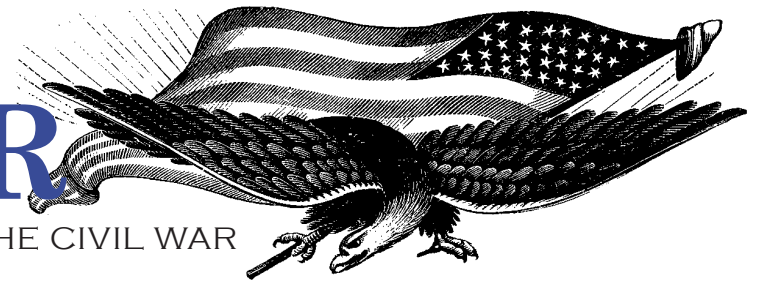


THE VOLUNTEER

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



127th Department of New York Encampment

Muster at Newark, N.Y. June 4-6 2010

The Department of New York Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will hold its 2010 Encampment at the Quality Inn in Newark, N.Y.

The programs begin on Friday evening, June 4 and will run through a Memorial Service early on Sunday morning June 6.

This Encampment is important, as we are on the eve of the Civil War Sesquicentennial. At this gathering we will be setting the background for the Sons' contribution to the 150th celebration in New York State.

The Quality Inn is located at 125 North Main St. in Newark, which is about 15 miles north of N.Y.S. Thruway exit 42. Encampment rep Dale Theetge PDC tells us that the hotel restaurant offers a nice range of meals at reasonable prices, which is one reason that this location was chosen. We are also reminded not to forget a swim suite as there is a wonderful indoor pool at the Inn.

Please visit the Department of New York SU-VCW website for information about registration, accommodations, the Allied Orders Luncheon,

the Allied Orders Banquet, and how you can place a memorial or booster in the Encampment/Convention Journal. For more information, you may also contact Dale E. Theetge PDC at: dtheetge@fltg.net

The Encampment Schedule

Friday, June 4

» 7:00 PM—Campfire Program

Saturday, June 5

» 8:30 AM—Joint Allied Orders Memorial Service, Quality Inn

» 9:00 AM—5:00 PM—Business Session

» 7:00 PM—Allied Orders Banquet, with music following by *Rebecca Colleen and The Chore Lads* (see sidebar)

Sunday, June 6

» 8:00 AM—Joint Allied Orders Memorial Service, appropriate local cemetery

Rebecca Colleen & The Chore Lads

This family group from Romulus, N.Y., is quickly becoming recognized for their tight harmonies, accomplished musicianship and broad selection of material. Peter McDonald, Rebecca Colleen McDonald, and Patrick McDonald—father, daughter and son—are now in their fourth year of performing acoustic music with vocals, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, guitar and acoustic bass.

Rebecca Colleen McDonald, at only 15 years old, is a confident performer with maturity beyond her years.

Peter McDonald, sings and plays fiddle, banjo, mandolin and guitar. He is a lifelong musician and has performed on stage and appeared with many notables.

Patrick McDonald is 18 and provides a talented accompaniment to his sister on upright bass, singing both lead and back up harmonies.

Phineos Catlin Camp 341 Newly Formed

Takes name from former Sons Camp

Dale Theetge, PDC

Several years ago a new member to Sydney Camp in Ithaca got caught up in a friendship with Past Department Commander Dale Theetge. That was Richard Lewis a West Point grad, retired Army who had moved home to where he grew up in Alpine, N.Y. Shortly following that, new member Phil Swaney of Interlaken, N.Y. was brought into Sydney Camp by Theetge. Phil is a decorated Veteran of Vietnam and he and Lewis hit it off.

Lewis is the Commander of the Odessa American Legion and Swaney joined there as well. In the course of doing Legion Business—in what is a lovely old hall in Odessa—Lewis found evidence of a Sons Camp there years ago: The Phineos Catlin Camp 341. With Theetge, Lewis and Swaney forming a SVR unit, Co. D 7th NY Cavalry, and bringing in new Sydney Camp members



Formation Meeting with (left to right) Dale Theetge PDC, William Seabring, Phil Swaney CC-Sydney, Robert Decker, Doug Deuel NYJVC, Ray Wheaton NYDC, Rick Lewis, Lyman Baker and Blaine Elke

interested in joining the 7th Cavalry, it seemed like there was a good chance that Catlin Camp could be resurrected.

Sydney Camp has a history as being the originator for camps in the Southern Tier. Both Col. David Ireland Camp 137 in Endicott and Gen. Alexander S. Diven Camp 77 in Elmira, along with the restart of Schuyler F. Smith Camp 193 in Halsey Valley are the result of Sydney Camp members' work. That tradition carried on in Catlin Camp with many Sydney Camp members working with new recruits to start the Camp.

By the way, one of Catlin's new members, Silas Ferguson has, as his proof of lineage, the promotion papers from his ancestor. This ancestor was promoted to First Sergeant at Gettysburg by Col. David Ireland on July 2, 1863.

Catlin Camp is off and running with 21 members at creation. We expect only good things to come from this Camp.

Lincoln Still Able To Promote Unity

Presentation of the *Lincoln Degree*

Richard Sherman PCC

On Saturday, March 13, 2010 Commander Jeremi Sherman and the officers and Brothers of Cpl. James Tanner Camp 134, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War hosted a special presentation at the Cobleskill Masonic Lodge.

The Valley of Schenectady Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite presented the *Lincoln Degree*. AASR members will recognize it as the old 26th Degree. This beautiful degree was recently approved by AASR to be performed publicly.



Verne Hall and Commander Jeremi Sherman

Set in the White House the day after the Gettysburg Address, the degree explores Lincoln's interest in Masonry, and demonstrates the oratorical power of his Gettysburg Address. Though not a Freemason himself, Lincoln had expressed a desire to join a lodge in Illinois after his presidency.

Tanner Camp SV Commander Gerald T. Wright, who is also a member of the Valley of Schenectady AASR, engaged the Degree Team to travel to Cobleskill and present the program.

It was a great time and both organizations picked up some membership petitions that day. The Valley of Schenectady treated everyone in attendance to lunch after the presentation.

Commander Sherman expressed the Camp's appreciation for the program, and to VW Roy Bilby who is the Master of Cobleskill Masonic Lodge. The Lodge generously provides a home for the Tanner Camp.

To make the day even more exciting the Camp earlier initiated Vern Hall as a new Brother.

Department Fundraiser

Support the Sons' Sesquicentennial leadership role in New York State

Jeffrey Albanese PCC, Sr. Vice Commander

As we approach the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War this coming year, it appears that the State of New York will not be providing any leadership in celebrating this important period in our American history when the Union was preserved and the scourge of slavery eradicated. As such, it will be up to us, as members of the Department of New York SUVCW, to provide that leadership for New York to honor our ancestors who sacrificed so much to preserve this country.

That is why this year's Department Fundraiser is so important. The Department only receives \$4 of your dues or approximately \$2,000 in total per year. The remainder of its operating funds comes from this fundraiser. If we are to do an appropriate job, we need to make this fundraiser a success. So please sell all that you can. All brothers in the Department should have received two booklets of six raffle tickets each. Each ticket sells for \$1 with a booklet of six selling for \$5. I would like to thank Brothers Stu Smith, Pete Lindeman and Jim Hessler for donating this year's prizes. The prizes are as follows:

First Prize is a framed numbered 'publisher proof,' print by Don Troiani entitled *Emmitsburg Road*.

Second Prize is the recently published volume *Sickles at Gettysburg*, autographed for the Department by author James Hessler.

Third Prize is an 18-inch tall statue of a Union cavalryman from the 2008 National Encampment of the SUVCW.

Please send in your completed ticket stubs and money to: *Jeffrey Albanese PCC, 19 Gregory Drive, Goshen, NY 10924* no later than May 31. Drawings for all prizes will take place on June 5, 2010 at the Department Encampment in Newark, N.Y. Tickets will also be available for sale at the Encampment or additional tickets may be requested by contacting me. If you have not yet sent in your ticket stubs and payment, please do. For only \$1 a ticket or \$10 for both booklets you can make a difference. Donations are also accepted.



Emmitsburg Road by Don Troiani

Sesquicentennial Input— A Call to Camps

Message to Camp Commanders, Secretaries and Patriotic Instructors

Doug Deuel PCC, Jr. Vice Commander

At the Mid-Winter Meeting, Commander Wheaton mentioned that the camps in the Department of New York had a very short time to get prepared for the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Shortly thereafter, he issued General Order No 2 appointing myself as the committee chairman in charge of this task.

I realize that we have seven weeks before the Encampment in June, but this should give your Camp some time to organize some thought on the possibility of listing events that your Camp intends to do and figure a schedule for their completion.

If it might be possible, your events and schedules could be part of our website and newsletter. While working on this task, you might want to include a brief history of your Camp including your namesake, membership, location, and goals for the future.

Brother Pugsley has been designing a badge for this historical event and with some cooperation, we might be able to have badges available plus the possibility of a short book on the Camps of New York.

Please bring your thoughts together and give me some of your basic plans so that we can finally "get the wheels moving." I'll be waiting for some news.

U.S. Grant Anniversary

Commemoration observing the 188th anniversary of General Grant's birth

On April 25, the SUVCW was in attendance at the General Grant Birthday (April 27) Commemoration held annually by the Oliver Tilden Camp 26 at the General Grant National Memorial in Manhattan's Morningside Heights. The featured speaker was Brother Frank Scaturro, Assistant Visiting professor at Hofstra Law School, and President and Founder of the Grant Monument Association.

Brother Frank founded the not-for-profit Grant Monument Association to serve as an outlet for citizen support for the monument and as a source of education on the life and legacy of President Grant. By 1997, his many reports and memos were answered with a \$1.8 million face-lift to the monument completed for the one-hundredth anniversary of the 1897 dedication.



The General Grant Birthday Commemoration at the Grant Monument Photo by Brother Orton

The other speakers at the commemoration included Department of New York SUVCW Commander Raymond Wheaton PCC; Peter Falci who portrayed General A.P. Hill in the movie *Gettysburg*; Bill Vieira PDC, Council of Administration SUVCW; and Virginia Twist, National Vice President, Auxiliary SUVCW.

Grant Cottage News

Report from the work day, some media attention and future programs

Brother Jerry Orton PDC reports there were four members of the George L. Willard Camp 154 at Grant Cottage on Saturday, May 1 for the Spring Cleaning Day. All together there were about 45 people, including the Onondaga County Civil War Round Table, several prisoners from the correctional institution, girl scouts, and local residents. Trees were cleared to allow sunlight to dry the back of the cottage, the grass was cut and other yard work was accomplished. Jerry estimates that four to five tons of material was removed from the site. The corrections department helped with trucks and a backhoe, without which the work could not have been done.

On March 29, *The Saratogian* published an article on Grant Cottage containing an interview with Brother Lance Ingmire.

From the article:

"The sun, wind and weather have damaged the building's exterior. The trim is weathered, the paint is peeling and the chimney is just beginning to separate from the side.

'Nobody has kept their eye on this,' said Lance Ingmire, the president of the Friends of Ulysses S. Grant Cottage. 'We cannot let our historic sites fall apart just because of mismanagement of money at the state level.'"

In the Adirondack region's newspaper, the *Post-Star*, Brother Ingmire was also cited:

"In the short term, Ingmire said, he needs money to clean up and landscape the grounds and to address the runoff problems that plague the visitors center. Standing water has been a frequent issue at the center since its opening in 1995."

U.S. Grant Cottage is a state-owned historic site operated by The Friends of The U.S. Grant Cottage, Inc. in collaboration with other local groups.



Save the dates: There will be a small ceremony on July 23, 2010 at 8:08 am to mark the exact 125th anniversary of Grant's death (a Friday), and some activities are planned for over that weekend. Also, on August 7, there will be a special ceremony to mark the 125th anniversary of the state funeral that started on Mt. McGregor.

Final Muster



Brother David T. Schmidt
Col. J.B. Weber Camp 44 Lackawanna

The Col. J.B. Weber Camp 44 has lost a Brother while the Western New York Civil War community lost a long-time re-enactor. Brother Dave Schmidt, who portrayed General George A. Custer, passed away on Tuesday, January 26, after a prolonged illness. He was 60.

Brother Dave joined Weber Camp in the beginning of 2008. As a member, he was always ready to lend his skills during work parties. In past years, although unknown to most attendees, he was the individual who planned the Memorial Day services in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Dave was content as the 'wizard' behind the curtain.

Brother Schmidt was cremated in his uniform and his ashes were to be spread on the top of Little Roundtop in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.



Brother Donald Holtz
Col. J.B. Weber Camp 44 Lackawanna
NY JrOTC Liaison Officer

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Don Holtz of the Col. J.B. Weber Camp 44. Don was a great and good man and will be missed by his brothers in the SUVCW. Don was an active member of his camp and the Department serv-

ing as Weber Camp Historian and the Department Junior ROTC Liaison Officer.

Brother Don suffered from Parkinson's disease and fought a valiant fight to serve his community and the SUVCW. He was 67.

Don was a retired Williamsville high school teacher and a history buff, who did extensive research about Western New York soldiers serving during the Civil War. For many years, he was active in historical re-enactments as a member of the 42nd Royal Highlanders Regiment of the King's Army.



Brother Benedict R. Maryniak
P.G. Cook Camp 223 Buffalo

Even on hot summer days, Brother Ben Maryniak was more than willing to suit up in wool period clothing to portray the Rev. Philos Cook, a Civil War chaplain who served in the 94th New York Volunteers.

Brother Ben, a renowned expert on the Civil War, and Town of Lancaster historian, died following a three-month illness. He was 61.

Mr. Maryniak produced a highly regarded monthly newsletter that contained one or more articles of original research in every issue. He contributed to a number of national Civil War publications, and co-wrote two books, *The Spirit Divided: Memoirs of Civil War Chaplains*—*The Union* and *Faith In the Fight: Civil War Chaplains*.

General Order №9

Commander Raymond Wheaton,
Department of New York SUVCW

March 1, 2010

Greetings:

The Department website has become an important tool for the Department in providing both information and communication to the public and its members. However, the Department currently has no standard policy or protocol for the use of said site, including, but not necessarily limited, to what items should be posted on the site, when they get posted, who has the authority to post or approve posting on the Department website and what format items must be in to be posted.

Accordingly, I am directing that a committee be formed to study the question concerning the necessity for such a policy and to file a report with appropriate recommendations at the next Department Encampment. The committee shall be made up of Department Webmaster Robert Pugsley and Senior Vice Commander Jeffrey Albanese with Brother Pugsley as Chairperson.

So Ordered

Ray Wheaton, Commander
Department of New York SUVCW

Honor Forgotten Veteran

Historian seeks DNY|SUV CW involvement

Kate West Emerson, Niagara County Historian, writes the following and requests that Department of New York members sign their e-petition:

Michael Huskey, an Irish-born Lockport, N.Y. native, earned the Medal of Honor (MoH) during the Civil War as a sailor aboard the USS Carondelet during the Steele's Bayou Expedition. In General Order No 32 (April 16, 1864) Huskey's MoH citation reads:

"Fireman aboard the U.S. S. Carondelet, Deer Creek Expedition, March 1863. Carrying out his duties gallantly, Huskey volunteered to aid in the rescue of the tug *Ivy*, under fire of the enemy, and set forth general meritorious conduct during this hazardous mission."

He died before he received his medal. Owing to the continuing war, he resumed his duties aboard the Carondelet until his death from disease in a Memphis naval hospital on October 22, 1864. Michael was buried as one of the 8,000 unknowns in the Memphis National Cemetery.

The Huskey family continued to reside in Niagara County after his death and they, also, never received the medal. We are not even sure they were aware of Michael's medal. The family line and his memory have since completely died out—except in the hearts of the people of this county who benefitted from his service and sacrifice. We do know that his MoH was never received or issued.

Efforts are currently being made to have his grave marked, and his Medal of Honor put on

permanent display in the rotunda of the Niagara County Courthouse. (Memphis National Cemetery is playing "dumb") Our desire is that Michael Huskey and his acts of valor should not be allowed to slip into obscurity. The county wishes to honor him and all others who served our country with honor and courage.

At present, the US Navy, knowing his compelling story, has refused our request to bring Michael Huskey's MoH home to Niagara County and the people that wish to honor him. For this reason, we are educating the public and requesting them to contact their representatives to ask for the release of Michael Huskey's Medal of Honor and a marker for his grave.

Please find and sign the on-line petition at: www.niagaracounty.com.

Tompkins Women Aided Civil War Soldiers

From a recent article in the *Ithaca Journal*
By Carol Kammen

Jane Hardy was 32 years old when the Civil War began; she was unmarried and connected socially with other women in Ithaca. She participated in the war much as others did, although she remained in Ithaca to do so.

When the Civil War began, women looked for ways to show their loyalty. Barred from the military (although some women did join regimental units by disguising their gender), women turned to their household skills. Individually and in groups they sent food and clothing to the soldiers they knew, and to regiments from their home communities.

In April 1861, women in Dryden "rallied, organized and began work." They scraped lint, prepared bandages, and "made soft garments for the sick and wounded," according to Julia Cook. They sent boxes and barrels of good things from home—some of them rather surprising, such as fruit cordials, wine and pickles.

The women determined what items to include, sending what they knew how to make. By word of mouth, they heard from others what goods were in demand. In most New York villages and towns, women met to sew for the soldiers.

Lint was used to stanch wounds, and almost every box of goods sent to the Sanitary Fund or the Medical Corps included a box or two of lint. Yet, lint was later found to increase the likelihood of infection and it was abandoned by military hospitals. But the production of lint by scraping cloth and unraveling it continued so that "inside the parlor windows the atmosphere has been very fluffy," wrote one woman.

In Ithaca, boxes sent to the Central Association for army hospitals contained two firkins of pickles, 60 sheets, one pair of shoes, eight blankets, two men's shirts, one pair of socks and jars of food, drink and jelly.

That was in May. The following month, women organized the Ithaca Ladies Volunteer Aid Association with Mary Ann Cornell as president and Jane L. Hardy as the secretary-treasurer. Hardy assumed a leadership role within the county from this point on, and through to the end of the war, becoming associate regional manager of the Sanitary Commission's efforts. She linked local aid efforts to the Sanitary Commission headquarters in New York City.

General Orders of the Commander-in-Chief

General Order № 10

Series 2009–2010 | 28 April 2010

1– I offer my congratulations to the Col. George L. Willard Camp 154 of the Department of New York on their 110th anniversary on the 25th of December, 2009.

2– Effective March, 2010, Brother Raymond W. LeMay III is appointed a Chair of the Canadian Union Veterans Recognition Monument Committee.

3– As Mothers Day approaches, I ask that we renew a practice followed by the GAR in the early 1900s. In General Orders written by Samuel R. VanSant, Commander-in-Chief of the GAR in 1910, he said, “Who knows better than the members of our order the suffering and sacrifices made by the mothers of ’61 to ’65, and who of us can forget their devotion to the country and the cause for which we fought.” Please join me in honoring our mothers. Let us all adopt the task of wearing a white carnation on Mother’s Day, following the GAR who adopted this to support the enactment of Mothers Day and to honor their mothers.

My thanks to Brother Mark Hale, Kennesaw Mountain Camp 3, Dept. of Ga. and S.C. for bring this practice to light 100 years later.

Ordered this 28th day of April, 2010

Leo F Kennedy

Commander-in-Chief

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attested:

Donald Palmer

Secretary, National Order,

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

General Order № 11

Series 2009–2010 | 03 May 2010

A question arose on the Constitution and Regulations, Chapter II, Article II, Section 1, paragraph 1, regarding who can vote at department encampments. The paragraph includes “Appropriate credentials for all Past Commanders-in-Chief, Past Department Commanders and Department elective and appointive officers shall be issued by the office of the Department Secretary.” This was reviewed by the National Counselor and he has issued an opinion, which I am adopting as a decision. Listed below is part of the Opinion.

Opinion № 10, Series 2009–2010

National Counselor Robert E. Grim

April 13, 2010

Since the Regulations do not specifically list either the department elected or appointed officers among those constituting a department encampment while the Regulations do specifically identify the elected national officers among those constituting a national encampment it is my opinion that the provision in the Regula-

tions stating “Appropriate credentials for all... and department elective and appointive officers shall be issued by the office of the department secretary” is merely a directive in the Regulations regarding the issuance of credentials by the department secretary intended to make sure someone in the department is responsible for the issuance of department credentials. It does not extend department encampment membership to the elected and appointed department officers.

This Decision becomes effective on this date.

Ordered this 3rd day of May, 2010

Leo F Kennedy

Commander-in-Chief

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attested:

Donald Palmer

Secretary, National Order,

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Department of New York

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GAR Highway Officer
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Webmaster
Robert Pugsley PCC

The Volunteer is the newsletter of
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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Inquiries and submissions
may be directed to:

Signals Officer | Editor
Donald G. Zeilman
dgzeilman@gmail.com



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