



The Sharpshooter

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



SGT. ROBERT FINCH
1st MICH SS

Goodbye, Farewell, and Amen

As the old proverb says, “all good things must come to an end.”

Due to an ever increasing amount of new outside responsibilities, activities, and obligations, the time has come for me to step down as Editor of *The Sharpshooter*. This is the final issue of *The Sharpshooter*.

It has been an immense honor and pleasure to publish the Camp newsletter of the Oldest Active Camp in the Department of Michigan from the newsletter's inception in 2014. Being the very first Editor of *The Sharpshooter* is something I will always cherish.

Since 2014, *The Sharpshooter* has won the Marshall Hope Award three times as the Best Camp Newsletter in the Order (presented by the SUVCW Commander-in-Chief) including this year, and has won the Department of Michigan's J. Richard Greene Best Camp Newsletter once. Winning these awards could not have happened without the team effort and support of many Camp members that have contributed to it over the years. Thank you all!

Continuation of *The Sharpshooter* in the future will be the decision of the next Commander of Camp 14. If a new Editor is appointed, I have little doubt that the new Editor will perform on the highest levels and will easily and quickly surpass the quality of the current publication – serving as a symbol of excellence throughout the Department and the entire Order.

It is my sincere hope that you have enjoyed reading *The Sharpshooter* over the past eight years, as much as I treasured publishing it.

Goodbye, Farewell, and Amen
- *The Sharpshooter* Editor

Oakwood Ceremony 2021 = 4 + 3 + 1



Above: Dr. Stephen Siciliano addresses attendees on behalf of the Traverse Area Historical Society. Dr. Siciliano is the TAHS President.

On 02 October 2021, Camp No. 14, Auxiliary No. 9, and the Traverse Area Historical Society came together at Traverse City's Oakwood Cemetery to honor eight individuals in or with close ties to McPherson GAR Post 18 in Traverse City. TV 7&4 and the Record-Eagle covered the ceremony.

The Sisters of Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 conducted memorial services to honor four ladies that were buried in the McPherson GAR Post 18 Plot 241. The ladies include: Melissa Buckingham, Nancy M. Taylor, Anna M. Shuck, and Sara E. Colby. Chaplain Lorraine Aurand led the Sisters through the services with Sisters AP Dorothy Rongey, Valerie Jones, and Kelly Smith assisting.

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Last Union Veteran of Manistee County Honored

James Wood Gear, the Last Union Veteran Buried in Manistee County received services of memoriam highlighting him as the Last Union Veteran Buried in Manistee County on 18 September 2021 at Arcadia Township's Conway Cemetery. A good-sized turnout of local citizens and officials were in attendance for the beautiful day.

Mr. Gear was determined to be the Last Union Veteran Buried in Manistee County. His service to the nation was in Company D, of the 35th Wisconsin Infantry. He was born in Tiverton, England on 12 April 1845, and

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Commander's Message



Brothers of Robert Finch Camp 14,

We have had a very busy Summer with several dedication and remembrance services.

I would like to thank all who planned and participated in these events. The feedback that we have received is one of great appreciation for our efforts in Keeping Green The Memory of these Civil War Soldiers.

While the Camp has made some headway dealing with internal issues, I am saddened to report that we have had some resignations from certain Camp Officer Positions and also some resignations from the Camp and the Sons Of Union Veterans Of The Civil War as an organization.

Our election of Camp officers for 2022 will be held in November. Please give serious consideration in accepting a position of service to meet the needs of the Camp. Support your Brothers with your time and talents to make Robert Finch Camp all that it can be. Remember, when the going gets tough, the tough get going.

In closing, I am both humbled and honored by the number of Brothers who have quietly and privately stepped forward and taken the initiative to meet the many demands of the Camp.

In closing, I would also like to take the opportunity to thank our Camp Honor Guard for their service and sacrifices to the Robert Finch Camp.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

Paul Davis, PDC - Commander, Robert Finch Camp No. 14



Commander Davis can be reached at:

pdmarcomm@aol.com

**Paul Davis, PDC
4490 Buteo Drive
Traverse City, MI 49684**

Donations for Nursing Home Veterans

Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 is accepting items to donate to Veterans residing at Medilodge here in Traverse City. For more information on items needed and drop-off locations, contact Auxiliary President Dorothy Ronney or Chaplain Lorraine Aurand.

Nominations for Sharpshooter Award

For the 2020-2021 administrative term, if anyone would like to nominate a Brother(s) of the Camp that has provided sustained and high performance should contact Commander Paul Davis, PDC. The Sharpshooter Award is for the Most Outstanding Brother of the Camp during the period specified. See the Camp Bylaws for full details of the award.

Last Veteran of the County Donations

If you would like to donate to the Last Veteran of the County project, or to sponsor a particular county, you can send a donation to the Camp Council via Ted Mattis, PCC. Please send a check or money order made out to "Robert Finch Camp 14" to PCC Mattis along with a note indicating what county or counties you would like to sponsor if that is an interest. Contact PCC Mattis via email for an appropriate mailing address at: tedmattis@charter.net.

Camp Bylaws and Operating Guidelines

Any Brother that would like the most recent issue of the Camp Bylaws and Camp Operating Guidelines via e-mail in a PDF format should contact Council Ted Mattis, PCC, via e-mail at: tedmattis@charter.net

2021-22 Camp Officer Nominations

At the 06 November Camp Meeting, Camp 14 will elect a new slate of Camp Officers for the 2021-2022 administrative term. The following Brothers were nominated for the elected offices outlined below at the 11 September meeting:

Commander:

CC Paul Davis, PDC
SVCC, Counselor, & Editor David Smith, PDC

Senior Vice Commander:

Council & Chaplain Ted Mattis, PCC

Junior Vice Commander:

JVCC, Eagle Scout Coord., & Recruiting Officer Joseph Conger
Br. Eric Boals

Secretary:

NONE

Treasurer:

NONE

Council:

Council John Milks
CC Paul Davis, PDC
Br. Keith Graham



Chaplain's Call



Greetings to the Brothers of Robert Finch.

I hope all of you are enjoying the Fall weather, the colors, and wonders of a changing season and the fruits of the harvest. When I was a young lad I was always drawn to the sound of geese honking high overhead in their flight south to places I could only imagine.

As I have grown older and learned more of the world, I have seen some of these places of rivers and lakes with their own unique features and beauty. We do live in a beautiful country for all to enjoy. Soon friends will depart like the geese for a warmer area for the Winter and return in the Spring like the geese and we will be glad to welcome them back.

As each season turns over like the page in a book we should pause and look back over the previous season. Our Camp has been active these past few months shaking off the Covid fog which continues to linger and will plague us for some time yet. The people making money off this want it to continue and the rest of us want to move on. It's a tug of war over our minds and conscious to be sure with no immediate end in sight.

The Camp has pulled together and performed many ceremonies and attended events doing well as we struggled to move forward. I want to thank and commend everyone who pitched in and made this possible. You are the lifeblood of the Camp to be sure. No one promised us life would not be without trials and tribulations, but life is also interspersed with the satisfaction of a job well done, deserved pride, and a humble glory. There is no greater proof than the faces and comments that come from a grateful public after an event.

There are many quotes that we can draw from to inspire ourselves, many coming directly from the Bible such as; The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23). We have heard this many times and it begs the question of what do we really need in life to be happy? It comes in the form of Charity, Unity, and Loyalty and being active in Robert Finch Camp 14 as well as other endeavors.

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

Ted Mattis, PCC, Chaplain



Lake County Sesquicentennial

Several Brothers from Camp 14 by invite of Alexander French Camp 28 attended the Lake County Sesquicentennial celebration in Baldwin at the Lake County Historical Society (LCHS) on 25 September. Additionally, a Brother from Camp 67 also attended that lives in the general area. Brother Ribby provided his bard talents for the many visitors throughout the day. Commander Davis, PDC, PDC Aurand, Brother Purkiss, and Brother Nash (Camp 67) set up various display items for the visitors to peruse, along with items set up by the LCHS. Also in attendance was PDC Smith and PCC Mattis. Many of the homesteaders of Lake County were Union Veterans.



Top Left: Commander Davis, PDC manning his table.



Bottom Left: GAR Veterans from the Lake County area.

Immediate Left: Co. A, 2nd Ohio H.A Roster with Br. Purkiss' ancestor.

Above Right: Civil War research materials from the LCHS, including local CW Veteran artifacts. Additionally, the table on the right was Br. Nash's items.

Bottom Right: Souvenir badge from the 1898 GAR National Encampment in Cincinnati. This belonged to the ancestor of Brother Purkiss from his attendance.



The Robert and Frances Finch Banquet

Members of Camp 14 and Auxiliary 9 along with their spouses came together Saturday, 16 October to renew the Robert and Frances Finch Banquet. PCC Ted Mattis served as the Master of Ceremonies, while PDC Dale Aurand gave opening greetings from Camp 14 along with AP Dorothy Ronzey, PAP giving opening greetings from Auxiliary 9. Chaplain Lorraine Aurand provided the dinner prayer. PCC George Goodrich gave the closing prayer. A silent auction, as well as sales tables were set up for attendees to purchase many wonderful items donated. Council John Milks provided the banquet with an opening music set, and then entertainment after dinner. Brother Milks is a fine guitar player, songwriter, and singer, and left everyone with a wonderful music backdrop for the evening. Many thanks to Brother Milks! A great deal of fraternity was had by the attendees. The banquet was held at the Camp and Auxiliary's former meeting place, the Elks Lodge #323 in Traverse City. A special thanks to Elks Lodge #323 and their staff for the warm welcome, service, and great food that they provided the Brothers and Sisters during this wonderful evening.



Two More Camp 14 Brothers Receive the SUVCW War Medal



Above: Commander Davis, PDC presents Council John Milks with his SUVCW War Medal. Council Milks is a Marine Corps Veteran that served in Vietnam.

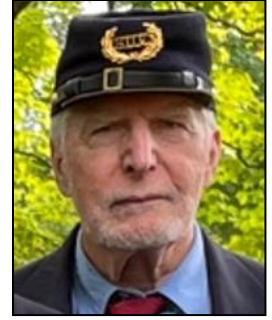


Above: Commander Davis, PDC presents Br. Eric Boals with his SUVCW War Medal while PDC Aurand looks on. Br. Boals is a 32 year Army Veteran with numerous qualifying deployments.

At the September meeting, two more Brothers of Camp 14 received the SUVCW War Medal for their service to the nation while in harm's way. Council John Milks served in the 1st Marine Division in Vietnam. Br. Eric Boals served in the U.S. Army for 32 years and retired as a Chief Warrant Officer 4 with many qualifying deployments under his belt. Congratulations Brothers on receiving your most deserving medals, and thank you for your service!

Patriotic Instruction

From the Camp Patriotic Instructor: We recite the Pledge of Allegiance at meetings and join in singing the National Anthem at sporting events, but there's another patriotic activity that is very important and that is not often enough thought of in the same way and that is voting in local, state, and national elections. Most of us, I'll bet, are diligent in exercising this sacred right but we must also be willing to help others to do the same. This includes what many of us already do, giving a ride to the polls to someone who needs a lift, reminding friends and relatives that election day is coming up but also, in a larger vein, working to make it easier to get a valid ID by campaigning to make DMV offices more accessible by changing open days to Tuesday through Saturday with at least one day open until 9:00 pm. Election day(s) should be Saturday from 7:00 am until 9:pm and the next Sunday 12:00 pm until 9:00pm not Tuesdays.



We can improve our low voter turnout in our beloved country by making it possible for everyone to get a valid ID and to vote at a time when we are not working, often at a job that we cannot readily take time away from.

In F, C, and L, Your PI, H.G. Smith

James Gear – Manistee Co. Last Union Vet *cont'd.*



Above: James Gear taken in 12 April 1932.
(picture source: Ancestry.com)

died in Arcadia Township, Manistee County, Michigan on 23 March 1934 at the age of 88. He enlisted as a Private in Company D, 35th Wisconsin Infantry on 15 January 1864, mustering in at Camp Washburn, Milwaukee, Wisconsin on 27 February 1864, serving 2 years and 16 days where he mustered out at Brownsville, Texas on 15 March 1866. This unit was involved in the following activities & engagements during his enlistment:

The regiment was ordered to Alexandria, Louisiana, April 18, promptly moved to New Orleans, and then traveled to Port Hudson, Louisiana, where it arrived on May 7. It served at Port Hudson until June 1864 and then moved through Arkansas, and Alabama. It participated in the campaign against Mobile and its defenses, the siege of Spanish Fort, and the capture of Fort Blakely, Alabama. Moved in June 1865 to Texas for duty until mustering out in March 1866.



Above Top Left: Color Bearer Ribby gives a recitation of Civil War poetry.

Above Bottom Left: Council John Milks finishes folding the historic GAR Post 298 flag while Br. Keith Graham looks on.

Above Top Right: Br. Boals, Color Bearer Ribby, Br. Morse, Jr., Historian Goodrich, PCC, Chaplain Mattis, PCC, Council Milks, CC Davis, PDC, GRO Sawyer, and PDC Aurand. Missing from the picture are: JVCC Conger, Asst. GRO Jones, Asst. Sec. Welliver, and Br. Graham.

Above Bottom Right: PCC Goodrich and PCC Mattis hold up the 42 star US Flag of Simeon Mallison GAR Post 298 of Pierpont. Left: Camp Honor Guard (L-R): CC Davis, PDC, PDC Aurand, Asst. Sec. Welliver, Br. Boals, Asst. GRO Jones, and Historian Goodrich, PCC.



Ancestor Spotlight

Submitted by Dale Aurand, PDC



Corporal Jacob Aurand

Company H, 9th Michigan Cavalry
Marathon Township, Lapeer County, Michigan

Not all casualties of war occurred on the battlefield. Some health issues appeared a number of years after the Civil War ended.

Jacob Anthony Aurand was a healthy 19 year old country boy, when he enlisted in the Ninth Michigan Cavalry at Marathon Township, Lapeer County, Michigan on December 15, 1862. The photograph of him in uniform (at left) is believed, to have been taken in May of 1863, when he was promoted to Corporal.

In January of 1864 during the East Tennessee Campaign the weather had turned severe. Resulting from a lack of winter clothing, tents and scarcity of rations Jacob A. Aurand became sick. In May of 1864 the Regiment returned to Nicholasville, Kentucky to be remounted. Aurand was given a 30 day leave to return home and recover.

Returning he joined the Regiment for the "Atlanta Campaign" then the "March to the Sea." After the capture of Savannah then began the Campaign in the Carolinas."

Jacob was captured at Monroe's Crossroads, North Carolina, March 10, 1865. Paroled in Virginia and sent to Camp Chase, Ohio, for discharge June 12, 1865.

In November 1865 he married Elizabeth Freeman. The photograph of the two of them is believed to be taken when they married. Take notice of his significant aging after 2 1/2 years in the service.

In Pension papers, Elizabeth states that he had a cough when they met and married. His cough became progressively worse. This coughing caused severe pain in his chest. Corporal Aurand ailment was finally diagnosed as consumption.

The consumption resulted in his inability to work during the last year of his life. Corporal Jacob Aurand died on December 21, 1875 having just turned 33 years of age on November 8, 1875.

The photograph of Jacob, Elizabeth and family is the last known photo of him, taken about 6 weeks before he passed away. The little guy sitting on his knee is my grandfather Cornelius Aurand. Some of my earliest memories are sitting on that "Real Son's" knee the same way.



Above Left: Marriage Picture of Jacob & Elizabeth (Freeman) Aurand in 1865.
Above Right: The Jacob & Elizabeth Aurand Family in 1875



Duane Dewey – Korean War Medal of Honor Winner Passes Away



Above: Corporal Duane Dewey, USMCR receives the Medal of Honor from President Dwight D. Eisenhower on 12 March 1953.

On 11 October 2021, the nation lost one of its true heroes and a very fine gentleman of the highest order. Corporal Duane Dewey was a patriot and a consummate supporter of Veterans and the country he loved as anyone can attest to after meeting him. This Editor had the high honor of meeting Mr. Dewey a couple of times and being able to speak with him every time. He was always graciously willing to meet with the public and share his story.

Mr. Dewey was awarded the Medal of Honor on 12 March 1953 by President Eisenhower after his meritorious actions at Panmunjom, Korea on 16 April 1952. Corporal Dewey was serving with Easy Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division while engaged in heavy combat with Chinese forces that greatly outnumbered the 80 men fighting with him. 66 of the 80 men were either wounded or killed.

During the fevered battle, Corporal Dewey was badly wounded by an enemy grenade, as well as receiving a bullet lodged in his stomach. While his Navy Corpsman was attending to the badly wounded Marine, another enemy grenade landed where he laid.

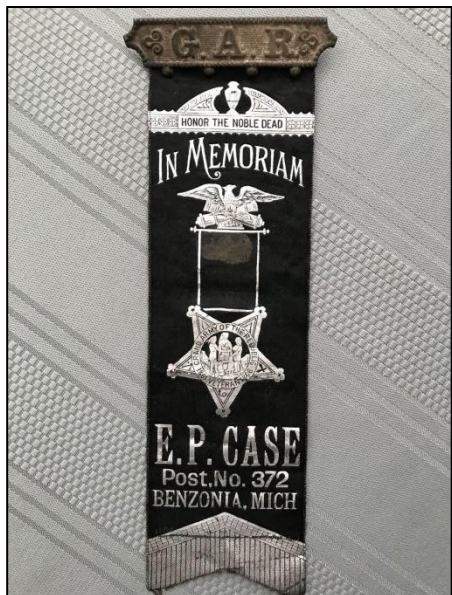
"Son, you must have a body of steel."

- President Eisenhower to Corporal Dewey

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A Camp 20 Brother's Excellent Find

PDC Bill Brennan of General Benjamin Pritchard Camp No. 20 had a wonderful find during one of his travels. His newest find was an "In Memoriam" ribbon from the E.P. Case GAR Post No. 372 in Benzonia. The reader may remember that famed author Bruce Catton grew up listening to the stories of the Union Veterans of the E.P. Case GAR Post. PDC Brennan was very generous in providing pictures for **The Sharpshooter** of the E.P. Case ribbon, as well as several other GAR mourning ribbons from his collection. The Zach Chandler GAR Post No. 35 ribbon in South Haven is from the GAR Post that PDC Brennan's Great Grandfather Henry P. Gillespie was a Comrade. Many thanks to PDC Brennan for providing these wonderful pictures!



Army Major Visits Local CW Veterans & Ancestors

Submitted by CWMO. S. Schwander

Major Tim Petoskey, a brigade intelligence officer for the 654th Regional Support Group, reflects on his experiences being in the U.S. Army Reserve as a member of the Odawa Tribe.

Acknowledging a lost soldier from 1st Michigan Sharpshooter, Corporal Simon Sanequaby, Lincoln's Company K. He is buried in a long forgotten Indian Cemetery, unmarked behind us. IS SANEQUABY TIM'S ANCESTOR? DID TIM HAVE SEVERAL CW ARMY VET ANCESTORS THERE???

On September 22 2021 Major Petoskey and Scott met for the first time and placed an original GAR flag holder in memory of Simon Sanequaby. A traditional blessing, prayer, and cleansing in Anishinaabemowin.

Major Petoskey of Seattle is a direct relative of Igantius Petoskey, and the name sake of the City. It should be noted that he brought his uniform from Seattle to place the flag holder for a fellow Army Veteran from years gone by. Major Petoskey is the descendant of Joseph Waukazoo who served in Co. H of the 16th Michigan Infantry and Co.K, of the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters.

Both Scott and Tim have direct lineage to Cross Village prior to 1850 in Emmet County.



Above: CWMO Schwander & Major Petoskey

Duane Dewey – Medal of Honor Winner Passes Away, cont'd.



Corporal Dewey pulled the grenade under his hip and covered it, telling the men around him that he had it in his hip pocket and to take cover. The grenade went off, and miraculously Dewey survived, saving harm and/or death from those around him.

Corporal Dewey was evacuated by helicopter to a M.A.S.H. field hospital, and then on to a hospital ship before he returned to the United States, receiving the Purple Heart, and later the Medal of Honor. After the Marines, Duane and his wife of 68 years, Bertha settled in South Haven before retiring to northern Lake County (and winters in Florida). He was a fixture within many NW Michigan communities, always supporting Veteran and patriotic causes. Duane E. Dewey AMVETS Post 1988 in Baldwin is named after him.

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Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9

Frances Finch Aux. No. 9 Latest News

The Sisters of Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 have had a very busy 2020-2021 participating in ceremonies and conducting memorial services, as well as jointly planning the “Finch Banquet” with Camp No. 14. 2021-2022 plans to be another busy campaign in “Keeping Green the Memory of the Boys in Blue”, as well as serving and honoring American Veterans from all time periods including current times.

Auxiliary No. 9 Elections and Installations

On Saturday, 06 November, the Sisters of Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 will conduct elections for the 2021-2022 administrative term, along with appointments from the Auxiliary President. Auxiliary Installations will occur after elections and appointments have come to a conclusion.

Donations for Medilodge Veterans On-going

Frances Finch Auxiliary is collecting items for Veterans that are currently staying at Medilodge. Some of the items that the Veterans need include:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Baseball caps | Ring bologna |
| National Geographic magazines | Pudding |
| Printed t-shirts (any size) | Motorcycle magazines |
| Toiletries | White socks |
| Large word searches | Sweat pants (any size) |

President Dorothy reports that the Veterans have been very happy and appreciative of the items collected and delivered to them. Thank you!!



Above (L-R): AP Dorothy Rongey, PAP, Council Debra Downey, Chaplain Lorraine Aurand, Sister Kelly Smith, Sister Valerie Jones, and Sec.-Treas. Lisa Smith, PAP



2020-2021 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: | Karen Goodrich, PAP |
| Council #2: | Debra Downey |
| Council #3: | Lorraine Jones |
| Chaplain: | Lorraine Aurand |
| 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 Breaugh, PAP |
| Counselor: | Mary Rose, PAP |

Sisters Attend James Gear, Last Union Veteran Buried in Manistee County Event

Secretary-Treasurer Lisa Smith, PAP and Chaplain Lorraine Aurand attended the James Gear, Last Union Veteran Buried in Manistee County Event in Arcadia Township.

Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 Performs Services for the Ladies of GAR Plot 241 at Oakwood Ceremony

The Sisters of Frances Finch No. 9 conducted services for the 4 ladies of the GAR Plot 241 in Oakwood Cemetery in Traverse City. Chaplain Lorraine Aurand led the services with AP Dorothy Rongey, PAP, Sister Valerie Jones, and Sister Kelly Smith assisting. Sister Rongey also read a poem during the headstone dedication services for 3 Union Veterans. Council Debra Downey and Secretary-Treasurer Lisa Smith, PAP were dressed in mourning.



Oakwood Ceremony = 4 + 3 + 1, cont'd.

Camp 14 performed simultaneous grave dedication ceremonies for William Bond, Robert Bell, and Sergeant Charles Mann. Comrades Bond and Bell were interred within the GAR Plot 241, while Sergeant Mann was buried a short distance away from Plot 241.

Upon completion of the grave dedication ceremonies, Commander Davis led the Camp in honoring Joshua Moe, Co. A, 4th Michigan Cavalry as the Last Union Veteran Buried in Grand Traverse County. 3 volleys were fired by the Camp Honor Guard and Taps was played by Thelma Paul of Bugles Across America.

Mr. Moe was mustered in as a Private in Company A of the 4th Michigan Cavalry. His service with the 4th Michigan Cavalry included:

Early in February 1864, the Regiment set out on a scouting mission in Tennessee, to gain information and hinder the Confederates. During this scout the Regiment marched over 250 miles in much privation, due to the rainy cold weather, but returned with 145 prisoners, including 2 Colonels and 14 other commissioned officers.

The Regiment remained in the Tennessee area, continually scouting and skirmishing with the rebels, until April 1864, when 800 men strong and well equipped, now armed with the Spencer repeating carbine, they left Nashville, marching to Columbia, where they became part of the 2nd. Cavalry Division. They then moved over the Cumberland Mountains to Stevenson, then Bridgeport, crossed the Tennessee River, to Shell Mound, crossed Raccoon Ridge, Lookout Valley, Lookout Mountain, Pigeon Mountain to Lafayette, then across Taylor's Ridge to Vilanon, GA. They then participated in all of the movements of the army, in the March to Atlanta. When the Regiment reached Atlanta, in August, its men and mounts had been worked to the limits of endurance.

On 12 January 1865, they again moved out, to conduct operations in the Alabama and Georgia areas. On 7 May 1865, the Regiment was ordered to proceed, as quickly as possible, to Spaulding, GA, for the purpose of preventing the escape of Jefferson Davis, who was then supposed to be making his way to the coast, and if the Regiment got on his track to follow him wherever he went, then to capture, or kill him without fail.



Above: Joshua Moe, Co. A, 4th Michigan Cavalry
(picture source: Ancestry.com)



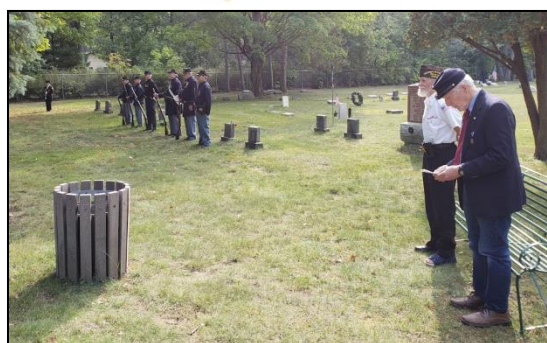
The camp in which Davis and his family were found was surrounded by a thick pine forest, close to a small swamp. In the camp were standing three wall tents, in line, parallel with the road, facing the opposite direction, while the narrow space between the tents, was occupied by several horses, without equipment. In this closure of tents, reposing all unconscious of the impending danger, lay Davis and his family, together with his military staff. Nearby was the rest of the camp, which appeared to be troops, with army wagons, ambulances, horses and cavalry equipment. The 4th Cavalry charged into the camp just at early dawn, completely surprising them, then making the arrest. A few Michigan men then guarded the tents.

The Fourth Cavalry gained a national reputation, with world wide notoriety, by the capture of Davis. It was an accomplishment of an eminently special and important duty, for the nation, so distinctive and definite in its character, as to render a like service impossible, giving it a place in the history of the war, without parallel.

The Regiment returned to Nashville, and on 1 July 1865, they were mustered out of service and paid off. Returning to Michigan, they arrived at Detroit, where they were disbanded on 10 July 1865. *Special thanks to GRO Sawyer for the biography.*



Above (L-R): GRO Sawyer, Dept. Commander N. Smith, PDC Aurand, PCC Mattis, Asst. GRO Jones, JVCC Conger, Asst. Sec. Welliver, Guide Shafer, Br. Boals, PI H.G. Smith, Color Bearer Ribby, PCC Goodrich, and CC Davis, PDC.



Far Left: Chaplain Aurand speaking during the memorial services for the Ladies of GAR Plot 241 as Chaplain Mattis, Dr. Siciliano, and Commander Davis look on.

Near Left: Bugler Thelma Paul of Bugles Across America and the Camp 14 Honor Guard stand at the ready during the ceremony with Guide Richard Shafer and Patriotic Instructor H.G. Smith looking on.

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Local Scout Works in Oakwood Cemetery for Eagle Scout Project

Submitted by CWMO. S. Schwander



Above: George Parvel and his team along with CWMO Schwander at Oakwood Cemetery

Local Scout, George Parvel has tackled a huge project within Oakwood Cemetery in Traverse City as part of his Eagle Scout Project. Mr. Parvel worked with Sexton Branden Morgan to aid the cemetery. Mr. Parvel's project took on the varied and important work of uprighting headstones and footstones, as well as caulking and repairing headstones held together with the old pin method.

George put together a team of 20 people that donated four hours of work with a very short break. 111 headstones were uprighted and repaired across Oakwood Cemetery. The following weekend, the young adults reassembled at Oakwood Cemetery to continue the work. The last tally of numbers for repaired headstones was nearly 150, with several of them being the gravesites of Civil War Veterans.

CWMO Schwander commented that the team was comprised of many outstanding young adults who will be great leaders in the future.

Kudos, George Parvel and your team, for all of your hard work and service to the community!

Oakwood Ceremony = 4 + 3 + 1, cont'd.



Above Front Row (L-R): Board Member Siciliano (TAHS), AP Rongey, PAP, Sister Downey, Chaplain Aurand, Sec.-Treas. Smith, PAP, and Sister K. Smith

Above Back Row (L-R): Chaplain Mattis, PCC, Br. Boals, President Siciliano (TAHS), Guide Schafer, PDC Aurand, Color Bearer Ribby, Asst. Sec. Welliver, GRO Sawyer, Historian Goodrich, PCC, JVC Conger, Asst. GRO Jones, PI H.G. Smith, and Department Commander Nathan Smith, and Commander Davis, PDC



Above: Sister Debra Downey in mourning at the gravesite of Joshua Moe, Last Union Veteran Buried in Grand Traverse County.

Dept. Commander Smith Presents Marshall Hope Award to Camp 14



Above: Marshall Hope Award certificate signed by SUVCW Commander-in-Chief Brian Pierson



Above: DC N. Smith presenting the streamer and certificate to Camp 14 Commander Davis, PDC as PI H.G. Smith, Color Bearer Ribby and Camp 14 members look on.



Department Commander Nathan Smith and his wife Sister Kelly Smith (Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9) attended the Oakwood Ceremony on 02 October as a surprise visit. After the event services, Department Commander Smith presented Camp 14 Commander Paul Davis, PDC with the certificate and streamer for Camp 14 being awarded the 2021 Marshall Hope Award for the Best Camp Newsletter in the Order as awarded by the SUVCW Commander-in-Chief. Congratulations Robert Finch Camp 14 Brothers on a job well done.

Department Commander's Report – Final Comments, 134th Department of Michigan Encampment, 05 May 2018

“Brothers, I have long feared that the SUVCW will go the way of our Noble ancestors, the Grand Army of the Republic. It has been an uneasiness based on the graying of our heads, and the smaller and smaller numbers of a younger generation joining our ranks and bringing a new spark. However, while this is still of utmost concern, I greatly fear something else that is a far larger and deeper threat to our existence than that of passing time. I dread the effect of hubris and excessive pride, and what it is doing to our Order. It dissuades potential new members, it drives current members away, and it disheartens good men from serving in Office. It is time that all of us ensure that we cast these dangers away, embrace our tenets of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty, and continue our charge to preserve the history and legacy of all Union Veterans and the Grand Army of the Republic.”

- David S. Smith, LM, PCC
Commander, Department of Michigan

New Challenge Coins Available



At the 11 September 2021 meeting, PDC David Smith presented those in attendance with new Camp 14 challenge coins. The coins are made in the USA, and are higher end thick poker chips, keeping costs dramatically down compared to foreign tooled and manufactured metal challenge coins. The initial coin order and the design work were covered by donation.

PDC Smith explained to the Camp the various design elements, which are included herein:

Front Side: This side comprises that the challenge coin is from Robert Finch Camp No. 14. It includes the fact that the Camp is the oldest active Camp in the Department of Michigan, including its establishment year of 1914. It also states the Camp's nickname of The Sharpshooters derived from the namesake of the Camp's regiment, and several Brothers' ancestors' regiment, the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters. The center design uses the sharpshooter from the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters Monument on the State Capitol grounds in Lansing.

The red, white, and blue motive are reminiscent of American professional sports leagues logos, while utilizing the patriotic color scheme.

Back Side: This side honors Sergeant Robert Finch, the namesake of the Camp. The outside rings are in sharpshooter green, and include text highlighting Sgt. Finch's service in the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters and his membership in Weatherwax GAR Post No. 75 in Grand Haven. The center insignia is the Ninth Corps badge as its specific design and color appears on the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters monument on the State Capitol grounds. Robert Finch was on the committee to fund and obtain the aforementioned monument.

Extra coins may be purchased from the Camp Quartermaster Dale Aurand, PDC. He can be contacted at: daurand321@yahoo.com

Duane Dewey – Medal of Honor Winner Passes Away, cont'd.



Included herein is the link to Mr. Dewey's obituary, along with a few of the many articles written about him over the years:

<https://www.filbrandtffh.com/obituary/Duane-Dewey>

https://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/2014/07/medal_of_honor_duane_dewey_for.html

https://www.shorelinemedia.net/ludington_daily_news/news/local/medal-of-honor-recipient-with-body-of-steel-duane-dewey-dies/article_18521784-9c64-529c-9c10-3e04bd4687ff.html

https://www.shorelinemedia.net/ludington_daily_news/news/local/medal-of-honor-recipient-duane-dewey-honored-for-his-courageous-service/article_e8fb1aac-3019-11e6-b731-ab5fa9477461.html

<https://www.marinecorpstimes.com/news/2021/10/12/medal-of-honor-recipient-duane-dewey-dies-at-89/>

<https://www.cmohs.org/recipients/duane-e-dewey>

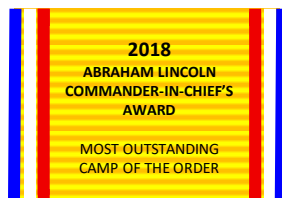
<https://www.cmohs.org/news-events/press-releases/medal-of-honor-recipients-mourn-passing-of-duane-e-dewey/>

Picture sources: www.mlive.com and AMVETS Post 1988 FB page.

Semper Fi, Corporal Dewey



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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FINI