

# THE UNION VOLUNTEER

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

Volume XXXVII No. 9 September 2018



Ted Christoff, Craig Searles  
Cascades Civil War Muster

Photo by Ellyn Painter – 2007?

## !!Important Reminder!!

Annual Meeting is **Sunday, October 21** at  
1:00pm, Robbins UMC  
Please make every effort to attend and help  
elect our club leaders for the coming year.



## 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



# Civil War Encampment

September 8 – 9, 2018

10am - 4pm



## Meridian Historical Village Central Park Okemos, Michigan

### Saturday, September 8th

- 10 am Posting of Colors
- 11 am Company Drill
- 1 pm Recruitment of “civilians”
- 2 pm Raid of cabin
- 3 pm Battle



### Sunday, September 9th

- 10 am Posting of Colors
- 11 am Court Martial
- 1 pm Recruitment and Drill
- 2 pm Paymaster
- 3 pm Battle

# Civilian Report



Hi Everyone:

It has been a busy year!

I will be meeting with the ladies in the Meridian Historical Committee to finalize our plans for Sept 7-9. Right now I have the okay for those that want to take your trailer to park where we park our cars .

Doug has worked out a timeline for what the military are doing. I will get it out in the next few days.

For the civilian participants I have the following:

- 1) fry pan toss
- 2) Baking contest
- 3) sewing contest--enter whatever you are working on.
- 4) butter churning
- 5) a spinning wheel demonstration

If there is anything I missed or that you would like to do in addition to the above, please call me.

Sue Colegrove  
517-626-0144  
[scolegrove@rocketmail.com](mailto:scolegrove@rocketmail.com)

## Additional Information for the Meridian Village event on Sept 7-9:

We will be allowed to set up on Friday after 3:00 pm.

We will have use of the cabin for both days.

The times are planned for the event to start at 10:00 am with posting of the colors, so I am asking those that are coming for just the day to be there about 9:00 to 9:30 am..

I have asked about trailer parking..they are asking of participants that wish to bring their trailer or pop ups that you arrive Friday afternoon for setup. Jane said it will be easier then because the farmers' market vendors come very early on Saturday to set up. The market opens at 8;00 am. So please come Friday afternoon.

Any questions please call or text or message me. ---Sue



Sound off if you are going to Meridian Village Sept 8, 9. Anyone who can galvanize please be ready to do so. Event opens 10 am Saturday and concludes 4 pm Sunday.

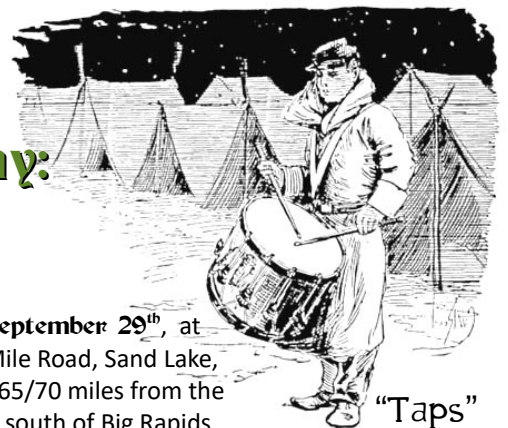
---Captain McComas

## Dennis Zank's

## Burial Ceremony:

### Sat., Sept. 29

The ceremony is on Saturday September 29<sup>th</sup>, at 2PM at Crandall Cemetery on 22 Mile Road, Sand Lake, Mi. This cemetery is located about 65/70 miles from the Lansing area north of Rockford and south of Big Rapids.



"Taps"

Please come in period dress; ladies are welcome, also dressed Civil War era.

Denny's Father urged us to avoid I 96 to US-131 because of heavy construction in the Grand Rapids area along I96 causing traffic tie ups and delays.

He recommended the following route which will actually allow us to get there in about an hour and a half. I googled it and it should be just fine.

For Units coming from the Lansing area and points East take I-96 West to M-66 to the Ionia exit. Take M-66 North through Ionia to M-57. Turn left on M-57 through Greenville to US-131 North. Take US-131 North to Exit 110 (the Sand Lake Exit). At the top of the ramp turn left onto 22 Mile Rd. approx.

2.5 miles West to the Crandall Cemetery on the right.

I have been in contact with Dept. Cmdr. Payne who advised that he is coordinating with the 14th Michigan of the S.V.R. for a firing party. I also took the liberty to inquire if perhaps the Department Chaplain can assist with the Ritual and I was advised by Cmdr Payne that the Department Chaplain will be present to provide the service portion. I do hope this will be alright with our Camp Commander and our Camp Chaplain, Dave Grimes. As most of you know, Brother Grimes has been dealing with some serious health issues himself and I would hope he would welcome the assistance.

Captain Doug McComas



# Club News Items

## MILITARY



Tom and Joan Emerick reported on the most recent activity in their modern military family. Two of their grandchildren, Carrissa (Warren) Burgess and Thomas Warren, received notification last week of their promotion to Staff Sergeant in the United States Air Force.

Most Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant

Tom

## Get Well Soon....



### To the members of Michigan 7<sup>th</sup>:

Aug. 28: We have had word from Maggie Smith that her dad, **Bob Smith**, has suffered a Hemorrhagic stroke. He is In Hurley Hospital in the Nero ICU. Please keep the Smith family in your thoughts and prayers! Sue Colegrove

Updates on Bob Smith - from Maggie Smith shared by Gloria Kirschensteiner on Facebook:

Wed. Aug. 29 Morning Update on my dad: I talked to his ICU nurse and she said he did well overnight. He is able to move his right arm and leg a little. *continued next column...*

Bob Smith, continued....

His speaking is a little clearer but his words still get confused a bit. These are all good signs that the bleed has indeed stopped and he is on the road to recovery. He has 2 tests scheduled today to help diagnosis what caused the bleed so they can treat accordingly. He also starts OT, PT, and speech therapy today. As his nurse said, this is a marathon not a sprint, so the road will be long. Keep the prayers coming! Thank you to everyone who is already praying, keeping us in your thoughts, and offering to help! Our family is so lucky to have such a loving support system!!!

Aug. 29 Nighttime dad update: Dad had his Angiogram today which confirmed that the bleeding has stopped. It also showed that he didn't have an aneurysm or AVM, so they are still stumped about what caused the bleed. In fact the doctor said he had the veins of a 20 or 30 year old! An EEG has been ordered for tomorrow as a precaution because the inflammation caused by the blood can sometimes cause seizures. He saw OT and speech therapy today. OT got him sitting up and into a chair! His speech is much improved today but the therapist said he is struggling with recall. Meaning he has a hard time remembering words. He is still able to move his right hand and sometimes his right foot too. A cardiologist was brought in for a consult today because of some abnormalities on his monitor yesterday. They say that most likely it has nothing to do with the stroke but while he's in the hospital they should take a look at it anyway. PT is supposed to start tomorrow and Hurley is known for their aggressive PT...so dad will have his butt kicked. They told us today that after dad is out of danger for a repeat bleed, that he may be transferred to the rehab there at Hurley until he can come home.

Dad continues to be in good spirits and will laugh and joke with us. He gets frustrated with his speech sometimes. He loves hearing all of your well wishes and encouragements!!! We are so pleased with his progress so far. The prayers are working! Thank you again for keeping us in your thoughts. Those of you who have offered to help...better watch out...mom is making a list!

Aug. 30 Update: Dad update (sorry there wasn't one earlier)...

Today was filled with mixed emotions. Dad was able to sit without being held up for the 1st time today! His speech was almost perfect. He was moving his right arm and leg quite a bit this morning! He had his first session with PT today and he sat up for an hour in a chair.

He started having some trouble with nausea today, but he also isn't used to sitting up that long. His appetite hasn't been great either, although we heard he ate lunch well today. His ability to do things diminishes as the day goes on. He gets worn out easily. Tonight he "kicked us out" before visiting hours were over because he was ready for bed. The cardiologist is still looking for a reason for some abnormalities on his monitor and after a clear echocardiogram, decided he needs a loop recorder to monitor the situation. So he will have that implanted tomorrow.

continued on next page....

BOB-Continued from previous page....

We had a sobering talk with his ICU nurse tonight. She showed us the images from his MRI on Tuesday and explained that the size of his bleed is nothing to brush off. She said that bleeds a quarter of his size cause a patient to be on a ventilator. We really are blessed that he is doing so well. The power of prayer is amazing!

Tomorrow I move Caleb into college. Dad is concerned that his "situation" will cause Caleb to worry when he should be excited about this new chapter in his life. I also believe that dad is sad that he won't be able to be as active in the process tomorrow. I'm just thankful that dad is still here to hear about it. Please continue praying for all of us. We appreciate all of the offers for help...trust me, we will be taking you up on the offer when we need to. Tomorrow Katie will be taking over the updates, as I will be down at Eastern getting Caleb settled. Love you all!

BOB UPDATE: Fri. Aug. 31 This is Katie (Katie Smith Carlon) giving a quick morning update. He had some higher BP readings last night so they started him on medication to control that. He has had a phenomenal morning! They've decided to admit him to the exclusive rehab program here at Hurley! This is what we've been praying for! Today during PT he was able to stand with the help of only one person! The loop recorder is slated to be implanted at some point today (which is a very minor procedure). He hasn't been allowed to eat since dinner last night, so we're hoping it will be sooner rather than later! Once the cardiologist signs off he can be official moved up to the 6th floor! (Cue the "moving on up" song). More later!

BOB REPORT: Katie reporting in again. Dad is all moved in on the Rehab floor. We've been reading all your messages to him and we are all so humbled by the response we've gotten! In Dad's words, "I can't believe how many people have felt the effects of this!" Now that he will be in one spot for a couple of weeks, he has a mailing address for anyone who would like to send him a card, note or even crayon drawn picture. He would really love that, I think!

Robert Smith, Room 610  
1 Hurley Plaza  
Flint, MI 48503



# MILITARY REPORT and Jackson AFTER ACTION REPORT

**As a therapist I have learned the value of stories.** None less than Sam Watkins in *Company Aytch* begins his book with a little story. Allow me to "borrow" and paraphrase.

Once there was a great union of reenactors. They did great things and demonstrated history across the Midwest. Then some of them boys decided they weren't just reenactors, there was a north and a south, an east and a west, mainstreamers and progressives, and guard and not guard. Now all this squabbling eventually led to a great war. After years of fighting, scorched feelings, and not a few friendships, the war finally came to an end. The survivors looked about and what had changed? Why nothing, except they once again understood there was no north, no south, no mainstreamers or progressives, no guard or not guard. All there were reenactors and pard.

It's a lesson I hope we don't every have to relearn again.

Ella Sharp After Action report

A new event (you'll never hear me call it "Jackson" - that is an event from our history): this is a new event in a new location and a new start. The flavor of cooperation was evident everywhere. The union staff included Rob Van of the Cumberland Guard, an adjunct from the GLB, a GLB and Guard Wing commander, and a progressive-minded master sergeant.

Of the 6 companies, 5 were mixed. The 7th was 2nd Company throughout the weekend; we brought 20 men for the first time in some time and were joined by the men of the 21st, marine guard, and 102nd.

A bit of rain delayed drill on Saturday, to the horror of the Colonel, but fortunately did not impact the battle, dress parade or ball.

The two battles featured Michigan units and unfortunately both featured the slaughter of said units. We did our part, taking 90% casualties on Saturday and 100% on Sunday.

Our NCOs and junior officers performed magnificently. I am proud of the performance of our men. Thank you all.

Concluded on next page.....



Military Report, concluded...

September will be a busy month.

September 8 Meridian Village

September 15 Van Raalte (you will be under the command of one of our friends on Saturday and I will be there Sunday.

September 22 Guns and Gowns, (come support our friends in the 17th)

September 29 SUV Funeral Ceremony for Denny Zank (info in the newsletter)

Thank you all for a great event.

In your service,

Captain McComas



Photos by Ellyn Painter, except as otherwise noted.



Noticed this new work of art near the Ella Sharp Farmhouse. Hmm... well, at least it's not in the front yard, and is somewhat more period appropriate than the "yellow thing."



photo credit: B&K Photography

There are some excellent images of the event by B&K Photography. About this one, Captain McComas' comment shared on Facebook: "hmm... that Reb looks kinda familiar...."



Mlive's caption for this photo claimed that the Union "officer" was surrendering to the Confederate.! Posted on Facebook by David Graham.



Notwithstanding Mr. Frazier's occasional interesting interpretation in the captions, there are many other fine photos of the event on the MLive website at the below link:

[https://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2018/08/34th\\_jackson\\_civil\\_war\\_muster.html](https://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2018/08/34th_jackson_civil_war_muster.html)

Photos and article by Nikos Frazier | [nfrazier@mlive.com](mailto:nfrazier@mlive.com)



# Jackson Civil War Muster

Our Brave Men at the recent Ella Sharp Park reenactment. Photo by Sue Colegrove.



## Sept. 23 Michigan's G.A.R. Museum Showcases "Mr. Lincoln, You're Such A Caution!"

Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Memorial Hall and Museum in Eaton Rapids will be sponsoring a Free Civil War History Seminar on Sunday, September 23, 2018, at 3:00 PM at Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall & Museum located at 224 South Main Street in Eaton Rapids. The topic of the presentation will be "Mr. Lincoln, You're Such a Caution!"

Despite all the tragedies in his life, Abraham Lincoln was really a very funny man. He loved humor as a way to make a point in his dealings with other people.

Mr. Fred Priebe will be presenting this program as President Lincoln. Fred has been presenting Lincoln in Michigan and surrounding states for over 20 years in schools, Civil War, and numerous other events and venues. Given his knowledge and years of portraying our 16th President, Fred has become Michigan's premier Lincoln historian.

Come and see a glimpse of Abraham Lincoln's humor from his childhood through his presidential years.

There is no charge for admission and refreshments will be served. Additional information regarding the seminar may be obtained by going to Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum Face Book page at [GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum) or to our website at <http://garmuseum.weebly.com/>.

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Board President  
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Face Book: [GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum)

Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum is a federally recognized 501 (c) (3) Michigan Non-profit Corporation. All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law.



*Carol & Bob*

Dad is doing very well on the Rehab Floor at Hurley. He has an hour of each therapy per day; OT, PT, and Speech. He is able to get himself around in a wheelchair! He is eating well and seems to be in pretty good spirits!  
-Maggie Smith

# Our Laugh for the Day..

PROBABLY NOT HOW IT WORKS



-EXTRA FABULOUS COMICS- 245

Posted on Facebook by David Graham.

"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



# HAPPY LABOR DAY

## Remaining Key Effort Events for 2018

**September 7-9 (Sue Colegrove):** Meridian Village

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

October 21 - 7<sup>th</sup> MI Annual Meeting

**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 Chris Sodman

**There's still time to purchase your tickets, but not much!!**

The 2018 Annual  
Harvest Civil War Grand Ball  
is Saturday, October 13, 2018  
At Central United Methodist Church  
215 N. Capital  
Lansing, Michigan

Doors open at 6 PM,  
Grand March begins at 7 PM.

7<sup>th</sup> MI Member tickets: \$10

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