

# THE VOLUNTEER



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF  
THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Spring 2006

[www.suvcw.org/ny/deptny.htm](http://www.suvcw.org/ny/deptny.htm)

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Send submissions to:

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## New York Department Encampment

On June 2-4 the Department will hold its 123rd Encampment at the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls. A great Encampment is planned. Friday night will offer a campfire to all including guests. There will be an audience participation half hour of Civil War Trivia with prizes and then our main speaker, Barnet Schechter author of the book "The Devil's Own Work, The Civil War Draft Riots and the Fight to Reconstruct America" will discuss the book and offer a question and answer period. The hospitality room will be open and well stocked both nights, so come and enjoy the company.

Saturday will have business sessions in the morning with a break for lunch. To register for the business session send pertinent information along with \$5.00 to Michael Bennett, PO Box 1824, White Plains, N.Y. 10602. This year we are offering a catered lunch of soup, salad, sandwich, desert and beverage at \$18.00 per person. Reservations and checks made payable to Department of New York, SUVCW should be sent to Dale Theetge, Commander, Department of New York, SUVCW, 3046 Center Rd., Ovid, N.Y. 14521 Reservations will be accepted at that address until May 31.

The afternoon session should end by 5:00 pm with the Banquet starting at 7:00 pm.

The Banquet offers Oven Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans Almandine, Penne Rigate with Marinaea Sauce, Chicken Francaise, Roast Sirloin of Beef with Chefs choice sauce, Rolls and Butter, Desert Table and coffee and tea. Cost is \$33.00 per person. Late reservations will be accepted until June 2 at the Encampment. Timely reservations should be sent to PNP Shirley Borris, 7492 Sodus Center Rd., Sodus, N.Y. 14551. The night s entertainment will come from Nicole Byer of the Daughters of Union Veterans.

Sunday morning will feature a Memorial Service at a near by War Memorial monument. The site offers plenty of parking and a lovely lawn for the ceremony. We hope to see you at what will be a wonderful Encampment.

## National Encampment

Do not miss the 2006, 125th National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania August 10-13.

The Hilton Harrisburg Towers is the official hotel for this Encampment in the heart of historic downtown Harrisburg, PA just three blocks from the State Capitol Building, and connected to The Whitaker Center via enclosed walk way.

The hotel is less then 45 minutes from Gettysburg and a short distance from Sharpsburg and Harpers Ferry. Tour the National Civil War Museum, site of the Encampment Banquet and participate in the rededication of the GAR memorial on the Gettysburg Battlefield.

The area offers many other easily accessible attractions, including Hershey Park, Hershey Arena, the Home of the Pennsylvania Dutch, and the famed retail shopping mall outlets of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. There is also a unique retail complex with more than 50 specialty shops and restaurants adjacent to hotel.

Registration and related forms can be downloaded on [www.suvcw.org](http://www.suvcw.org). For those of us who are not internet active contact Commander Dale Theetge 3046 Center Rd., Ovid, N.Y. 14521 to request forms.

**Department of New York  
2003-2004 Officers**

**Commander**

Dale E. Theetge, PCC  
dtheetge@fltg.net

**Senior Vice Commander**

Earl Allen, PCC  
eallen@usadatanet.net

**Junior Vice Commander**

Robert G. Dauchy, PCC  
omarv@usadatanet.net

**Secretary/ Treasurer**

Michael S. Bennett, PDC  
spangler@mindspring.com.

**Patriotic Instructor**

John P. Portanova, PCC  
dport1109@aol.com

**Chaplain**

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rstuartjr@msn.com

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csdd@aol.com  
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Ray Wheaton, PCC  
rbw8@cornell.edu

**Eagle Scout Chairman**

Douglas E. Deuel

**Archivist**

Danny L. Wheeler, PCinC

**Historian**

Benedict R. Maryniak

**GAR Highway Officer**

William A. Christen, Jr.

**Adjutant to GAR Hwy Officer.**

Jeffrey Albanese

**Counselor**

Danny L. Wheeler, PCinC

**Graves Registrar**

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Flycar@bluefrognet.net

**Memorials Officer**

Jerome Orton, PDC  
orton50@aol.com

**Signals Officer**

Michael S. Bennett, PDC

**Editor, The Volunteer**

Robert M. Paul

**Color Bearer**

Philip L. Kissel

**Guide**

Raymon B. Wheaton, PCC

**Guard**

William F. Mason, PCC

**Musician**

William Tojek, PCC

**Legislative Committee Chair**

Paul F. Ellis-Graham

**Veterans Home Visitation Offer**

Peter Lindemann, PCC

## Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War New York Department Orders Series 2005-2006



**Dale E. Theetge, Commander**  
3046 Center Rd, Ovid, N.Y. 14521  
(607)-869-5432 dtheetge@fltg.net

### Department Orders

- Our Secretary - treasurer, Michael Bennett has a difficult enough job when all paperwork is done right. Unfortunately this is not the usual case. Paperwork needs to be filled out completely and sent on time. Deceased members should be reported to the Secretary, Chaplin and Commander as they happen, not waiting for the per-capita report. Change of address should be notified as quickly as possible; the Department mails membership and to many addresses are wrong. Brother Bennett would much rather have e-mailed questions on paperwork than to have it sent wrong. Today I order all Camp Secretaries to be fastidious in getting the paperwork done properly and on time.  
ORDERED THE 16TH DAY OF APRIL 2006

### Department Permanent Fund Established

The Permanent Fund for the Dept of New York is a done deal. This fund will accept gifts and bequeaths with the rule that the principle can not be touched. The annual interest can go for the good works of the Department. This is a tax deductible fund and all brothers are urged to consider an annual donation and remember it in your will.

### GAR Highway Signs in Place

GREAT NEWS - Adj. GAR Highway Officer, Jeff Albanese reports that the deal is set with state DOT to set the first two GAR Highway and future signs on US 6. The contract to do the work is out to bid. A BIG thank you to Gar Highway Officer Bill Christen Jr. and his Adj. Jeffrey Albanese for a job well done. These two brothers have accomplished more on this project in two years than was done in the previous 6 years and deserve our thanks and recognition.

## Stone Set for PCinC Norm Furman

Services were conducted on April 22 to dedicate a stone at the grave of PDC and PCinC Norm Furman in Greenwood Cemetery, Wilson, NY. Brother Furman was a decorated WWII veteran who died in 1997. His friend, Mr. Alfred Sabey, discovered that no stone had been placed on his grave. Communications through the Pennsylvania Division, SCV and Department of New York, SUVCW led to projected that was reported in the last issue of The Volunteer.



Members of the Wilson American Legion along with Department Commander Theetge, PDC Todd Shillington and family members gather to look at Norm Furman's Grave stone.

## General Order 009 2005-2006

Official Press Release from the Council Administration of the S.U.V.C.W.

Camps and Departments are directed to give the widest possible dissemination of this press release. The release is as follows:

"The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War wishes to take this opportunity to alert the public to an unfortunate trend in recent years to desecrate Civil war Memorials erected in honor of the men who fought in the Civil War. The biggest problem centers on Civil war Memorials that include Civil war cannons. In an all too typical scenario, Individuals claiming to represent a Civil War Museum approach local officials they perceive to be responsible for the Civil war Memorial.

In point offact, these individuals are private collectors or persons acting on behalf of private collectors. They make the local officials aware of how valuable the cannon is and suggest it may be in danger of being stolen or damaged. They offer to buy the cannon

and place it on display at a museum where it will be safe for everyone to enjoy. They agree to substitute a reproduction so the local community will still have a cannon, and it will require little or no maintenance.

The price offered to the local officials is always far less than the real value of the cannon memorial. However, it is always in the thousands of dollars and the local officials, often being pressured for operating funds, see nothing wrong with the arrangement since they will still have a cannon reproduction for display purposes.

In most cases the local officials, be they government, civic or veterans group, are unaware that they probably do not hold legal title to the cannon they propose to sell. Most of these Memorial cannons were placed in cemeteries, public squares or community parks by local Civil War Veteran's organization (GAR) or their descendants such as the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). The SUVCW is a Congressionally chartered organization and the legal heir to the Grand Anny of the Republic (GAR). Many of these cannons were either given to the GAR or loaned to the GAR or SUVCW by the United States Government. Those on loan from the United States Government must be returned to the Government if they cease to be a Civil War Memorial.

Regardless of ownership, these Civil war memorials should not be desecrated. They are priceless relics placed by our ancestors to remind us of the sacrifices they have made not only for themselves, but also for future generations. The placement of these Civil war Memorials generally involved impressive dedications ceremonies attended by the entire community, including widows and children of fallen soldiers. The understanding evryone had at the time of placement of these Memorials was they would remain a permanent memorial; not until the community felt an economic need to sell them.

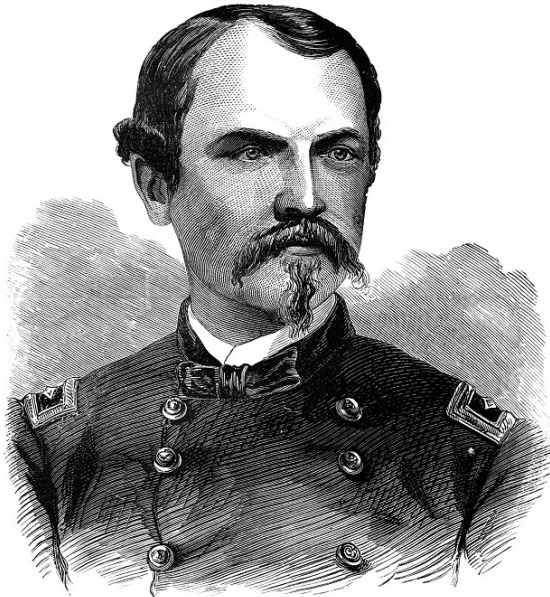
The public would be outraged if a modern memorial to military veterans were to be sold just because it had monetary value. When the SUVCW discovers the desecration of a Civil War Memorial, it takes an active role in trying to preserve the memorial and recover the cannon. In several cases not only have local officials been embarrassed regarding their actions relating to Civil war Memorials but also in recovering the cannons it proved costly. Those who buy these cannon from local officials are always willing to sell them back; but at a much higher price. Every community should be vigilant and avoid involvement in trying to enhance their General Funds at the expense of our Civil war veterans.

### **Lincoln Boulder to be Rededicated**

The Colonel Ellis Camp 124 will hold a rededication ceremony at the Lincoln Boulder, located at the Nyack Library, 59 South Broadway in Nyack on June 17, 2006 at 10AM rain or shine. Please join them for this ceremony. This monument was damaged and restored. Anyone wishing to donate for its repair may send a check, payable to Ellis Camp 124, to camp Treasurer P.O. Box 1824, White Plains, N.Y. 10602

### **Memorial Service for General Averell**

The General Diven Camp 77 will conduct a memorial service at General W.W. Averell s'grave on Saturday, June 10 at 10AM in Grove Cemetery, Bath, NY.



General Averell was born in Cameron, NY, in 1832, graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1855 and assigned to the mounted riflemen. He was promoted to first lieutenant in May, 1861 and was on staff duty in the neighborhood of Washington, participating in the battle of Bull Run and other engagements. In August 1861, he was appointed colonel of the Third Pennsylvania Cavalry and was engaged with the Army of the Potomac in its most important campaigns. In March, 1863, he began the series of cavalry raids in Western Virginia that made his name famous. His served until May, 1865, having commanded the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Division. He was brevetted major general because of his bravery and meritorious conduct in the field. He was one of only fifteen to receive commissions for specific distinguished service. General Averell died in 1900.

### **Eagle Scout Award to Sean Shillington**

It was the Departments pleasure to present a Eagle Scout certificate to Sean Shillington, son of PDC Todd Shillington on April 29, 2006 at a ceremony held at the First Presbyterian Church in Holley, New York. Many Sons brothers and Auxiliary members were present to congratulate Sean. The Eagle Scout certificate program has been a major success under the leadership of Chairman Doug Deuel.

### **Book Suggestion**

For those of you interested in Confederate history, the new book "Twenty Seventh Louisiana Volunteer Infantry" by Terry G. Scriber will be of interest. This has a good regiment history of the 27th and extensive details regarding the entire Vicksburg campaign from both Union and Confederate prospective. The book can be purchased at various internet sites, Amazon, etc. or from the publisher at 1-800-843-1724.

### **Legislative Action Alert**

One thing you can do that will honor all veterans is to contact your Assemblyman and State Senator and urge them to support Senate Bill SO2348 and Assembly Bill AO3432B. These bills provide stiffer penalties for the desecration of veterans monuments and memorials over 75 years old and regulate the legitimate sale of such items. We have tried to get this passed for several years and we need to get it done now.

### **Web Site Honors Veterans and Battlefields**

The National Park Service has opened a web site to help plan visits to NPS sites that preserve the military and veteran heritage of our nation. By logging onto the new [website](http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/veterans/honor.htm), [http://www.nps.gov/pub\\_aff/veterans/honor.htm](http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/veterans/honor.htm), people can learn of the many special places managed by the National Park Service. In addition to a list of national park sites, the web site includes information and web links to books and documents related to the theme of battlefields and military parks.

### **Interactive Battlefield Maps Online**

[www.MapMuse.com](http://www.MapMuse.com) is a new website that has interactive mapping of Civil War battles and sites with information about the sites, a satellite imagery option and travel amenities.

**Abraham Lincoln Camp 6**

**Rochester, NY, Commander James Walzer**  
Walzer8@cs.com

Camp 6 meets monthly in the Rochester area and also co-sponsors a regular *War Between the States* Roundtable.

**Capt. Oliver Tilden Camp 26**

**New York, NY, Commander George J. Weinmann, PCC**  
(718) 383-3180, gjweinmann@aol.com

Camp 26 meets on the fourth Wednesday each month, except July and August, at 346 Broadway, in Manhattan at 7:00 PM.

**Sydney Camp 41**

**Ithaca, NY, Commander Douglas Deuel**  
(607) 785-4403, Cheryl.deuel@gmail.com

Camp 41 meets the 2nd Monday of each month at the Camp's headquarters on Willow Ave. in Ithaca.

**Col. John B. Weber Camp 44**

**Lackawanna, NY, Commander William M. Tojek, PCC**  
(716) 827-6426, Bugler44NY@msn.com

Camp 44 meets at noon on the third Saturday of each month at the Camp's headquarters in Lackawanna.

**Gen. Alexander S. Diven Camp 77**

**Elmira-Corning, NY, Commander Robert M. Paul**  
(607) 562-3774, Bob@Madison-Atlantic.com

Camp 77 meets the second Thursday of each month at the Big Flats Community Center at 7:00 PM.

**Homer Searle Camp 114**

**Bridgewater, NY, Commander David Palmer**  
(315) 822-5435

Camp 114 meets the third Wednesday of each month at the Town Building in Bridgewater

**Col. A. van Horne Ellis Camp 124**

**Goshen, NY, Commander Jeffrey Albanese**  
(845) 294-0921, jalb@frontiernet.net

Camp 124 meets the last Monday of each month at 7:30 PM in the 1841 Courthouse in Goshen, NY.

**Stewart-Hope Camp 126**

**Oneida, NY, Commander Robert V. Heller, PCC**  
(315) 363-6299

Camp 126 meets regularly in Oneida.

**Corporal James Tanner Camp 134**

**Cobleskill, NY, Commander Charles Greenfield**  
(518) 827-5885

Camp 134 meets on the second Saturday at 10:00 AM at the Masonic Temple, Washington Ave., Cobleskill, N.Y.

**Col. David Ireland Camp 137**

**Endicott, NY, Commander Michael Swartwood**  
(607) 669-4509, mnyman@pronetisp.net

Jr. Vice Konrad Kimberling KKemberling@stny.rr.com  
Secy. Doug Deuel cheryl.deuel@gmail.com

**Gen. Newton M. Curtis Camp 142**

**Ogdensburg, NY, Commander Richard Gibson**  
(315) 393-3052, rfgibson@localnet.com

Camp 142 meets monthly at the St. Lawrence County Historical Society in Canton.

**David G. Caywood Camp 146**

**Ovid, NY, Commander Jack Hilyer, PCC**  
(315) 789-5762

Camp 146 usually meets at 7:30 PM on the first Tuesday of each month at the Ovid GAR/SUVCW Hall.

**Admiral John L. Worden Camp 150**

**Peekskill, NY, Commander Matthew J. Hereford**  
(845) 265-3143, outbackmat@aol.com

Camp 150 meets the second Thursday of each month in Peekskill at 7:30 PM.

**Col. George L. Willard Camp 154**

**Albany, NY, Commander Peter Lindemann**  
(518) 296-8530, lindemann@midtel.net

Camp 154 meets monthly, August through June, in the Albany area.

**Schuyler F. Smith Camp 193**

**Halsey Valley, NY, Commander R. Stuart Smith, Jr.**  
(315) 597-9763, rstuartjr@msn.com

Camp 193 meets at the GAR Hall in Halsey Valley on the first Sunday of each month, April through November, and at the call of the Commander.

**Chaplain P. G. Cook Camp 223**

**Buffalo, NY, Commander William Rodney Parker**  
(716) 876-9421, corsairf4u1@hotmail.com

**Moses Baldwin Camp 544**

**Hempstead, NY, Commander Phillip Schlesier**  
(516) 599-8943

Camp 544 meets at the American Legion Hall in Hempstead, the former G.A.R. Hall of the Moses Baldwin Post, on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, Sept. - June.

**General John Buford Camp 4389**

**Sidney, NY, Commander Alvin L. Stewart**  
(607) 563-2262

Camp 4389 meets at the Moose Lodge in Sidney, NY, on the first Sunday, every other month of the year.

**New York Members-at-Large**

**Dept. Secretary Michael S. Bennett, PDC**  
(914) 949-4679, spangler@mindspring.com

**Mark the dates**

**123<sup>nd</sup> New York Department  
Encampment**

**June 2 -4, 2006, Glens Falls, NY**



**NEW YORK.**

The Volunteer  
**Department of New York, SUVCW**  
c/o Robert M. Paul  
48 Antler Drive  
Big Flats, NY 14814

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

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