



Summer-Fall 2021

THE VOLUNTEER

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, New York Department

(Editor's Note – Below is a short summary of the 138th NY Department Encampment compiled by Brother Duffy. The full proceedings will be published on the Department web site when completed. See also two new sections at the end of the newsletter – “Calendar” for upcoming events, and “Passings”- NY Brothers and Sisters who have attended their last roll call.)

Elections. The 31 brothers who attended the Encampment elected the following Department Officers:
Commander – Brian Castler
Senior Vice Commander – Jeff French
Junior Vice Commander – Ed O'Brien
Council – Daryl VerStrete, Ray Wheaton, Paul Ellis-Graham
National Delegates...everyone in attendance.

Department Awards:

1. Oliver P. Clarke Award for recruiting the most new members. *Adam Page Hess, Col. Marshall Lefferts Camp #7.*
2. Graves Registration Award to *Bruce Crandall, Col. Augustus van Horne Ellis Camp #124, for registering 975 graves. Honorable Mention to Donald McMahon, Moses A Baldwin Camp #544, for registering 675 graves.*
3. Camp Website Award to *Michael Duffy, Webmaster, Moses A. Baldwin Camp #544.*
4. Best Newsletter Award. *The Guidon, Col. Geo. A. Willard Camp #154.*
5. John Kernan Cup – Most members recruited by a Camp. *Col. Marshall Lefferts Camp #7*
6. Joseph Rippey Award to a brother for outstanding service to the Department. *Dennis Duffy, Moses A. Baldwin Camp #544.*

Resolutions:

1. The Department to ask National to eliminate the bonding requirement for Camps.
2. The Department to ask National to change the membership cards to make them less likely to jam and less expensive to print.
3. The Department to ask National to change the dates of April 30 (to Department) and May 31 (to National) for Camp & Department Annual Reports from "received by" to "postmarked by."
4. The Department to ask the Commander in Chief to allow the Department to lobby for funds for the conservation, proper storage, and display of New York State's Civil War battle flags, the Annual re-authorization of \$20,000,000 permitted by the Preserving America's Battlefields Act, a change in VA

headstone stone rules so medallions can be issued to affix to family/private headstones for veterans who served prior to 1917 - as are available to post 1917 veterans, to expand the National Park Service's "Search for (Civil War) Soldiers /Sailors" databases to include all those who served in the Union military, including white sailors, members of the Marines, Revenue Cutter Service, etc. and for the Town of Hempstead to provide funding for a flagpole, interpretive board, and other improvements at the GAR Plot in Greenfield Cemetery in Uniondale, New York, and to install an interpretive board at the existing Civil War Monument in the same cemetery.

5. The Department Commander to appoint a committee of at least 3 members to investigate having the Department form a Scholarship Committee to issue an annual scholarship to a high school senior in New York in the amount of at least \$1,000.

6. The Department to ask National to support making "Juneteenth" a Federal Holiday.

7. To add a new section to the Bylaws in Article 10 on Committees, to renumber existing Section 3 to Section 4, and insert a new Section 3, making the Memorials and Monuments Committee a standing committee. **Note:** The by-laws changes from the last 2 Encampments will be combined with this change and the entire new Bylaws submitted to National for approval.

8. Department to ask National to assign a unique number to each member to make it

easier to differentiate members with the same name.

Budget, 2021-22 – A budget with income of \$17,435 and expenditures of \$17,597 was approved.

Archival material from other States. Bro. McGuire noted the existence in the Archives of material from other States and Departments. He asked if NY would give those items back to the original States. There was general agreement to do so.

Darryl VerStreate's request for the Department's support to run for a position on the National Council of Administration was approved.

FILE YOUR 990's

A reminder to file your Camp 990's each year. Failure to do so will result in the suspension of your camp and failing to file for 3 consecutive years will result in the revocation of your camps tax exempt status by the IRS. For those who file on the calendar year you must file your 990 between January 1 and May 15. For those who operate on a July 1 to June 30th fiscal year like the Department does you must file your annual 990 between July 1 and

November 15. For those camps whose annual gross receipts are normally under \$50,000.00 you mail file a Form 990N (e-Postcard) electronically.

Jeffrey Albanese, PDC Treasurer
Department of New York SUVCW

Colonel Augustus Van Horne Ellis
Memorial Scholarship

Although the number of submissions were down due the pandemic the Colonel Augustus Van Horne Ellis Camp 124 SUVCW was able to award its annual Colonel Augustus Van Horne Ellis Memorial Scholarship again this year to a High School Senior from one of the 90 High Schools that are located in the 7 counties served by the Camp.

This year's essay topic was as follows: "On March 4, 1861, Abraham Lincoln delivered his first Inaugural Address to a deeply divided nation. How would you assess his message to the nation at that time and what valuable lessons/ideas does it offer us in 2021 to address our current political situation?"

The scholarship committee made up of brothers Jeffrey Albanese, PDC, Paul Ellis Graham, PDC and Tim Middlebrook

announced, as is customary, the winner of this year's scholarship on Memorial Day. The winner of the 15th Annual Ellis Scholarship was Noel Varughese of Monticello High School. Noel is attending SUNY Binghamton in the fall. Noel will receive a check from the Camp for \$250.00 to use towards books or other college expenses. The scholarship is named for the namesake of the Camp 124, Colonel Augustus Van Horne Ellis, who commanded the 124th New York State Volunteers the "Orange Blossoms" and who was killed on July 2, 1863, leading troops during the Battle of Gettysburg.



(Col. Van Horne Ellis, May 1, 1827 – July 2, 1863)

(From the Editor – with material contributed by Nicolle Beyer-Beatty, DUVCW Pres.)



(Sarah Handley Cousins PhD)

Brothers-

The 138th NY Department Encampment is behind us now. On the Friday evening prior to it, we had the traditional Camp Fire – this time hosted by the DUVCW via ZOOM.

The guest of honor was Sarah Handley-Cousins PhD, a historian, writer, and podcaster located in Buffalo, New York. Her first book, *Bodies in Blue: Disability in the Civil War North*, was released by UGA Press in July 2019. She is Clinical Assistant Professor of History and Associate Director of the Center for Disability Studies at the University at Buffalo. She is also an editor for the history blog *Nursing Clio* and producer for *Dig: A History Podcast*.

Her talk lasted about an hour and was centered extensively on notable figures during the CW who sustained horrific wounds, and how they were able to deal with them. Joshua L. Chamberlain, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his command of the 20th Maine during the Battle of Gettysburg, was grievously wounded in the lower body in June of '64 while fighting around Petersburg. Dr. Cousins detailed the nature of his wounds, how he was severely affected by them for the rest of his life, yet went on to become Brevet Major General, Governor of Maine and President of Bowdoin College.

She also mentioned some sources for further study by those interested in the topic of wounds and disability during the War.

One was a series on PBS that aired in 2016-2017 called "Mercy Street" about a Federal hospital in occupied Alexandria, Va. While more of a period drama than documentary, it bases many of its medical cases on actual, documented incidents.

The other source for further study is a book called *Sick from Freedom: African-American Illness and Suffering during the Civil War and Reconstruction* by Jim Downs (2012- Oxford University Press, 234p.



The annual Abraham Lincoln Death Day Remembrance, held Saturday, April 17, 2021, at the Union Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Washington Square Park, Rochester, NY.

Members from the Abraham Lincoln Camp # 6 Rochester, NY. left to right are: Darin J. Everdyke NY Department Commander, Perry W. Cleaveland NY JVC, Robert L. Pugsley PDC and Patriotic Instructor, Pauline Novick DUVCW, Bruce N. Glaser PCC and Treasurer, Mick Cole, Charles J. Smeltzer PCC, Edward P. O'Brien CC6, and Todd A. Shillington PDC, Council behind the camera taking the picture.

(From Jerry Orton, Department Historian)

Below you shall find some information on GAR national encampments that came from the Final Journal of the Grand Army of the Republic.

48th National Encampment, Detroit, MI, September 3-4, 1914. There were between 15,000 and 20,000 in the parade with the Sons of Veterans acting as escorts. The Auxiliary to Sons of Veterans donated 11 flags and \$39.70 for flags for schools in the South.

49th National Encampment, Washington, D.C., September 30-October 1, 1915. General Nelson A. Miles was grand marshal of the parade which was witnessed by President Woodrow Wilson. There 20,000 in the parade. Efforts were made during the year to have the act of June 27, 1890 repealed prohibiting widows married after that date to receive pensions.

50th National Encampment, Kansas City, MO, August 31-September 2, 1916. This was the 50th anniversary of the Grand Army of the Republic and many gifts of gold were presented during the week. A set of flags and banner were presented by the Daughters of Veterans. Membership was 149,074 in 5,342 posts.

51st National Encampment, Boston, MA, August 20-25, 1917. Resolution passed about decorating of graves of Union soldiers buried in the South, there being nearly

300,000 of them. The parade took about 2 hours and with about 10,000 partaking.

52nd National Encampment, Portland, OR, August 18-24, 1918. During this year of WW I, veterans and members of the allied organizations purchased a million dollars of war bonds. The Smoot bill was passed by Congress increasing pensions. There were 5,000 in parade with 1,500 in cars.

53rd National Encampment, Columbus, OH, September 7-13, 1919. The annual parade 10,000 men marched with 4,000 in cars. Nearly 1,000 WW I boys took part in the parade.

54th National Encampment, Indianapolis, IN, Sept. 19-25, 1920. Commander-in-Chief, James Bell of Brooklyn, NY died November 1, 1919. The Fuller Bill was passed by Congress increasing nurse's pensions from \$13-\$30 per month. **The amphitheater at Arlington Cemetery was dedicated May 15, 1920 with the Grand Army of the Republic in charge of the program.** There were 15,000 in the parade. The committee on incorporation submitted its report. The Daughters of the Grand Army of the Republic were refused recognition.

55th National Encampment, Indianapolis, IN, Sept. Sept. 25-29, 1921. Records accumulated for the past 25 years were placed in the Library of Congress. The GAR refused to recognize any more women's organizations.

56th National Encampment, Des Moines, IA, September 24-29, 1922. **On April 27, 1922, the Memorial to U.S. Grant was dedicated in Washington, D.C. and on May 30, the Lincoln Memorial was in dedicated in Washington, D.C.** This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknowns. **On November 11, 1921, President Warren G. Harding and the Allied Generals of the Great Wall, flanked by American Legion members, dedicated the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington. Warren G. Harding was a son of a Union soldier and I have been told he was a member of the Sons of Veterans.**



FREDERICK L. MANNING, by George A. Shadman, Jr., PDC

One of the most interesting members of the command staff of the 148th New York Volunteers is Major Frederick L. Manning who served the unit with extreme dignity and was well liked by officers and enlisted personnel alike. Manning was born in Owego, Tioga County, New York on November 24, 1836.

His formal education was received from the Owego schools and the Ithaca Academy. Upon graduation, he entered a law apprenticeship with the law firm of the most honored Judge Addison T. Knox and was admitted to the state Bar in 1861. He moved to Waterloo shortly after and when the

recruiting for a new regiment was called in the summer of 1862, Manning offered his services and was mustered in on September 5 as the first lieutenant of Company H.

He served in this capacity until the spring of 1863 when, by Special Order No. 162, issued by Major-General Joseph Hooker, and personally approved by General-in-Chief Halleck, Lieutenant Manning suddenly found himself assigned to the Army of the Potomac serving on Hooker's staff.

Later when President Lincoln replaced Hooker with General George Meade as head of the Army of the Potomac, Manning found his assignment was extended. With this duty, Lieutenant Frederick Manning was the only member of the 148th NY to participate in the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg.

What was so special of Manning that would attract generals to personally ask for him, out of all the first lieutenants serving in the military at that time? Well, it seems as though he possessed a rare and very valuable talent—he was proficient in short-hand writing. If you think about that for a moment you can certainly appreciate why a general would want such a staff member when communications are rapidly being drafted in the confusion of moving troops and the heat of battle.

According to Manning's military records, he served in that capacity until February 2, 1864 when the 148th commander, Colonel George Guion

requested Manning return to be promoted to Adjutant of the regiment. To add to his already impressive military resume, on August 1, 1864, Colonel Guion promoted Manning to captain and gave him a command of Company A following the resignation of Captain Robert Daly.

However, this assignment proved to be short lived when six weeks later, on September 18, 1864, by Special Order No. 257, Major Benjamin Butler, Commander of the Army of the James, selected Manning to serve on his staff. This assignment lasted only a month, as Colonel Guion retired from service and John B. Murray was promoted to take over as regimental commander of the 148th. He chose Manning to take over the Lieutenant-Colonel position on October 16, 1864. Thus, Manning was back with his comrades.

On February 6, 1865, by General Order No. 17, Benjamin Butler again turned to Manning when a very responsible position needed to be filled, that of Provost Marshall General of the Army of the James.

Upon returning to civilian life, Manning was immediately elected to serve as District Attorney for Seneca County.

In 1872, he was appointed Collector of Internal Revenue. His civic duties also involved serving as a Trustee of the Waterloo Union and High School with several years president of the school board. He was very active in the local military organization The Loyal Legion whose

membership consisted of commissioned officers who served in the military.

Frederick Manning also served many years as Senior Warden of Waterloo's St. Paul Episcopal Church.

In November, 1874, he married Miss Elizabeth Van Benthuyzen, whose family was well respected in the Albany area of New York.

Manning died in Waterloo on August 4, 1913 due to apoplexy at the age of 76 yrs, 8 mo, 14 days. At the request of his wife he was buried in Albany, NY. It was recorded that he was "...a perfect gentleman of the 'old school' with the finest manners and with a perfect command of the best English language. He had a strong oratorical-type voice as a result of years of public speaking and as an attorney in many court cases."



(Frederick Lewis Manning, Albany Rural Cemetery, Lot 330, Section 26)

St. Gregory's School students installed a new gravestone in a special Military Honors Ceremony for Civil War Veteran Private James Connors.

Posted on **May 14, 2021**
by Jennifer Mele (Reprinted with permission)



Albany Diocesan Cemeteries was proud to welcome 7th and 8th grade students from St. Gregory's School in Albany to honor Civil War veteran Private James Connors, Co. I 18th Inf. NYS Volunteers. A full military honors ceremony took place at Historic St. Agnes Cemetery in Menands on Wednesday, May 19, 2021. Twenty-four

students helped cemetery staff install a new polished marble gravestone for the Civil War veteran. A musket salute and Taps were offered by the 125th NY Regimental Association Inc. The New York State Chapter of the Patriot Guard Riders and JROTC students from LaSalle Institute presented colors.

The American Civil War is the pivot point between the 7th and 8th grade curricula for students at Saint Gregory's. 7th grade ends its year talking about the roots of the conflict, and 8th grade begins the year with the war itself and its aftermath. The 7th graders have begun the discussions about the process of disunion in Antebellum America which has provided context for the time period. Having completed their study of the Civil War, the 8th grade participants understand the context and impact of the war.

“Having this great opportunity will allow our 8th grade students to return to the Civil War material and will allow us to introduce the material to our 7th graders. More importantly, this kind of trip brings history alive and connects our 21st century students to the realities of war in the 19th century.”— Eric Martell, Teacher with St. Gregory's School

By installing a new gravestone memorial for Civil War veteran, James Connors, we

ensure that he is honored for his service to our nation, and that he is not forgotten. Equally important is the opportunity to work with young students to make history relatable, provide hands-on-experience learning, and instill a sense of honor for all veterans and their service to our country.

Historian and Associate Director of Albany Diocesan Cemeteries, Kelly Grimaldi has been working steadily for the past 11 years to ensure veterans buried in Albany Diocesan Cemeteries are properly memorialized. This stone is one of over a thousand veterans' gravestones that have been restored or replaced under Kelly's direction. She says this event was an eagerly anticipated opportunity to be a part of experience learning, to help students make connections on how history and curriculum relates to their own lives and the greater community.

Rick Touchette, Executive Director of Albany Diocesan Cemeteries, states, ***“Burial of the dead has always been recognized by the Catholic Church as a religious rite and a corporal work of mercy that shows compassion and respect for all, living and deceased. We take that charge seriously, and we are honored to provide a proper memorial for Civil War Veteran, James Connors.”***

Grimaldi has been unable to uncover many details about Private James Connors' life but we can conclude he was a very brave man dedicated to his new country. Some records from our research show his name spelled as Connors. He fled Ireland at the height of the Potato Famine as many thousands of Irish citizens did. When the Union Army had a call for volunteer soldiers, Connors was quick to enlist in May of 1861. He was 44 years old and prepared to fight among men 18 years old and many even younger. He was given a uniform and a rifle, and the army paid him 73 cents the day he mustered on May 17, 1861 to serve in Company I of the 18th Infantry.

The 18th infantry participated in major battles and one of them – The Battle at Antietam in September 1862 is still known today as the bloodiest single day in American history. 23,000 men were killed or wounded on that day. It was this battle that was a turning point in the Civil War. It bolstered the Union army's morale and gave President Abraham Lincoln the confidence to issue the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation to free enslaved people. The war was no longer just about keeping the south from seceding from the union – it was about ending slavery in America.

Private Connors, the man we honor, was there. He was wounded and discharged for disability a week after the Battle at

Antietam and sent home.

His was not a happy ending. Five years after the war ended, James Connors drowned in Coeymans, NY on November 10, 1870. He rested in peace, but with a broken and illegible memorial for decades.

Over 150 years after his death, we honor Private James Connors' memory because as a nation we make a promise never to forget our veterans no matter how long ago they served their country.



Members of the 125th NY Volunteer Infantry Regimental Association Inc.



Members of the Patriot Guard Riders salute Connors gravesite.

(Weber Camp Grave Rededication)



On Saturday, May 29th, Brothers of Weber Camp 44 re-dedicated the restored Grand Army of the Republic's Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Monument in the Oakwood Cemetery, East Aurora, New York. They were assisted by: Members of the Sons of Veterans Reserve's Weber Guard, Company A of the United States Regular Engineer Battalion, the Union Volunteer Fife and Drum Corps, and the 155th New York Volunteer Infantry Reenacting Regiment.

The monument was originally erected by the Author Smith Post 506 and dedicated on

June 4, 1886. The Post was named for Corporal Smith who died on June 9, 1863 in New Orleans from wounds received May 27 at Port Hudson, Louisiana. This ceremony completed the camp's restoration efforts which had begun in 2019 when Brother Clifford Anderson noticed the monument was in poor condition and the orb at the top of the obelisk was missing. He volunteered to raise what needed funds and oversee the restoration of the monument. The funding to pay for the work was collected from a grant by the Department of New York, a spaghetti dinner at the local American Legion Post, and private donations. Stone Art Memorial Company provided and erected the orb and, also, cleaned the monument. Brother Anderson and his volunteers landscaped the site of the monument with replacement shrubs and mulch. A new cotton United States Flag with 35 stars was purchased and flown at the site during the Memorial Day rededication ceremony. The participants then marched over to Corporal Smith's grave where they honored him with a Tombstone Rededication Service, completing the day's activities. Some staff from the Stone Art Memorial Company voluntarily pressure washed his tombstone and the Smith family memorial in anticipation of the service.

Submitted by: Brother William A. Christen
Col. John B. Weber Camp No. 44,
Department of New York The Sons of
Union Veterans of the Civil War.

(Lincoln Camp #6 Monument Restoration work)



The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln Camp 6 Rochester has raised \$3000.00 for a Monument Restoration Project to the Sally James Farnham Sculpture "Defenders of the Flag" in the Civil War section of Mt. Hope Cemetery.

In the picture is SUVCW Camp Commander Edward O'Brien presenting Pat Corcoran with the Friends of Mt. Hope Cemetery with a Camp Check for the restoration work.

(Grant's Tomb Memorial)



Commander Weinmann, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War honoring General Ulysses S. Grant at the Robert J. Marks GAR Post Plot at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Maspeth, Queens for the April 27, 2021 Virtual Ceremony for the 199th Birthday Observation of General Ulysses S. Grant.

Dear Officers, Members and Friends of Tilden Camp,

The past year has been very hard on all of us. Many of us lost family members, friends, and co-workers. Normal life activities are put on hold but improving due to the Coronavirus. Our 2020 Annual Grant Birthday Celebration at Grant's Tomb was canceled due to the virus. This year the National Parks Service held a Virtual 199th General Ulysses S. Grant Birthday Observance Ceremony on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 11:00 am. They invited me to be one of their speakers. I accepted the invitation and I was honored to represent the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

and Tilden Camp. I want to thank the General Grant National Memorial Manhattan Sites Park Ranger 'Sierra' Christopher Willoughby. Special thanks to Ranger Sophie Niesciur who accepted my video and helped me order our Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War wreath for the ceremony. The event was a great success! You can view the ceremony at the following

link: <https://www.nps.gov/gegr/learn/video.htm>

Since the National Park Service held the Grant Ceremony this year virtually, the camp decided to keep our tradition alive by publishing our "Billy Yank" Memorial/Booster Program booklet. We also printed 199th Ulysses S. Grant Birthday Commemoration Ribbons. They will be mailed out to everyone who submitted a Memorial/Booster this year. As an added thank you to those who supported us in the past, we included some of last year's Booster/Memorials into the program booklet. A limited amount of printed copies will be available. A pdf version will be available on Tilden Camp's website. Oliver Tilden Camp again, thanks everyone for their continued support for our Grant Birthday Commemoration each year. We look forward to seeing you at the **200th Birthday Celebration!**

(From Brother Jerry Orton)

“Soldiers of the Grand Army of the Republic and Fellow citizens:

It cannot surely be a sinful or wasteful use of the hours of this sacred day to linger a few moments at this peaceful home of the dead, whilst the surviving soldiers pays this touching and beautiful tribute to the memory of his buried comrades, in obedience alike to the promptings of patriotism and affection.

"There have been tears and breaking hearts for thee,
And mine were nothing, had I such to give,
But when I stood beneath that fresh green tree,
Which, living, waves where thou didst cease to live,
And saw around me the wide field revive
With fruits ad fertile promise, and the spring
Come forth her work of gladness to contrive,
With all her reckless birds upon the wing,
I turned from all she brought to those she could not bring."

Taken from pages 677 and 678, National Memorial Day Book, 1870 from ceremonies in 1869 throughout the nation.

The above was said in part by Hon. D.H. Winfield, at ceremonies at Goshen, N.Y. (Jackson Post No. 37)

Submitted by Jerome Orton, NY Dept. Historian, SUVCW in memory of my late wife, Lorraine Orton, PDP and National Historian, Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic.

(Submitted by Jeff Albanese, PDC, Ellis Camp Commander)



The Colonel Augustus Van Horne Ellis Camp 124 SUVCW attended the Memorial Day service at the historic Mount Moor African American Cemetery in West Nyack, New York on May 31, 2021. The cemetery, established in 1849, is on the National Register of historic places and is surrounded by Palisades Center shopping mall.

The cemetery contains the remains of Black Americans who valiantly served their

country in the American Civil War, Spanish American War, World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. One of the most famous being Lafayette Logan a member of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry made famous in the movie ‘Glory’.

Camp Commander Albanese and 8 members of the camp attended the ceremony honoring PFC Henry William Cook, Jr. a member of the 25th Infantry Division who was killed in action while fighting the enemy in South Korea on September 6, 1950.

In addition, there was an unveiling of 10 new Veterans Administration headstones for 10 veterans of the American Civil War. They included Lafayette Logan of the 54th Massachusetts, Privates Thomas Stewart, and James Thompson of the 26th USCT, First Sergeant William Meyers of the 5th USCT Heavy Artillery, Private Solomon Miller of the 8th USCT, Private Richard Sisco of the 14th RIHA (colored), Private Wilson Wyatt of the 10th USCT and Landsman John Cook of the USS Metacomet.

The VA stones for these men were secured with the diligent assistance of Ellis Camp Junior Vice Commander and Department Patriotic Instructor, William Stump, who also was a speaker at the

ceremony. In addition, Brother Stump was awarded the Spring Valley NAACP President's Distinguished Service award for his efforts.



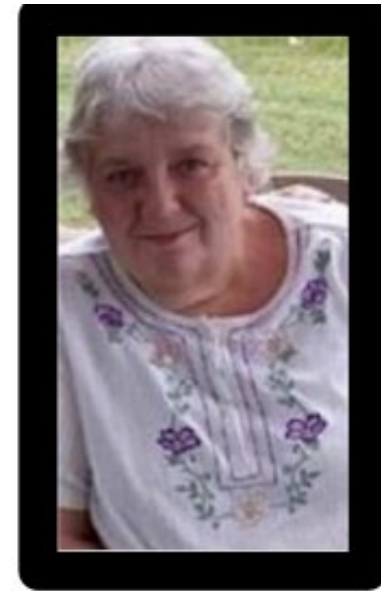
Brother William Stump

Passings.....



PHILLIP J. SOYRING, SR. 1935-2021 It is with great sadness that Caywood Camp announces the March 3rd passing of long-time member Phillip J. Soyring. Brother Soyring was beginning his third year as a member of the Camp Council and recently attended the January Officer Installation meeting. He joined the Order in the late 1990s and was a Dual Member with Sydney Camp #41 of Ithaca. He is survived by his wife, Doris, five children (including Brother Phil Soyring, Jr.), nine grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

Brother Soyring was descended from Corporal John Wesley Aiken, Company I, 50th New York Engineers.



MICHELLE E. LANGLEY, PNP 1957-2021 Michelle E. Langley, lifetime resident of Ovid, passed away at Geneva General Hospital on April 10, 2021.

She was a long-time, dedicated member of Auxiliary #72 of D.G. Caywood Camp, currently serving as New York Auxiliary Department Treasurer.

She had served three terms as New York Auxiliary Department President and was Past National President of the Auxiliary. Michelle was also a devoted member of the Ovid Federated Church, and leaves many family members in New York, and the NY Dept, SUVCW.Texas, and Massachusetts, and many friends in the Camp.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 7, 2021

D. G. Caywood Camp # 146 of Ovid, is planning a Headstone Dedication Ceremony Saturday, August 7, 2021, at 1:00 PM in Grove Cemetery, 8825 Falls Road, Trumansburg, NY.

(Just off Rte 96, 10 miles northwest of Ithaca.)

We are currently looking to fill an Honor Guard-Chaplain-Bugler and Wreath Presenters as part of the Ceremony. Contact Camp Commander Edward O'Brien 585-880-5186 if interested.
eobrien1@rochester.rr.com

September 25, 2021

Lincoln Camp #6 in conjunction with the Gould Family and various local groups and officials will be dedicating a new headstone for Private Abram Gregor.

Abram enlisted in the USCT on Sep't 9, 1864.

The ceremony will begin at 10:00am at the Sherburn Park on Sherburne Rd, Walworth. Sherburne Rd. runs between Walworth-Palmyra Rd and Ontario Center Rd (Rte 350).

For more information contact Bro. Bob Pugsley (flycar@frontiernet.net).

September 25, 2021

A re-dedication ceremony of the gravesites of four Black Civil War soldiers buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

James Jameson, 54th Mass. Infantry

Jeremiah Davis, 4th USCT Infantry

Asa Dennison, 11th USCT Heavy Artillery

James Hale, 1st Mississippi Infantry

Saturday morning, September 25, 10:00am
at Section 56, the G.A.R. plot.

940 Comstock Ave, Syracuse, NY

(Just off Rte 81)

Sponsored by:

Historic Oakwood Cemetery

Preservation Association,

Syracuse, NY

Contact: HOCPAOakwood@gmail.com

(315) 263-7159

October 16, 2021

Certificate of Commendation to be Awarded to Carlie Preudhomme, Middle Island, New York school girl.
(Moses Baldwin Camp)

The name of Pvt. Albert Freeman, 11th US Colored Heavy Artillery, was recently added to the Civil War monument at Bartlett Pond Park in the Suffolk County hamlet of Middle Island due to research done by Carlie Preudhomme while a student at Longwood Junior High School.

Private Freeman, who died of disease at Ft. Jackson, Louisiana. was a native of Middle Island but his name was missed when the monument, inscribed with the names of those from Middle Island who served, was created in 2010.

We will present Carlie with a Certificate of Commendation and a \$100.00 stipend at the Islip Grange on October 16 for joining us in [Remembering the Boys in Blue](#).



Department of New York

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



Dep't COMMANDER- Brian Castler
SR. VICE COMMANDER- Jeffrey French
JR. VICE COMMANDER- Ed O'Briam
SECRETARY- Robert L. Pugsley PDC
TREASURER- Jeffrey Albanese PDC
COUNSELOR- Danny Wheeler, PC-in-C
COUNCIL-Paul Ellis-Graham, Daryl Verstreat
PDC, Ray Wheaton PDC
ARCHIVIST- Ray Lemay PDC
PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR- Richard Straight PDC
HISTORIAN- Jerome L. Orton PDC

Newsletter Editor-Darin Everdyke
PDC wiseacres1@frontiernet.net

Summer 2021

THEVOLUNTEER

Department of New York, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

139th Encampment - Department of New York may be held
in Suffern, NY. Date TBD.



CHAPLAIN- Rev. Dr. Mark D. Isaacs
GAR HIGHWAY OFFICER- Matthew J. Hereford
PCC
EAGLE SCOUT COORDINATOR- Brian Castler
GRAVES REGISTRATION- Dennis Duffy
WEBMASTER- Ray W. LeMay PDC