



G.A.R. Dispatch

Newsletter of

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

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Volume 5, Issue 3

April, 2022

Museum Founder and Benefactor Don Limpert



Limpert. Donald E. Manchester. Michigan - Museum Founder and Benefactor.

Donald Edwin Limpert, 94, of Manchester, passed away Friday, February 18, 2022 at his home. Don was born on May 7, 1927 in Groveport, Ohio to Frank and Mary Edna (Staubaugh) Limpert. Raised in Sterling Heights, Michigan, as Don recalled to many visitors, allowed him as a young child to see Michigan's surviving Civil War veterans participate in Memorial Day parades down Woodward Avenue.. Thus began his lifelong passion leading to his nationally recognized collection of Civil War arms, memorabilia, records, original letters, and especially those of the Grand Army of the Republic. An active and resourceful builder in Oakland County, Don moved his family to Manchester, in 1963. There he established his reputation for restoration and historic preservation, notably, the Black Sheep Tavern, the Manchester Mill and the Manchester Village Blacksmith's Shop. Don served as Member and Chair of the Township Planning Commission, Trustee of the Village of Manchester, member of its Historical Society, the Men's Club, and Masonic Lodge. Following his interests in collecting, he was a member of the Michigan Regimental Round Table Civil War Group and a charter member of the Michigan Chapter of Stein Collectors International. Don donated items of his G.A.R. collection to various Michigan communities and towards the end of his active life, Don funded the establishment of the Michigan Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum in downtown Eaton Rapids, Michigan, furnished with items from his collection. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Don is survived by his children, Bruce Limpert and Denise Thompson; grandchildren, Adam Limpert and Callie Limpert of Manfield, Texas; and a great grandson, Mason Cruz Berryhill, of York, South Carolina, and his faithful friend, nurse and care-giver, Amanda Martin. He is preceded in death by his parents, brothers, William Limpert, and Frank Limpert, his sister, Marjorie Deck, his wife, Rita, infant daughter, Renee, his sons, Scott and Ryan, and granddaughter, Hannah Chelsea Limpert. Cremation has taken place. A gathering will be announced of a remembrance in the Manchester community later in the Spring. Contributions in Don's memory may be made to G.A.R. Museum, Eaton Rapids, or a charity of choice.



U.S. Representative Tim Walberg holds community meeting at the Museum

U.S. Representative Tim Walberg visited the Michigan G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum on March 22, using the museum as the site for a community gathering, to give his constituents a chance to see him and ask questions. Representative Walberg holds these meetings throughout his district.

Representative Walberg represents the 7th Congressional District, including the counties of Branch, Eaton, Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Monroe and Washtenaw. He opened the session with a brief statement and then spent the remainder of his time answering questions. This particular session was not as well attended as they have been in the past, however, those in attendance seemed pleased with the respectful exchange of thoughts and ideas. He sadly announced that due to the re-drawing of district lines after the previous, his District will not include Eaton County after the end of the year.



Representative Walberg answering a question from the audience

Representative Walberg with Museum board member and Eaton Rapids Mayor Pam Colestock



UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

April 2022

Wednesday, April 13th (10 AM - 5 PM) - **Museum Open**

Thursday, April 14th (7 PM) - **Board Meeting**

Tuesday, April 19th (10 AM - Noon) - Tri-River History Group Meeting at Museum

May 2022

Wednesday, May 4th (10 AM - 5 PM) - **Museum Open**

Wednesday, May 11th (10 AM - 5 PM) - **Museum Open**

Thursday, April 12th (7 PM) - **Board Meeting**

Tuesday, May 17th (7 PM) - **Seminar: *Lincoln's Winning Smile*** (Speaker: Cameron S. Brown)

Saturday, May 28th (9 AM) - **Flag placement at Rose Hill Cemetery**

Monday, May 30th (10 AM - 5 PM) - **Museum Open for Memorial Day**

Monday, May 30th (11 AM) - **Annual Memorial Day Parade and Program**

June 2022

Wednesday, June 1st (10 AM - 5 PM) - **Museum Open**

Wednesday, June 8th (10 AM - 5 PM) - **Museum Open**

Thursday, June 9th (7 PM) - **Board Meeting**

Tuesday, June 21st (7 PM) - **Seminar: *Sultana*** (Speaker: Gene Selecke)

July 2022

Monday, July 4th (10 AM - 5 PM) - **Museum Open for Independence Day**

Monday, July 4th (1 PM) - **Annual July 4th Parade**

Wednesday, July 6th (10 AM - 5 PM) - **Museum Open**

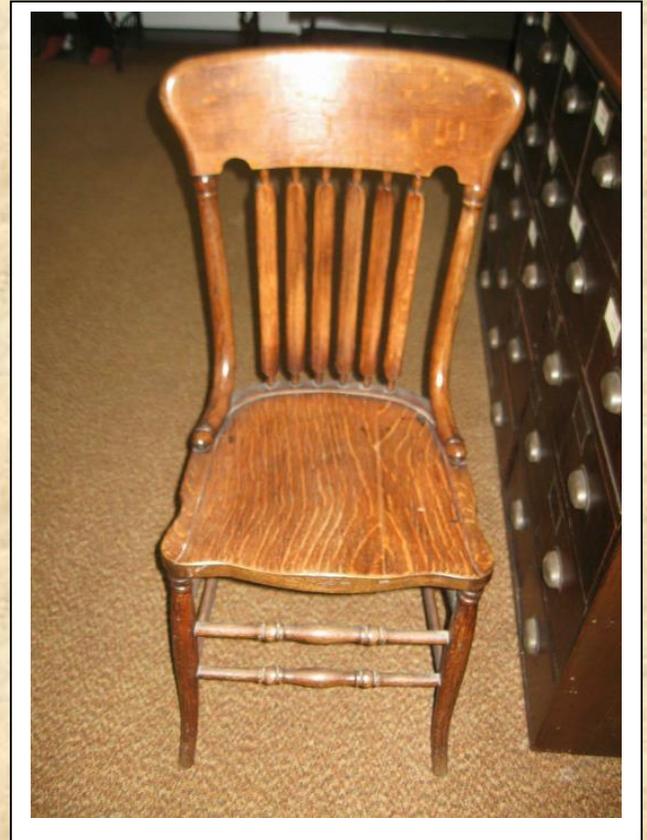
Friday/Saturday, July 9th/10th - **Off Site Event: Cass County Underground Railroad Society**
(Vandalia, Michigan)

Wednesday, July 13th (10 AM - 5 PM) - **Museum Open**

Thursday, July 14th (7 PM) - **Board Meeting**

Tuesday, July 19th (7 PM) - **Seminar: *Kalamazoo County and the Civil War - How One Michigan County Supported, and Didn't Support, the War Effort*** (Speaker: Gary Gibson)

RECENT ACQUISITIONS



Upper left - stereoscope

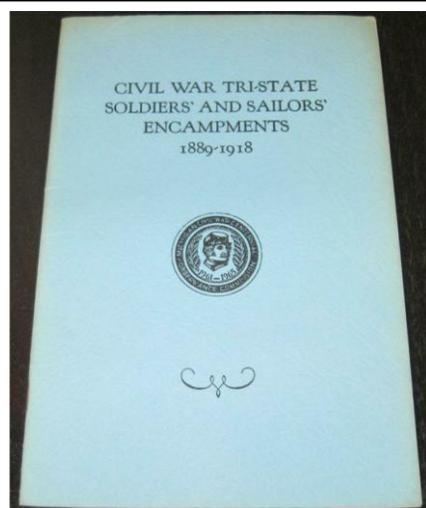
Upper right - wooden chair

Left - Michigan Delegate badge to the 1908 G.A.R. National Encampment in San Francisco

RECENT ACQUISITIONS



**Gift of the 8th Congress of the
Military Order of the Loyal Legion
of the United States of the Michigan
Commandery, June 2, 1897**



**Left - Civil War Soldiers and
Sailors Encampments 1889
- 1918**



**Middle - National Delegate
badge to the last G.A.R.
National Encampment in
Indianapolis, Ind**

Cody Orr Selected to fill out remaining term on the Board of Directors

Cody Orr of Eaton Rapids was elected by the Board of Directors to fill out the term of Don Limpert on the board until the next regular elections. Cody is a beekeeper and recently became the night manager at the Quality Dairy in Eaton Rapids. Cody has always been interested in history and the Civil War. He is directly descended from a Union Civil War veteran. He had started to volunteer at the museum and brings a number of new ideas to the board.

Board elections are held in June and each is a three year term. Welcome aboard Cody!



Save the Date!

2022 Annual Civil War Discovery Camp for Kids

The Board of Directors of Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum has set the date for the 2022 Annual Civil War Discovery Camp for Kids. It will be Tuesday, August 9th beginning at 10:00am through 3:00pm. It is intended for children ages 7 to 14 years of age.

Activities will include instruction of the Civil War manual of arms using wooden muskets, how to march, how the Civil War soldier lived and much more. The students will then be split up into smaller groups and continue to explore various aspects of the Civil War. They will also have the opportunity to fire a reproduction Civil War era musket (with prior parental approval). Instructors will load the musket with a black powder only and then cap the rifle. The instructor will continue to hold the rifle, while the student is fitted with safety glasses, then steps up and then is allowed to pull the trigger. BOOM!

The student's will then march in formation over to the G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum for a tour, learning about the Grand Army of the Republic and the Women's Relief Corp, the woman's auxiliary to the G.A.R. At the conclusion, students will each be paid \$13.00 in replica 1860's script and discharged from military service with an appropriate discharge certificate. Registrations forms will be available late spring/early summer. Additional information may be found on our website: <https://garmuseum.com/civil-war-discovery-camp.html> or by email at garmichigan@gmail.com. You can also call the museum at 517-922-6427.



MUSEUM HOURS

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

MICHIGAN'S

G.A.R. MUSEUM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President-Keith G. Harrison

Vice President-Chris Allen

Secretary- Gary Gibson

Treasurer-James Kaiser

Directors: Cody Orr, David

Kimble, Bob Griggs, Pam

Colestock, & Jim Pahl



Thank you to all who have visited the museum and who generously gave a donation or became a 2022 Sponsor!





MICHIGAN'S GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC MEMORIAL HALL & MUSEUM

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James B. Brainerd Post #111 Memorial Hall and Museum, Inc.
Email: GARMichigan@gmail.com Web: <https://GARmuseum.com>
Telephone: 517-922-6427

Face Book: GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum

This collection of post-Civil War history is displayed on the two floors of the original James Brainerd Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Post #111 in downtown Eaton Rapids. The 1886-built G.A.R. Hall is just a short walk from G.A.R. Island Park where annual G.A.R. encampments were held in August in 1886, 1893, 1901, and then each year from 1908 until 1929. Your support is needed to help us chronicle and preserve the significant contribution of the G.A.R. to our state's and country's history..

2022

ANNUAL SPONSOR LEVELS

\$ 200	President Abraham Lincoln G.A.R. Post	_____
\$ 175	Governor Austin Blair G.A.R. Post	_____
\$ 150	Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant G.A.R. Post	_____
\$ 125	Major Gen. William T. Sherman G.A.R. Post	_____
\$ 100	Major Gen. Philip Sheridan G.A.R. Post	_____
\$ 75	Bvt. Major Gen. Alpheus S. Williams G.A.R. Post	_____
\$ 50	Bvt. Major Gen. Russell A. Alger G.A.R. Post	_____
\$ 25	Lt. James B. Brainerd G.A.R. Post	_____

OTHER SPONSOR LEVEL

\$1,000 Life-time Patron _____

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Email: _____

If paying by check, make your check payable to *G.A.R. Museum*. If you wish, you also may pay by credit card by filling out the bottom of this form. Mail completed form and payment to address above.

Credit Card Number _____ Security Code _____
(3 digit code-back of card)

Expiration Date _____ Credit Card Billing Zip Code _____

Signature _____ Date _____

The Museum is open the first two Wednesdays each month, patriotic holidays, **and by appointment**.
Museum Admission is Free.

The Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall & Museum is a federally recognized 501 (c) (3) tax exempt, Michigan nonprofit corporation.
All donations to Michigan's G.A.R. Memorial Hall and Museum are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law.