

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Department of New York
143rd Annual Encampment
Minutes and Proceedings

April 11, 2026
Ithaca, NY

Darin Everdyke – Assistant Secretary, PDC

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At 0900 the Memorial Service was conducted by Brother The Rev. Dr. Mark Isaacs. The ladies of the DUVCW and ASUVCW participated in turn. The names of recently deceased members of all 3 orders were read and flowers laid at the altar, followed by prayers and hymns. The Memorial Service concluded at 9:30.

The regular business meeting of the 143rd Encampment of the New York Department of the Sons of Union Veterans was called to order by Commander Jeffrey French at 0945 hours.

The Roll Call of registered attending Brothers was conducted by Commander French. The number of Members at that time was determined to be 21.

Past C-in-C Danny Wheeler was present as the representative from National. Danny brought greetings from current C-in-C Kevin Tucker- conflicting duties prevent him from attending. He sends his best wishes and reminds us of our mission to preserve the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic.

- Commander Tucker referenced General Order #3 on the proper wearing of medals in public, then called attention to the improvements in the ROTC award program outlined in General Order #7 that Departments shall establish the position of ROTC Award Coordinator. A new National Coordinator, Roger Leturno has been appointed.
- Commander Tucker wishes to emphasize the importance of the Brothers who labor on behalf of the Order. Brothers are encouraged to submit nominations to National for awards as outlined in General Orders #9 and #10, the deadline is June 29, 2026.
- The approach of the Nation's 250th Anniversary is an excellent opportunity for the SUVCW to develop programs that highlight the founding of our nation and the sacrifices of our soldiers and sailors to preserve the union. Every Camp is encouraged to perform at least one event for the 250th. The Patriotic Instructors of each Camp should report these activities so National can get an accurate count of participation.
- The Commander encourages all Officers and interested Brothers to participate in the SUVCW Memorial University's online courses, including courses on using Social Media to promote our organization and its mission.
- C-In-C Tucker encourages every Brother to remain active in the work of the Order and proudly represent the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in your Community.

The following Committees were appointed—

- Credential Committee - Brothers Pugsley and Schwarzmuller,
- Constitution and Regulation Committee - Brothers Albanese, Wheeler and Duffy

- Resolutions Committee – Brothers Albanese, Pugsley and Duffy

Elected Officers Reports:

Department Commander- Was handed out- no changes, additions or deletions. Attached below.

Department SVC- handed out – No changes. Attached below.

Department JVC- submitted- No changes

Secretary- Submitted and is attached below

Patriotic Instructor – Submitted

Treasurer – Was read with some minor changes and is attached below. At the end of the report, Commander French called for discussion and a vote on the recommendations contained in the report. –

- Extending the Scholarship Committee for 2 additional years. A motion was made and seconded. The only comment centered on finding an active Chairman. At that point no one had volunteered. The motion was carried.
- That the Treasurer be given discretion to move up to \$10,000 into an investment of moderate risk upon consultation with the Department Council. On further discussion, the motion was amended to say the investment will go to “...an S&P 500 Index Fund”. The amended motion was seconded and carried.

After the vote on recommendations, Brother McGuire mentioned a possible way to get postage stamps for a greatly reduced price. He also mentioned the Covell Award that Willard Camp and the Saratoga Chapter of the SAR sponsor.

A motion was made and seconded that the budget, as presented by the Treasurer, be approved. The motion carried without further comment.

Commander French made a motion under Roberts’ Rules to limit discussion to 5 minutes for each speaker, one speaking session, that Officers and Committee members not read their full reports but only discuss additions, deletions or changes. Otherwise state “... no additions, deletions or changes.” The motion was seconded and carried.

Committee reports –

Fundraising- (Report attached) Submitted and attached with the following discussion - The gun raffle has been held up waiting for a permit from the NYS Gaming Commission. As of Commander French contacting them during the week previous to the Encampment, the permit may still be another 8-10 weeks away. The French Camp will pilot this activity, with a possible net of \$5000 to the Department and \$5000 to the Camp. These raffles must be done within

each County, not Statewide. The laws vary between Counties. If successful, he will work with interested Camps to help set these up. He will have a report at the next Encampment.

Encampment Committee – (Report attached) The 2027 Encampment is tentatively scheduled for Ulster Community College on April 9-11. It looks like there will be a 15 minute drive from the hotel to the college. The 2028 Encampment will be in the Rochester area. Brother Everdyke suggested a hotel/event center in Geneseo and will follow up in the next few weeks.

Commander French then went on to describe the cost increases the Committee is seeing and what they're doing to limit the impact on our members. Hotels aren't giving us breaks on room rates, so we will no longer be "blocking" rooms. The Committee will make hotel recommendations and the members will be responsible for their own room reservations, possibly through online booking web sites. Brother Pugsley asked about the cost to rent the meeting rooms, and there was further discussion of added on fees and costs. There was further emphatic discussion on location of meetings versus the hotel arrangements and the difficulty of older members travelling and moving around. There was further discussion on communication of the location of the banquet.

Annual funds appeal- Report attached- Brother Stump passed out packets with the results of the annual fundraising appeal, then discussed the results. We've raised \$5000 this year and the goal is \$10,000. The number of contributors is still declining and we need to increase our list of contacts. There was extensive discussion on members giving names and addresses of friends and families. The cost of mailing decreased slightly due to fewer returns. Brother Stump proposed a "Silk Stocking Award" ribbon award for Camps giving more than \$1000. There was discussion around Camp size and awards. There was discussion on trading mailing lists with other similar organizations. Brother Stump described who Gordon Bennett was and why the new award was named after him. The Inaugural Gordon Bennett award was presented to 6 Brothers.

GRO Officer- (Attached) Brother Dennis Duffy - The report stands as written with 2 additions – Brother Dave Griner put together a list for Ithaca Cemetery with Danny Wheeler and added more than 200 graves to the database and found nine veterans with no head stones. He got the necessary documentation and sent it to the VA. The new head stones arrived 10 days ago, but not in time to be set for dedication as originally planned for the Encampment. The City of Ithaca will set them. Brother Wheeler added that the City of Ithaca told him the head stones wouldn't be set until at least May 25th. When they're set, the Department will be contacted with dedication arrangements.

Brother Duffy also described how the Moses Baldwin Camp was contacted about a CW soldier buried in Thailand. The head stone was ordered through the VA and a stone will be on its way, possibly dedicated by an American Legion Post in Bangkok.

Archivist – Brothers Castler- The Committee is still looking for a permanent home for the archives. Brother French stated that the GAR artifacts will be taken in by the American Legion in Lowville which is opening a new museum. Brother Schwarzmuller suggested contacting American Legion Post 333 in Nunda. They're in an original GAR hall and they may take our archives.

Legislation- Brother Duffy- The report stands as submitted with one addition. One recommendation asking for the Department Commander to ask National for permission to lobby State legislators to make available records of veterans buried in psychiatric hospitals. Commander French tabled it for the Resolutions Committee.

Memorial and Monuments Fund- Report Attached- Brother Albanese read salient points from the report. A check was presented to Brother Wheeler in relation to the Danbury monument and pictures taken.

Council Report – Brother Wheeler- No report. He stated that he feels it's time to step down and have someone to replace him. He thanked everyone for allowing him to serve for 41 years.

Department Council- Brother Castler – Nothing additions to the report other than that the finances have been audited with no issues found. His complements to Treasurer Albanese.

Historian – Brother Orton- Brother Orton read from a paper copy of his report. The digital copy is attached.

(The following 2 items were not covered in the open session)

Assistant Secretary- Brother Everdyke – Report submitted and attached, no changes.

Newsletter Editor – Brother Everdyke- Report submitted and attached, no changes.

At 1125, Commander French called for a recess.

At 1140, Commander French reconvened the Encampment.

Commander French presented an award from National to Danny Wheeler,

Department Appreciation Awards to Bill Stump, Bob Pugsley, Ted Phillips, Phurriott Henry, Dennis Duffy, Bob Dauchy, Brian Castler, Anton Schwarzmuller and Jeff Albanese.

The Department JVC Growth Award went to the Lilly and Baldwin Camps

The Graves Registration Officer Award went to Anton Schwarzmuller

The Camp Social Media Award to Lilly Camp

Commander French called for the lunch break at 1153.

The Camp was called to order at 1300hrs by Commander French.

Commander French left the room for visitations with the Daughters and the Auxilliary.

SVC Scharzmueller continued the meeting.

(Original text of the Proposals and Resolutions voted on below are in the Appendix.)

By-Law change - Proposed by-law change to the function of the Legislative Committee.

Passed with no changes.

By-Law change - Proposed by-law change to the Permanent Fund.

Passed with no changes.

By-Law change – Create a Department Recruitment Medal. (Temporarily tabled)

By-Law change - Create the Major General Newton Martin Curtis Medal for Member attendance and engagement.

No Motion- Failed

Resolution - Describes the Major General Newton Martin Curtis Medal.

No Motion- Failed

At this time Commander French returned from Visitation.

At this time the Ladies of the DUVCW visited.

Resolution- For National SUVCW to adopt the Resolution to urge the return of the currently named Fort AP Hill to the name of Fort Mary Edwards Walker.

Passed.

At this time the Ladies of the ASUVCW visited.

By-Law change – Create a Department Recruitment Medal. (Revisited)

Amendment proposed by Brother Stump – to make it for 2 recruits 1 time. Not accepted by the maker.

Secretary Pugsley reminded the Encampment that the “Recommended By” line on the New Member applications needs to be filled out.

An Amendment was proposed for the award to be for 5 recruits in any one year period. Accepted by the Maker.

Brother Duffy offered an amendment that the time period could be “Calendar Year”, instead of any 12 month period. Accepted by the Maker.

This Medal will be listed in the By-Laws before the Gordon Bennett Award.

Passed.

Resolution – Describes the Department Recruitment Medal (not discussed)

Resolution – To ask New York State to allow access to psychiatric cemetery records to identify Civil War Veterans. Passed.

Resolution – To pause the “Last Veteran Buried in each NY County” effort as the Database is incomplete and errors have been found. To form a Committee to accurately identify the appropriate Veteran, the Committee be comprised of the Chairman, the GRO and 2 Members of the Department. Amended to have a timeline of 3 years. Passed.

The last 3 Awards were handed out.

Oliver P. Clarke Recruitment Award- Brother Duffy

JVC Growth Award – Baldwin Camp

Joseph S. Rippey Award – Anton Schwarzmüller

At this time the Brothers of the Encampment was divided into 2 groups to brainstorm recruitment tactics and strategy, Social Media, etc. A third group of Officers was formed to discuss remote meeting technology for future encampments.

Group 1 returned suggestions of – reaching out to other historical organizations, Veterans groups, Masons, to trade membership lists. Increased FB presence, putting official literature out at historical sites. Double checking Department and Camp web pages for accurate contact information.

Group 2 returned suggestions of- Basically the same as Group 1.

Per Commander French-

The Department needs someone to run any FB, Instagram, etc. accounts. We need to publicize our events... get public attendance. We need Media coverage.

We HAVE to have accurate e-mails and contact information. Free Gmail addresses can be set up, as can official Department e-mails. It is the Camp’s responsibility to see that their Members and Officers have their information correct.

If we had our compliment of delegates along with the Department of Pennsylvania, we could seriously change National policy. We could get 80+ delegates.

Brother Pugsley added "retention" to our important actions. He described some successful efforts to get former members to return. He described Member George McGraw and the new 111thNY monument being dedicated on August 22 in Lyons NY. Information has been in The Volunteer. There will be many time period re-enactors. The Hicks Camp has gained 3 youth members. The Camp passed a motion to decrease the dues to \$20, with the Camp paying the rest.

Election of Officers

Commander – Jeff French

SVC- Anton Schwarzmueller

JVC- Jay Dolan

Treasurer – Jeff Albanese

Secretary- Robert Pugsley

Council- Robert Dauchy, Phurriott Henry, Brian Castler

The closing Benediction was given.

Commander French declared the meeting closed at about 3:45.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER



DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Honoring the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic &
The Men from New York who saved the Union from 1861 to 1865

<http://nysuvcw.org>

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2025-2026 Department Commanders Annual Report

Brothers,

My report is as follows:

I attended the the Headstone Dedications Ceremonies by Walter H French Camp #17, Homer Searle Camp #114, Col David Ireland Camp #137.

I visited Schuyler F. Smith Camp #193 for their first meeting. The camp is under reorganization and will be active once again. Their main project is the repair of the Halsey Valley GAR Hall. This will be a multi-year project as it needs extensive repairs to bring back to its original state. Brother Todd Shillington is assigned to assist the camp's reorganization. Looking forward to their comeback.

As Department Commander I participated in the Sgt William C. Lilly Camp #66 meeting. Main message is recruitment, retention, and educational events. The camps are doing outstanding work which has resulted in gaining seven new members since they organized.

The DJVC and Department Treasurer are exploring better investment opportunities to grow our financial resources. The Department Treasurer has

done an outstanding job in improvements on this front. Hopefully we can build on that success.

In August, by request of Scott Wilson from Fort Tribute in Madrid, NY, I attended a meeting to form a new camp. Scott had five others who are joining this effort. They have potentially 5-6 more interested in forming the camp. They wanted to wait till December to submit the Form 3s as they want to recruit more from the local area. The Sgt Judson E. Horsford Camp #106 will be the new camp's name. They have been approved by the Department and National for proceeding to form. This camp will have great potential once given a date of rank.

Brother Stump is in progress in forming the Bradley S Osbon Camp 150. The formation is on track for their Charter by April 2026.

We held the Department Mid-Year meeting via zoom on 5 October. It was a productive meeting covering the upcoming Department Encampment and our mission in the coming days.

It was with solemn duty that I attended Brother John Goodnough funeral. The Ireland Camp is currently going through the reorganization phase to keep the camp going. I have been in contact with the members and offered my assistance to help them keep their camp going. I look forward to working with the brother of Ireland Camp in their recruitment efforts.

The Camp Commander of the Tanner Camp requested assistance in recruitment efforts to bolster their camp. I am currently working on an action plan to assist them in this recruitment effort. I look forward to working with them in the coming year.

Recruitment and Retention is a constant focus for the Department and should be for the camps. The Department Officers have worked on some ideas to help the camps. They are as follows:

1. Brother Phillips and I developed a Public Relations guidebook to assist the camps in promoting, recruiting, and retention of the camp and members. We hope this will be of great value to all the camps. The PR Guidebook is posted on the website.
2. Sent mass email asking for volunteers for the Department Blog, YouTube Channel, and Instagram account. These platforms will help the Department assist the camps in recruitment and retention efforts. A social media Policy has been developed, being 99% from National, and posted on the website. However, we have yet to get any volunteers. We need the brother's expertise and involvement to be successful. Please help us to help you.
3. Two resolutions are being presented and if approved added to the Department Bylaws. A Recruitment Medal is to be developed to encourage brothers to recruit new members. The second is the MG Newton Martin Curtis Medal which encourages more involvement within our order. We believe these two added medals will incentivize recruitment and engagement in the Order.

Our Department will continue to perform the mission in keeping the Memories of the Boys in Blue and improving our department and camps involvement for future missions.

It is a great pleasure and honor to work with such committed and dedicated brothers in the Department of NY. I intend to visit more camps in the coming months if reelected in April's Encampment.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeffrey French".

Jeffrey French, PDC (NY & CH)
Department Commander,
Department of New York.

Department of NY Senior Vice Commander Report - 27 February 2026

First, I thank the Department for electing me to the office of Senior Vice Commander at the 2025 encampment. Second, I thank Department Commander French for his proposition to run for Department Commander to serve another year. Due to time demands of my continuing full-time career, I would prefer to decline running for Department Commander in 2026.

On May 17, 2025, I presented framed letters of appreciation from the Department to a pair of Albion High School students who located Daniel L. Waterhouse of 4th MI Infantry in the Alms House cemetery in Orleans County. The event was his military headstone dedication, featuring Boy Scout troop#164 raising the flag, the former county historian, the American Legion, the 140th NY Infantry, and brother Douglas Mergler of Lincoln Camp speaking on the history of the 4th MI. The event was publicized in the Orleans Hub news and by two Rochester television stations. It was reported in The Volunteer.

Brother Dennis Duffy, Grave Registration Officer for the Department, advises that for the third year running I contributed the most entries to the SUVCW database from our Department. Refer to his report.

I completed, to the furthest extent possible at this time, two virtual cemeteries in Find-a-Grave; one for the 2nd NY Regiment of Mounted Rifles, the other for the 8th NY Heavy Artillery. All graves therein are registered in the SUVCW database.

The publicist for author C. Evan Stewart contacted me. I forwarded the contact information to Commander French who arranged for Mr. Stewart to speak at our 2026 Encampment.

Brother Garland Green of Lincoln Camp was recruited by me to serve as Assistant Webmaster to the Department as appointed by the Commander.

Department Historian Jerry Orton lent me an original ledger of G.A.R. deaths, Buffalo and Vicinity, 1917-. All identifiable veterans in the ledger for whom graves were found were added by me to the SUVCW graves database if not already registered. The ledger was then professionally scanned by the Grosvenor Room librarian at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library for future posting on their website. Refer to the report in The Volunteer.

I arranged for the presentation of the SUVCW Eagle Scout certificate to a now former resident of Cattaraugus County.

The Lincoln Camp Treasurer is in the process of attempting to register in Walmart's local charity program known as Spark Good. Other camps may want to try this. As reported in The Volunteer, the local Walmart in Rochester funded the largest part of the placing of over 400 wreaths this past December at Mount Hope Cemetery, the premier cemetery in the city. The was part of Wreaths Across America. Members of Lincoln Camp participated

-----Submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, -----Anton Schwarzmüller



New York Department Secretary's Report

**Presented at the 143rd Annual NY Department Encampment on April 11, 2026 at
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY**

Commander French and Fellow Brothers, please accept this as my report.

As of April 10, 2026, we have a total of 476 members. Four hundred and eighteen Members, forty-six Associates, twelve Juniors and no Junior Associates. Thirty-three duals and seventy nine Life Members. Once you subtract the Duals we have four hundred fifty seven individual members. Last year at this time we had four hundred and seventy-nine members.

Based on the 2025 calendar year we have twenty new Members. We eight deceased Members.

The Annual Department Report was submitted on time.

We have eighteen camps including the MAL camps.

As a reminder your Camp's Annual Report 27 is due at the end of April 9, 2026. This also includes the percapita check and roster.

Also, if your fiscal year ends on December 31st, your 990N is due May 15. If it ends June 30 then it is due November 15.

It is always good to make things go faster. What I would like for the Camps to do, if acceptable to them is with a new application mail the Department portion directly to the Treasurer, Jeff Albanese and the National portion along with two copies of the application to me. This will speed things up quickly. The Moses Baldwin Camp has done this for over a year and it works fine.

A word about awards. The date range that we have always followed was based on May 1-April 30 to coincide with the Department Annual Report. However, I have been doing this wrong. The Bylaws state a calendar year should be followed. This year we followed the Bylaws.

National gives out an award for a Brother who has recruited five Brothers. The date range is from May to June and National keeps track of those numbers.

I would also like to mention, when sending me an email use nydeptsec@gmail.com. Some still send it to flycar and they might be missed. If you send an email that requires a response, and you have not heard from me, please give me a shout. Sometimes I get really buried with emails.

As I have done in the past, I will be emailing out a questionnaire about your Encampment experience about a week after the fact. Your honest opinion is desired. We can't make this a better experience without knowing what we do right and certainly what we do wrong. We can always need help in some aspect of the Encampment. Especially setting up and taking down.

Yours in F, C, and L,

Robert Pugsley, PDC

NY Department Secretary, SUVCW

THE DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

HEADQUARTERS OF THE TREASURER

Jeffrey Albanese, PDC

19 Gregory Drive

Goshen, New York 10924

April 7, 2026

Commander French and Brothers of the Department of New York:

Please let this letter serve as the Annual Report of the Treasurer of the Department of New York, SUVCW to the 143rd Encampment of Department of New York. Like last year this report is in a sense preliminary as we are only three-quarters of the way through our fiscal year, which runs from July 1 to June 30 and still has about 3 months to go. As I emphasize every year and do so again it is important to understand that most of the financial activity of the Department occurs between March and early June of each year, corresponding with the Encampment and the collection of and disbursement of per capita dues.

As usual since our last encampment, most of the activity regarding our finances has been minimal and mostly routine. The depositing of new members application fees and prorated per capita dues, the results of the fundraising efforts of Brother Stump the issuance of checks to national for their per capita fees and for some officer's expenses, some Encampment costs, postage, or copying or supplies.

As usual as Treasurer I am obligated to remind everyone of the importance of filing your camp 990s. I mention this every year. **This is not a new requirement!** Failure to do so results in the suspension of a camp and during that suspension a camp cannot do any business until it makes that filing and if a camp fails to do so for three successive years it leads to the loss of the camp's tax-exempt status. In addition, the IRS now requires all non-profit entities to now have an individual ID.gov or Login.gov account. All camps should be aware of this.

In accordance with the Department Bylaws in early March, and also in April 2026, I forwarded all the monthly bank statements, check register, CD, and mutual fund statements filing for all accounts up through the end of March 2026 to the Department Council for their review and examination prior to this Encampment.

I know a number of you have heard this before but for those who are new, I must inform you that the Department currently holds 5 accounts, a Wells Fargo checking account in which most activity occurs, a Wells Fargo savings account which primarily consists mostly of funds set aside per an earlier direction of an earlier Encampment to fund approximately 20 years Memorial & Monument Grants and \$2,000.00 set aside to begin a Department Scholarship. A mutual fund account, a renewable Permanent Fund CD and a renewable regular CD which are both currently earning interest. Please note that our accounts at Wells Fargo require us to keep a minimum balance or we are subject to an approximately \$15.00 monthly maintenance fee. While that may not sound like much, if that is to occur that would equal the dues of 2 and 1/2 members each month or the dues of 7% of our current dues paid by members annually.

As I often report every year the primary source of all the Department's Income comes from three places. These are our department dues (\$6 per member), our Fundraiser and a small amount from our Encampment registration fees (\$15.00) which go primarily to pay for Encampment expenses. Much of our predictable income continues to come from the dues. Of all the dues collected by the Department the Department retains only approximately 15% of that income and 85% is passed on through our funds to the National Organization. The less members we have the less we collect the less income we have. Also, of importance is that most of our Life members and all our Juniors currently DO NOT pay Department per capita. So, while you may hear that we have approximately four hundred and seventy members, approximately seventy of these classes of members or about 15% do not currently pay any dues to the Department.

In 2025 we sent a \$12,146 per capita check to National with our annual report and in 2024 we sent per capita dues to National of \$12,386.00. That works out to be approximately \$2,208 in retained dues to the Department in 2025 and \$2,252 to the Department in 2024 excluding whatever new members we get throughout the year. But even if we had twenty new members join this year and we lost no one during the year, it would only generate at most \$120 in added income.

During the last three years brother Stump has raised over \$4,000.00 net per year from our members. Brother Stump should be commended for his hard work. Whether a similar amount from the same pool of contributors next year is sustainable is open to question as I note the number of contributors has declined over each year and for purposes of budget prediction and until proven otherwise, I will conservatively project fundraising income of about \$3,500.00 for a total department income from all sources as \$5,900.00. I have concerns as to the Department's ability to continue to raise funds to the extent Brother Stump has done the last three years absent a broadening of our pool of donors. Our bylaws also mandate that we budget approximately \$2,875.00 for officer expenses along with a couple of awards and other items. This would leave about \$3,025.00 in discretionary spending. But as I said in the past, it is not really discretionary as we also need to pay our annual reoccurring expenses, primarily postage, copying and supplies, Encampment expenses, Encampment meeting rooms, advertising, costs

for the PDC badge, the Mary Walker Award, Grant Ceremony Wreath, website costs and fundraising costs beyond the costs of Brother Stumps fundraiser. Details of those expenses will be listed in the proposed budget which will be provided at the Encampment.

Despite the above I am pleased to report that the Department's finances are in good order, and the Department has the ability to meet all its current financial obligations.

I would like to commend our Department Commander Brother French. I know the work that is involved and Commander French has done an excellent job in getting that job done this year. I would also like to thank those many brothers who have supported and helped me for all these years. In particular I would like to thank Brother Pugsley, a dear friend who has a hard job and does it well. I would also like to thank PCinC Danny Wheeler, who has helped me immensely since I joined the Department more than 24 years ago. Brother Jerry Orton took me under his wing when I attended one of my first Department Encampments. Brother Duffy who since I met him is always keeping me and the Department on task. The Brothers of the Department Council Brothers Castler, Dauchy and Henry as well as the many others who have served on the Council over the years. I would also like Darin Everdyke for the good work he does as assistant secretary and as newsletter editor along with Daryl Verstrete our National Quartermaster. Invariably when you thank people you forget some and for that I apologize but know that I appreciate all of those who step up and help us on our committees and attend these Encampments.

This year marks my 24th year as a brother in the SUVCW. Four years ago, I became a Life Member. I have served as a department officer for over 22 years, seventeen of those years as an elected officer, including three terms as Department Commander. So, you can say I have some experience in the workings of this organization. As I mentioned last year, I have become disillusioned by the fact that there still seems to be little interest in serving in the Department among our members. Attendance at Encampments is sparse. Not that long ago we had actual elections for elected positions in the Department now days we have trouble filling those jobs. Our members do not know what we do, and we continue not to do a decent job of letting them know. That needs to change. To do so we must answer the question of what it is that the Department do for the Camps and its members and why is that important. Until that question is adequately answered and convincingly conveyed to the camps and its members we will not be relevant. A similar question also needs to be answered by the National Organization.

Now for some advice, as I said for many years and I will repeat, we really need to focus on figuring out how to retain our members, how to recruit new members and how to recruit younger members. Younger members are the key to our continued survival. This should be the focus of our meetings; it should be the focus of this very Encampment and the next and the one after that. To do so we need to be relevant to today. We also need to educate our youth and others about what the war was about and what its legacy should be as that is how we honor our ancestors who fought for the Union. We need to oppose those who continue to push the myth of the Lost Cause, for if we neglect these issues there soon will be no one to register those graves, save those monuments, or mend those flags.

Further, as I also have frequently stated since I been giving reports at these Encampments going back to 2004, all officers elected or appointed at any level and that includes those serving on committees, need to become familiar with and abide by their job duties and responsibilities under both the National Rules and Regulations, National Policies, the Department Bylaws,

Department Policies, and the Camp bylaws and see that they are followed. There is really no excuse whatsoever for those who seek and obtain these offices for not knowing their responsibilities, which is particularly true for those of us who seek elective office. We also have bylaws that impose additional duties on our officers beyond those in the National Rules & Regulations and the National Policies and you need to know them and perform them. I also believe that if you are a Camp Commander it is your obligation as a Camp Commander to attend the Department Encampment and if you cannot then make sure someone from your camp does attend. I have been coming to these Department Encampments and to Department Mid-Year meetings for more than 20 years and I cannot recall when, if at any time, we had attendance by a representative from every camp and frankly I find that disappointing. Finally, I need to remind all Department officers, both elected and appointed, that you should not be spending Department funds without first verifying in advance that the expense is budgeted for by the Department and checking with the Department Treasurer. We have strict guidelines.

Now some recommendations:

1. We have a lot of committees. The Department Commander should not just continuously reappoint the same members of those committees who may have served in them in the prior year but should instead contact them each year and verify that they still wish to serve on those committees and in what position.
2. The Scholarship Committee needs to be up and running. It has now been two years since we created that committee as a pilot to see if we can conduct a viable scholarship program statewide but as far as I can see we have not done anything. The thought in coming up with this program was not only that it would be good publicity for the Department, but it would also keep green the memory of our ancestors who served in the Union amongst our youth and finally be an aid in recruitment. In part this may be my fault in turning down the position of Committee Chair after doing all the background work on the project, but I did so frankly because we need other people to step up and I already serve on numerous committees and also run the Ellis Camp's Scholarship program which I founded almost 20 years ago. I know Commander French has tried to find a chairperson, but we really need someone to step up. I will reluctantly agree to serve on the committee, if necessary, to assist in getting it off the ground if that will help but not as chairperson.
3. At the 140th Department Encampment the Department pursuant to a recommendation of an earlier Special Committee formed by the 139th Department Encampment authorized the formation of a Special Scholarship Committee for a five year period which was among other things was supposed to operate a pilot scholarship program to be run by the Department pursuant to certain guidelines, was supposed to report annually concerning its progress and make a final report in the fifth year as to whether to make the Special Committee a permanent Committee of the Department. Unfortunately that Special Committee has yet to function or provide its annual reports although some additional funds have been raised. In view of this and in recognition of the importance of this program be it RESOLVED that the term of this Special Committee be extended until the 147th Department Encampment. This requires Encampment Approval.

4. That I as Treasurer if I believe it is in the best interests of the Department and it will not affect any Department programming and after consultation with and approval of the Department Council have the option of taking up to \$10,000.00 out of the checking account and investing it either in a CD or other appropriate fund for the benefit of the Department.

Respectfully submitted,

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Jeffrey Albanese

Jeffrey Albanese, PDC, Treasurer
SUVCW, Department of New York

Newsletter Editor Report for the 2026 NY Department Encampment.

The Volunteer continues to be a quarterly publication, published on or about Jan 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year. Contributions from the various Department Officers, Camp Officers have been adequate this year to fill out the 4 editions.

Efforts to include the Allied Orders have met with moderate success. There have been few contributions and occasional communication from the Daughters or the Aux. These efforts will continue, given that the effort is well worth any slight success.

Since the 2025 Department Encampment, Editions of The Volunteer have been published on time on July 1st, October 1st, 2025, and January 1st and is on track for publication on April 1st of 2026.

There have been NO Camp newsletter submissions. Therefore I cannot recommend a recipient for the annual Newsletter award.

Respectfully submitted this day of 3/17/2026

In F, C, & L,

Darin Everdyke, Newsletter Editor, PDC

Department of NY Memorials Officer Report - 27 February 2026

A new original commissioned monument featuring the 111th NY Infantry is being installed at the main village square in Lyons, Wayne County, NY, funded by a brother of Hicks Camp. Department Secretary Pugsley, a camp member, disseminated information about the monument and related activities to the Department to which I defer. Dedication is scheduled for 1pm on Saturday August 22.

I compiled an expanded list of links to Civil War memorials in New York State, mostly using the Historical Marker Database. It will replace the list currently on our Department website after the damaged memorial in a cemetery in Watertown is added.

Regarding the damaged memorial in Watertown, Commander French can provide information, including fund raising.

Three historical markers funded by grants from the Pomeroy Foundation through Abraham Lincoln Camp will be installed this year as follows:

- Mount Calvary Cemetery on Summit Street in Lockport, Niagara County. Four known Civil War veterans interred.
- The G.A.R. Hall in Friendship, Allegany County, now owned by the town of Friendship and occasionally used for town meetings.
- The G.A.R. Hall in Nunda, Livingston County, now occupied by Seager Werner American Legion Post 333, known as the Carter Building.

When dedications for these are scheduled, notices will be disseminated.

Smith Camp continues to have our National Register of Historic Places marker in storage for the Halsey Valley G.A.R. Hall. This was another Pomeroy Foundation grant. Commander French has spoken of the challenges for this property in its present condition and installation of the marker is deferred.

The village of Lewiston in Niagara County has tentatively scheduled a dedication of a new memorial for 1pm on Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, but the memorial and funding are not quite complete as of this report. There will be Civil War veterans named on the memorial.

At some point there may be movement on replacing the long-missing cannonball atop the Civil War memorial in Mount View Cemetery in Pekin, Niagara County, with a molded substitute. The cemetery is owned by the town of Cambria.

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty --- Anton Schwarzmüller



Department of New York, SUVCW
GRO Report – 1/1/25-12/31/25

DATE: 3/14/2026

TO: Jeffrey French, Commander, Department of NY & Henry Duquette, National GRO, SUVCW

C: Dept. Officers, Camp Commanders, & GROs, Dept. of NY

GRAVES REGISTERED

Collectively, the brothers (and one sister) of the Department of New York registered 3,619 graves in 2025 vs. 4,513 in 2024, 2,996 in 2023, 3,239 in 2022, 3,680 in 2021, 2,130 in 2020, 142 in 2019, and 3 in 2018. That's 18,047 over the last 5 years or 3,609 per year. The Department of New York can well be proud of its team of gravers! Most of the veterans

added, but not nearly all, served in New York units. The details are in the attached Excel spreadsheet. Submitters during 2025 were Brothers Don McMahon, Christopher Shand, Dave Greiner, Wayne Haddock and myself of the Moses A. Baldwin Camp #544, Anton Schwarzmuller of the Abraham Lincoln Camp #6, Phurriott Henry of Sgt. Wm. Lilly Camp #66, and Parker Maybe (new) of the Hicks Camp and Sister Ethel French. Bro. Schwarzmuller entered 1,714 graves, far more than any other New York submitter. So, for the third year in a row, he will receive the Department's Graves Registration Award at the April Encampment.

There are now 103,589 veterans of NY units in the data base. Overall, over 800,000 of the 2.1 million who served the Union are in the data base, so we have only 1.3 million to go!

Note: The figures above are only what's been reported. There may be others who have contributed but prefer not to report. Also, there are submitters who are not SUVCW members and members from other Departments who enter New York graves.

New headstones placed.

The Moses A. Baldwin Camp reports setting VA headstones in Calvary Cemetery, Queens,(1) St. Ann's Episcopal Ch. Cemetery, Sayville (2) Commack Cemetery (1), Commack Methodist Ch. Cemetery (1) and Greenfield Cemetery, Uniondale (9) for a total of 14.

Eagle Scout Project. Parker Maybe, a new member of the Hicks Camp, has as his Eagle Scout Project to clean, repair, or reset the headstones of 50 Civil War Veterans. He's well on his way

Allegany County. I have a list of several thousand graves in Allegany County given me by Legion Riders Post 702 of Wellsville, NY and could use a volunteer to confirm and enter these graves into the Database.

The Tanner Camp #134 is working in the Old Stone Fort Graveyard, Schoharie, NY. They plan to make sure all Union veterans have a headstone and any that need it be cleaned and repaired. I look forward to their report.

During the year Bro. Bill Wagner, a member of long Island's Moses Baldwin Camp who now resides in Philadelphia was appointed to the National Committee on Graves Registration. I continue to serve as an aide to that Committee. Programming for the new system is well underway although progress has been painfully slow. The Committee meets every week to monitor progress and to try find ways to expedite it.

If the work of any brother or camp has not been included here, please let me know and I will happily amend this report. Also, if you have suggestions as to what this report should cover in the future, let me know. Thanks to all who are contributing to perhaps the most significant

of SUVCW projects and, if your Camp is not participating, and there is anything I can do to help you get involved, please call.

I thank Commander French and his predecessors for appointing me and thus permitting me to play a role in the SUVCW's most important project. I thank Sister Ethel French and all submitters in New York for making me look good.

Any questions, call or write.

In F., C., & L.,

Bro. Dennis

Dennis J. Duffy, GRO, Dept. of New York & Aide, National Graves Registration Committee
 One Garden Drive Lynbrook, NY 11563
Duffy99999@aol.com 516-593-4014

Dept. of NY-Graves Entered into SUVCW Data Base-2019-2025															
Name (NLA = No longer active)	Cumulative a/o 12/31/25	Done in 2025	Cumulative as of 12/31/24	Done in 2024	Cumulative as of 12/31/23	Done in 2023	Cumulative a/o 12/31/22	Done in 2022	Cumulative as of 12/31/21	Done in 2021	Cumulative as of 12/31/20	Done in 2020	Cumulative as of 12/31/19	Done in 2019	Cumulative as of 12/31/18
Wagner	15	0	15	0	15	8	7	7	0						
Duffy	3602	502	3100	526	2,574	368	2206	539	1,667	1,072	595	506	89	86	3
McMahon	2996	507	2489	432	2,057	549	1508	299	1,209	534	675	675	0	0	0
Haddock	864	17	847	0	847	57	790	286	504	504	0	0	0	0	0
Devine	14	0	14	0	14	0	14	0	14	0	14	0	14	14	0
Hervan -NLA	85	0	85	0	85	0	85	0	85	0	85	0	85	0	85
Shand	1037	141	896	227	669	464	205	171	34	34	0	0	0	0	0
Nicholson (started in 2023)	57	0	57	13	44	44	0								
Hart (started in 2024)	43	3	40	40	0										
Greiner (started in 2024)	171	132	39	39											
Moshen (Started in 2025)	23	23	0												
Baldwin Camp Total	8,907	1325	7,582	1,277	6,305	1,490	4,815	1,302	3,513	2,144	1,369	1,181	188	100	88
Crandall - NLA	2483	0	2483	0	2,483	0	2483	0	2,483	1,534	949	949	0	0	0
Stump	4	0	4	0	4	0	4	4	0						
Ellis Camp Total	2,487	0	2,487	0	2,487	0	2,487	4	2,483	1,534	949	949	0	0	0
King -NLA	42	0	42	0	42	0	42	0	42	0	42	0	42	42	0
C. White	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Willard Camp Total	44	0	44	0	44	0	44	0	44	2	42	0	42	42	0
French, Ethel	4997	546	4451	1,237	3,214	747	2,467	1,933	534	0	534	0	534	0	534
French Camp Total	4,997	546	4,451	1,237	3,214	747	2,467	1,933	534	0	534	0	534	0	534
H. Cheetham	181	0	181	181											
Parker Maybe	17	17	0												
Hicks Camp Total	198	17	181	181											
Schwarzmueller (started in '23)	3797	1714	2083	1,324	759	759	0	0	0						
A. Lincoln Camp Total	3797	1714	2,083	1,324	759	759	0	0							
P. Henry (started in 2024)	511	17	494	494											
Lilly Camp Total	511	17	494	494											
Dept. Total (Ireland Excluded)	20,941	3619	17,322	4,513	12,809	2,996	9,813	3,239	6,574	3,680	2,894	2,130	764	142	622
<i>Red indicates highest total for a brother in the Depa</i>		0													
1. Total from NY Regiments in the Database (DB)	103589	4812	98777	3779	94998	3,574	91424	3,853	87,571	2,932	84,639				
2. Number from NY Regiments in the DB buried in NY	49825	2439	47386	2184	45202	2,001	43201	2,202	40,999	1,888	39,111				
3. Number from Federal Units* in the DB Buried in NY	2760	610	2150	74	2076	77	1999	-44,029	46,028						
4. # from NY Regiments in the DB buried outside NY (1 - 2)	53764	2373	51391	1595	49796	1,573	48223	1,651	46,572	1,047	45,525				
5. Total in the DB Buried in NY from non NY Regiments (6-3-2)	8511	-560	9071	-202	9273	23	9250	-2,146	11,396	564	10,832				
6. Total in the DB Buried in NY	61096	2489	58607	2056	56551	2,101	54450	2,055	52,395	2,452	49,943				
<i>*Regular Army, Navy, US Volunteers, Revenue Cutter Service, US Marines, Colored Troops ("US Federal" in State Field).</i>															1/6/26

Assistant Secretary Report for the 2026 Encampment of the Department of New York, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The Assistant Secretary was present at the 142nd New York Department Encampment held on April 4, 5 and 6, 2024 in Utica, NY. The compilation of the entire Proceedings for this Encampment was completed and submitted on June 30, 2025

The Assistant Secretary was unable to attend the mid-year meeting (via ZOOM) on October 5, 2025. The minutes were recorded by participants, then transcribed and submitted by the Assistant Secretary on March 17, 2026.

Respectfully submitted this day of 3/17/2026,

In F, C & L,

Darin Everdyke, Assistant Secretary, PDC

It is said that history is the homage that we owe our ancestors to show our reverence and honor to the memory of the Civil War veterans and the Grand Army of the Republic.

A century ago we held our encampment in Poughkeepsie when 150 delegates from 117 camps registered and 265 GAR members attended. Over 3,500 people were at the campfire. Nationally there were 47,179 GAR members in September 1926.

There are 2 real daughters and one real son. Emogene Horton, 140 Jelly Lane, Marshall, AR 72650 daughter of Jackson Cassell, Co. M, 2nd AR Cav. The other wishes to be anonymous.

William Pool, Parkview Health, 119 W. Forest St., Bolivar, MO 65613 is the son of Charles Parker Pool, Co. D, 6th WV Vols. He is a WW II veteran of the Battle of the Bulge.

Most of our former patriotic events of the past are no longer, but the Grant Tomb service is still conducted by Oliver Tilden Camp 26. Our department makes several appearances at the Grant Cottage on Mt. McGregor where US Grant died on July 23, 1885. The cottage is now a National Historic site.

With the help of John and Beth Carroll of Americus, GA, a floral arrangement is placed on or near July 23 at the New York State Monument at Andersonville National Cemetery. Mr. Carroll is a Sons of Confederate Veterans member.

I am still adding to the history of our past department commanders which goes back to 1881.

SVC Anton Schwarzmueller had a registration book of a cemetery in the Buffalo area digitally reproduced. Hopefully more can be reproduced.

Memorial Day continues to be the one day that our order can be in the public eye.

Darin Everdyke, PDC, does an outstanding job as editor of The Volunteer and Ray LeMay III does an outstanding job as our department's webmaster.

I am willing to donate a Sons of Veterans sword to the department as the department commander's sword. He would have to sign for it and return it to the department at the end of his tenure in office for the next commander. If lost would have to pay for replacement.

Submitted in F, C and L,

Jerome Orton, Historian

213 Dixon Dr., Syracuse, NY 13219

April 7, 2026

Committee Reports

2026 Fundraising Appeal

The Department of New York conducted a direct mailing instead of the raffle as a fundraiser for the department. Approximately 450 letters were mailed out to brothers resulting in 39 donations for a total of \$5469 raised less expenses which was \$4902.72.

There was a drop from the 56 donations received last year but an increase from last year's fundraiser total of \$4478 less expenses which was \$3919.77

Costs of mailing was \$566.28 approx. \$8 more than last year.

We recognize the generosity of the inaugural Bennett Medal winners:

#1 Kevin Duffy (Baldwin), #2 William Stump (Ellis), #3 Darin Everdyke (Lincoln), #4 Phurriott Henry (Lilly), #5 Douglas Mabee (Willard), #6 Robert Dauchy

Camps Total Donations: #1 Baldwin, #2 Willard, #3 Ellis

Camps Per Capita:

#1Lilly, #2 Searle, #3

Ellis

Camps	Members	Total Donations \$	Per Capita
Baldwin	66	1050	\$15.90
Willard	64	859	\$13.42
Ellis	38	750	\$19.73
Lincoln	38	625	\$16.44
Lilly	12	550	\$45.83
Tilden	76	250	\$3.28
French	20	195	\$9.75
Catlin	23	170	\$5.31
Weber	30	145	\$4.83
Tanner	10	100	\$10.00
Searle	16	100	\$6.25
Sydney	19	100	\$5.26
At Large	5	25	\$5.00
Hicks	11	25	\$2.27
Cook	11	25	\$2.27
Ireland	11	0	\$0.00
Caywood	16	0	\$0.00
Smith	6	0	\$0.00

NY Department Encampment Committee Report

13 Feb 2026

Committee Chairman – Jeffrey French, DC

Committee Members – Jeffrey Albanese, PDC

Robert Pugsley, PDC

Darin Everdyke, PDC

Perry Cleaveland, PCC

Ruth Ann Williams, DP DUVCW

Susan Berardi, PDP DUVCW

Nicole Beatty, DUVCW

Erica Jean Smith, DP ADUVCW

Hope Parker, PDP ASUVCW

The committee, through emails, phone calls, and zoom meetings worked the NY Department Encampment location for the years 2026 and 2027.

2026 Department Encampment rotation is in the SW Region of New York this rotation cycle. The Sons worked at the location using second tier location to help reduce the cost of the Encampment. As announced last Department Encampment it will be held in Ithaca, NY at Cornell University on 10-12 April. Campfire will be 10 April at the Hotel Ithaca Lounge and will be open to the public as part of the America's 250th Birthday year event.

Meanwhile, the Daughters are working on Ulster Community College for Saturday meetings. Tentative date April 9-11 because hotel room rates take a jump after that date. Looking at Hampton Inn Kingston hotel. Courtyard by Marriot Kingston is another choice in Kingston NY.

The committee will work on securing 2027 Encampment in the Southeastern Region area which DUVCW has the lead and the Western region in 2028 which the Sons have the lead.

It was voted on by the Committee to no longer work an agreement with the Hotels to block the rooms. We are not getting a good deal for pricing. The Committee, henceforth, will recommend one hotel that we prefer everyone to

stay at. Each member will reserve their rooms through Trivago or Expedia to receive the lowest room rate possible. This will require our members to reserve the rooms as soon as possible.

The committee is working diligently to use second-tier locations as it has proven that the cost is substantially reduced for the Allied Orders and our Brothers and Sisters.

Yours, in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeffrey French", written in a reddish-brown ink.

Jeffrey French, PDC (NY & CH)
Committee Chairman
Department of New York.

Fundraising Committee Report

14 Mar 2025

Committee Chairman – Jeffrey French, DC

Committee Members – Jeffrey Albanese, PDC

William Stump, PDC

George McGraw

Darin Everdyke, PDC

Robert Pugsley, PDC

Dennis Duffy

Raymond Wheaton, PDC

Camp SVC's

The Committee has not met at all during the year but did work a couple of fundraisers.

The Committee has worked on the following fundraisers for 2025-2026:

1. Requested a Department Order for Camps to do Bottle/Can drives to raise funds for the Department Scholarship Fund. Department Order #3 was issued to this effect. The Funds raised totaled \$300. Only two Camps participated being the Lilly and French Camps.
2. The Gun raffle is still working. The application is currently being reviewed for Approval/Disapproval by the NYS Gaming and Chance Commission. If approved, the French Camp will do the Raffle. 50% of the proceeds will go to the Department General Funds and the Camp will keep the other 50%. **RECOMMENDATION:** If this is successful, we recommend rotating each year to a camp willing to do the raffle. We will know the results for the Brothers to vote on in 2027 Department Encampment.

There is basically only one or two actively working the fundraising committee. **RECOMMENDATION:** Change Committee members to Chairman, Treasurer, and two brothers of the Order. Hopefully we can get two brothers wanting to work, raising funds for the Department.

Yours, in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,



Jeffrey French, PDC
Committee Chairman
Department of New York

**THE DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF
THE CIVIL WAR**

MEMORIALS & MONUMENTS GRANTS COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jeffrey Albanese, PDC, CHAIRMAN

Brian Castler, PDC

W. Rodney Parker

April 3, 2026

Dear Commander French and Brothers of the Department of New York:

The Committee received a timely application from the Sidney Camp #41 seeking a grant to assist with the creation of an interpretive sign for the Danby Soldier's Monument located in the Town of Danby, New York. The monument honors the forty-five local men from thirteen different regiments or military units who lost their lives while serving the Union during the Civil War. The sign will be a waterproof two by three foot metal sign in full color mounted on a high strength aluminum frame held up by a similar monopole. The sign will be constructed by Vackersign upon recommendation of the staff at the Finger Lakes State Parks who uses them for their interpretive signage.

The total cost will be \$2,500.00 and along with monies already raised the sign will be fully funded with this grant.

The proposal seeks a \$750.00 grant and is in proper form and the Committee has received no other applications. After review of the application the Committee has awarded the full requested grant of \$750.00 to the Sidney Camp #41 project. In accordance with the grant protocols upon receipt of an invoice or invoices from the vendor or vendors for services or materials provided for the project or proof of payment to such vendors a check or checks will issue from the Memorials & Grants Fund for a total of \$750.00 payable to such vendors or in reimbursement for their payment.

As a reminder in April 2024 the Memorials and Monuments Grant Committee approved a grant of \$750.00 to the French camp to assist with the repair of a white zinc statue of a Civil War

soldier in what appears to be a GAR plot in the North Cemetery in Watertown, New York. At the time they presented a repair estimate of \$16,473 from the McKay Lodge Conservation Laboratory (which apparently is the only company that repairs this type of statue.) It was also noted at that time that this estimate was already close to 3 years old. It was also related that the camp had only raised, at least at the time of the application in 2024, the sum of \$2,000.00 towards this project. Due to the age of the estimate and the fact they only raised \$2,000.00 this committee was therefore concerned that absent a deadline these funds could be tied up for years. Accordingly, the grant was issued on condition that it be spent in accordance with the protocol within 18 months of its granting. That time expired 6 months ago, and the grant has not yet been spent.

Respectfully submitted

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty, Jeffrey Albanese, PDC Committee Chair

Department of New York
Legislation Committee Report for 143rd Encampment
April 10-12, 2026

The only actual or proposed legislative activity in New York that the Committee is aware of which would affect the operations of the SUVCW is Senate Bill 8903.

Background: Most of New York's now closed Psychiatric hospitals had cemeteries for the burial of indigent patients. These patients, who lived a difficult life, were buried in unmarked or merely numbered graves removing from them their most personal possession - their name.

For over 100 years, NYS has refused to give out burial locations or other information about these former patients, even to family members. A fellow by name of Tom Christ has been working to right this wrong and get NYS law changed so burial information about these former patients will be available, just as it is in other cemeteries. Opening up these records will return dignity to the deceased, help people find their family members, and allow us to properly memorialize and honor **Veterans** buried in these cemeteries.

At Mr. Christ's request NYS Senator Fahy has sponsored the Burial Records bill (S8903) which and it is now in the Mental Health Committee for review. Senator Mattera has expressed interest in co-sponsoring it, making this a bi-partisan effort. We are still waiting for a commitment from members of the Assembly.

The Legislation Committee asks that the Department Commander to ask National for permission for the Committee and all interested officers and brothers to lobby their State Senators, assembly members, and the Governor to support this bill.

In F., C., & L.,

Dennis J. Duffy, Chair
John Portanova, Member
February, 9, 2026

Camp Reports

Commander George J. Weinmann, PDC, Camp Report 143rd New York Department Encampment

April 10th – 12th, 2026, Ithaca, NY.

Camp Activities, As of March 30, 2026

Dear NY Department & Camp Officers and members:

It is my pleasure as Camp Commander and NY Department Past Commander to give my Oliver Tilden Camp #26 commander's camp report to the N. Y. Department Encampment.

My Report begins on:

January 29, 2025—Zoom Tilden Camp Meeting—Speaker: JVC John Gregor: His visit to James A. Garfield's home and Tomb visit in Lawnfield, Ohio.

March 1, 2025 - Greenpoint Monitor Museum "Road Show" Award Ceremony at MS126 John Ericsson Middle School, Greenpoint Brooklyn, NY.

March 26, 2025 - Zoom Tilden Camp Monthly Meeting - Speaker: SVC Arthur Kirmss.

April 26, 2025—203rd Birthday Commemoration for U.S. Grant- National Parks Service at the National Monument. Keynote Speaker Bro. George Munkenbeck. Members of the Allied Orders and Historical & Patriotic organizations participated in the ceremony and Color Guard.

National, NY Dept and Tilden Camp placed wreaths in honor of President Grant.

April 27, 2025—West Point Ceremony at Grant National Monument at 11:00 am. Commander George J. Weinmann, PDC was invited to be a speaker during the ceremony. Tilden Camp Commander Weinmann placed a wreath in honor of President Grant.

April 30, 2025 - Union League Club. The Grant Monument Association dinner General Grant's Birthday. Speakers were General David Petraeus and H.W. Brands. Commander George J. Weinmann, PDC, Janice Weinmann & Bro. Mark Goret were in attendance.

May 7, 2025 - Zoom Tilden Camp Monthly Meeting - Speaker: Sgt.-at-Arms Steve Lally
Topic: How the Civil War changed our Coins and Currency.

May 10, 2025 - Headstone Dedication – Baldwin and Tilden at Old Calvary Cemetery.

May 26, 2025- Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument Memorial Day ceremony at Riverside Park at 89th Street in Manhattan. Co. I, 83rd NYV—SVR lead the Color Guard.

May 28, 2025 - Greenpoint Monitor Museum "Road Show", PS 110 The Monitor School - George J. Weinmann, PDC, Sister Janice Weinmann, & Arthur Kirmss.

May 28, 2025 - Zoom Tilden Camp Monthly Meeting - Memorial Service.

May 28, 2025 - Greenpoint Monitor Museum "Road Show", PS 110 The Monitor School - George J. Weinmann, PDC, Sister Janice Weinmann, & Arthur Kirmss.

May 30, 2025 - Greenpoint Monitor Museum "Road Show", PS 110 The Monitor School - George J. Weinmann, PDC, Sister Janice Weinmann, & Arthur Kirmss.

May 31, 2025 - Eagle Scout Ceremony— Bro. Mark Goret gave 3 Eagle Scout Awards.

June 2, 2025-Greenpoint Monitor Museum "Road Show" PS34 – OLIVER H. PERRY SCHOOL George J. Weinmann, PDC and Sister Janice Weinmann.

June 3, 2025 - Greenpoint Monitor Museum "Road Show" PS34 – OLIVER H. PERRY SCHOOL— George J. Weinmann, PDC and Sister Janice Weinmann.

June 13, 2025- Flag Day Ceremony—Color Guard—PS 34 -Greenpoint Monitor Museum.

June 13, 2025 - Flag Day Parade in Manhattan, NY. Hosted by the Sons of the Revolution.

June 18, 2025 - Greenpoint Monitor Museum "Road Show"- ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA CATHOLIC ACADEMY George

J. Weinmann, PDC, Sister Janice Weinmann & Arthur Kirmss.

June 20, 2025 - Greenpoint Monitor Museum “Road Show”-ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA CATHOLIC ACADEMY George J. Weinmann, PDC, Sister Janice Weinmann & Arthur Kirmss.

July 4, 2025—Small party with museum members & camp meeting at the Greenpoint Monitor Museum site, 56 Quay St.

July 19, 2025 - Memorial Day Service - Robert J. Marks GAR Post Plot, Mt. Olivet, Lutheran & Cypress Hills Cemeteries. Placed flags on Civil War veterans graves. (This was rescheduled from May 17th due to rain)

Aug. 2025—Battle of Brooklyn week, Old Stone House ceremony, Brooklyn. New York.

Oct 8, 2025 - Greenpoint Monitor Museum “Road Show” John Ericsson MS 126 - George J. Weinmann, PDC, Sister Janice Weinmann, & Arthur Kirmss.

Oct 15, 2025 - Greenpoint Monitor Museum “Road Show” John Ericsson MS 126 - George J. Weinmann, PDC, Sister Janice Weinmann, & Arthur Kirmss.

Oct 22, 2025 - Greenpoint Monitor Museum “Road Show” John Ericsson MS 126 - George J. Weinmann, PDC, Sister Janice Weinmann, & Arthur Kirmss.

Oct. 29, 2025—Zoom Tilden Camp Monthly Meeting. Speaker: CC George J. Weinmann, PDC.

Nov. 9, 2025 - 104th Annual Flag Service for the Patriotic & Historical Societies. JVC John Gregor & Mark Goret was in the Color Guard & Bro Bill Webb.

Dec. 3, 2025—Zoom Tilden Camp Meeting - Speaker – CC George J. Weinmann, PDC. Topic: Charles F. Weinmann, 9th NYV (Hawkins’ Zouaves) - Camp Elections: CC George J. Weinmann, PDC, SVC Arthur Kirmss, JVC John Gregor, Sect. Roy Wildenberger, Tres. Charles Lirio, Camp Council 1. John P. Portanova, PCC 2. Mark Goret 3. George Rand were elected.

Dec. 12, 2025, Christmas Party at Fraunces Tavern, NY.

Jan. 28, 2026—Zoom Tilden Camp Meeting— Speaker: JVC John Gregor Topic: Mark Twain in the Civil War.

Feb. 1, 2026 - 200th Birthday Ceremony for Julia Grant, wife of President Grant at the Grant National Monument in Manhattan. Hosted by Grant Monument Association, Bro. Frank Scaturro president. Commander George J. Weinmann, PDC was invited to be a speaker. JVC John Gregor read a birthday letter written by Laura Bush. Co. I, 83rd NYVI was the Color Guard for the ceremony. Commander Weinmann representing SUVCW placed a wreath in honor of Julia Grant. Sister Janice Weinmann, Corp. Charles Lirio (Color Guard), Bro. Bill Webb and his wife Eva were in attendance.

Feb. 25, 2026—Zoom Tilden Camp Meeting— Speaker: SVC Arthur Kirmss Topic: Black History Month.

Mar. 25, 2026—Zoom Tilden Camp Meeting— Speaker: for the Good of the Order—SVC Arthur Kirmss. Tilden Camp and Co. I, 83rd New York Vol. Inf. (9th NYSM) SVR are working together again with the Greenpoint Monitor Museum to teach children in the museum’s classroom at John Ericsson MS 126 in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. The children are learning about the USS Monitor, John Ericsson, our Civil War ancestors, Music, GAR, SUVCW and much more. The museum has more schools on schedule to visit the classroom again. We are happy to continue our program. The museum is continuing to work on building a museum on its land at 56 Quay St. where the USS Monitor was built and launched. The local Community Board 1 and the Brooklyn Borough President voted YES to the project named “Monitor Point”. The MTA, Gotham a developer and the Greenpoint Monitor Museum are working together with Gotham on building a new facility for the MTA, 3 buildings on there land, one will have affordable housing and a new museum building for the Greenpoint Monitor Museum on its own land at 56 Quay St., Greenpoint Brooklyn, NY. A Land Use process will continue with the City Planning Commission, City Council and the Mayor for approval. Oliver Tilden Camp was honored last year to host the 203rd Birthday of General Ulysses S. Grant at his memorial monument. In addition, Commander Weinmann was honored to This year our Annual Commemoration of the 204th Birthday of General Ulysses S. Grant will take place on Sunday, April 26, 2026 at 11:00 am at the Grant National Memorial in Manhattan, NY. Tilden Camp will be hosting the event with the National Park

Service. Our Keynote Speaker is Actor Patrick Falci who played A.P. Hill in the movie Gettysburg. National, Department officers and members of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic will be giving remarks, placing wreaths and many members will be in attendance. Camp Commander George J. Weinmann, PDC was invited by the NPS to give remarks at their April 27, 2026 Grant National Memorial Ceremony. We thank the NPS again for making our Grant ceremony possible and memorable every year. This concludes my Oliver Tilden Camp #26 Camp Commander's Camp Report.

Yours in, Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
George J. Weinmann, PDC
Commander

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DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK SUVCW

143rd DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

BYLAW PROPOSALS

& PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

**PROPOSED ADMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
NEW YORK SUVCW TO BE PRESENTED AT THE 143RD DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT**

IT IS PROPOSED that the Bylaws of the Department of New York, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War be amended as follows:

That Article X entitled Committees Section 2 regarding the Legislation Committee be amended by deleting all the language after the first sentence and replacing it with the following language:

"The Committee is authorized to monitor existing and proposed legislation within the Department which affects the welfare or purposes of the Order, or the United States of America in either a positive or negative way and to inform the Department, its camps and members of the same on a regular basis but no less than twice a year. In addition, it is authorized to request that the Department seek permission to lobby in support of or in opposition to said legislation or proposed legislation in accordance with the Constitution and Rules and Regulations of the Order."

"The amended section 2 would then read:

Section 2. "The Legislation Committee shall consist of at least two members/associates to be appointed by the Department Commander. The Committee is authorized to monitor existing and proposed legislation within the Department which affects the welfare or purposes of the Order, or the United States of America in either a positive or negative way and to inform the Department, its camps and members of the same on a regular basis but no less than twice a year. In addition, it is authorized to request that the Department seek permission to lobby in support of or in opposition to said legislation or proposed legislation in accordance with the Constitution and Rules and Regulations of the Order."

PURPOSE: This preserves the Legislation Committee and preserves one of its essential purposes being monitoring legislation that may affect the Department while conforming with the Lobbying rules and regulations of the Order.

That Article VI Department Permanent Fund, be amended as follows:

That Section 4 be deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

"No part of the principal of any of the funds covered by this Article shall ever be spent other than in accordance with section 6 of this Article, and all monies accruing from interest or dividend shall be held as part of the principal of the fund to which they accrue."

In addition, a new section entitled section 6 to be added which states as follows:

Section 6. As authorized by section 4 upon recommendation of the Department Treasurer and as approved by at least two members of the Department Council, part of the principal of the fund may be used from time to time for the sole purpose of purchasing one or more Past Department Commander badges and engraving for presentation to Past Department Commanders of the Department of New York.

PURPOSE: The idea of a permanent fund akin to the National Organization's permanent fund is a good idea but in practice it is hard to achieve in a fund the size of this Department which hovers currently around \$2,000.00 and consequently generates minimal annual income. This amendment allows principal to be used but only for the limited purpose of purchasing PDC badges which currently run over \$100 and gives the fund a useful purpose. This is also in accordance with the wishes of one of the original originators of this fund and one who also has been a primary annual contributor to the fund for years, Jerry Orton.

143rd ENCAMPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, SUVCW

Ithaca, NY April 10-12, 2026

BYLAW CHANGE

Recommend that contingent on the Department Recruitment Medal award resolution being approved; the following is added to the Department Bylaws as follows:

Article XIII
Awards

Section 1. The Department of New York has twelve (12) awards, which are presented at the annual Encampment.

Add the MG Newton Maerin Curtis Medal after K and it will be L and change the rest accordingly after it.

I. The Camp Online Presence Award shall include social media pages and websites as determined by the Department Webmaster and Department Commander.

J. A Department Recruitment Medal will promote brothers within our department to actively recruit new members. The brother is recognized for being issued a Department Recruitment Medal.

Be awarded only at the Annual Department Encampment, except when disability or other excusable reason (decided by the Department Commander) is present.

If awarded to an individual more than once, a Bronze Oak Leaf is attached. The medal will be authorized for any brother who has recruited Ten (10) new brothers in a one-year period.

Medal will be presented by the Department Commander.

K. The James Gordon Bennett Jr. Award, a medal, is presented to the brothers of the Order who donated at least \$500 to the Department of New York in a year

measured by the last day of the last encampment and the first day of the following encampment. All living past awardees will be recognized yearly at the Department Encampment with the singing of "Drunken Sailor" by the assembled brothers before the awarding of each year's recipients.

L. The Major General Newton Martin Curtis Medal Award is to be established to encourage brothers within the Department of NY to be engaged and involved in SUVCW events at all three levels (Camp, Department, National).

The medal is named after a Past GAR Department of NY Commander who served bravely in the war and received the Medal of Honor. He continued his service in the NYS Legislation and later as a U.S. Congressman. He was the Assistant Inspector for the National State Soldiers Home and involved with the NYS Agriculture Society. MG Curtis was a significant member of the GAR. His Loyalty to serve his country exemplifies the meaning of this award.

Be awarded only at the Annual Department Encampment, except when disability or other excusable reason (decided by the Department Commander) is present.

Awarded only once.

The medal will be authorized for any brother who has engaged in the following requirements for this award for three continuous years:

- 1. Attends all Camp meetings and at least one Camp Event**
- 2. Attends the Department Encampment and an event from another Camp**
- 3. Attends National Encampment or One of National Events being either The Lincoln Tomb Ceremony or Remembrance Day Parade.**

The Camp Level activities will be verified by the Camp Commander via email to Department Commander and Secretary.

The Department Level will be verified by the Department Secretary and the Camp Commander of the event via email to Department Commander and Secretary.

National Level will be verified by a brother overseeing the National Event or encampment via email to Department Commander and Secretary.

Medal will be presented by the Department Commander.

M. The Danny Wheeler, PC-in-C Lifetime Service Award, a medal, presented to a member or associate of the Allied Orders in the Department of New York, who has distinguished themselves through continuous meritorious service over a significant period of time that reaches beyond the Camp level to have an impact across the Department or beyond to the national or international level.

143rd ENCAMPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, SUVCW

Ithaca, NY April 10-12, 2026

BYLAW CHANGE

Recommend that contingent on the Department Recruitment Medal award resolution being approved; the following is added to the Department Bylaws as follows:

Article XIII
Awards

Section 1. The Department of New York has Eleven (11) awards, which are presented at the annual Encampment.

Add Recruitment Medal after I and it will be J and change the rest accordingly after it.

I. The Camp Online Presence Award shall include social media pages and websites as determined by the Department Webmaster and Department Commander.

J. A Department Recruitment Medal will promote brothers within our department to actively recruit new members. The brother is recognized for being issued a Department Recruitment Medal.

Be awarded only at the Annual Department Encampment, except when disability or other excusable reason (decided by the Department Commander) is present.

If awarded to an individual more than once, a Bronze Oak Leaf is attached. The medal will be authorized for any brother who has recruited Ten (10) new brothers in a one-year period.

Medal will be presented by the Department Commander.

K. The James Gordon Bennett Jr. Award, a medal, is presented to the brothers of the Order who donated at least \$500 to the Department of New York in a year measured by the last day of the last encampment and the first day of the following encampment. All living past awardees will be recognized yearly at the Department Encampment with the singing of "Drunken Sailor" by the assembled brothers before the awarding of each year's recipients.

L. The Danny Wheeler, PC-in-C Lifetime Service Award, a medal, presented to a member or associate of the Allied Orders in the Department of New York, who has distinguished themselves through continuous meritorious service over a significant period of time that reaches beyond the Camp level to have an impact across the Department or beyond to the national or international level.

SUBMITTED BY: Jeffrey I. French, Department Commander,
Walter H. French Camp #17

Department of New York
Major General Newton Martin Curtis Medal
PROPOSAL (Recommendation)
Jan 28, 2026

The Major General Newton Martin Curtis Medal Award is to be established to encourage brothers within the Department of NY to be engaged and involved in SUVCW events at all three levels (Camp, Department, National).

The medal is named after a Past GAR Department of NY Commander who served bravely in the war and received the Medal of Honor. He continued his service in the NYS Legislation and later as a U.S. Congressman. He was the Assistant Inspector for the National State Soldiers Home and involved with the NYS Agriculture Society. MG Curtis was a significant member of the GAR. His Loyalty to serve his country exemplifies the meaning of this award.

- Be awarded only at the Annual Department Encampment, except when disability or other excusable reason (decided by the Department Commander) is present.

- Awarded only once.

The medal will be authorized for any brother who has engaged in the following requirements for this award for three continuous years:

1. Attends all Camp meetings and at least one Camp Event
2. Attends the Department Encampment and an event from another Camp
3. Attends National Encampment or One of National Events being either The Lincoln Tomb Ceremony or Remembrance Day Parade.

The Camp Level activities will be verified by the Camp Commander via email to Department Commander and Secretary.

The Department Level will be verified by the Department Secretary and the Camp Commander of the event via email to Department Commander and Secretary.

National Level will be verified by a brother overseeing the National Event or encampment via email to Department Commander and Secretary.

Medal will be presented by the Department Commander.

The representative medal

- Will be struck in Bronze

- A Circular medallion centered with border containing:

"Department of New York" (Top) and "Engagement & Involvement" (Bottom)

(Centered will be an engraved portrait of Major General Newton Martin Curtis.)

- The medal will be suspended by a ribbon. The Red Ribbon will be standard size for the medal

A Bar containing a pin for affixing to clothing of the same material used to make the medal with the word "Loyalty" engraved thereon.

The reverse would be flat, with the initials SUVCW across the top.

SUBMITTED BY: Jeffrey I. French, Department Commander, Walter H. French
Camp #17

Department of New York
Department Recruitment Medal
PROPOSAL (Recommendation)
Jan 28, 2026

A Department Recruitment Medal will promote brothers within our department to actively recruit new members. The brother is recognized by being issued a Department Recruitment Medal.

- Be awarded only at the Annual Department Encampment, except when disability or other excusable reason (decided by the Department Commander) is present.
- If awarded to an individual more than once; a Bronze Oak Leaf is attached.

The medal will be authorized for any brother who has recruited Ten (10) new brothers in a one-year period.

Medal will be presented by the Department Commander.

The representative medal

- Will be struck in Bronze
- A Circular medallion centered with border containing:

"Department of New York" (Top) and "Recruitment" (Bottom)

(Centered will be an engraved portrait of Soldier giving wounded soldier a drink from the canteen.)

- The medal will be suspended by a ribbon. The Blue Ribbon will be standard size for the medal

A Bar containing a pin for affixing to clothing of the same material used to make the medal with the word "FRATERNITY" engraved thereon.

The reverse would be flat, with the initials SUVCW across the top.

SUBMITTED BY: Jeffrey I. French, Department Commander, Walter H. French Camp #17

Department of New York
Last Buried Civil War Soldier/Sailor
PROPOSAL (Recommendation)
April 9, 2026

Whereas: The last Civil War Soldier project is not totally accurate as discovered by the Searle Camp. It was discovered that another veteran from another state was the last one buried and confirmed by date of death.

Whereas: less than 50% of Civil War Soldiers/Sailors are loaded in the Graves Database. There is no way to confirm definitively who is the last one buried.

Let it be resolved that a special committee be formed to accurately verify who the last buried soldier/sailor is by county.

Let it be resolved that the special committee will verify all the cemeteries and graves. The soldier/sailor information will be loaded in the SUVCW Graves Database. The information will be the basis for verification of the last buried Civil War veteran.

Let it be resolved the special committee ^{of three years} be comprised of a Chairman, Department GRO, and two members of the Department.

SUBMITTED BY: Jeffrey I. French, Department Commander, Walter H. French Camp #17

FORT DR. MARY EDWARDS WALKER RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Mary Edwards Walker was born on November 26, 1832, in Oswego, New York, and

WHEREAS Mary Edwards Walker graduated with honors from Syracuse Medical College with a medical degree in 1855 only the second woman to do, and

WHEREAS at the onset of the Civil War, Dr. Walker traveled to Washington, D.C. to join the Union Army and was denied a commission as a medical officer due to her sex, and

WHEREAS she then served as an unpaid volunteer surgeon at the U.S. Patent Office hospital and subsequently worked as an unpaid field surgeon near the front lines of Fredericksburg and, Chattanooga, and

WHEREAS in September 1863 Dr. Walker became the first female U.S. Army surgeon following her commission as a "Contract Acting Assistant Surgeon (civilian)" by the Army of the Cumberland and while serving as an assistant surgeon with the 52nd Ohio. Dr. Walker often crossing enemy lines to provide medical care and was detained and arrested by Confederate troops as a spy in April 1864 and was imprisoned at Castle Thunder prison near Richmond for 4 months until exchanged during a prisoner exchange, and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the war and based on the recommendations of Generals' George Thomas and William T. Sherman she was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Andrew Johnson for meritorious service, the only woman to ever be so honored, and

WHEREAS in 1916 the Medal Honor was taken away from Dr. Walker and then restored in 1977 during the administration of President Jimmy Carter, and

WHEREAS in 1982 the United States Postal Service issued a twenty-cent stamp in her honor, and in 2000 Dr. Walker was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame and in 2024 Dr. Walker was an honoree of a 2024 American Women Quarter, and

WHEREAS the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War offers the Dr. Mary Edwards Walker Award to a female member of the Allied Orders in recognition of and in appreciation for her outstanding service to the SUVCW, and

WHEREAS on January 2021 a bipartisan United States Congress passed legislation (by a vote 322 to 87 in the House and 81 to 13 in the Senate) legislation creating the "Naming Commission" to create a list of military assets with names associated with the Confederate States of America and recommendations for their removal one of which was Fort A. P. Hill named for Confederate General A.P. Hill who served in the Army of Northern Virginia and was a traitor to Union. Said Fort was renamed Fort Walker for Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, and

WHEREAS in 2025 the Secretary of Defense under the direction of the President of the United States and contrary to the intent and spirit of the legislation of the United States Congress reverted it name back to Fort. A.P. Hill claiming authority to rename the Fort to Anderson-Pinn-Hill shortened to A.P. Hill; and

WHEREAS the Secretary of Defense under the direction of the President of the United States and the and contrary to the intent and spirit of the aforesaid legislation of the United States

Congress seeks to change names of other military installations back to their original Confederate names, and

WHEREAS it is incumbent upon us, as descendants and of all those men and women, both black and white, who served the Union during the American Civil War to preserve their legacy and their accomplishments in the cause of freedom and in the abolition of slavery, and to oppose those efforts that seek to glorify the Confederacy, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of New York, urge our United States Senators and Representatives to support legislation banning the efforts of the Secretary of Defense, and the Department of Defense from changing the name of Fort Walker back to Fort A.P. Hill as well as renaming other similarly named military installations using the subterfuge of allegedly renaming the military installations for non-Confederate men and women who just happen to have names identical to their original Confederate names, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of New York, urge its national affiliate the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to adopt this resolution at its next annual encampment.