# USCT Memorial Observance Honoring Bellefonte's Sons Who Served in The United States Colored Troops

Opening Music, The Battle Cry of Freedom The Coburn Brass

Welcome/ Purpose/ Introductions Prof. Charles Dumas, Master of Ceremonies

Invocation Rev. Dr. Darlene Jenkins, Past Pastor, St Paul AME

Church

Posting of the Color Guard Veterans of Foreign Wars/American Legion Color

Guard

**USCT History and Poem** Prof. Charles Dumas, Master of Ceremonies

Bellefonte Voices Private Lewis Mills (100 Voices Cadet Timothy

Cashwell)

**Reading of the Bellefonte USCT Names** Private Lewis Mills

Folding and Presentation of the US Flag Penn State ROTC with Mike Glazer of Congressman

Glenn "G.T." Thompson's Office

Presentation of the PA State Flag Senator Jake Corman and Representative Kerry

Bennighoff

Placement of Memorial Bouquets Lewis Mills Descendents Karen Colbert and Cheryl

Delk, Penn State ROTC

Memorial Salute Thompson's Independent Battery C, PA Volunteers

Playing of Taps Coburn Brass

Battle Hymn of the Republic Sung by all, Accompanied by the Coburn Brass

## **Narrative Walk Through:**

#### I. Set Up

Note: Volunteers—Cub Scouts and/or Boy Scouts-- will be on hand at 1:30 PM to direct the arriving public to the north side of Howard Street across from where the speakers will be positioned and to distribute programs.

Per the USCT Committee meeting, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) flag holders will be placed at each grave when the conservancy work is done in October. The 35 star, Civil War period grave flags will be placed in the holders on the morning of November 14<sup>th</sup> by volunteers.

## A. Master of Ceremonies. and Dignitaries

The Master of Ceremonies (M.C.) will Be Professor Charles Dumas. The M.C. and participating dignitaries will be in place at the parking pull off along the south side of Howard Street--in front of the five USCT graves--to begin the ceremony at 2:00 PM-- M.C. behind the podium, dignitaries in groups to his left and right as explained below. There will be a microphone at the podium. A wreath will be placed in front of the podium. The M.C, in his opening remarks, will explain that the wreath will be placed in front of the Centre County War Memorial at the conclusion of the ceremony.

The dignitaries group will include Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Reverend Morrison and Bishop Cornal Henning, the 100 Voices Cadet, Timothy Cashwell and invited federal, state and local officials. Those dignitaries that have a roll in the ceremony will invited to stand to the right of the M.C. The 100 voices Cadet will be at the M.C.'s immediate right.

#### **B. Military Procession/Formation**

Battery C will be already in place in the cemetery. The Coburn Brass will be in the chairs placed for them to the right of the M.C. and beyond the dignitaries group. The M.C will be at the center with the the microphone. In the dignitaries group To the M.C's right will be the 100 Voices Cadet, Dr. Jenkins, Rev. Morrison and the Bishop, State Senator Corman, Representative Benninghoff, and Mike Glazer, of Congressman Thompson's Office. In the dignitaries group to the M.C's left will be: The Mayor of Bellefonte and the Centre County Commissioners. The Penn State ROTC and participating reenactors.will be to the left of the County Commissioners in that order.

The Color Guard will be in place at 2:00 PM along the south side of Howard Street 10 yards distant and toward the cemetery gate house from the dignitaries group. .

#### **II. The Ceremony**

The Coburn Brass will start the ceremony with Battle Cry of Freedom. The M.C. will then give the welcome, explain the purpose of the ceremony and the wreath, and introduce dignitaries and participating units present (a list will be provided). The M.C. will ask the public to stand and remove hats for the playing of Taps and ask all to join in the singing of the Battle Hymn of the Republic during those portions of the ceremony.

He will call Dr. Jenkins forward for the invocation. After the invocation, the M.C. will command (LOUDLY): "Color Guard, Post!" and the military units in the formation (ROTC and reenactors) will come to attention.

The Color Guard will post behind the dignitaries group and up slope enough to be visible to the public The ROTC commander will command: "Parade Rest!" to settle the military units for the ceremony.

When the Color Guard is in place behind him, the M.C. will present the USCT History, noting the USCT Units in which the Bellefonte Men served (a list will be provided). The M.C. Will then read a poem he has selected. He will then ask "Private Lewis Mills" (Timothy Cashwell) to step forward for

remarks. Afterwards, the M.C. will announce the reading of the names of the Bellefonte USCT Soldiers (LOUDLY, so the ROTC commander can call the formation to attention), and Private Mills will read the names.

After the reading of the names, Private Mills will step back into place. The M.C. will ask Bishop Henning to come forward to his right with Mike Glazer. Seeing that, the ROTC commander will direct the members of the ROTC unit doing the flag folding to "Post!" They will step forward to the left front of the M.C. bringing the US Flag with them. They will fold and deliver the flag to Mike Glazer who will present it to Bishop Henning on behalf of the United States and in honor of all Bellefonte USCT Soldiers, with brief remarks. The ROTC commander will explain the flag folding ceremony as it is being done. The folding ROTC members will return to the formation and the M.C. will invite the state representatives up to present a state flag to the Bishop, with brief remarks by them and then the Bishop. The formation will be returned to parade rest.

The M.C. will direct the public's attention to the placement of the memorial bouquets. This will be done for the five graves close by, by the reenactors, each of which will proceed to an assigned grave, wait until everyone is in place and then place the bouquet, salute and return to formation. The placement of bouquets at the Mills Family gravesite will be by the Mills Descendents, which will be in place at the gravesite and watching to coordinate with the placements at the five graves.

After the ROTC commander sees that the bouquets are placed and those placing them have returned to the formation, he will bring the formation to attention and command (VERY LOUDLY—so Battery C can hear): "Present Arms!" At that point, Battery C will fire the salute. The formation will go to "Order Arms" and uncover (remove hats) for the playing of Taps by the Coburn Brass and the singing of the Battle Hymn of the Republic and will cover on command afterwards.

Lastly, the M.C. will announce the ceremony concluded and thank everyone for participating.

The formation will be dismissed in place by the military commander after the M.C. announces the event is concluded at the end of the singing.

The Coburn Brass will play a few Civil War songs while the public is dispersing.