



THE SHARPSHOOTER



Official Newsletter of the
Robert Finch Camp No. 14 – Traverse City
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

2015 & 2017 Marshall Hope Award – Most Outstanding Camp Newsletter of the Order

Spring 2018
Vol. 5 Issue 1

Camp Officers 2018

Commander:
Theo. Mattis
tedmattis@charter.net

Sr. Vice Commander:
Jno. Lantzer
ajlantzer@yahoo.com

Jr. Vice Commander:
Jos. Conger
K2rider@chartermi.net

Secretary:
Dav. Smith, LM, PDC
wyattusmagnus@gmail.com

Treasurer:
Pat. Lints
patlints@yahoo.com

Patriotic Instructor:
H.G. Smith
docsmith99@yahoo.com

Chaplain:
Jos. Conger
K2rider@chartermi.net

Camp Council:
Geo. Goodrich, PCC
Gc_Goodrich@yahoo.com

Wm. Skillman, PCC
skillmans@aol.com

Jan White, PCC
stocktrac@charter.net

Color Bearer:
OPEN

Guide:
OPEN

Guard:
OPEN

CWMO Schwander Receives Camp 14's First Sharpshooter Award and Department's Abraham Lincoln Award

CWMO Schwander was honored by Camp No. 14, as well as by the Department of Michigan for his extensive efforts in cleaning hundreds of Union Veterans, working on the GAR marker restoration project, extensive research, and his

Continued on Page 2



Above L - PDC Smith presents CWMO Schwander with the Department of Michigan's Abraham Lincoln Award.

Above R (L-R): PDC Aurand, CWMO Schwander, PDC Smith, CC Mattis, and Br. Walker Schwander

Brother David Smith Completes Term as Department Commander



Above: Brother Smith being pinned with his Past Department Commander badge by his wife Frances Finch Aux. President Lisa Smith with new Department Commander Payne of Camp 17 looking on. Picture courtesy of PCinC Pahl

At the 134th Department of Michigan Encampment in Lansing, Brother Smith presided over the Encampment as his final act in serving as Department Commander. Camp No. 14 was well represented

Continued on Page 4

2018 Camp 14 Meeting and Event Schedule

Camp Officers 2017
continued

Military & Veteran Affairs
Officer:
Calvin Murphy
calvinm@kaltelnet.net

Signals Officer/Webmaster:
Jan White, PCC
stocktrac@charter.net

Boy Scout Coordinator:
Jeff Morse, PCC
inlandfirechief@gmail.com

Historian:
Geo. Goodrich, PCC
Gc_Goodrich@yahoo.com

Graves Registration Officer:
Jno. Sawyer
sawyerc@gmail.com

War Memorials Officer:
Scott Schwander
kokopellischwander@yahoo.com

Quartermaster:
Theo. Mattis, CC
tedmattis@charter.net

The **Sharpshooter** Editor
David Smith, LM, PDC
wyattusmagnus@gmail.com

May 19	Oakwood Cemetery Ceremony - 10AM Traverse City, MI
June 13	Social Meeting 6 - 8PM Location: TBD
July 14	Camp Picnic, Location: TBD
August 08	Social Meeting 6 - 8PM Location: TBD
August 09 - 12	National Encampment (hosted by Dept. of MA) Framingham, MA
September 08	Camp Meeting Elks Lodge #323, Traverse City, MI
October 10	Social Meeting 6 - 8PM Location: TBD
November 10	Camp Meeting 2018 Officer Elections Elks Lodge #323, Traverse City, MI
December 12	Social Meeting 6 - 8PM Location: TBD

In the next issue of **THE SHARPSHOOTER**.
Extensive coverage of the Oakwood 11
Ceremony on Saturday, 19 May 2018



CWMO Schwander Awards *cont'd*

efforts in community outreach with the Camp. CC Mattis received the award at the 134th Department Encampment on behalf of Brother Schwander.

At the 10 March Camp meeting, CC Mattis presented CWMO Schwander with the very first Sharpshooter Award for his efforts as aforementioned. The award is given by the Camp Commander to a Brother deemed the most outstanding for the previous year.

Left: CC Mattis presents the first Sharpshooter Award to CWMO Schwander while PDC Aurand, and CJVC Ramsey look on.

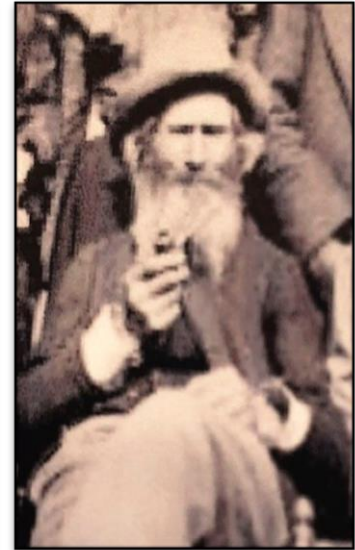
George Nelson Campbell

Company B, 8th Illinois Cavalry

Submitted by: Mr. Tom Breakey, East Jordan, Mich.

George Nelson Campbell was born March 7, 1835 to parents Archibald and Hannah Atwell Campbell, in upstate New York. As a youth it is unknown where he grew up, however on September 29th, 1861, Campbell at the age of 26 years, enlisted for 3 years into the Military joining Company B, 8th Regiment, Illinois Cavalry at Kalb, DeKalb County, Illinois. Shortly thereafter he along with other Union Soldiers were taken prisoner by the Confederate Army. During the march to be interred in Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia, this being the newly formed capitol of the Confederate States of America. As word spread among the prisoners as Libby being as bad as Andersonville, Campbell felt that he would rather die escaping, than to die in prison. Many prisoners did escape, including Campbell, who eventually made his way back to Union Lines. On January 1, 1862, at Camp California Virginia, Campbell was given a disability discharge due to his poor health. He gained his strength back, and reenlisted back into his original unit, to complete his 3 year enlistment.

After Campbell completed his Military service, he moved to the Fife Lake area, and because of his Military service was given 80 acres of land to homestead. On November 26, 1876 at Fife Lake, Michigan, Campbell married Martha Milks Campbell. They farmed and raised 9 children. After Campbell died, his widow moved to East Jordan, living with a daughter until she could purchased her own home from the East Jordan Lumber Company. On February 11, 1908, George Nelson Campbell answered the final call and is being honored by his extended family.



Above L - The grave of George Nelson Campbell in Fife Lake Cemetery.

Above R: George Nelson Campbell

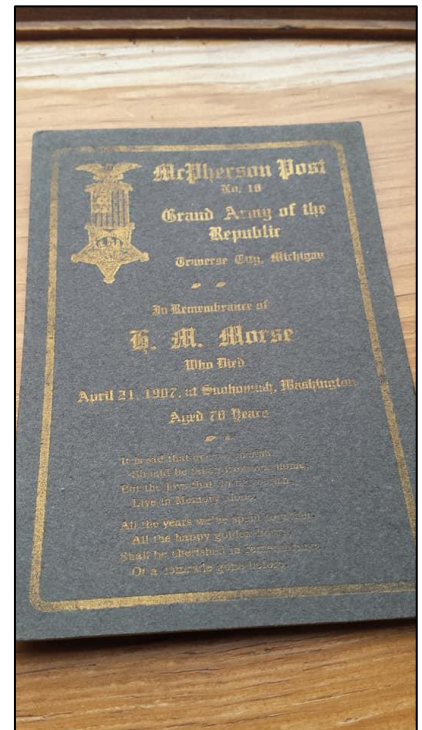
A Family's Great Basement Family Find

Submitted by: PCC Jeff Morse

A great family find was had by PCC Jeff Morse recently. Within a box from his Grandmother's home was a remembrance card issued by the McPherson GAR Post No. 18 in Traverse City for his G-G Grandfather, Horace Monroe Morse at the time of his passing. A wonderful and touching piece of family history from all of those years back.



I just can't wait to show what I found in a box of stuff that came from my grandmothers, that my dad had in basement for better than 25 years. You never know where you're gonna find treasures. This is 111 years old. Was put out by the McPherson post to observe my G-G Grandfather passing. Horace Monroe Morse.



Brother David Smith Completes Term as Department Commander and 134th Department Encampment *cont'd*

at the Encampment with PDC Aurand serving as Senior Vice Department Commander for the remainder of the term, CC Mattis completing his term as Department Guard, Camp Chaplain Joseph Conger, and PDC Davis in attendance. The business of the Department was conducted, and a new set of elected Department Officers were installed. CinC Day was present and installed the new Officers. Department Commander Smith presented CinC Day with two small tokens of appreciation from the Department. The first being a Camp No. 14 Centennial challenge coin, and the second a Petoskey Stone paperweight (Note: a Petoskey Stone paperweight has been on the desk of the Oval Office in the past). Later in the day, Camp 14 received the Gov. Austin Blair Award for the largest member gain in the last term.

With the completion of the Department Encampment, a busy term of challenges and rewards came to an end. Now Past Department Commander Smith wishes to convey many thanks to everyone for their support and efforts in helping make this term a success!



Above: Department Commander Smith at his station during the Department Encampment. Picture courtesy of PCinC Jim Pahl.



Above (L-R): Past Department Commanders in Attendance: PDC Dean Lamphere (Camp 145), PDC David Smith (Camp 14), PCinC Keith Harrison (Camp 17), PDC Dale Aurand (Camp 14), DC Robert Payne (Camp 17), PDC Gary Gibson (Camp 20), PDC Dave Arnold (Camp 17), SVCinC Don Shaw (Camp 145), PDC Chuck Worley (Camp 135), PDC Paul Davis (Camp 14), PCinC Jim Pahl (Camp 17), and PDC David Wallace (Camp 145).



Above: Commander-in-Chief Day addressing the Allied Orders of the GAR at the Memorial Opening of the Encampment



Above: PDC Smith & PDC Aurand



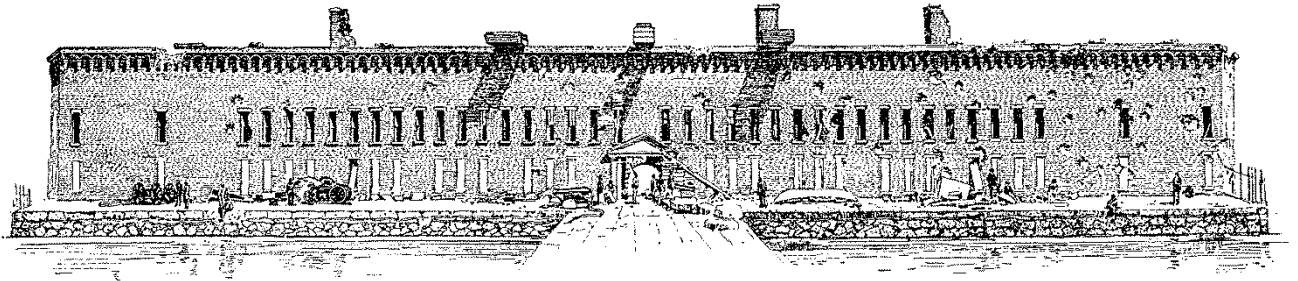
Above: Department Chaplain Buckhahn leading the Memorial Opening at the Department Encampment.

SUVCW Vietnam Veterans Honored by SAR

Submitted by PDC David Smith, Editor

At the April meeting of the Northern Michigan Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, several Compatriots that are Vietnam Veterans were honored by the Chapter. Two Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 (also of NMC-SAR) were among those honored at the event. Military & Veteran Affairs Officer Calvin Murphy along with Brother Richard Schafer were presented with certificates and SAR medals for wartime service.

Right (L-R): Gerald Sullivan, MVAO Calvin Murphy, Dr. George Wagoner, and Brother Richard Schafer.



Grand Traverse County Deputy Sheriff's Association Donation



The Grand Traverse County Deputy Sheriff's Association has very graciously granted Camp No. 14 a donation of \$500 towards the Oakwood Cemetery on-going project for Civil War Union Veterans.

Deputy Sheriff Josh Wolf and GTCDSA Treasurer presented CWMO Schwander (a retired Grand Traverse County Deputy Sheriff) with the check on 18 April 2018.

Many thanks to these Deputies for their hard work in keeping us safe, and for their generosity towards our Civil War Veterans.

Left: CWMO Schwander and Deputy Sheriff Josh Wolf.

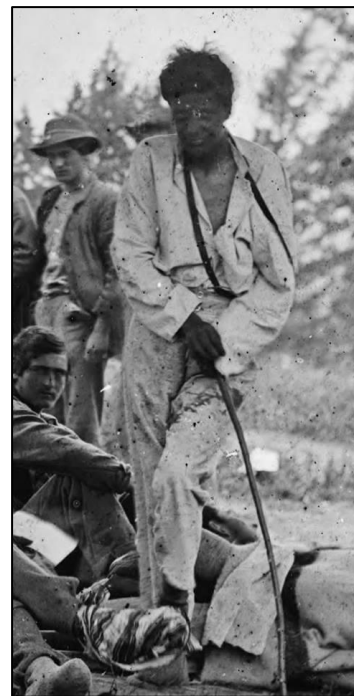
Co. K, 1st Michigan Sharpshooters Identified

Submitted by CWMO Schwander

A MYSTERY SOLVED – Camp 14 friend and historical researcher Vicki Wilson has identified the Company K men that are in a famous (and thought to be the only) picture taken of Company K men during the Civil War. The Soldiers are identified as Tom Kechittigo, Daniel Mwakewenaw, and Simon Kejikowe. The research was shared on the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters, Company K Facebook group. The research post is as follows:

“In Ray Herek’s book “These Men Have Seen Hard Service” page 148 he lists Tom Ke-chi-ti-go (left arm broken), Sgt. Louis Genereau (hit in left leg), Daniel Mwa-ke-we-naw (three wounds), Mark Pe-she-kee (bullet in left shoulder) and Simon Keji-kowe (severe wound in left side) as the Company K members injured at the Battle of Spotsylvania on 12 May 1864.

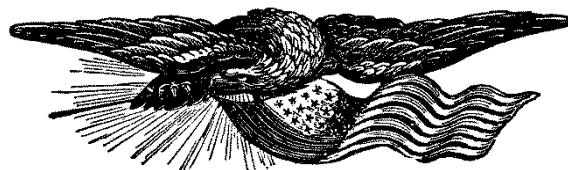
Quita V. Shier’s book “Warriors in Mr. Lincoln’s Army” page 200 says that Tom Kechittigo was transferred by ambulance wagon to a depot hospital in Fredericksburg, VA. “From pictorial evidence of American Indian men photographed after the battle, this hospital was at or near attorney John Marye’s house on Marye’s Heights.” From the information on the men’s medical card only three of the five men Herek named were at the Fredericksburg hospital: Tom Kechittigo, Daniel Mwakewenaw, and Simon Kejikowe. Page 207 “Sometimes, according to Dr. Reed, the wounded would be taken outside and placed on the lawn so that they could have some fresh air and relief from the terrible heat inside the hospital.””



Above Left: The famous picture of Company K Soldiers during the Civil War resting outside on the hospital lawn.

Above Right: Tom Kechittigo with what appears to be a left broken arm.

Left: Daniel Mwakewenaw and Simon Kejikowe





Commander's Corner Ted Mattis, CC

The year 2018 is off and running with a fun summer ahead and a role for everyone to embrace in the ranks as a Son of Union Veteran of the Civil War. Watch your e-mails for information and announcements as the summer progresses.

Our Secretary Pro-tem has published a current Roster for 2018 which you should all have a copy of for your own use containing e-mail addresses and phone #. I encourage you to use this information to keep in contact with the camp and make known to the Secretary of any changes in addresses, both e-mail and postal along with phone numbers etc. If you don't maintain contact with the Camp yearly and we can't make contact with you in any manner, the result will be discharge as prescribed by our Camp By-laws and the C&R.

We also have to remember the summer's National holidays keeping green the memory of those we are charged to care for as well as veterans of later service to our country that are just as important.

We have a picnic meeting in July that will also be a business meeting. Details will be announced by e-mail later on. Also we have to make up a business meeting at some point to replace the one we are missing in May due to the Dedication at Oakwood. This will to comply with our own camp by-laws which specify 6 business meetings per year.

Our chairman of the Cadillac GAR project tells me perhaps we can finalize that by fall. I am looking forward to it and looking on to future projects that we have sitting in the wings. Even small projects pile up if we don't keep marching along and allow them turn into mountains.



“Lincoln We Hardly Knew You”

Submitted by Brother D. Londo

In another installment of “Lincoln We Hardly Knew You”, more little known facts of our Civil War Commander-in-Chief are given. Enjoy!

7) **Lincoln was always opposed to slavery. As a lawyer did he ever defend a slave owner?**

Answer- During his law career, Lincoln defended a slave owner, named Robert Matson. The matter concerned returning Matson's runaway slaves. He lost the case.

8) **What event in Lincoln's life embarrassed him so much that he refused to discuss it with his most intimate friends?**

Answer- Abraham Lincoln responded to a duel challenge from a political opponent, James Shields. The challenge was in response to an anonymous letter to a newspaper disparaging his character. Shields believed Lincoln to be the author. Although unknown, the author was probably Mary Todd with the help of one of her friends.

Since Lincoln was the one challenged, he was given the choice of weapons. He selected broadswords. Since dueling was illegal in Illinois the duel was to take place in Missouri.

Both participants arrived on the other side of the border with weapons and seconds. Fortunately, friends stepped in and effected a compromise.

Lincoln was so ashamed of this episode that he refused to discuss it with Mary Todd. Once questioned by a soldier about it, Lincoln responded that if the soldier valued his friendship, he would not ask him to talk about it.

Continued on Pg. 11

Camp 14 Relic Discovered

Submitted by PDC D. Smith, Editor.



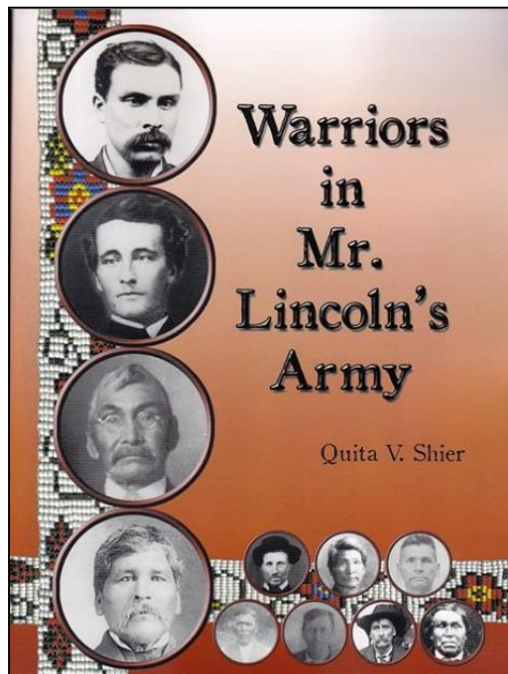
PDC Gary Gibson came across this Camp 14 historical relic on an online auction website a short time ago, and sent the link for it to DC Smith.

The ladder badge is comprised of silver links with a light blue silk ribbon and metallic tassel.

Based on the Camp's founding, as well as the Order's name change from Sons of Veterans to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - the badge's manufacture must be between 1914 and 1925.

A special thank you to PDC Gibson for sharing the badge's auction page link.

Recommended Reading



McPherson GAR Post No. 18 Plot 155 Monument Dedication

Submitted by CWMO Schwander



Above: Comrades of the McPherson GAR Post 18 dedicate the GAR monument in Plot 155 in Oakwood Cemetery in Traverse City.

McPherson GAR Post 18 Monument – Plot 241

Information Submitted by CWMO Schwander & CJVC Ramsey

Interesting information and a local find were discovered that directly tie back to the well known monument residing at the McPherson GAR Post 18 Plot 241 within Traverse City's Oakwood Cemetery.

CJVC Ramsey acquired a framed illustration of the Post 18 monument in Plot 241 and shared his discovery with the Camp. CWMO Schwander began researching the origins of the construction of the monument. Within his research an short article was found discussing the fundraising efforts for the monument, as well as mention of a photographic illustration.

It is believe that the print that CJVC Ramsey has is an illustration that was given to donors during the fundraising drive, and probably was the same illustration mentioned within the article showing the anticipated design.

FOR SOLDIERS' MONUMENT

Subscription Papers Will Soon Be Circulated by **McPherson Post**, No. 18, G. A. R.

McPherson **Post**, No. 18, G. A. R., has received photographic illustrations of the new soldiers' monument, to be erected in their new grounds in the cemetery. The monument will be very handsome, of Barry granite, and about 15 feet high. A receptacle has been provided, in which will be placed copies of the newspapers, lists of county officers, teachers, and the names of donors toward the monument, and such other data as may be necessary. A committee on monument has been appointed by the **post**, consisting of Commander Smith and Comrades Garvin, Marvin and Little, who will circulate subscription papers. Six hundred dollars is the estimated cost of the monument. Illustrations will be placed in different parts of the city, so that all who desire to contribute to its purchase may see just how the finished monument will look.

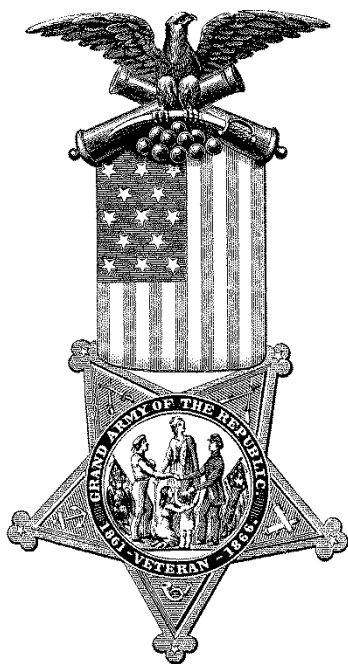
The subscriptions will be taken soon, and all will have the opportunity to aid in rearing this monument to the nation's heroes. The members of the **post** anticipate no trouble in raising the \$600 for the monument.

The material used is Barry granite. The total height is 12 feet 9 inches. The bottom base is 5 feet 2 inches square and 1 foot 6 inches high. The second base is 3 feet 6 inches square and 1 foot high. The base will all be hammered and have a Scotia wash.

The die or main shaft is 2 feet 8 inches square at the bottom, diminishing to 2 feet 6 inches square at the top, and is 4 feet 4 inches in height. On the top of the die the granite statue of a soldier at parade rest stands. This is 5 feet 11 inches in height.

Upon the face of the die is inscribed the words, "McPherson Post, No. 18, G. A. R."

The work was designed by W. W. Kelly, in the employ of A. W. Rickard, who has the contract for this work to be erected this fall.



Top Right: The McPherson GAR Post 18 Plot 241 Monument seen in May of 2018.

Bottom Right: The illustration of the McPherson GAR Post 18 Plot 241 Monument (scan courtesy of PDC Davis).



Left: Article regarding the McPherson GAR Post 18 monument at Plot 241.



Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9

Frances Finch Aux. Attends Vietnam War Ceremony

On 29 March 2018, AP Lisa Smith and PAP Dorothy Rongey attended the Vietnam War Ceremony held at the Grand Traverse Area Veterans Memorial Park in Traverse City.



Right L-R: AP Lisa Smith, and PAP Dorothy Rongey at the Vietnam War Memorial Monument at the GTA Veterans Memorial Park.

2018 Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 Officers

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

Auxiliary Program with Brother Conger

Submitted by Aux. President Lisa Smith

Sisters of Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 held a program open to the community at Traverse Area District Library. Brother & Chaplain Joseph Conger gave the program on The Last Battle of the Civil War.



Above: Brother Conger in action during his presentation as PAP Rongey and Sister Debra Downey listen.



Above: Brother Conger at the presentation.

The Sharpshooter

Official Newsletter of the Oldest Camp in the Department of Michigan.



Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9

Frances Finch Aux. Summer Program Series

Frances Finch #9 ASUVCW has joined with the Northern Michigan Chapter of the Sons of American Revolution & Traverse Area District Library to host a 3 part series on "Why Uniforms Were the Way They Were" with George Scheck. The series is broken down as follows:

June 22nd - Washington's Army (Rev. War) and a little bit about the French & Indian War

July 13th - War of the Wilderness (Rev. War) including Butler's Rangers

August 3rd - Civil War

All programs are Fridays from 1-2 PM at TADL Main Library in the McGuire Community Room (the large 1st floor room on the left as you enter the building).

All programs will be free and open to the public. They are intended to be kid/family friendly. If you would like to wear a uniform on a certain date that goes along with the topic, please feel free to do so.

George Scheck has been professionally creating reenactment clothing for over 30 years. Born and raised in Traverse City, George was among an elite group of professionals selected to create clothing in the movie "The Last of the Mohicans". Though technically retired, George continues to create reenactment clothing for people all over the country.

So mark you calendars, spread the word, and bring a friend!

For more information:

<https://www.tadl.org/event/history-of-the-united-states-military-uniforms-part-1/>
<https://www.tadl.org/event/history-of-the-united-states-military-uniforms-part-1-2/>
<https://www.tadl.org/event/history-of-the-united-states-military-uniforms-part-1-2-2/>

Lincoln *cont'd*

9) During his lawyer days, Lincoln often represented the Illinois Central Railroad. What famous Civil War general was the Vice President of that railroad?

Answer- Lincoln, a strong advocate of internal improvements, argued several cases on behalf of the Illinois Central Railroad. The Vice President of the Illinois Central at that time was none other than George B. McClellan, future Commander of the Army of the Potomac.

10) Besides Abraham Lincoln, who was Mary Todd's most famous suitor?

Answer- Stephen Douglas, Lincoln's opponent in the Lincoln-Douglas debates the 1860 presidential election. Mary Todd was not bashful about her preference. She boasted " Stephen Douglas is a very little giant by the side of my tall Kentuckian and intellectually he towers above Douglas just as he does physically.

11) At the Inaugural Ball it was a social custom for the First Lady dance the first promenade with someone other than the President. To whom did she accord this honor?

Answer- Her former beau, Stephen Douglas

12) What did Mary Lincoln and Varina Davis, the First Lady of the Confederacy have in common?

Answer- Prior to becoming Mary Lincoln's seamstress, Elizabeth Keckley, a former slave, was employed by Varina and then Senator Jefferson Davis.

Harvey Langworthy

Submitted by CWMO Scott Schwander

Harvey A Langworthy, one of the best known residents of the Grand Traverse Area died on June 8th 1910. A veteran of the Civil War, he was surrounded by his wife, children and father in law at the time of his death at 405 North Division Street in Traverse City.

Harvey was born in 1840 in Erie County Pennsylvania. He moved to Grand Traverse County in 1851 and settled in Old Mission. They remained in Old Mission before they settled in Williamsburg and constructed a saw mill. At the time, modern day Williamsburg, was named Williamsburgh, by the homesteading families from New York State.

After 1857, Langworthy began his career on the Great Lakes shipping. In 1862, Harvey enlisted in Company K 20th Wisconsin Infantry, first brigade, Second Division, 13th Corps from Lafayette County Wisconsin. He served in the War until 1865 and received an Honorable Discharge.

One of his most cherished possessions was a silver star he took from Confederate General Johnson, after being sent by General Grant and a message which had been taken from a rebel prisoner. This prisoner had been captured by Corporal Langworthy on June 5th 1863. The Corporal and 10 handpicked men had been guarding a gap between the 19th Iowa, and a river. Under the cover the darkness the rebel soldier had been discovered and captured.

It is reported the captured soldier tried to swallow a message but it was detected by Union Soldiers. The intercepted message read as follows "Vicksburg Mississippi 4 June 1863 To General Joseph E. Johnson, Commanding Forces on the Big Black Miss. General - Please send by the bearer all the percussion caps you can spare. We are short on Caps. Signed General Pemberton, Commanding Forces Vicksburg, Mass."

Corporal Langworthy escorted the prisoner to Division Headquarters and here, General Grant, ordered Corporal Langworthy to take the message to General Johnson himself and to ascertain the size of his unit. Corporal Langworthy put on the prisoners clothing, using the name James Williams, Company 4, 16 Georgia, began the hazardous journey. After arriving at General Johnsons Headquarters, he told the Guard he had news from Vicksburg and a message for General Johnson. The General received Corporal Langworthy, as James Williams, took the message and ordered a meal for him. As soon as General Johnson left the room, Langworthy took one of the silver buttons from the Confederate Generals blouse. This button contained the initials of General Johnson.

Langworthy prized his article of war up until the time of his death and had been photographed wearing the Confederate General's star on the lapel of his coat.

After the War, Langworthy married and in 1876 opened a grocery store in Traverse City until 1882. He moved to Acme where he ran a store and returned to Traverse City, again in the mercantile business until the time of his death in 1910 at age 69.

Just prior to his passing his pension had been increased from \$12 to \$30 each month.

Harvey Langworthy was a member of the McPherson GAR Post 18, holding several offices within the organization. His funeral was held at the Asbury M.E. Church with internment at Oakwood Cemetery, Traverse City.

Today, Harvey Langworthy's headstone is cleaned and maintained by Oakwood Cemetery and the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, Robert Finch Camp No.14. His original GAR flag holder has long since disappeared, but was replaced on May 2 2018.

Source: Traverse City Evening Record 10 June 1910, Pg. 3





Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Robert Finch Camp No. 14 – Traverse City
Department of Michigan
www.robertfinch14.org
Ted Mattis, Commander



THE SHARPSHOOTER can be found online at:
www.robertfinch14.org

Find us on 

www.facebook.com/robertfinchcamp/

