



4th Quarter 2024

THE VOLUNTEER

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

September 15, 2024
DEPARTMENT ORDER # 7-24
MID YEAR MEETING

The Department of New York Mid-year meeting will be held via Zoom on October 27, 2024 at 3 PM.

All Department elected and appointed officers are strongly encouraged to attend, and it is asked that at each camp send at least one representative.

Those brothers wishing to submit resolutions or bylaw changes for the 2025 Encampment are encouraged to provide a draft of those motions prior to the meeting for distribution to attendees who will provide feedback during the meeting.

The agenda will be as follows:

Remarks from the officers
Remarks from the committees
Remarks from the camps
Discussion of submitted motions

All brothers wishing to attend should RSVP to SUVCW124@Gmail.com by October 15.

Brother Castler's Work Recognized

In July, Department Commander William Stump issued Department Order #4-24, related to the Last Union Veteran project. With the publication of the list compiled by Brother Castler on the Department website, information is now available to the various Camps to recognize those "last veterans" in their active areas.

Ceremonies and emplacement of markers were encouraged. In the order, Commander Stump thanked Brother Castler for his work that made this veteran recognition possible.

DUVCW News:

Congratulations to NY Dept. President RuthAnn Williams, President of Lodema Strickland Tent #56 Ontario, NY on her election at the NY Allied Orders Encampment in May 2024.

Congratulations to our newly elected National President Norma Fiedler elected August 2024 at our National Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Tent 56 Invitation: All Sons, Auxiliary, and Daughters are cordially invited to our Harvest Dinner Saturday October 26, 11:00 a.m. at the Immanuel United Church of Christ, 1973 Ridge Rd, Ontario, NY 14519 parking and entrance to the Fellowship Hall in the back.



Saturday Aug. 24, 2024 Presentation by Susan Berardi and Nancy Karasinski of Lodema Strickland Tent #56 at the Museum of Wayne County History, Lyons NY.

Civil War Veteran Frederick Gilford Florida Honored



**By Jeffrey French, PDC
Secretary/Treasurer
Walter H French Camp #17,
SUVCW**

It all started when Bette Lathan noticed that Private Florida's headstone was no longer legible. Bette quickly sprang into action and procured a replacement headstone from the Veterans Affairs. Once it arrived, Bette had difficulties finding someone to set it. On 9 September, 2023 the Walter H French Camp #17, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) answered the call. Jeffrey

French PDC, Alex Rodriguez PCC, and Mike Martell removed the old illegible headstone and set the new stone. Unfortunately, the ceremony had to wait for the following year.

The French Camp and Bette arranged for the ceremony to take place on 10 August 2024 in conjunction with Martinsburg Home Day events. Everything was set.

10 August arrived and the members of the Walter H French Camp #17, Lowville American Legion Post #162, Lowville Marine Corps League, and Lowville Veterans of Foreign Wars converged on West Martinsburg Cemetery to pay Honor and Respect for a veteran of war past. Jeffrey French led the ceremony with Lowville Post Commander Lee Hinkleman and Scott French as the Chaplain. The French Camp member, Bob Roshia II PCC laid the wreath on the grave followed by his son Robert Roshia III laying Roses on the grave. Elwin Wooschlager from the Lowville American Legion was the Sergeant of Arms giving the Fire Team the commands for three volleys which included French Camp new member Kris Haskins. French Camp member, Blake Moore played TAPS. The ceremony went off without a hitch.

Private Florida's replacement headstone was now dedicated and blessed. We should never forget our veterans and make sure their graves are kept for the respect of them serving our country in peace and war.



from L-R: First Row, Blake Moore and Robert Roshia III. Second Row, Stanley Duda, Donna Duda, Rick S. Allen, John Szijarto, James Trainham, Gregory Stanton, Jeffrey French, Charles "Lee" Hinkleman, Raymond Moody, Richard Defone, David Augustyn, and Elen Wooschlager. Third Row, Scott French, Bob Roshia II, and Kris Haskins.

Grant Cottage/Mt. McGregor Centennial Community Day



Brother Jerry Orton manning his GAR memorabilia display.

Brother Jerry Orton attended Community day at Grant Cottage on June 17. He displayed some of his extensive memorabilia of the Grand Army of the Republic. Brother Michael Golden was also in attendance.

Site staff estimated that there were over 800 in attendance throughout the day. Activities included music, presentations, displays, pony rides, and tours of the cottage. Feedback for the event was extremely positive and all had a great time.

Nial Manning Headstone Dedication Ceremony



It all started with a posting on Facebook Civil War Veterans of the Civil War about Othoniel N Manning. Joyce Manning responded to Ethel French that this was her husband's Great Grandfather and would like to have a headstone for his grave. The Walter H French Camp #17 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) sprang into action to procure a headstone.

Ethel and Jeff French worked with the Town of Antwerp to receive the headstone and the exact location of the grave. Lucas Whitmore marked the grave site making it

easier for us to find the correct location. The Town of Antwerp loaded the headstone in the vehicle for Joyce and brought it to Vrooman Hill Cemetery. Jeff French, his Cousin Albert French, and Paul Kellogg (friend of Joyce) set the headstone in place with Joyce and her daughter Pat Hunneyman present. After the work was completed, we conversed on the ceremony to take place at 11 AM on 13 July.

The wheels were in motion. The French Camp contacted Dave Garrish to request the Antwerp American Legion Post 916 to help support the ceremony. The Post Commander Brian Cull eagerly agreed to the support and asked the Philadelphia American Legion Post 798 to assist with the ceremony. Now everything was set for the ceremony.



13 July arrived; all three organizations got together to finalized positions before starting the ceremony. At least 14 descendants of Nial Manning were present for the event.



What an awesome turnout. It was then we learned that Joyce husband wanted to get a headstone for his great grandfather before he passed away. As we did the ceremony, everyone could feel his presence as the headstone was dedicated and blessed. It was a great day to pay honor to this veteran who was missing a headstone. The Antwerp and Philadelphia American Legion Posts formed the Color Guards and the Fire Team with two members of the French Camp James Goloski and Alex Rodriguez, 3 of the French Camp members formed a detail with the two youngest members Blake Moore and Robert Roshia III to lay the wreath on the grave and Sally Goloski in Civil War period dress laying the roses on the grave. After the firing of volleys and TAPS being played by James Goloski, everyone visited and got to know each other. Friendship was formed as we all appreciated each other for recognizing and honoring this Civil War Veteran for his service to our country. No Veteran should have an unmarked grave.



**Jeffrey French, Past Department
Commander
Camp Secretary/Treasurer
Walter H French Camp #17, SUVCW
Department of NY**

Battlefield Preservation –

Steven Wheeler, Commander, Caywood Camp



pathways can be improved - the list of needs can be large.

Many of the battlefields have a “group” of Friends that act as stewards and have a list of priorities that are needed for preservation. Think of what we can do as supporters; it can add up to be a lot. Leave your mark on history!

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

Steven B. Wheeler

Commander

DG Caywood Camp #146, SUVCW

Ovid NY

How do you help?

One of the many things that we as “living historians” can do is promote Battlefield Preservation.

A small donation can go a long way if many participate. Consider a gift to one or more of your favorite places, the monies are greatly appreciated to be received.

Funds received can be used for acreage purchases to enhance or enlarge properties that are being lost to development, monuments can also be refurbished, parkland can be rehabilitated, trails and



On April 21st, 2024, members of Tent 36 joined with the Massapequa Historical Society for a joint meeting at Old Grace Church in Massapequa, NY.

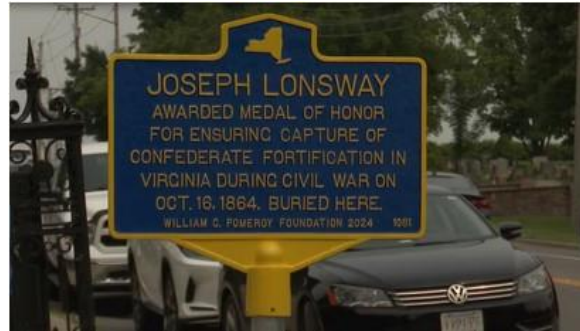
The meeting began with a talk about the church and its many beautiful features. Refreshments were served. Dr. Mary Cordato, PDP, gave a talk on Kady Brownell, our Tent namesake and the history of the DUVCW. Lynne Dolan, PNP attended in period dress and expounded upon her paranormal experiences at Gettysburg.

We learned the history of the site and about the Jones family, beginning with the Patriarch, Major Thomas Jones, a privateer under the British monarchy and namesake for Jones Beach.

Through his wife, Freelove Townsend, he acquired a large tract of land. The family's wealth became so renowned that the phrase "keeping up with the Joneses" originated with them.

His 4x great grandson, Delancey Floyd-Jones was a West Point graduate and career army officer who served in both the Mexican-American War and the Civil War. He fought in the Peninsula Campaign, at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He remained in the army after the war, eventually achieving the rank of Brigadier General and served in administrative posts in the western United States. During leaves from the army and after his retirement he traveled extensively and wrote about those experiences. He established the Delancey Floyd-Jones Library in Massapequa in 1896, the first free public library on the south shore of Long Island, contributing his personal books. After touring the library both groups attended a ceremony at the graveyard adjacent to the library and Lynne laid a wreath at the Floyd-Jones gravesite

Civil War soldier honored in Clayton



The marker dedicated Friday morning to Joseph Lonsway, a Clayton native who rescued a captured boat during the Civil War.

CLAYTON, New York (WWNY) - A daring rescue during the Civil War earned a Clayton man the Medal of Honor.

Friday morning, his name was memorialized in the village. A historic marker was dedicated to Joseph Lonsway.

Lonsway was born in Clayton in 1844. At age 23, while serving in the Union Army, Lonsway swam across the Blackwater River in Virginia to rescue a captured ferry boat. Five other soldiers were shot and killed or wounded. Lonsway made the swim and recaptured the boat. He was issued the Medal of Honor in 1917 at age 73, nearly 50 years later.

"It gives me a sense of pride, knowing that that sign is going to stand there for years to come, thousands of people, but the family can come back and it's like a family reunion," said Thomas LaClair, Clayton historian "They can stand by that sign and be proud of what their ancestor had achieved."

The marker is placed at Lonsway's burial site at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Clayton. The marker is a 'Pomeroy' historic marker, so named because the William G. Pomeroy Foundation provides funding for historic markers across New York state.

Etc. –

Progress continues on replacing Caywood Camp SVC **Jimmy Griffith's** home which was destroyed in a February fire. One of his neighbors has loaned him the use of a camper while the demolition of the debris and rebuilding process takes place.

Passings-



BROTHER WALTER GABLE PASSES AWAY

Retired High School Teacher and long-time Seneca County Historian Brother Walter J. Gable, 77, died May 16, 2024.

He was born in Seneca Falls and was a 1964 graduate of Romulus High School. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Syracuse University.

After his retirement from teaching, Brother Gable served as Seneca County Historian for 20 years. He authored his own Seneca County history column in the Finger Lakes Times newspaper and wrote three books on local history.

A ten-year member of Camp #146, among Brother Gable's many activities and contributions was his arranging and organizing of our first fish fry fund-raiser with the "DougsToGo!" restaurant in 2022.

Brother Gable was descended from Sergeant John Loudebank Hoster (1842-1930) who enlisted in Company A, 148th New York Volunteers on August 11, 1862. Sergeant Hoster was captured on June 15, 1864 and sent to Andersonville, mGeorgia, prison camp until October 1864, when he was transferred to the Florence, South Carolina, prison camp until his liberation in February 1865.

Calendar-

Saturday October 26, Harvest Dinner at 11:00 a.m. with the Lodema Strickland Tent at Immanuel UCC. 1973 Ridge Road. Ontario, NY 14519-8971

Sunday, October 27 at 3 PM- Department of NY Mid-year meeting via ZOOM- RSVP to - SUVCW124@Gmail.com

November 22nd Doug'sToGo! Fish Fry fundraiser, Waterloo, Caywood Camp #146



Department of New York

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



DEP'T COMMANDER - William Stump

SR. VICE – Axel Ravera

JR. VICE COMMANDER- Ted Phillips

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TREASURER- Jeffrey Albanese PDC

COUNSELOR- Danny Wheeler, PC-in-C

COUNCIL-Paul Ellis-Graham, Brian Castler

PDC, Jeff French PDC

ARCHIVIST- Brian Castler PDC, Jeff French

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR- Douglas Brenner

PCC

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

*142nd NY Department Encampment - 4-6 April, 2025. Meeting at
Utica Polytechnic Institute, staying at the Holiday Inn.*



HISTORIAN- Jerome L. Orton PDC

CHAPLAIN- Rev. Dr. Mark D. Isaacs

GAR HIGHWAY- Matthew J. Hereford PCC

EAGLE SCOUT COORDINATOR Brian Castler

GRAVES REGISTRATION- Dennis Duffy

WEBMASTER- Ray W. LeMay PDC

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