

# THE VOLUNTEER



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

Spring 2005  
www.suvvw.org/ny/deptny.htm

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Send submissions to:

## THE VOLUNTEER

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## 122<sup>nd</sup> NY Dept Encampment Draws Closer June 3 -5, 2005, Glens Falls, NY

The arrangements are complete and Brothers from around the state are preparing to journey to the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls, NY for the Department's 122nd annual Encampment on June 3-5. If you have not made your reservations, please contact the hotel directly at 518-792-1121 and ask for the special \$89 rate for the Sons. Delegates must bring Encampment Credential cards available on the national web site.

## Message from The Department Commander

This must be the year of the Confederate. Starting in September of 2004 when we were asked to donate a New York flag for a Civil War monument in Kinston, North Carolina, to my being a speaker, talking about how much the soldiers on both sides at the Kinston battle had in common. From the Sons of the Confederacy asking the Sons of Union Veterans to get involved in trying to save the battlefield knoll at Rappahannock Station which it looks like we did save, to the trip I and others took to New York City for the Annual Grant's Tomb ceremony.

At Grant's Tomb I was pleased to see John Hillard representing the Sons of Confederate Veterans from the Archibold Gracie, Jr. Camp 985 and a representative of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. I'm finding out that we as an organization have so very much in common with those who represent the Confederate Soldiers. I mentioned in my brief talk at Grant's Tomb that I tend to spend a fair part of my time in common projects with my Confederate brethren.

Latter that same day our little up-state group consisting of myself, my wife Diane, the Department President of the Daughters, Cathy Rave and the Department's Jr. Vice-Commander, Robert Dauchy journeyed to Hastings-on-Hudson to rededicate a Confederate burial plot. The site contains many Confederate soldiers and their families who came to the New York City area after the Civil War to make their fortune which most did very successfully. Many grave stones, (standard military type), had sunk into the earth, several so that only the rounded top showed. The grave stones were reset and the rededication held by Admiral John L. Worden Camp 150, Peekskill, New York.

It was my privilege to give a short talk on the same topic I had used in Kinston, North Carolina. That the boys in blue and the boys in gray had a lot in common and that commonality made the transition back to a United States much easier. It is our duty to keep the service of our boys in blue always in our minds and to honor all Civil War soldiers wherever we may be. Memorial Day approaches and we must remember what father Abe asked. "That we bind up the wounds of our Nation" so that we can be truly "one Nation indivisible"

Don't miss Friday night's Family Feud, Civil War Style.



Department Commander Dale Theetge with from L to R; his wife and member of Halsey Valley Auxiliary 11, Diane Theetge, Department President of the Daughters, Cathy Rave and Department Jr. Vice-Commander Robert Dauchy stand in front of the Confederate Monument located in a circle of Confederate soldiers graves at Hastings -on-Hudson, NY.

**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**

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spangler@mindspring.com.*

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dport1109@aol.com*

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rstuartjr@msn.com*

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coh94nyv@rochester.rr.com  
William F. Mason, PCC  
nin951@optonline.net  
John Portanova, CC*

**Eagle Scout Chairman**

*Douglas E. Deuel*

**Archivist**

*Danny L. Wheeler, PCinC*

**Historian**

*Benedict R. Amryniak*

**GAR Highway Officer**

*William A. Christen, Jr.*

**Counselor**

*Danny L. Wheeler, PCinC*

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**Signals Officer**

*Michael S. Bennett, PDC*

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*Robert M. Paul*

**Color Bearer**

*Phillip L. Kissel*

**Guide**

*Raymon B. Wheaton, PCC*

**Guard**

*William F. Mason, PCC*

**Musician**

*William Tojek, PCC*

**Property/Artifacts Com. Chair**

*Danny L. Wheeler, PCinC*

**Legislative Committee Chair**

*Paul F. Ellis-Graham*

**Encampment Committee Rep.**

*Todd A. Shillington, PDC*

**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
New York Department Orders Series 2004-2005**

**Dale E. Theetge, Commander**

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

**Department Orders #14-15**

14. With the growing problem of loosing the G.A.R. cannon to unscrupulous Pennsylvanians it is imperative that we as an organization endeavor to inventory and account for all these cannon in our great state. With that in mind I charge each camp to audit the cannon in your area and make a written report to the Commander on their condition and location.

I also strongly suggest that you visit whatever entity would be in control of the cannon and forewarn them about the chance that they would be approached about selling. Offer to them the chance to check in with the Sons of Union Veterans if that should happen, pointing out that we can at least establish a proper value on such cannon and advise them on whether a con is being perpetrated.

A complete listing of cannon and place will be available to any that want at Encampment or you can request from the Commander by mail.

ORDERED THE 28TH DAY OF APRIL 2005

15. At the 2004 Encampment it was recommended by William Mason, PCC that Camps, once again, be asked to include their Eagle Scout activity in their end-of-year reports. This is a very important function of our order and we need to see a true picture of its production. I now charge each Camp to make an accounting of their Eagle Scout activity to the Department in their end-of-year report.

ORDERED THE 2ND DAY OF MAY 2005

**Chaplain's Final Muster**

It is requested that, upon the passing of a Brother, the appropriate Camp Commander communicate such information to the Department Chaplain, R. Stuart Smith, 1224 Rolfe Street, Palmyra, NY 14522-9370, rstuartjr@msn.com.

We mourn the passing of our brothers and our order is diminished by their loss. We hold the memory of each in high esteem. May God grant us peace in honoring that memory.

**Brother Eugene J. Smith PCC, Captain Tilden Camp 26, Final Muster 27-DEC-04**

**Brother Jerome C. Erit, Captain Tilden Camp 26, Final Muster 23-SEP-04**

**Commander's Thoughts on Cannon Problems**

Many of our order have been asking what is being done about the cannons taken from Kendall N.Y. First let me assure you that the Department and National are on it and perusing several avenues. Todd Shillington, PDC is representing National in trying to get the State Police, NYS Dept. of Justice and the U.S. Justice Dept. involved. The good news is that there seems to be a mood on both justice departments to pursue this vigorously. All this however takes time and we must be patient.

On the Department' level I have some thoughts on how this should be handled and I will present them with an action plan at Encampment. As I understand it the city fathers in Kendall are in big trouble with even their own party for reelection. It should be our duty to make sure that these officials who cared so little about their local veterans be removed from office at the polls in a defeat that will send a message to other towns that you can not, dishonor veterans, hide important information from you electorate and skulk around with out of town scallywags behind peoples backs.

This story about the cannon from Kendall was in the papers from here to California. We need to use the news media's interest to our advantage.

**Abraham Lincoln Camp 6****Rochester, NY, Commander Bruce N. Glaser**

(585) 342-7892, Indian658@email.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 Lyman E. Baker**

(607) 272-6274, lbaker@twcny.rr.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) 674-0204, Bugler44NY@aol.com

Camp 44 meets the fourth 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 Paul F. Ellis-Graham**

(845) 928-8945, pellisgr@mw.k12.ny.us

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 Floyd J. DeWitt**

(528) 294-6567

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

The Baby Bear, the historical building where the camp meets needs a new roof and the Friends of the Three Bears in Ovid are planning to accomplish the job in August. The Department is involved.

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 Charles Greenfield**

(518) 237-2774, cgreenfi@nycap.rr.com

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 Arthur T. Findlay, Sr., PCC**

(718) 347-0257

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**

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

**June 3 -5, 2005, Glens Falls, NY**



**NEW YORK.**

**The Volunteer**

**Department of New York, SUVCW**

c/o Robert M. Paul  
48 Antler Drive  
Big Flats, NY 14814

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