



1st Quarter 2026

THE VOLUNTEER

**A quarterly publication of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,
Department of New York**

DEPARTMENT OF NEW
YORK, SONS OF UNION
VETERANS OF THE CIVIL
WAR -COMMUNICATION
NOTICE #2025/6-2

Honoring the memory of the Grand
Army Of the Republic
and the Men from New York who
saved the Union 1861-1865.

<http://nysuvcw.org>

DEPARTMENT INITIATIVE UPDATE

The Department of New York is in the
developing stage of a dew initiatives. They
are as follows:

1. The Department Treasurer and DJVC are
looking at medium-risk investments to grow
our finances more than where we are
currently. The Department Treasurer has

done an outstanding job, and we hope we
can get to the next level.

2. The Department Secretary is currently
working on a mass email system to ensure
every brother gets the communications from
the Department officers.

3. The Department Webmaster and
Assistant Webmaster are working with me
on developing policy for a Department
Blog. It will go live when the policy and
procedures are completed, and we have a
volunteer to run the blog.

4. After the Blog is up and running, we will
start a Department YouTube Channel and a
Instagram account. Policy and procedures
will be developed and volunteers to run
each one will be sought.

5. The Department Commander is in the
process of developing short- and long-term
Public Relations strategies to promote our
Department. Once strategies are developed

it will be implemented to help with
Recruitment and Fundraising.

These initiatives are critical to helping the
Department and most importantly, the
camps grow. For us to be successful we
need your help. If there is a brother that has
experience in Public Relations, YouTube
Channel, and Instagram, please volunteer to
assist us in being successful. If we don't
start now, we may lose camps with low
memberships. We have to work as a team to
help each other to grow and accomplish our
mission. Please get this out to all our
brothers.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty
Jeffrey I. French, PDC (NY & CH), PCC
NY Department Commander.

ATTESTED BY:

Robert Pugsley
NY Department Secretary

Greetings Brothers

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Holiday Season.

Just a reminder, with the start of a new year comes the renewal of your dues. Probably the hardest job that a Camp Secretary has is in the collection of dues. Please make his life easier and pay promptly. The Secretary and Treasurer must get the report in on the specified date. The last thing a Camp wants to do is to drop a member. Quite a few Camps submit their reports late hoping to get those last-minute dues. That makes it harder on everyone.

As of this date we have 475 members. That includes 80 Life Members and twelve Juniors distributed between eighteen camps including MAL. We have two Camps that are in the process of being organized. We have gained eight new members and four that have passed away.

Let's welcome our new Brothers!

Moses A Baldwin Camp #544 -Robert Bogle,Osbon
Camp 150- Michael Daly
Abraham Lincoln Camp 6 - Garland Green, Jr
Sgt William C Lilly Camp- Christopher Krecidlo
Sgt Judson Hicks Camp 111-Parker Maybe
Sgt William C Lilly 66 - Andrew Miledonis
Moses A Baldwin Camp 544 - Richard Pawelkiewicz
Sgt William C Lilly 66 - Walter Upham Jr

Final Muster

Col John B Weber Camp 44 Clifford Anderson
DOD Unknown
Col David Ireland Camp 137 John Goodnough
DOD 11/15/2025
Phineas Catlin Camp 341 Bernard Lewis
DOD 8/1/2025
Oliver Tilden Camp 26 Theodore Spiegel
DOD 4/30/2025

It is extremely important to submit your Form 30s in a timely manner so we can keep the Roster up to date. Specially to recognize and memorialize our Brothers who have passed away.

I have started a new mass emailing so that the Department can keep the members directly informed. It will be limited in scope because I know receiving a lot of emails can be annoying. If you do not want to receive emails, then let me know. I hope you will want them but understand if you don't.

Remembrance Day Activities



Brothers,

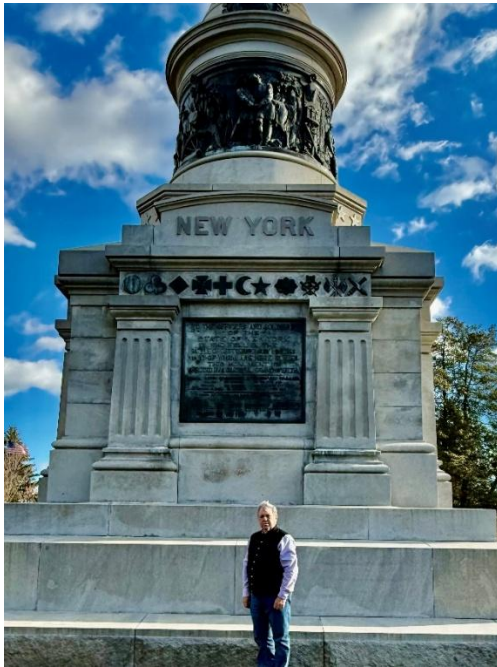
I hope this finds you well!

Two members of the Moses A Baldwin Camp attended the Remembrance Day parade this past weekend.

I had the pleasure of speaking with Br VerStreate and had a good laugh about my order error of members cards. (I ordered enough for the Dept when all I need was one packet for MAB.). He is doing a fine job as our National QM!!

I also had a pleasant chat with the CinC and we spoke about the excellent efforts of the Brothers on the America 250 committee. This is truly an important time for our order!!

Br Bruce Weidenbruner and I marched with the SUVCW Departments and Camps and carried the MAB colors.



I hope next year we might see the Dept of NY colors in the parade!

I attended the illumination on Saturday night and visited the NY monument on Sunday.



Overall, this was an excellent weekend to remember the Boys in Blue!

In FC&L,
Br Ted Phillips



**Kady Brownell Tent #36 and
Moses A. Baldwin Camp #544 Gather for
Annual Holiday Party**

Members of Kady Brownell Tent #36 and Moses Baldwin Camp #544 gathered on Sunday, December 7, 2025, at the Davenport Press in Mineola, NY, for their annual Holiday Party and Officer Installation. Past Camp Commander Fred Kuntz administered the oath to camp officers as they gathered around Old Glory. The Camp Officers pledged their 2026 work to the memory of "The Boys in Blue". Spirits were high as everyone enjoyed food and good cheer while raising funds to support programs at the Northport VA Medical Center. Guests brought donations for the VA, and an additional \$250 was raised through raffles thanks to everyone's generosity.

Guest Bob Leimbach was honored for his continued help in identifying descendants of Union Veterans. These descendants are then invited to the headstone installations, an

ongoing project for the Baldwin Camp. We look back on a successful 2025 and look forward to a productive new year.



Br Ted Phillips spoke about America 250 and encouraged all Brothers and Sisters to be involved and heed the call for service as we pay tribute to the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. He mentioned that Brothers should look at the SUVCW Quartermaster site to view a special America 250 Medal and Lapel Pin and please consider supporting National by purchasing at least one! Huzzah!

Respectfully submitted,
Br. Ted Phillips, JVDC

GAR Death and Burial Records



Pictured here, on November 8, 2025, Anton SchwarzmueLLer, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department of NY Senior Vice Commander, brought a ledger of Grand Army of the Republic deaths of Civil War veterans in Buffalo and Vicinity since 1917, to Librarian Adam Rubin at the Grosvenor Room of the downtown Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. The ledger owner is PDC and current Historian of the Department of NY Jerry Orton. Mr. Rubin professionally scanned the ledger for free, using equipment that the library acquired through a grant from The William G. Pomeroy Foundation.

Mr. Rubin states, "If you're interested in the Library hosting a digital copy w/ notes of the ledger for public use, we'd essentially need someone who's an authorized agent of the organization that owns the item, or the owner themselves, to sign a form providing the library with a license to retain, preserve, and do whatever we'd need to do with the digital copy of the item. We're currently working on writing that type of agreement, as it's not something the library has done regularly before and our existing agreements don't cover this type of license. We're in the process of designing a digital community archive at the library, so this type of material is definitely the type of thing I'd love to be able to host for the public in the near future. Unfortunately, we just don't have the paperwork trail set up yet."

There are 651 handwritten entries of names in the ledger. Columns on each ledger page are for name of veteran, G.A.R. Post, Branch of Service, Date of Death, Age, Cemetery, Section, Lot, Grave, and Remarks. There are some duplicate entries and some entries for veterans outside of the time and place parameters, meaning deaths before 1917 and graves not in western New York state.

Brother Anton SchwarzmueLLer checked every veteran grave entry, compiling a list of remarks identifying errors and deficiencies, some of which prevented locating a grave or service record. To the

furthest extent possible, all ledger entries were checked for inclusion in the graves database of the Sons of Union Veterans or added to the database.

The ledger was bound by Adams & Whie Company, Manufacturing Stationers, Printers, Blank Book Makers, 94-96 Pearl St., Buffalo, NY. There is no copyright and nothing written that identifies the contributors, scribes, authority, or original owner, but the binder is "G.A.R. Record of Deaths, B".

SUVCW Decentralizes Fulfillment of ROTC and Junior ROTC Medals for outstanding cadets.

A recent General Order from the Commander in Chief requires Departments which participate in the ROTC or JrROTC Programs to appoint a Department Coordinator who will maintain a stock of medals and respond to requests from Camps and Cadet Units for them, replacing the system whereby all requests went to National. Department Commander Jeff French appointed Brother Paul Farinella, LTC USArmy (Retired), Moses A. Baldwin Camp #544, as Coordinator for the Department of NY. Bro. Paul, a retired High School science teacher is also Commander, Region III, Military Order of the World Wars (MOWWW). Region III includes New York.

Headstone Work Completed

After 100 years, Silas Wright Holt's (May 6, 1846- Sept. 24, 1920) military headstone in Maple Grove Cemetery, Waterloo, Seneca County had almost completely sunk into the ground as in the first photo below. Wright had served as a private in Co. H, 76th NY infantry. Seeing this, Department Graves Registration Officer Dennis Duffy, engaged Bill Cook's Monuments to raise the stone and pour a base.

The result is seen in the second photo below, both photos can also be seen on Find a Grave memorial # 161229254. Hopefully, now with a proper base, we'll be good for the next 200 years! Thanks to Bill Cook for a nice job at a reasonable price.



Wreaths Across America

On December 13, 2025, Abraham Lincoln Camp 6 participated in Wreaths Across America at Mount Hope Cemetery - the premier historic cemetery in Rochester, NY. Local Walmart management led the effort to fund, receive and transport 460 wreaths. Volunteer Walmart employees, Friends of Mount Hope, and three Lincoln Camp members placed the wreaths in veteran sections on the cold and snowy afternoon. Pictured are camp Brothers William Schwarzmuehler (incoming Senior Vice Commander), Nathan Thompson (Treasurer), and Anton Schwarzmuehler (outgoing Commander/incoming Secretary) who spoke to the assembled volunteers. This is the G.A.R. section, with the Defenders of the Flag monument in the background.



Civil War Sons of American Revolution Patriots

Schuyler Hamilton



Born in New York City on July 22, 1822, Schuyler Hamilton was the son of John Church Hamilton and the grandson of **Founding Fathers Alexander Hamilton and General Philip**

Schuyler. He graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1841. He served with distinction in the Mexican-American War, where he was twice wounded. He was breveted to the ranks of first lieutenant and captain for his gallantry in battle and served as an aide-de-camp to Lieutenant General Winfield Scott.

Civil War Service

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Hamilton returned to military service. He enlisted as a private in the 7th New York National Guard

but was quickly recognized for his prior experience and was rapidly promoted. He was appointed as a brigadier general in November 1861 and served on the staff of General Henry Halleck. His most significant contribution came during the New Madrid and Island No. 10 Campaign in early 1862. During the siege, Hamilton suggested cutting a canal to allow Union forces to bypass the Confederate batteries, a strategy that ultimately led to the capture of the island. For this successful operation, he was selected for promotion to major general in September 1862. He later commanded a division and then the right wing of the Army of the Mississippi during the Siege of Corinth. However, a prolonged illness compelled him to resign from the army in February 1863, ending his combat career.

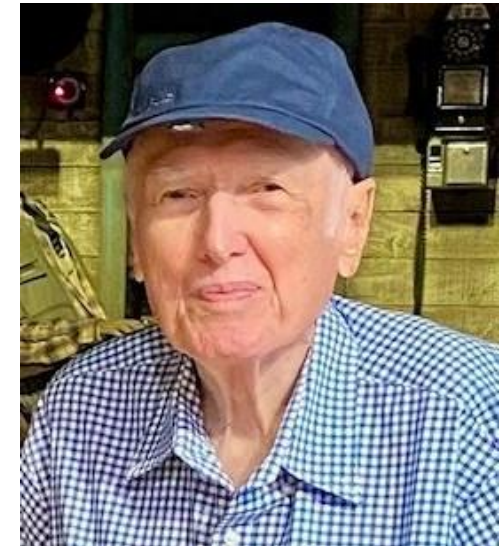
Later Life and Legacy 📖

After the war, Hamilton returned to New York City. From 1871 to 1875, he worked as a hydrographic engineer and superintendent for the city's Department of Docks before retiring due to poor health. He continued to be involved in civic life, writing an address on the history of the American flag that was later published. Schuyler Hamilton died on March 18, 1903, at the age of 80. He is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx, New York. His military career is a notable example of a West Point graduate who transitioned from

the regular army to a volunteer commission to serve his country during its greatest time of need.

Passings-

John Goodnough



John T. Goodnough, 84, of Pamela Drive, Binghamton, NY passed away Saturday, November 15, 2025 at Wilson Hospital. Born in Johnson City, he is the son of Thomas and Marion Goodnough of Binghamton. He was a 1959 graduate of Chenango Valley Central School District. John received his Associates Degree in Civil Engineering from Broome Community College, and subsequently achieved his Professional Engineer's (PE) License.

John was a Civil Engineer with EMJ/McFarland-Johnson Engineers for over 20 years. He oversaw the construction of multiple highways, bridges and airports throughout Connecticut, Vermont, and New York State. Later in his career, through his love of trains, he opened up a model train shop on lower Front St., Binghamton.

John had multiple talents and interests, with a strong love of history and farming. He was a skilled carpenter who built everything from home furniture, the family home, to the barn that housed the farm animals he loved and cared for. Perhaps his greatest building project was a two ton working train in his own backyard, with 600 feet of track, a station and storage house. This train (he called the Chenango Falls Railway) would travel throughout the woods and hillside of his property, offering family and friends a brief trip back in time. He was known as the “Casey Jones” of Chenango Forks.

He was an active member and participant in several historical societies, holding various offices in each: National Railway Historical Society, The Binghamton Civil War Historical Society and Roundtable, Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War, and The Goodenow Family Association.

John was predeceased by his parents and his brother, Richard Goodnough . He is survived by his beloved daughters Susan

Goodnough, Jacqueline (James) Carrese, and Jennifer (Jon) Chetwynd. He is also survived by his grandchildren Jessica (Dan) Peck, Matthew (Ashly) Poodiack, Jason (Kyle) Cummings, Luca Carrese, Jon Chetwynd, Thomas Chetwynd, and four great-grandchildren. Burial will be in Riverhurst Cemetery in Endwell.

Those who wish may make memorial contributions to Boys Town, a charity supporting at-risk and struggling youth from all walks of life. Donation information can be found online at boystown.org.

Calendar –

Sunday, April 12, 2026-Headstone dedications for 11 CW veterans. Ithaca City Cemetery.



Department of New York

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

DEP'T COMMANDER – Jeff French

SR. VICE – Anton Schwarzmüller

JR. VICE COMMANDER- Ted Phillips

SECRETARY- Robert L. Pugsley PDC

TREASURER- Jeffrey Albanese PDC

COUNSELOR- Danny Wheeler, PC-in-C

**COUNCIL- Robert Dauchy, Phurriott Henry,
Brian Castler PDC**

ARCHIVIST- Brian Castler PDC, Jeff French

**PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR- Douglas Brenner
PCC**

HISTORIAN- Jerome L. Orton PDC

CHAPLAIN- Rev. Dr. Mark D. Isaacs

GAR HIGHWAY- Matthew J. Hereford PCC

EAGLE SCOUT COORDINATOR Ted Phillips

GRAVES REGISTRATION- Dennis Duffy

WEBMASTER- Ray W. LeMay PDC

NEWSLETTER EDITOR, ASSISTANT

SECRETARY– Darin Everdyke PDC

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THEVOLUNTEER

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

144th NY Department Encampment -

April 10-12, 2026 in Ithaca at the Cornell University

