

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM

PLEASE:

- Type or print, using a ball-point pen, when filling out this form. Legibility is critical.
- Do not guess at the information. An answer of, "Unknown," is more helpful.
- Include a photograph of each viewable side and label it with name & direction of view.

- Thank You.

Type of Memorial

- ☒ Monument with Sculpture
 ☐ Monument with Cannon
☐ Monument without Sculpture
 ☐ Historical Marker
☐ Plaque

Affiliation

- ☐ G.A.R. (Post Name & No. ZACH TAYLOR, POST 42) ☐ M.O.L.L.U.S.
☐ W.R.C. (Corps Name & No. DEPT of MINN G.A.R.) ☐ Other Allied Order
☐ SUVCW (Camp Name & No. William Colvill III Camp 56) (Please describe below)
☐ DUVCW (Tent Name & No. _____)
☐ Other: _____

Original Dedication Date 1895, MAY 30 memorial day Please consult any/all newspaper archives for a local paper's article that would have information on the first dedication ceremony and/or other facts on the memorial. Please submit a copy of your findings with full identification of the paper & date of publication. Thank you.

Location

The Memorial is currently located at:

Street/Road address or site location CORNER of 230 AVE AND 31st St
 City/Village Fulda Township BOWDIN County MURRAY

The front of the Memorial faces: ☐ North ☐ South ☒ East ☐ West

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner (of private cemetery that Memorial is located in)...

Name N/A Dept./Div. _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Contact Person _____ Telephone () _____

If the Memorial has been moved, please list former location(s)...

N/A

Physical Details

Material of Monument or base under a Sculpture or Cannon = ☐ Stone ☒ Concrete ☐ Metal ☐ Undetermined
 If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) CONCRETE GRAY

Larsen
Fulda MA
5/6/31

Material of the Sculpture = ☐ Stone ☒ Concrete ☐ Metal ☐ Undetermined
If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) _____
If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?" N/A

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = See additional notes for
PLAQUE INFORMATION

Material of Cannon = ☐ Bronze ☐ Iron - Consult known Ordnance Listing to confirm
Markings on muzzle = N/A
Markings on Left Trunion _____ Right Trunion _____
Is inert ammunition a part of the Memorial? ☐ If so, describe _____

Approximate Dimensions (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points

Monument or Base: Height 80 Width 55 Depth 55 or Diameter _____
Sculpture: Height 72 Width _____ Depth _____ or Diameter _____

For Memorials with multiple Sculptures, please record this information on a separate sheet of paper for each statue and attach to this form. Please describe the "pose" of each statue and any weapons/implements involved (in case your photos become separated from this form). Thank you!

Markings/Inscriptions (on stone-work / metal-work of monument, base, sculpture)

Maker or Fabricator mark / name? If so, give name & location found _____
M. A. A. WAUGH, TRACEY MINN AS STATED IN THE
ENCLOSED FULDA HERITAGE PAPER, MAR 28, 2003.

The "Dedication Text" is formed: ☐ cut into material ☒ raised up from material face

Record the text (indicate any separation if on different sides...) Please use additional sheet if necessary.

SEE PHOTO 2 OF PAGE 1, FORM #61

Environmental Setting

(The general vicinity and immediate locale surrounding a memorial can play a major role in its overall condition.)

Type of Location

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cemetery | <input type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza/Courtyard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Town Square" | <input type="checkbox"/> Post Office | <input type="checkbox"/> School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Building | <input type="checkbox"/> State Capitol | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courthouse | <input type="checkbox"/> College Campus | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Circle | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | _____ |

Linsen
Fadden
5/16/31

General Vicinity

☒ Rural (low population, open land) ☐ Suburban (residential, near city)
☐ Town ☐ Urban / Metropolitan

Immediate Locale (check as many as may apply)

☐ Industrial ☐ Commercial
☐ Street/Roadside within 20 feet ☐ Tree Covered (overhanging branches)
☐ Protected from the elements (canopy or enclosure, indoors)
☐ Protected from the public (fence or other barrier)
Any other significant environmental factor FARM SITES ARE LOCATED
1 BLOCK NORTH AND 1 BLOCK SOUTH

Condition Information**Structural Condition** (check as many as may apply)

The following section applies to Monuments *with* Sculpture, and Monuments without Sculpture -

including the base for Monuments with *Cannon*. Instability in the sculpture and its base can be detected by a number of factors. Indicators may be obvious or subtle. Visually examine the sculpture and its base.

see attached diagram

If hollow, is the internal support unstable/exposed?
(look for signs of exterior rust)

SculptureN/A**Base**N/A

Any evidence of structural instability?

(look for cracked joints, missing mortar or caulking or plant growth)

—X CRACKS

Any broken or missing parts?

(look for elements (i.e., sword, musket, hands, arms, etc. - missing due to vandalism, fluctuating weather conditions, etc.)

NDND

Any cracks, splits, breaks or holes?

(also look for signs of uneven stress & weakness in the material)

—X ON BASE**Surface Appearance** (check as many as may apply)

Black crusting

Sculpture**Base**

White crusting

——

Etched, pitted, or otherwise corroded (on metal)

——

Metallic staining (run-off from copper, iron, etc.)

——

Organic growth (moss, algae, lichen or ~~vines~~)

——

Chalky or powdery stone

XX

Granular eroding of stone

——

Spalling of stone (surface splitting off)

——

Droppings (bird, animal, insect remains)

——

Other (e.g., spray paint graffiti) - Please describe...

——

Does water collect in recessed areas of the Memorial? ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unable to tell

Lursen
Fulda MN
56131

Surface Coating

Does there appear to be a coating? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unable to determine

If known, identify type of coating.

☐ Gilded ☒ Painted ☐ Varnished ☐ Waxed ☐ Unable to determine

Is the coating in good condition? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unable to determine

Basic Surface Condition Assessment (check one)

In your opinion, what is the general appearance or condition of the Memorial?

☐ Well maintained ☒ Would benefit from treatment ☒ In urgent need of treatment ☐ Unable to determine

Overall Description

Briefly describe the Memorial (affiliation / overall condition & any concern not already touched on)

Statue was last painted by Mr. Odenbreth in 1995. He researched for the proper Union colors. Records indicate that the statue was painted white from the inception date.

Supplemental Background Information

In addition to your on-site survey, any additional information you can provide on the described Memorial will be welcomed. Please label each account with its source (author, title, publisher, date, pages). Topics include any reference to the points listed on this questionnaire, plus any previous conservation treatments - or efforts to raise money for treatment. Thank you.


Inspector Identification

Date of On-site Survey 4 May 2010

Your Name CHUCK LURSEN

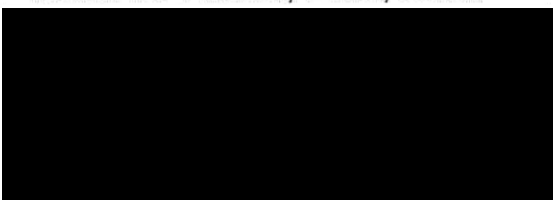
Address 504 N. MARYLAND AVE

City FULDA

State IN Zip Code 56131 Telephone 

Please send this completed form to:

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Chair



Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
National Civil War Memorials Committee

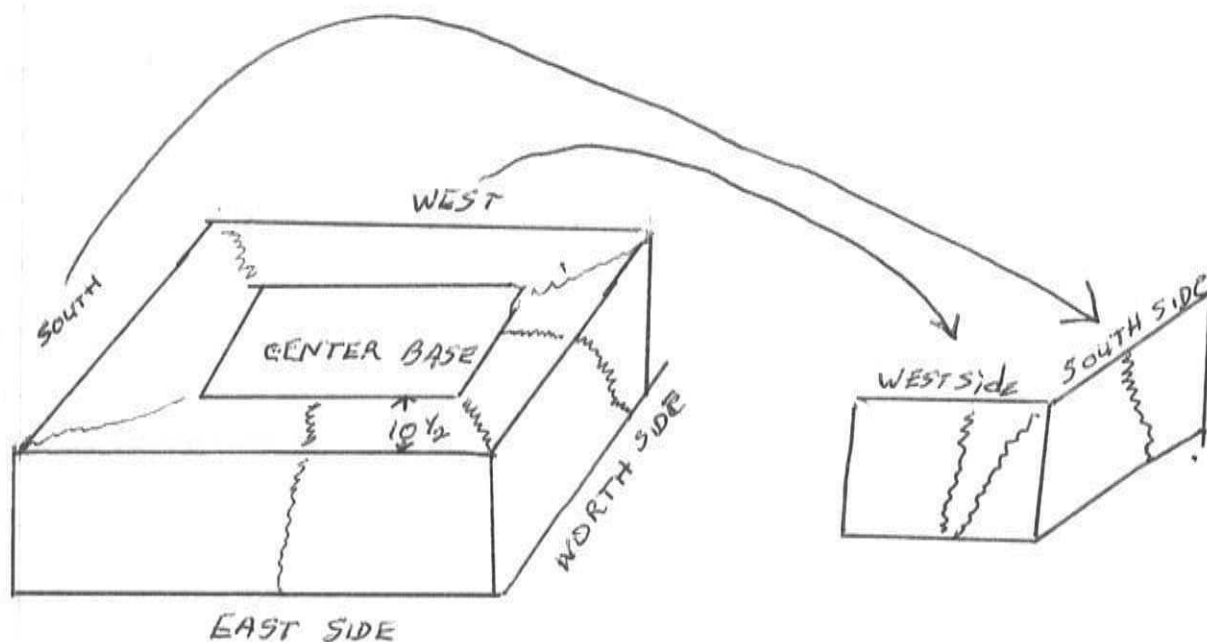
See
attached
Notes

Linsen
Fulda MN
56131

Page 2: Material of Plaque Presently we do not have a historical plaque for the G.A.R sentry. However, Fulda Heritage Society received permission from the Prairie Hill Cemetery board on April 21, 2010, to initiate construction of this marker. Enclosed find a photo of a similar historical marker

Linsen
Fulda MN
5/6/31

Refer to Page 3: CRACKS

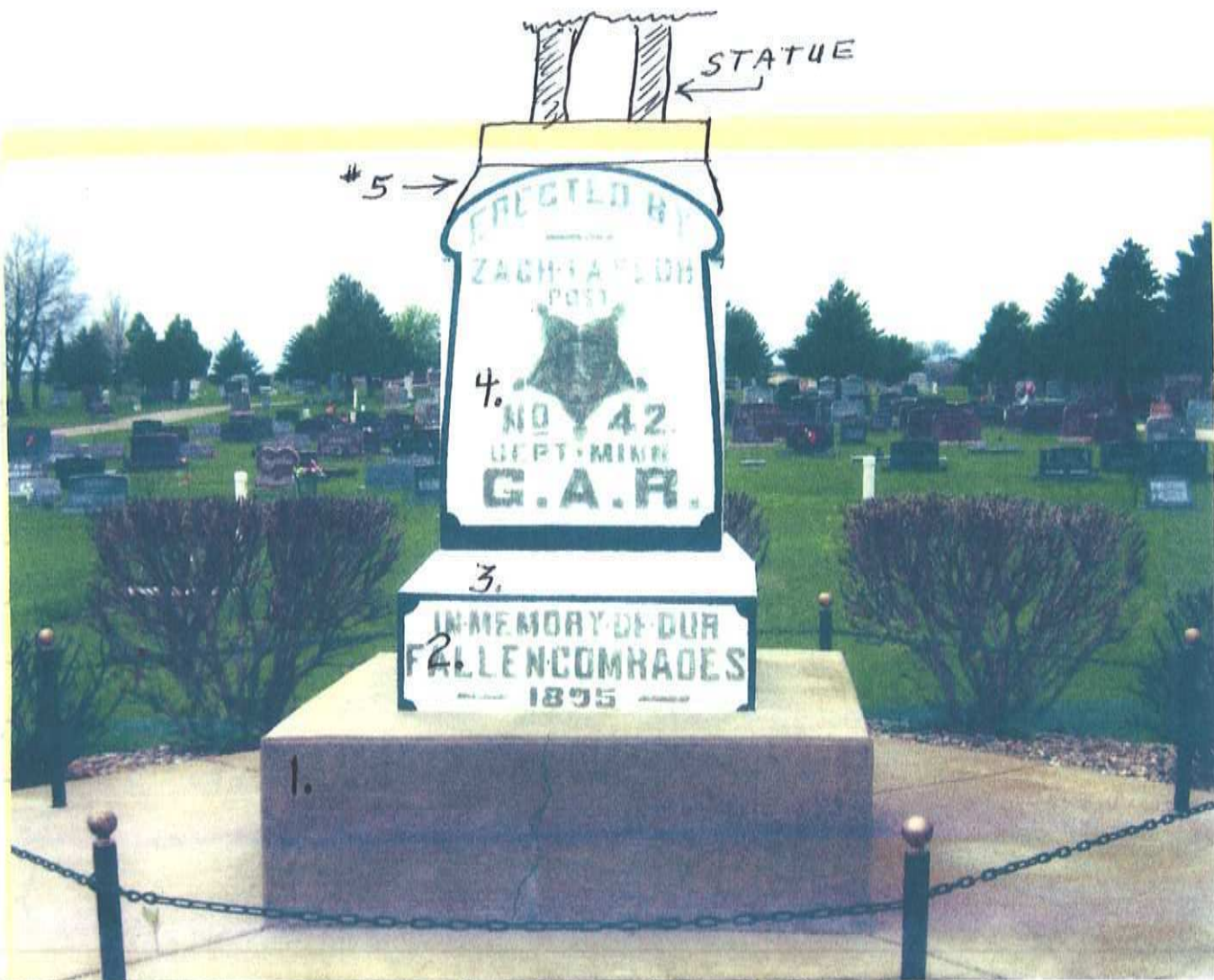


- ~~~~~ = INDICATE CRACKS. - These are not severe enough to cause failure of statue.
- They can be caulked.
 - MR OENBRETT PAINTED the soldier in 1995. He states that the cracks were evident at that time.

Jensen
Fulda Mo
5/6/31

STATUE SOLDIER BASE MEASUREMENTS

| | HEIGHT | WIDTH | DEPTH |
|-----------------|--------|-------|-------|
| 1. BASE: | 18" | 55" | 55" |
| 2. BASE: | 11" | 27" | 27" |
| 3. ANGLE BASE: | 5" | 25" | 25" |
| 4. CENTER: | 38" | 24" | 24" |
| 5. STATUE BASE: | 8" | 21" | 21" |



THIS PHOTO FACES EAST
monument

LURSEN
FULDA,
MN
56131

FULDA'S CANNON - 3 Inch Ordnance Rifle -

In 1892, Fulda was to host the Encampment of the GAR, Grand Army of the Republic, comprised of Union veterans of the Civil War. With enthusiasm mounting, the members of the Zach Taylor Post 42 and a majority of Fulda's citizens petitioned the Village Council to purchase a Civil War 3" ordnance rifle (or cannon). William M. Davis, Fulda's first Mayor, arranged with W. Stokes Kirk Company of Philadelphia, PA, to make the purchase at a cost of \$155.00 including freight. It was received June 25, 1892, and fired that same year at the Encampment held just south of town.

On the muzzle are the initials of T. T. S. Laidley - Inspector of Ordnance, the serial number, manufacturer's initials, year it was made, and weight of the tube or barrel. "N4" on the tube indicates that it was ordered by the New Jersey Militia, one of only nine that exists today. On one side the trunnion is marked "Phoenix Iron Co.", the manufacturer, and on the other side is the date of a patent granted for an improvement in the forging and welding process. The cannon itself was patented in 1855. Between January 1, 1861, and June 30, 1866, the federal government purchased 925 rifles of this type.

(Continued on other side)

ERECTED BY THE FULDA HERITAGE SOCIETY, 2004

CANNON
HISTORY
PLAQUE



FULDA'S
CANNON
3"

ORDNANCE
RIFLE

LOCATED IN
FULDA CITY
PARK,

This G.A.R. sentry located in Prairie Hill cemetery, Fulda, MN

PHOTO 1.

Linsen
Fulda MN
5/6/31

G.A.R.
Sentry
Facing
EAST



PHOTO 2:

This is the
base of the
G.A.R. sentry

ZACH TAYLOR
Post No 42
Dept. Minn
G.A.R.



PHOTO PAGE 1

THIS G.A.R. sentry located in Prairie Hill cemetery, FULDA. MN.



PHOTO 3:

G.A.R.
SENTRY.

CAMERA
FACING
NORTH

SENTRY
FACING
EAST



PHOTO 4:

G.A.R.
SENTRY

CAMERA
FACING
EAST

THIS IS GAR SENTRY LOCATED IN PRAIRIE HILL CEMETERY FULDA, MN



Linsen
Fulda MN
56131

PHOTO 5

G. A. R.
SENTRY

CAMERA
FACING
SOUTH

SENTRY
FACING EAST



PHOTO 6

G. A. R.
SENTRY

CAMERA
FACING
WEST

SENTRY
FACING
EAST

Larsen
Fulda MN
56131

Effort to raise money for treatment.

1. American Legion Post 0318 will donate monies for the treatment.
2. Fulda Heritage Society stated they will donate monies for the treatment.
3. The cost of statue treatment will be \$250⁰⁰ as stated by Mr Maurice Odembrett. Mr Odembrett painted the soldier in 1995

P.S.

I was elected to the Prairie Hill Cemetery Board 1 year ago. I became interested in the "Old Soldier." I've seen him for many years. but didn't know what he stood for. He and the Civil War vets were just old pieces of history.

I began researching what GAR was.... I found 16 to 17 Civil War Vets interned here along with many more in outlying cemeteries. We also have a Cannon - 3" ordnance rifle. So Fulda is rich in Civil War memorials. The cannon is in need of renovation. We'll talk about this later on when the time is right.

My goal is to refurbish these items and make the public aware of our rich memorials with the help of the Fulda Heritage Society.
Thank You. Chuck Larsen

PHOTO OF DEDICATION
(centered on plaque)

OLD SOLDIER

This monument depicts a Union soldier wearing the Blue of the North during the Civil War of 1861 to 1865. The soldier stands at parade rest overlooking the soldiers interned at the monument base and others within Prairie Hill Cemetery. Their military headstones are identified in the cemetery directory.

The monument was a project of the Fulda Zach Taylor Post 42, Dept. of Minn. G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic) which was founded by the Civil War veterans of Fulda, Minn., July 25, 1883. This monument was erected to pay tribute and to honor their gallant fallen comrades for patriotism, loyalty and services rendered.

Mr A.A. Waugh of Tracy, Minn., was selected to sculpt this Old Soldier for \$370.00. The Old Soldier was known as the Shaft when erected at Prairie Hill Cemetery located 1 mile North of Fulda, Minn. Veterans later named it the Old Soldier. Hundreds of G.A.R members and Fulda citizens proudly rode carriages, horses or walked to Prairie Hill Cemetery to partake in the dedication of this Old Soldier on Memorial Day, 1895.

Hard times were experienced by all and donations for the Old Soldier fell short. Mr Waugh started legal proceedings to have the monument removed. Mr Wilhelm Walther, an Avoca, Minn., Civil War veteran intervened and paid the outstanding balance to save the Old Soldier.

This monument weathered for 116 years but remains intact. Mr M. Odenbrett painted the cement colored Shaft in the original Union colors in 1995 and 2010. The fallen soldiers have a beautiful symbol in commemoration of their feats of war.

This historical marker is dedicated to all Civil War veterans by the Fulda Heritage Society, Memorial Day, 2011

Additional notes for Page 4 of 4

Overall Description

Further notes from Mar 2011.

Statue was repainted by Mr Odenbrett in May 2010. The original color at dedication time was white or cement colored. It was called the shaft then.

Supplemental Background Information

1. Efforts to raise money for treatment. The Fulda Heritage Society found the money to have Mr Odenbrett repaint the Old Soldier. If we are granted the monies for restoration, then Fulda Heritage Society will be reimbursed.

The original monies for treatment came from Emil King Post 0318 here in Fulda.

The cost of the statue treatment was \$250⁰⁰ as stated by Mr Odenbrett. He painted the Old Soldier in 1995 and 2010. What a wonderful job.

PS. I was elected to the Prairie Hill Cemetery board 1 year ago. I became interested in the Old Soldier. I've seen him for many years but didn't know what he stood for. He and the Civil War Vets were just old pieces of History. I began researching C.H.R. I found 17 C.H.R. Vets interned here and more in outlying cemeteries. We also have a 3 Cannon (3 ordinance life). So Fulda is rich in Civil War Memorials. The cannon is in need of renovation. We'll talk about this when the time is right.

Linsen
Fulda MW
5/6/21

Page 4 of 4 continued

We learned the history of this Old Soldier monument. and the 14 Veterans interned here along with their place in the History of Fulda. Very interesting as its all tied together.

The "Old Soldier" now has a Plaque on order describing his history. Expected completion date is May 1-2011 and dedication will be Memorial Day 2011.

Please note; I knocked on doors for donations for the Plaque and succeeded in obtaining monies of \$2600⁰⁰ to make it come to life. The Heritage Society was behind me all the way.

This historical marker will be 39x43 with the story on each side. Metal with Gold leaf letters over Black base

The 1895 dedication Photo (enclosed) will be on the plaque Top.

Am enclosing a copy of the "Old Soldier" history - This will be on the plaque.

Thank you
Chuck Linsen

Linsen
Fulda 11/11/11
96131

Page 2: Material of Plaque Presently we do not have a historical plaque for the G.A.R sentry. However, Fulda Heritage Society received permission from the Prairie Hill Cemetery board on April 21, 2010, to initiate construction of this marker. Enclosed find a photo of a similar historical marker

Page 2 of 4 Update - March 2011 - for Plaque is on Page 4 of 4
(material of Plaque) its on order for delivery in early May. ~~See~~
Our Cannon plaque is the replica of the new one.

Sewah Studios Customer Order Request

Please fill out this form and send to Sewah Studios via email, fax, or mail. We will contact you to complete the order process. If you have text, artwork or photographs, please mail with this order request. Thank you!

Order Request Date MAR 9-2011 Needed By MAY 3-6, 2011
 First Time Customer ☐ YES ☒ NO Referred By _____
 If no, last Sewah Order Number M-9646
 Title of last marker FULDA BEACH HOUSE
 Purchase Order or Your Customer Number _____
BILL TO CHUCK LURSEN
 Company/Name Fulda HERITAGE SOCIETY Contact CHUCK LURSEN
 Address 504 N. MARYLAND AVE Address 2 _____
 City FULDA State MN Zip 56131
 Phone _____
 Email _____

SHIP TO Same as BILL TO address? ☒ YES ☐ NO
 Company/Name SAME Contact _____
 Address _____ Address 2 _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____
 Email _____

(Shipping address must be a commercial delivery location with a loading area for freight delivery access. Additional charges for residential and/or church locations.)

MARKER INFORMATION

Marker Caption OLD SOLDIER
 Pattern Style REVISED OHIO PATTERN Number of Markers 1 Pattern Size (H X W) 39X43
 Text ☒ Same Both Sides ☐ Different Each Side
 Text Letter Size (CHECK ONE)
☒ 5/8" ☐ 1" ☐ 1 1/2" ☐ 2"
 Plate Color BLACK Letter Color BLACK w/gold leaf
 Insignia Color N/A Rail Color GOLD LEAF
 Mounting Post ☒ 7" ☐ 10" Wall Mount: ☐ No Post

PLEASE MAIL, FAX, OR EMAIL YOUR COMPLETED ORDER TO:

CREDIT IN 1/2"
Caption 2"

Sewah Studios
 190 Millcreek Road - PO Box 298
 Marietta, OH 45750

KRISTIE: REF PHOTO:
 if you need a BETTER
 copy. Email our NEWS
 PAPER ON BOTTOM of
 PHOTO.

5x7 PHOTO

This form is
updated - Mar 2011
by Chuck Lursen
Previous form
is obsolete

Sent May 25 2010
Resent Mar 2011

File

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL FUND REQUEST

(FORM CWM #62)
Requester Information

CAMP AND DEPARTMENT NAME: ZACH TAYLOR, POST NO. 42
(Please print or type) DEPT MINN G.A.R

ADDRESS: 106 FRONT ST W

CITY: FULDA

STATE: MN ZIP CODE: 56131

NAME OF CONTACT PERSON: CHUCK LURSEN

ADDRESS: 504 N. MARYLAND AVE

CITY: FULDA

STATE: MN ZIP CODE: 56131

PHONE(S): [REDACTED]

Memorial or Monument Information

NAME OF MEMORIAL: "THE OLD SOLDIER"

LOCATION: (Name and address of cemetery or other location description, such as, corner of 3rd and Lincoln Street) _____

PRAIRIE HILL CEMETERY, CORNER OF 230 AVE AND 31ST
FULDA MN 56131. BONDIN TOWNSHIP, SEC 23, FULDA, MN

WHEN WAS IT BUILT: ~~1895~~ Established in 1885

WHO OWNS IT: FULDA CEMETERY ASSOCIATION BOX 362, FULDA, MN
56131

New Fact

see attached copy of Zach Taylor Post 42
giving the monument to the
Legion.

WHO IS FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR IT: FULDA AMERICAN LEGION

ARE MATCHING FUNDS AVAILABLE: YES FROM WHERE: AMERICAN LEGION

* FULDA HERITAGE SOCIETY

see below ARE OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS AVAILABLE: _____ FROM WHERE: UNKNOWN

AMOUNT BEING REQUESTED: \$ 250.00

DESCRIBE WORK THAT THESE FUNDS ARE NEEDED FOR: (Be specific, use back if necessary)

To repaint "Old Soldier" MONUMENT, PRAIRIE HILL CEMETERY.
SCRAPPING, CLEANING, PAINTING, LABOR AND PAINT.
COLORS IAW UNION ARMY UNIFORM.

WHO EVALUATED THE NEED FOR THE WORK AND WHAT ARE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS: _____

MAURICE ODENBRETT (LOCAL ARTIST) AND FULDA CEMETERY BOARD

WHO WILL DO THE WORK DESCRIBED AND WHAT ARE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS: _____

MAURICE ODENBRETT - LOCAL ARTIST. HE PAINTED "OLD SOLDIER"
IN 1995. HE RESEARCHED THE PROPER UNION COLORS.

WHO WILL RECEIVE THE FUNDS IF GRANTED: _____

MAURICE ODENBRETT THROUGH CHUCK LURSEN AND
FULDA CEMETERY BOARD.

up date - Mar 2011:

1. American Legion Post 0318 will donate monies for treatment.
2. Fulda Heritage Society stated they will donate monies for the treatment
3. The cost to repaint is \$250.00 by Mr Odenbrett.
- 4 Fulda Heritage Society paid Mr Odenbrett \$250.00 upon completion of repainting.
5. Upon Granting of the \$250.00 will be given back to the Heritage Society for distribution.

Thank You

Chuck Lursen

See Page
4 of 4 on
form 61
for this info

*This is a copy of Zach Taylor Post 42
last will and Testament upon closing
their post...*

TO EMIL KING POST OF AMERICAN LEGION NO. 318
FULDA, MINNESOTA.

GREETINGS:

We, Zach Taylor Post No. 42, Department of
Minnesota, Grand Army of the Republic, U. S. A., do
hereby present to you our United States Flag.

We request that you will carry it to the
cemetery on each Memorial Day, May 30th, and there
mark with an American flag the grave of each soldier,
sailor, marine or army nurse who served with the mil-
itary forces of the United States of America.

If possible, let the flag be carried by sons
or grandsons of members of the Grand Army of the Repub-
lic who may be members of your Order. We hope you
will display this flag on all national holidays, espec-
ially on Lincoln's Birthday and Flag Day, June 14th.

We also place in your care the Soldiers' Mon-
ument and the soldiers' burial lot in Prairie Hill Cem-
etery, and we hereby give you authority to engrave the
insignia of your Order on the monument.

David Palmer
.....
Commander.

Jesse A. Maxwell
.....
Adjutant and Quartermaster.

*American
Legion to
care for monument*

**SUVCW MEMORIAL GRANTS REQUEST
2010 - 2011**

GRANT REQUEST # 2010-11-05

Project Name: The Old Soldier

Camp: Col. William Colvill Camp #56, Dept Wisconsin

Monument Location: Corner 230th Ave & 31st St, Fulda Bondin Township, Merry Co. MN

Contact Person: Chuck Lursen

Check Payable to: Mr. Odenbrett

Amount Requested: \$250.00

Total cost of project: Unknown

Amount Approved _____

Existing Monument X **New Monument** _____ **Last Soldier Project** _____

Memorials assessment report filed? _____ **Yes** X **No** _____ **Not needed**

Signature of Memorials Officer Bruce Butgereit **Bruce Butgereit, PDC**

Please initial your vote next to your name, then sign and date below, once completed, fax or email to Bob Petrovic, Fax# 636-274-4568, Email; rpetro7776@aol.com, who will send it to Richard Orr, National Treasurer for payment.

Approved Denied Tabled

Robert M. Petrovic, PDC

Tad D. Campbell, PDC

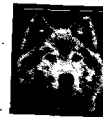
Bill Vierra, PDC

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Comments:



Mr. Charles Lursen
504 Maryland Ave.
Fulda, MN 56131



Hello Garen,

Heres the Forms 61 and attachments
are updated to include Form 62

Hoping now for the Grant

Chuck Lursen

Bruce Butgereit PDC Chair,

L

Brother Bob Petrovic sent me an e-mail requesting we send form 61 to you as there was not one on file. MR Lursen has filled out the form, included pictures etc. I have personally seen the "Old Soldier" and believe this to be worthy of consideration. The cracks in the base are small and hopefully can be easily corrected.

Thanks for your work

SEE you in Virginia
Garen Engquist PCC
Camp 56



Fulda's Heritage

Volume 1 Number 3

Fulda Heritage Society

Published by the Fulda Free Press

May 28, 2003

The Old Soldier Stands Vigil Still

Gone is the hail of bullets; gone too is the thunder of distant cannons. Flashes of musket fire and rivers of blood droplets have long ago disappeared. The old soldier guards only against the winds of change and the mists of forgetfulness.

The monument was erected in 1895 by the G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union Army veterans of the Civil War) and was dedicated to fallen comrades on Memorial Day 1896. It stands today at the Prairie Hill Cemetery just one mile north of Fulda under sunny skies.



The G.A.R.'s timing was a bit unfortunate in that the effects of the Financial Panic of 1893 were still being felt and fund raising for the project was difficult. After several local efforts and those of other G.A.R. posts in southwestern Minnesota, the amount due was still over \$100 of the total cost of \$400. We're not talking dinner for four at a nice restaurant, but rather several acres of land or even a house.

Mr. A. A. Waugh of Tracy, MN, the man who actually constructed the monument, threatened to foreclose. One Wilhelm Henrick Carl Walther rode to the rescue. He had fought in the Civil War as a member of the Second Minnesota Regiment of Cavalry, Company M, from December 18, 1863 to December 4, 1865, and by the way was the grandfather of John, Edward, & Roland Buschena! He paid the balance due, and the Old Soldier, The Man In Blue stands today in peace.



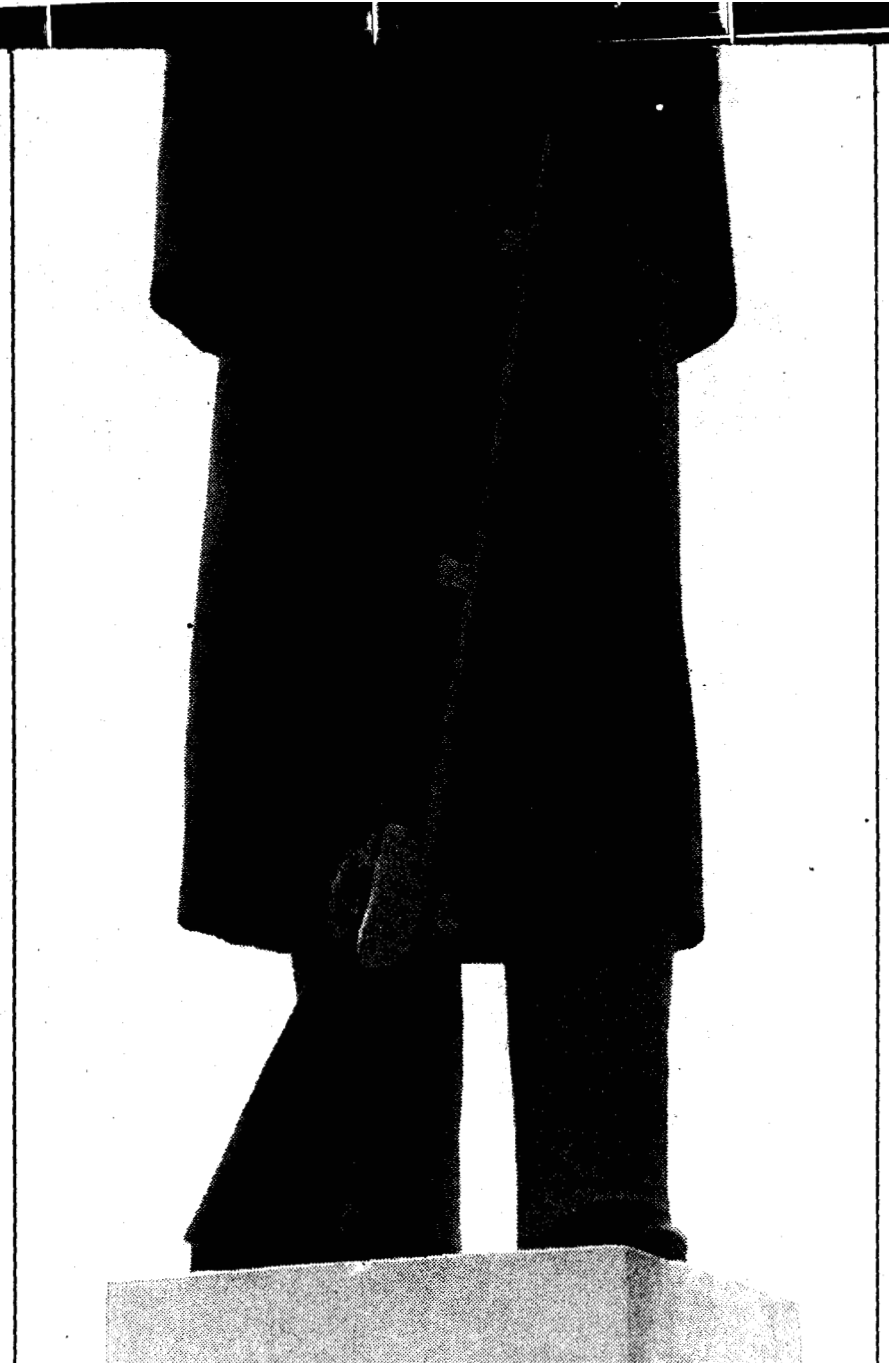
The original dedication ceremony for the G.A.R. Monument Prairie Hill Cemetery 1 mile North of Fulda.

- Integrated Communications Services • Local • Long Distance
- Custom Calling Features

CENTURYTEL

1-800-872-4016 (Residential)

1-800-872-4017 (Business)



The Man In Blue stands watch at Prairie Hill Cemetery.



Fulda's cannon is positioned along side the New Ulm Battery cannon in front of the G.A.R. Monument in honor of the 125th anniversary of the City of Fulda at the Fulda Wood Duck Festival celebration.

tion at Prairie Hill Cemetery as a memorial to
ose fallen soldiers lost at war.

The New Ulm Battery dress the part as they travel to area celebrations to fire their Cannon non-
oring Civil War Veterans.



The original dedication ceremony for the G.A.R. Monument Prairie Hill Cemetery 1 mile North of Fulda was attended by many Veterans and their families.

*Lillian
Fulda and
Page 2.*

Grand Army of the Republic

Perhaps the most far-reaching event in Fulda's early history was the creation of the local Zach Taylor Post #42 of the G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic - a group of Union Army Civil War Veterans.)

In addition to providing a support group for local veterans already living here, it provided a welcoming group for veterans looking to start farmsteads and other businesses in the area. It was made up of men from all walks of life and was particularly blessed with powerful local leaders (including William E. Davis, Fulda's first mayor and Nobles County's third homesteader, a political leader there who became Fulda's newspaper publisher, B. W. Woolstencroft.)

That group took on two large projects in its relatively short history that remain with us today and provide rich visual images of our heritage. In fact, they have become significant parts of our current history.

In 1892 Fulda was slated to host the Annual Encampment of SW Minnesota's G.A.R. The local post together with supportive citizens petitioned the Fulda Village Council to acquire a Civil War Cannon (3-inch ordinance rifle) from the U.S. Government surplus being made available to communities. It arrived, June 25, 1892, and it was proudly displayed and fired at the Encampment held south of town.

To this day it is an integral part of local celebrations, evoking images of Fulda's part in the Civil War as our Cannoneers proudly present it some 150 years later.

The second project that our Zach Taylor Post took on was the placement of a monument - The Old Soldier, the Man in Blue - at Prairie Hill Cemetery. Their effort began in 1895, and the statue was dedicated Memorial Day of 1896. It stands vigil to this day.

In the last year or so a thorough history of this group has come to the light of day. Lois Elskamp donated the manuscript to the Fulda Heritage Society. It was written by Albert Johnson (the publisher and editor of the Fulda Free Press at the time) some sixty years ago. He gave a copy to

ried in the Seward Cemetery located a few miles southwest of Fulda) published in Volume VII, Issue 3 of Fulda's Heritage were excerpted from this same article by Albert Johnson.

We now publish a couple more excerpts, these dealing with the establishment of the post and its dissolution:

"The Grand Army of the Republic was a patriotic organization composed of the Northern Veterans of the Civil War. It was organized on April 6, 1866, at Decatur, Illinois. Prime mover in the organization was Dr. B. F. Stephenson of Springfield, formerly a surgeon of the 14th Illinois Infantry.

The establishment of Post 1 in Decatur was seen followed by Post 2 in Springfield, and in a few months other Posts sprang up in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri and other states.

First steps in the organization of the Zach Tayler Post at Fulda was at a meeting of the old soldiers held Saturday evening, July 25, 1883, at the office of C. C. Doss. On motion, W. A. Carr was chosen chairman, and Wm. Davis, secretary, and on motion it was decided to organize a Post of the G. A. R. and B. W. Woolstencroft was appointed a committee to write for information regarding the organization.

The following names were entered on the muster roll:

| | | |
|------------------|---|----------------------------|
| W. A. Carr | F | 148th N. Y. Infantry |
| E. V. Veek | L | 2nd N. Y. Cavalry |
| W. M. Davis | I | 4th Minnesota Infantry |
| B. E. Daily | D | 78th Pennsylvania Infantry |
| C. C. Doss | G | 1st Connecticut Infantry |
| John Hayes | K | 5th Minnesota Infantry |
| R. Lattin | D | 9th Michigan Infantry |
| Oscar Lattin | I | 1st Illinois Infantry |
| G. B. Stiler | I | 57th Illinois Infantry |
| Deles Snyder | C | 128th Indiana Infantry |
| John Vale | K | 74th Illinois Infantry |
| Clint Wilson | C | 114th Illinois Infantry |
| B. Woolstencroft | L | 6th Iowa Cavalry |

The new Post was organized, 42nd in the State of Minnesota, although the spotty files of the Murray County Republican give no mention of the new Post until its issue of September 5, 1883, when in its directory of county officers, village officers, church, train, and mail, it carries a card for the Grand Army:

G.A.R. MEETING

Zacariah Tayler Post No. 42 meets the first and third Saturdays of each month.

B.W. Woolstencroft, Adjutant B. Woolstencroft, Commander

The five line notice is brief, but it tells a story, unique, perhaps, in the entire history of the Grand Army of the Republic:

Commander and Adjutant were father and son!

Both had served in the 6th Iowa Cavalry, and the son was born at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, on February 22, 1846, while his father was stationed at that Post. The father saw services mostly in the Black Hawk War, and in the Florida and Mexican Wars, and was called back to duty during the Rebellion.

At the next election, in December, W. E. Davis was elected as Commander, with B. W. Woolstencroft remaining as Adjutant."

The group's activities quickly wound down after the monument was erected. Fulda's Centennial History tells us "When Comrade D. W. Stone died in 1897 there were not six G.A.R. members well and able to be his pallbearers." The organization did not officially end for several more years, as Albert Johnson continues:

"As the ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic drew thinner, so did news of their activities grow lesser and lesser. Finally none for long intervals; eventually a short letter from California:

Back in 1920, soon after the local Legion was organized, the Post received from Zach Tayler Post 42 of the G.A.R. what should well have been that Unit's last will and

G.A.R. Continued

TO EMIL KING POST OF AMERICAN LEGION NO. 318 FULDA, MINNESOTA

Greetings:

We, Zach Tayler Post No. 42, Department of Minnesota, Grand Army of the Republic, U.S.A., do hereby present to you our United States Flag.

We request that you carry it to the cemetery on each Memorial Day, May 30th, and there mark with an American flag the grave of each soldier, sailor, marine or army nurse who served with the military forces of the United States.

If possible, let the flag be carried by sons or grandsons of members of the Grand Army of the Republic who may be members of your order. We hope you will display the flag on all national holidays, especially on Lincoln's Birthday, and Flag Day, June 14th.

We also place in your care the Soldiers Monument and the soldiers' burial lot in Prairie Hill Cemetery, and we hereby give you authority to engrave the insignia of your order on the monument.

David Palen, Commissioner

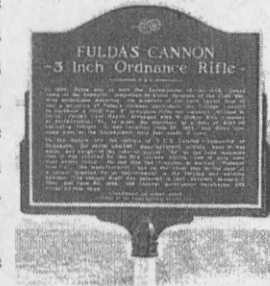
J. A. Maxwell, Adjutant and Quartermaster

And so ends the saga of Zach Tayler Post No. 42, Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Minnesota."

Over the past ten years the Fulda Heritage Society has erected three beautiful plaques with accounts of important local artifacts. The Depot, the Bathhouse, and the Cannon have been properly memorialized.

A fourth site deserves the same recognition - The Old Soldier, the Man in Blue - monument at Priarie Hill Cemetery. It is clearly relevant to American Civil War history (indeed, several versions of it are displayed across the country) and it is a significant reminder of our forefathers' sacrifices to that cause. That it remains standing to this day makes for an interesting story. Why it stands today should be honorably proclaimed!

Would you or your organization invest in this effort? Let a member of the Society know!



The G.A.R. Monument continues to stand



GRANT REQUEST 2016-11-05

**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL FUND REQUEST**

(FORM CWM #62)
Requester Information

CAMP AND DEPARTMENT NAME: William Colvill, Camp 56 Dept. of Wisconsin
(Please print or type)

ADDRESS: 308 Marshall Ave. N.

CITY: Litchfield

STATE: Minnesota ZIP CODE: 55355

NAME OF CONTACT PERSON: Chuck Lursen

ADDRESS: 504 N. Maryland Ave.

CITY: Fulda

STATE: Minnesota ZIP CODE: 56131

PHONE(S): _____ E-M: 

Memorial or Monument Information

NAME OF MEMORIAL: The Old Soldier

LOCATION: (Name and address of cemetery or other location description, such as, corner of 3rd and Lincoln Street) _____

Corner of 230th Ave and 31st St. Fulda Bondin Township, Murry Co. Minnesota

WHEN WAS IT BUILT: 1895

WHO OWNS IT: Fulda Prairie Hill Cemetery Board

WHO IS FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR IT: Fulda Prairie Hill Cemetery Board

ARE MATCHING FUNDS AVAILABLE: yes FROM WHERE: _____

ARE OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS AVAILABLE: yes FROM WHERE: Local American Legion Post

AMOUNT BEING REQUESTED: \$250.00

DESCRIBE WORK THAT THESE FUNDS ARE NEEDED FOR: (Be specific, use back if necessary)

First off the monument needs to be given a fresh coat of paint. Also the concrete base the monument stands on shows cracks on all four
sides. These cracks are not deep or severe at this time and should be repairable with a little effort. Originally the monument base was smaller
however after several decades the monument began to lean over as the base settled into the soil. At that time the monument was raised
and the new larger base placed under it. This results in a very imposing monument watching over the Cemetery. Three Civil War Veterans
graves are located next to the monument base, as well as some other graves also. If the repairs can be done soon it will prevent our hard
Minnesota winter from enlarging the cracks.

WHO EVALUATED THE NEED FOR THE WORK AND WHAT ARE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS: Mr. Chuck

Lursen who has worked as a maintenance man for over 20 years and Mr. Odenbrett a local artist who has painted the monument before.

WHO WILL DO THE WORK DESCRIBED AND WHAT ARE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS: Mr Odenbrett will do the

work. He has worked on the monument before and is accepted by the Board as the most qualified.

WHO WILL RECEIVE THE FUNDS IF GRANTED: Mr. Odenbrett through Chuck Lursen and the Cemetery Board

Brother Petrovic and committee members,

I am pleased to send in this application for funds for the project if Fulda. I have been down to Fulda and seen the "Old Soldier". It is nice to see monuments such as this being cared for and maintained in such good condition. I hope the committee will see fit to send the Prairie Hill Cemetery Board some funds. They are not asking for a great deal and at this time do not need a large amount of money as the monument is in quite good shape. The hope is of course to keep it well maintained. If the committee needs anything else from Camp 56 or myself please feel free to contact me. I am the Camp Commander and will be happy to try to assist in any way I can. Mr. Lursen is not a member of the SUVCW nor is any of the board members. I have been invited back to Fulda to give a short talk on the G.A.R. and may be able to recruit some SUVCW members.

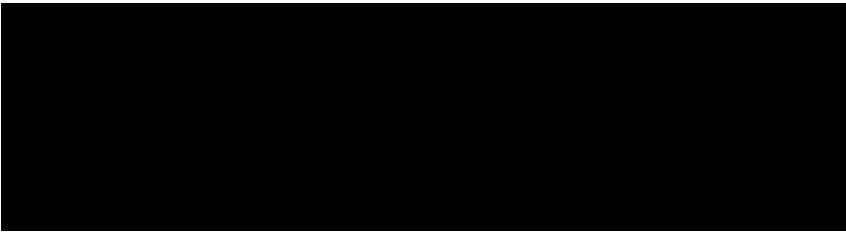
I hope I have dotted all the I's and crossed all the T's. If the funds need to go to a Camp member I will see to it they are forwarded to Mr. Lursen otherwise they can be sent to him directly. I hope you all have a great year and perhaps I'll see some of you in Virginia in 2011.

In F. C and L

Garen Engquist Camp Commander

16 Nina Ct.

Isanti, Mn. 55040



**SUVCW MEMORIAL GRANTS REQUEST
2010 - 2011**

GRANT REQUEST # 2010-2011-05

Project Name: The Old Soldier

Camp: Col. William Colvill Camp #56, Dept. Wisconsin

Monument Location 230th Ave & 31st St, Fulda Bondin Township, Merry Co. MN

Contact Person: Chuck Lursen

Check Payable to: Chuck Lursen

Amount Requested: \$250.00

Total cost of project: Unknown

Amount Approved: \$100.00

Existing Monument X **New Monument** **Last Soldier Project**

Please initial your vote next to your name, then sign and date below, once completed, fax or email to Bob Petrovic, Fax# 636-274-4568, Email; rbpetro7776@aol.com, who will send it to Richard Orr, National Treasurer for payment.

Approved Denied Tabled

Robert M. Petrovic, PDC *RMP*

Tad D. Campbell, PDC *TDC*

Bill Vierra, PDC

Signature *Robert M. Petrovic* Date 5/6/11

Signature *Jh* Date 5/15/2011

Signature _____ Date _____

Comments:

GRANT REQUEST # 2010-2011-05

Comments: