



The Sharpshooter



SGT. ROBERT FINCH
1st MICH SS

The Official Newsletter of
Robert Finch Camp No. 14 – Traverse City
Est. 1914 – The Oldest Active Camp in the Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Five USCT Veterans Honored in Joint Ceremony Grave Dedication

On Sunday, 18 August, Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 partnered with Brothers of Alexander French Camp No. 28 and participated with the Old Settler's Reunion (OSRW) at Morgan West Wheatland Cemetery in Mecosta to honor five Union Veterans that received new VA headstones. The five Veterans belonged to various USCT regiments during the Civil War. Many of the settlers of the area arrived from SE Ohio, as well as from the Underground Railroad via Canada.

The Veterans honored with new headstones and the ceremony includes: Michael Norman (102nd USCT), Robert Scott (Co. F, 102nd USCT), Amos Robinson (Co. G, 29th USCT), Lewis Gross (Co. E, 16th USCT), and an Unknown Veteran.

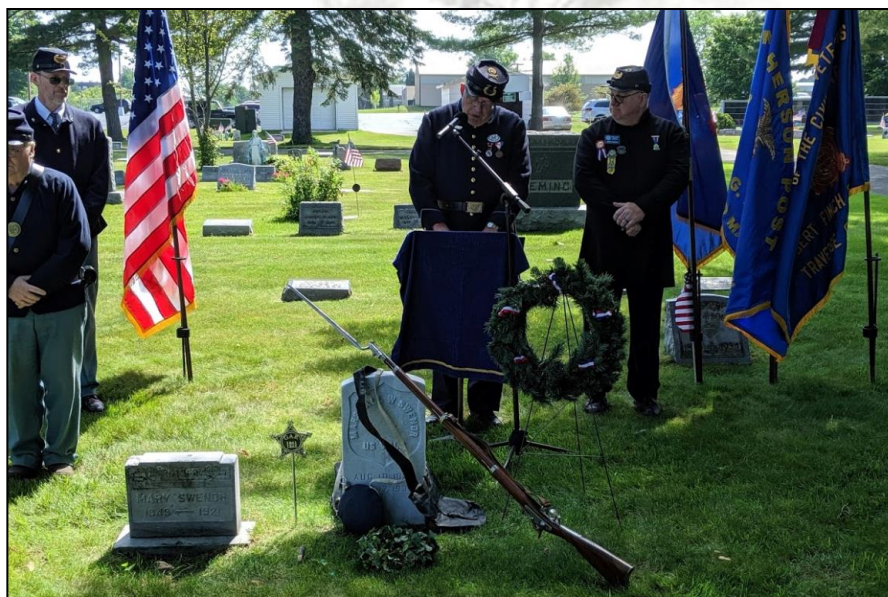
In addition to Camp No. 14, Camp No. 28, OSRW, and various representatives of the community and descendants of these noble men – the ceremony saw Bugles Across America Bugler Thelma Paul perform Taps, and the Honor Guard of the VFW Post in Mecosta serve as the honor guard of the grave dedication. It was a wonderful event showing united teamwork between Camps and the community to honor five our Nation's defenders.

Right: The Decorated Gravesite of the Unknown USCT Veteran

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Marshall Swenor Receives Grave Dedication in Petoskey



In July, Brothers of Camp No. 14 traveled to Petoskey to perform a grave dedication for GAR Comrade Marshall Swenor. Comrade Swenor was a member of the Stevens-Begole GAR Post No. 66 in East Jordan. With the efforts of GRO John Sawyer, CWMO Scott Schwander, and the descendants of Marshall Swenor, Comrade Swenor finally received his much deserved headstone. In honor of Comrade Swenor, a grave dedication service was performed on 13 July with a large contingent of Marshall Swenor's family in attendance. Bugles Across America Bugler Thelma Paul performed Taps at the ceremony.

Continued on Pg. 5

Above (L-R): JVC Ribby, Br. Hulbert, Master of Ceremonies PDC Aurand, and Commander Lantzer

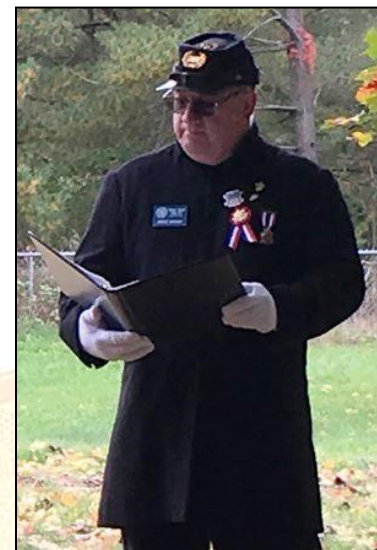


Commander's Message



For the Robert Finch Camp #14 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, this past year was full of opportunities for service. From as far north as Petoskey with a single Union soldier's graveside service to multiple new stones of defenders of the Union laid to rest down in Remus, the Camp was called to remember those that gave so much for so many. As I travel to these various locations to do some pre-event scouting I find myself not only drawn to the new stone of the service member that will draw the attention of the event, but I have an opportunity to walk between old headstones that mark comrades in arms that fought side-by-side and shoulder-to-shoulder there on the battlefields of the south. This fact was never as prevalent as it was down in Remus this past August. Although the Wheatland Cemetery fell in the Alexander French Camp #28's geographical jurisdiction, Commander Brent Sible felt it best to reach out to his brothers in the north to help honor the brave men that previously laid without headstones. The Alexander French Camp and Robert Finch Camp under the heading of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War came together and standing shoulder-to-shoulder those that were previously passes aside were recognized for their valor and sacrifice. This event reminded me of my ancestor's story where at the Battle of the Crater under the heading of Federal troop's white as well as colored troops fought and died to preserve the Union and free those in bondage. As we the men of Camp #14 look forward to a new year, it is my hope that we will be seeking out ways that we might educate those around us and bring honor to those who through their actions deserve recognition.

John E. Lantzer
Camp Commander - Robert Finch Camp #14
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



CWMO Schwander Participates in Mid-Michigan Honor Flight



Civil War Memorials Officer Scott Schwander served as a Volunteer Guardian for the latest Mid-Michigan Honor Flight - Mission XII on 18 September 2019. Brother Schwander was the Volunteer Guardian for a fine gentleman by the name of Paul. Paul is a Vietnam Veteran from the local area.

The lead-up and the day of in Washington D.C. is very special and quite moving for the Veteran and the Guardian as well. For many it is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the Nation's capital and the many monuments erected in honor of America's current, past, and fallen heroes.

Left: CWMO Scott Schwander serving as Guardian for Vietnam Veteran Paul in Washington D.C.

Camp No. 14 Brothers Attend 2019 National Encampment



Left (L-R): PDC Paul Davis, PDC David Smith, & PDC Dale Aurand

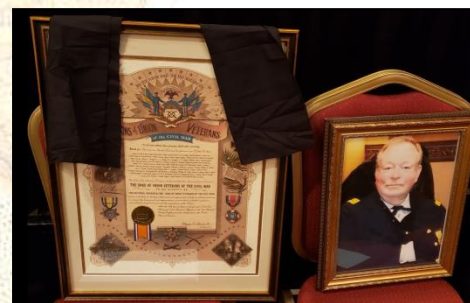


Right: Newly elected Commander-in-Chief Ed Norris takes his station

Below: The SUVCW National Charter draped, and a Vacant Chair with picture for National Treasurer David McReynolds, PDC who passed away in office.

Left: PCinC Don Shaw led the National Encampment completing his term in office.

Center: Sons of Confederate Veterans Commander-in-Chief Paul C. Gramling, Jr. addresses the National Encampment.



Left: During the National Encampment's Campfire, entertainment is always a main staple. The 2019's Campfire was no exception. The 73rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Band performed many Civil War period favorites for the Brothers and Guests that were assembled. The 73rd OVI Band uses period instruments, that give a unique and authentic sound that harkens back to the 1860s.

New Look for The Sharpshooter

After several years of maintaining the same basic newsletter design with a few minor changes along the way, it was decided that the The Sharpshooter should receive a complete overhaul in look and layout. As the reader can tell, this new design is in a printer friendly format compared to the old newsletter design.

The reader may wonder what some of the symbolism is within the new design. On the first and last pages, the underlying image is of the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters Monument on the Capital Grounds in Lansing. As many know, Sgt. Robert Finch, our Camp's namesake was a member of Company B, 1st Michigan Sharpshooters, and was instrumental in the project for erecting the monument. On the pages between the first and the last pages, the underlying image is of the IX Corps badge. The 1st Michigan Sharpshooters were assigned to the IX Corps during the war, and this symbol has much affection to the Brothers of Camp No. 14.

We hope that you enjoy the new design, as well as the unique content that is strived for in each and every issue of the The Sharpshooter.

Northern Michigan Military Installations – Past & Present



Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City

United States Coast Guard, 9th District
Traverse City, Grand Traverse County, Michigan
Commissioned in 1946

Looking to the skies around Northern Michigan and especially the greater Grand Traverse region one may see and hear the white and orange MH-60T Jayhawk helicopters of the United States Coast Guard. Those helicopters and their crews and maintainers train and stand ready at a moments notice to save those in trouble. Traverse City is honored to be named an official “Coast Guard City” by Congress and home to Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City.

CGAS Traverse City was founded in 1946 when the US Navy turned over the keys to the station to the Coast Guard. Prior to 1946, it was known as Naval Air Station Traverse City (NAS Traverse City will be covered in a future issue of The Sharpshooter).

Currently, the Air Station is situated at Cherry Capitol Airport on the east side of Traverse City. The station's physical plant consists of a spacious hangar; facilities engineering building; supply offices and warehouse; a small Coast Guard Exchange; a medical clinic; an ID card office and Smith Hall, which houses a galley, lounges, sleeping areas for 24-hour duty crews, and a new Education Center. There are also several athletic fields, two tennis courts, and a small picnic area and playground.



Above: A Consolidated PBY-5A Catalina flying over Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City (USCG website)

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Korean War Veteran Finally Comes Home

On 27 July 2019, Brothers of Camp No. 14 joined the Traverse City community in welcoming home Korean War MIA Veteran, Corporal Charles Lawler. Cpl. Lawler's remains were returned to US possession in July 2018 after the summit between the US and North Korea. It was determined that he was killed in action near the vicinity of Unsan in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Guard Milk, MVAO Murphy, PDC Aurand and PDC Davis represented Camp No. 14 at the event. Corporal Lawler was interred at Oakwood Cemetery.



Cpl. Charles Lawler
M Company, 3rd Battalion,
8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division



Above: Graveside at the internment ceremony for Corporal Charles Lawler



Above: PDC Aurand and
PDC Davis

Gold Star Mothers & Families Ceremony

Several Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 attended the Gold Star Mothers & Families Ceremony on Sunday, 29 September 2019 at the Grand Traverse Area Veterans Memorial Park in Traverse City. The ceremony is held annually on the last Sunday of September throughout the country honoring those that gave their dear loved ones in defense of these United States.

Camp No. 14 was represented by MVAO Calvin Murphy, Guard John Milks, Recruiting Officer Joseph Conger, and Brother Rick Schafer.



Above Left: Guard John Milks serving on the VFW Honor Guard

Above Right: Brother Rick Schafer representing VFW District 12 as its Commander, and Camp No. 14 (pictures source: still shots from 9&10 TV video coverage)

Above: Gold Star Families (including MVAO Murphy) at the 2019 Gold Star Families Day (picture source: FB page of Northern Michigan Blue to Gold Star Mothers, Inc.)

Marshall Swenor *cont'd*



Above: Brother Doug Hulbert, Pat Rensberger G-Granddaughter of Marshall Swenor, and PI H.G. Smith



Above (L-R): PCC & Chaplain Mattis, RO Conger, JVC Ribby, Br. Hulbert, GRO Sawyer, and PI H.G. Smith assemble before the beginning of the Marshall Swenor Ceremony.

DUES: Brothers, it is that time of year once again for the collection of membership dues. These dues allow us to do the good work of the Order. 2020 Camp No. 14 membership dues are again \$45. Dues can be made at the 09 November meeting, or by mailing to the Treasurer: Dale Aurand, PDC, 321 9th Street, Traverse City, MI 49684

GAR Merchandise in 1887

The Sharpshooter has included pages from the 1887 catalog from The M. C. Lilley & Co., of Columbus, Ohio. This catalog was provided by Camp No. 14 Brother George Scheck. This is the final installment of the last pages. Enjoy.

1887. (LIST No. 48.) 1887.

GRAND ARMY of the REPUBLIC

PRICE LIST

— OF —

UNIFORMS

Caps, Swords,
Belts, Banners,
and Flags,

MANUFACTURED BY

THE M. C. LILLEY & CO.,

COLUMBUS, O.

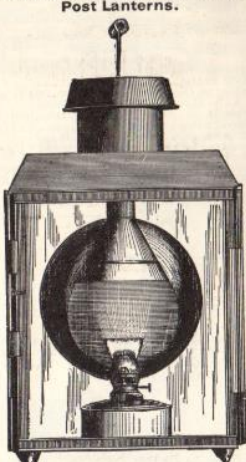
Discounts on Application.

TERMS—C. O. D. Privilege to examine. If ordered by some responsible business house, subject to sight draft after ten days.
SAMPLES of most of these goods will be sent, if ordered by some responsible business house, on condition that they be returned within two weeks and party ordering pay express charges both ways.
Goods ordered by mail at purchaser's risk of loss.

32 THE M. C. LILLEY & CO.,

787. Ballot-box, secret, rosewood..... \$6 00
788. Ballot-box, secret, extra fine inlaid..... 10 00
These boxes are so constructed that voting is done by sense of feeling, without the necessity of seeing the ballots, the black ballots being square, and the white ones round.
789. Ballots for above boxes, square or round, per doz..... \$0 12

Post Lanterns.



When different Orders require one half a single Lantern can be used by having extra glass slides to be inserted as the different bodies meet.

867. Post Lanterns, to hang out of window, or to light up a stairway, with G. A. R. monogram painted on the slides (see illustration above)..... \$9 00
Additional Glass Slides with emblems, painted, per set of three..... 1 80
Same Lanterns, but stained glass slides, white G. A. R. monogram etched on them..... 15 50
Price of Lantern, with three of these slides..... 15 50

COLUMBUS, OHIO. 33



No. 39980.

Woman's Relief Corps Banner.

3998. W. R. C. Banner, 36x54 inches, front of fine flag silk; reverse of silasia, W. R. C. badge, name, number and location handsomely painted in gold and colors, trimmed with gilt lace, cord and tassels, and fringe on end, staff surmounted by eagle, and belt for carrying banner..... \$38 00
3999. Same as 3998, but with silk on both sides, 44 00
39980. W. R. C. Banner, of fine flag silk, both sides, 36x54 inches, W. R. C. badge, name, number and location finely painted in gold

34 THE M. C. LILLEY & CO.,

and colors, trimmed with gilt lace, gilt cord and tassels, gilt fringe on end, staff surmounted by eagle, and belt for carrying banner..... 60 00
3998c. W. R. C. Banner, same as 39980, but front of best banner silk and richly trimmed..... 80 00
3998d. W. R. C. Banner, both sides of best banner silk, and fine heavy gold trimmings, with fringe on sides and end..... 100 00



Silk G. A. R. Handkerchief, each..... \$0 75

Flag Trimmings.

Staff, 9 feet..... \$2 00 to \$5 00
Brass Spear Heads..... \$3 00, 4 00
Brass Eagles..... \$4 00, 5 00, 10 00
Flag Belts..... \$1 50, 2 50, 4 50
Cord and Tassels, worsted..... 1 75
Cord and Tassels, silk..... \$2 50, 4 00
Cord and Tassels, gilt..... \$5 00, \$7 50, 10 00
Silk Bullion Fringe, red or blue, 2 inch, yard..... 50
Silk Thread Fringe, red, blue or yellow, 1 1/2 inch, yard..... 25
Gold Bullion Fringe, 1 1/2 inch, yard, 60 cents; 2 inch, 80 cents; 3 inch..... 1 10

COLUMBUS, OHIO. 35


MILITARY and BAND UNIFORMS.

THE M. C. LILLEY & CO., COLUMBUS, O.
MANUFACTURERS OF



36 THE M. C. LILLEY & CO.

The Prices in this List are Subject to Discount.



Breech Loading Rifles for Firing Parties and Drill Corps.

Springfield Rifle, 45 calibre, new, with angular bayonet, each..... \$19 00
Springfield Rifle, 50 calibre, refinished, bright and in perfect order, each..... 11 00
Brown Rifle, 50 calibre, breech loader, central fire, with bayonet, each..... 6 00
Miller Rifle, Cadet, cut down to weigh eight pounds, each..... 8 00

Muzzle Loaders.

Springfield Rifle, 58 calibre, model of 68, each..... 4 00
Musket, 68 calibre, pattern of 182, each..... 5 00

Equipments.

Government, old model, consisting of cartridge box, waist belt and plate and bayonet scabbard, set new..... \$45.00; per 100 4 50

Blank Cartridges, 58 calibre, per 1,000.....

Prices are Subject to Discounts.
ADDRESS, THE M. C. LILLEY & CO., COLUMBUS, O.



Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9

Congratulations to NP Wanda Langdon

The Sisters of Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 would like to send congratulations to newly elected National President Wanda Langdon, and wish her a wonderful and productive 2019-2020 term leading the National Organization. Sister Langdon hails from the Department of Ohio, and has been very supportive of the efforts of the Sisters of Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9.



Veteran Memorial Service for John Downey

Monday, 30 September 2019 saw the Sisters of Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 assemble to honor U.S. Army Veteran SP5 John Patrick Downey, III in Oakwood Cemetery in Traverse City. Patriotic Instructor Debra Downey is the widow of John, and wanted to honor his service to the country and give him military honors since his passing in October of 2001. Mr. Downey served on the honor guard at Fort Benjamin Harrison rendering honors for many of our fallen soldiers.

Sisters Dorothy Rongey, PAP, Mary Rose, PAP, Karen Goodrich, PAP, and Lisa Smith, PAP along with Brothers Ted Mattis, PCC and David Smith, PDC joined Sister Downey in honoring her husband John. There was good attendance paying respects to Mr. Downey and watching elements of the U.S. Army National Guard and members of the Traverse City Honor Guard give him full military honors including 3 volleys, Taps, and an US Flag presented to Sister Debra.

A beautiful service was punctuated with the sun coming out of the clouds and shining brightly on all of those in attendance.

2018-2019 Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 Officers

President:	Dorothy Rongey, PAP
Vice President:	Mary Rose, PAP
Secretary:	Lisa Smith, PAP
Treasurer:	Lisa Smith, PAP
Pat. Instructor:	Debra Downey
Council #1:	Darlene Hinkley
Council #2:	Karen Goodrich, PAP
Council #3:	Lorraine Jones
Chaplain:	Mary Rose, PAP
Historian:	All Sisters of Aux. No. 9
Press Corrs.:	Mary Rose, PAP & Lisa Smith, PAP
Girl Scout Comm.:	Lorraine Jones, Chair
Girl Scout Comm.:	Emily Breaght, PAP
Counselor:	Mary Rose, PAP

Sons of Veterans Unknown Medal



In the recent past, an unknown Sons of Veterans medal/badge came up for auction online. Reviewing the pictures of the badge, it was difficult to determine what the medal/badge might be worn for, and was thought to be possibly be a "Chaplain's badge". The reason for this possibility was that the reverse of the drop had the Lord's Prayer embossed on it, and said drop was in an ornate cross pattern.

The Sharpshooter Editor decided to determine once and for all what this badge might represent, thus he contacted SUVCW National Historial Bob Wolz, PDC. Brother Wolz is an expert in GAR and Allied Orders insignia and memorabilia.

PDC Wolz responded that the badge/medal is not a "Chaplain's badge", but was issued as a stock Department Encampment badge. The ribbon would have been different with the Encampment details printed on it. It was also sold as a souvenir badge for at least one National Encampment.

Many thanks to National Historian Wolz in answering this medal/badge mystery.

CGAS Traverse City cont'd.

HISTORY - Originally established as a one plane detachment to provide Search and Rescue service to the Great Lakes, Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City was commissioned in 1946. Over the years, the air station has grown from its original small complement to its present staff size of 17 officers and 110 enlisted personnel. In 1980, the air station increased its building space when a new maintenance and administrative hangar was completed, providing over 50,000 square feet of work space. Along with changes in size, the air station has experienced changes in the types of aircraft assigned over the years. The Consolidated PB5Y-5A "Catalina" gave way to the Grumman HU-16 "Albatross" seaplane and, eventually, the Dassault HU-25 "Falcon" jet. Likewise, the Sikorsky HO4S/3G (or H-19 "Chickasaw") helicopter gave way to the Sikorsky HH-52 "Seaguard" helicopter.



Above: An MH-60T Jayhawk from CGAS Traverse City flying with a visiting USAF F-35A Lightning II (Joint Strike Fighter) over Lake Michigan in 2018 (picture source: CGAS Traverse City FB page and Aviation Photojournal FB page)

In 1961, air station H-19 helicopters assisted in the evacuation of the crew of the Francisco Morazán, an operation that lasted four days in continuous gale

conditions. Crews also rescued 25 survivors of the collision between the Cedarville and the Topdalsford in 1965, and 19 survivors from the fire aboard the Canadian freighter Cartiercliffe Hall in 1979.

Proving their versatility, air station personnel have participated in a variety of other operations. In 1986, a premature boy was delivered aboard an HU-25A during an air evacuation from Alpena to Traverse City, MI. Another Falcon aircraft reported to Cape Canaveral to assist in the recovery search for space shuttle Challenger.

Later in 1986, the rescue capabilities of the "Seaguard" helicopter and the patrol capabilities of the "Falcon" jet were combined in the Sikorsky HH-3F "Pelican" helicopter. At that time, Traverse City became a helicopter-only unit operating three HH-3F helicopters.

In July 1987, a sudden storm produced winds nearing 100 mph resulting in 32 SAR cases. Following another violent storm in September 1988, nine distress calls were received within two minutes. Rescue efforts resulted in saving two persons clinging to a capsized sailboat in Lake Michigan. In November of the same year, an HH-3F flying at night successfully located a downed aircraft near Marquette, MI in thick, fog covered forest. All six persons aboard the plane survived the ordeal. Three HH-3Fs were deployed on two separate occasions to respond to flooding reports in the fall of 1986, providing media and logistical support. Support was also provided following a major oil spill in the Monongahela River in Pennsylvania in 1988.

With the modernization of the aircraft fleet, three HH-60J "Jayhawk" helicopters were brought in to replace the aging Pelicans in September 1991.

The Great Flood of 1993 required the air station to play a critical and valuable role with flood relief efforts. The station provided one HH-60J Jayhawk helicopter and crew to the flood area for a continuous 60-day period.

In the spring of 1995, five HH-65A "Dolphin" helicopters replaced the three Jayhawks, which were transferred to Air Station Astoria, OR. In November of 2002, the HH-65 "A models" were upgraded to "B models" with the introduction of the Control Display Unit and other avionics components.

Since 1995, Air Station Traverse City has controlled and manned Air Facilities throughout southern Lake Michigan. On April 1, 1995, Air Station Chicago transitioned to Air Facility Glenview and fell under operational control of Air Station Traverse City. However, its colors were retired soon after on November 15, 1996, and the facility ceased operations. On April 1, 1997, Air Facility Muskegon was established and was manned with one HH-65A from Traverse City. But, on May 25, 2000, Air Facility Waukegan was established and Air Station Traverse City slowly transferred operations there. On September 30, 2001, Air Station Traverse City completely transferred Air Facility Muskegon to Air Station Detroit and took control of Air Facility Waukegan. This is still the operational situation today, with both Air Facilities operating from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

The MH-65 "Dolphin" Short Range Recovery helicopters were upgraded to the current "D model" with an advanced flight navigation system common to Department of Defense helicopters. The first production MH-65D was completed on January 20, 2011 and was fitted with a Honeywell HG7502 radar altimeter, two Honeywell H-764G embedded GPS/inertial navigation systems (EGIs), and two control display units (CDU-7000D) from Rockwell Collins.

Presently, the air station maintains three MH-60T "Jayhawk" Medium Range Recovery helicopters, which replaced the four MH-65D "Dolphin" helicopters during the summer of 2017. The MH-60T provides a longer range and a larger cabin for executing complex Search and Rescue cases over a massive, often remote, eight-state area. In addition, the Jayhawk also boasts anti-ice/de-ice capability to better assist the citizens of the Great Lakes during harsh northern winters.

HISTORY provided by CGAS Traverse City official USCG website: <https://www.atlanticarea.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/District-9/Ninth-District-Units/AIRSTA-Traverse-City/Unit-History/>

Camp No. 14 Meeting & Event Schedule

12 OCTOBER 2019, 1100HRS	Cadillac GAR Plot Sign Dedication	Maple Hill Cemetery, Cadillac, MI
09 NOVEMBER 2019, 1130HRS	Camp No. 14 Meeting & Officer Elections & Installations	Elks Lodge #323, Traverse City, MI
11 NOVEMBER 2019	Veterans Day	GTA Mem. Park & Elks Lodge #323, TC, MI

E.P. Case, Union Veteran Honored

Manistee resident Edward Payson Case was honored in a ceremony on 04 August 2019 held by Brother Keith Graham. E.P. Case originally was from Benzonia, and GAR Post 372 of the same location was named after Mr. Case. According to famed Benzonia native and Pulitzer Prize author Bruce Catton, *“He must have been quite a man; he had enlisted in 1864, in the artillery, and his unit had been sent to Cumberland Gap on garrison duty and had finished out the war there never getting into combat. Almost to a man, our G.A.R. members had been in violent action during the war, and they never would have named the local post after a noncombat soldier if he had not been an impressive sort of person.”*

Brother Graham, who also is the Commander of the Manistee County United Veterans Council and a member of the UVC Ritual Squad was asked by a descendant of Mr. Case from Benzonia to honor him at his gravesite in Oak Grove Cemetery in Manistee. When the UVC Ritual Squad was unavailable due to a conflict, Brother Graham on behalf of and representing Robert Finch Camp No. 14 placed a US Flag at Edward P. Case’s grave where a GAR flag holder was recently placed and gave a brief ceremony to honor him with Mr. Case’s family attending. E.P. Case belonged to Company M, 1st Michigan Light Artillery.

5 USCT Veterans cont’d.



Above: Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 and Alexander French Camp No. 28 after the joint ceremony



Above: PDC Aurand, Master of Ceremonies PDC Smith and Commander Lantzer



Above: JVC Jim Ribby gives a powerful performance to the attendees



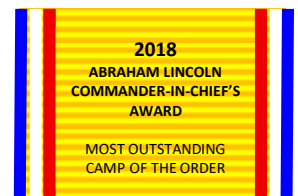
Above (L-R): Commander Lantzer, Chaplain Mattis, PDC Aurand, JVC Ribby, PDC Smith, MVAO Murphy, and Camp No. 28 Commander Sible & the Brothers of Alexander French Camp No. 28



Above: MVAO Calvin Murphy reads a poem to the attendees



Robert Finch Camp No. 14 – Traverse City
Est. 1914 – The Oldest Active Camp in the Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
www.robertfinch14.org



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