Calvary United Methodist Church  
1415 Miller Avenue  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Reception following the ceremony



★ EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR ★

# EAGLE

# Update on Turkeyville Event ~ June 17-19, 2018

As I said in the April Newsletter, I have registered the following members who contacted me as planning to attend the Turkeyville Event....

## Military:

Chris Sodman	David Graham
Scott Graham	Chris Cook
Wyatt Strauss	Bill Jarrett
Adam Jarrett	Ethan Jarrett
Dave Downing	Daniel Malick
Al Baerren	

## Civilians:

Bob and Carol Smith	Ellyn Painter
Coletta Crews	Vonda Warren
Sue Colegrove	Hannah Zywicki
Pat Downing	

In reviewing the above list for this popular early summer event, I note that quite a few of those who usually attend are not present. Not to worry! In our unit registration I mentioned that some members may be registering individually, so they are expecting some additions. Just go to the Turkeyville webpage and take one of the options - email, webpage or mail in registration. I DID NOT send in a complete roster of the club as that is unfair and misleading to the sponsors and leads them to over estimate their prospective attendance.

As I mentioned in the club meeting, this event is continuing to grow in popularity. This year they expect units from both Ohio and Pennsylvania to be present. They always feed us well and they will have a ball this year. Ground charges under the supervision of a professional at pyrotechnics will add to the realism of the battle scenarios.

Hope to see a nice turnout for this very worthwhile in state event. If you have questions or need directions just call me.

Bob Smith  
Event Coordinator  
989 288-7112

Me thinks  
"Old Man Winter"  
hath at last  
Departed!



## Items of Interest

**Website Issues:** Our new Webmaster, David Finch, is working on updating our website, following the death of Denny Zank in January. In the minutes of the last club meeting, it was reported, however, that apparently, we are still having some trouble contacting the company who hosts our website. Your continued patience is appreciated as we work out the problems.

### Surprising Development!

Rob Van recently posted on Facebook the following: "Significant announcement as it relates to the Jackson Muster. The event this year will be held at the Ella Sharp Park in Jackson, MI. I had a conference call last night to review the site and it looks pretty amazing; it indicates 562 acres of land."

People ask: Why the change?

Jim Kirschensteiner commented: After all the years that the 7th tried to move the Jackson muster to Ella Sharp, it finally happened. Do you know what precipitated the move?

Keith Harrison replied: After 30 plus years, and among other things, Jackson Cascades wanted to start to charge us for the use of the park. There is no way that we could afford this. ...The revenue to the hotels and restaurants from the tourism will remain unchanged. The difference will be that instead of Jackson county and the city of Jackson benefiting, it will only be the city of Jackson receiving all the benefits. Cascades was a county park. Ella Sharp is a city park.





# The Origins of Memorial Day

As reenactors, we are all aware that Memorial Day evolved out of the aftermath of the Civil War, but what may be less known is the controversy over what city actually was the first to hold an annual event honoring the war's fallen soldiers. About two dozen communities claimed the recognition, and it was not until 1966 that Congress officially declared Waterloo, N.Y., a small manufacturing center in the state's Finger Lakes region, to be "the birthplace of Memorial Day."

It was a local druggist and bookseller, Henry Carter Welles, who got the ball rolling, with his suggestion that there should be a special ceremony in which the graves of the fallen were decorated with flowers. When Welles' plan came to the ears of Gen. John B. Murray, a former commander of the 148th New York Infantry, who would later lead the local chapter of the G.A.R., soon to be established. The two men organized a committee that planned the solemn commemoration --which they called "Decoration Day" -- that took place on May 5, 1866.

The commemoration was repeated the next year, after which news about it began to spread around the nation. On May 5, 1868, Illinois congressman Gen. John A. Logan, national commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued a proclamation designating May 30 as an annual day for decorating the graves of "comrades who died in defense of their country in the late rebellion." On that date, several thousand persons assembled at Arlington National Cemetery at the G.A.R.'s inaugural ceremony, where the graves of 20,000 veterans, both Union and Confederate, were decorated.

The former Confederate states refused to acknowledge Decoration Day, (although several of the towns that claim to have started Memorial Day were in the South) until 1918, when it was expanded to include the slain of all wars. And not until 1971 did Memorial Day become an official national holiday, designating it as falling on the fourth Monday of May. Several Southern states still observe a separate memorial day for fallen Confederates.

Sources:

*The Civil War Trust*

*Snopes.com*

*Townandcountrymag.com*



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

Bill Jarrett, Club Secretary

 btjarrett@aol.com

## Remaining Key Effort Events for 2018

**May 25-27: Coldwater Civil War Days MI (Tom Emerick)** Please register; contact Tom.

-Friday 25<sup>th</sup> – School days

-No train – down for maintenance

**May 26-28 Greenfield Village MI: (Dave Downing):** 20 people are registered

**June 16-17 Turkeyville MI: (Bob Smith):**

-We will try to register as a group.

- See Chris Sodman if you want to march in from Marshall. 6 mi./ 16 con-firmed/ 80 interested.

**July 5-8 Gettysburg, PA. (Doug McComas):** This is our National Event.

**July 21-22 Charlton Park, Hastings MI (Don Everett):** Setup after 7:00am on Thurs. 19<sup>th</sup>. Dave Downing will do announcing.

7<sup>th</sup> to do kids games and crafts and help with Registration. Drill kids – Need "Rifles"

Bring your own Ice.

7<sup>th</sup> MI will have a supper on Saturday Night.

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

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

**September 7-9 (SueColegrove):** Meridian Village

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

**November:** None

**December :** Christmas Party

### Other Events 2018:

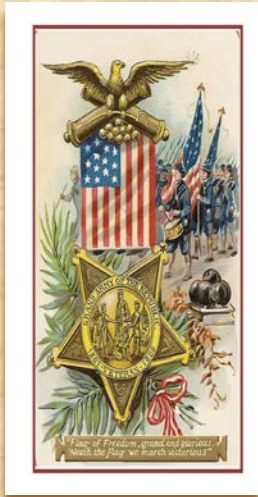
**September 15-16:** Van Raalte Farms CW Muster Holland MI: Put on by our good friends in the 3<sup>rd</sup> MI Co. F

**September 22-23:** Gowns & Guns, Greenmead Historic Village, Livonia, MI. Spon- sored by the 17<sup>th</sup> MI

**October 6-7:** Mooresville CW Days, South Haven MI, See Chis Sodman

**October 6-7:** Wolcott Mills Metropark, 63841 Wolcott Rd., Ray MI 48065





# G.A.R.

## MICHIGAN'S GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC MEMORIAL HALL AND MUSEUM

224 S. Main St. Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

www. GARMuseum.com

Email: [GARmichigan@gmail.com](mailto:GARmichigan@gmail.com)

Volume 2, Issue 1

April 2018

### MUSEUM HOURS

*The museum is open the first two Wednesdays of each month from 10am-5pm; patriotic holidays, special events, and by appointment.*

### MICHIGAN'S

### G.A.R. MUSEUM

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*President-Keith G. Harrison*

*Vice President-Chris Allen*

*Secretary- Gary Gibson*

*Treasurer-James Kaiser*

*Directors: Deb Malewski,*

*Don Limpert, Scott Poyer,*

*Bob Griggs, Pam Colestock*

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to our second inaugural newsletter! I say "second", since we have had a lengthy hiatus since we last published our electronic newsletter. We are now looking to publish this once every quarter.

We are currently into our 5<sup>th</sup> year of operation. Many hours by many individuals have gone into getting Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Memorial Hall and Museum up and running. When the museum was launched in September 2013, our overall goal was to create the single largest and most extensive museum dedicated to the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic in the state. We have come a long way in attaining this goal. Each year, we have been averaging between 600-750 visitors. As a result, the museum now has over 4,000 artifacts and records and continues to attract additional artifact donations.

Speaking of donations, all our staff are volunteers and we exist totally on annual sponsorships, donations and, occasionally, grants. The annual sponsorships and other donations are fully tax deductible. Consequently, we hope that you will consider becoming an annual sponsor to help us continue to ensure that the memory and accomplishments of the Grand Army of the Republic and its' Civil War Veteran members in Michigan are not forgotten.

Keith G. Harrison



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Michigan's G.A.R Museum Showcase:

May 22, 2018 7pm

*"Civil War Journal from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Infantry"*

*Presentation by award-winning journalist & bestselling author, Patricia Camburn Zick.*

*\*Free Admission\* \*Museum Tours\**

## WHATS NEW FOR THE MUSEUM!

The Board of Directors is working with the Eaton Rapids Am Vets organization to assist with the annual Memorial Day parade. The parade is held on Memorial Day in downtown Eaton Rapids. Anyone wishing to volunteer to march in the parade, please contact Keith Harrison at (517) 694-9394 or [GARMichigan@gmail.com](mailto:GARMichigan@gmail.com).

There are many events planned for the summer, including:

- **July 4<sup>th</sup>**-Civil War Living History Camp at Island Park in Eaton Rapids-will include demonstrations on Civil War era military Camp Life, Drills, Musket firing, equipment explanations, Civilian Life & Medical Practices of the day.
- **July 17<sup>th</sup>**- Presentation: *Gettysburg: Behind the Scenes*-by Brian James Egen who will talk about his experience on the set of the filming of the motion picture.
- **August 15<sup>th</sup>**- Fourth Annual Civil War Discovery Camp- 8-14-year-olds will learn about the Civil War manual of arms with wooden muskets, how to march, how the Civil War soldier lived and much more!

## READ US ONLINE!

**Facebook:**

*GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum*

*www.GARmuseum.com*

## SPECIAL THANKS!

*Thank you to all who have toured the museum and who generously gave a donation or became a sponsor~*

*We appreciate your support!!*