

Our
115th
Year



CAMP
OFFICERS

Camp Commander
Robert Keough

Senior Vice
Commander
David Dziewulski

Junior Vice
Commander
Leo McGuire

Secretary/Treasurer
George Malinoski

Camp Council
Paul Grady
David Dziewulski
Ray LeMay III

Chaplain
George Malinoski

Patriotic Instructor
Richard Straight

Guide
John Swartwout

Guard
Paul Cooney

The Guidon

P.O. Box 13681 Albany, NY 12212-3681 www.GLWILLARD154.org
Fall 2014

Brothers Welcome New Member

James King was inducted into the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at the Col. George L. Willard Camp's October meeting. Brother King's ancestor was his Great-Great-Uncle Augustus Hougstine who was mustered into Union service on August 27, 1862 with Company G of the 125th NYVI Regiment as a private.



Brother Dziewulski, PCC reads the induction as Chaplain George Malinoski prepares to read his part of the ceremony.



Brother Leo McGuire, Camp Color Bearer, holds the American with Brothers Richard Straight and Vince Jockimo looking on.



Brother John Swartwout pins the membership badge on new Brother James King.

New Signage at Thomas Grave

The first big step in the Major General Thomas project, including the Kellogg family plot, has been completed. All of the signs directing visitors to the grave site, and the sign at the grave site, have been installed. The signs arrived from the manufacturer in September. After Mr. Bernie Vogel, Oakwood Cemetery Administrator, determined their placement and Brother David Dziewulski toured the chosen locations, the staff at Oakwood Cemetery undertook the task of installing them. There are five signs directing visitors to the site and one at the grave site. They were designed to look like and have the same colors as the Uncle Sam signs. Both use New York State designated paint colors for roadside historical markers. This also helps to keep a uniform look at the cemetery. A dedication will be held at the cemetery in the Spring of 2015. Visitors will now be able to easily find the General Thomas grave site due to the new signage.



In one location visitors have side-by-side directional signs to both the Uncle Sam and General Thomas grave sites.



Visitors will easily be able to find the General Thomas grave site due to the new signage that has been installed.

Photo: Dave Dziewulski

Schuyler Flatts Civil War Event

At various times over the weekend of August 15th, 16th and 17th, eight of our Brothers attended Schuyler Flatts' Civil War event. This annual gathering brings together many local groups that have a Civil War connection. Beyond the re-enactors including the 55th Virginia, the U.S. Naval Landing Party and the 125th NYVI Regiment, a long list of other groups participated. Folks from the Hudson Mohawk Industrial Gateway were there to discuss role of the Burden Iron Works in the Civil War; the Capital District Civil War Round Table was selling used books and T-shirts; and the Troy Irish Genealogy Society was on hand with their work. There were musical groups, a speaker, a blacksmith, rifle and canon firing demonstrations and a food stand manned by the Watervliet Historical Society. Brothers in attendance were Leo McGuire, Paul Cooney, Richard Straight, Vince Jackimo, Joe Dziewulski, DJ Dziewulski, Dave Dziewulski PCC, Chaplain George Malinoski and Robert Keough CC.



A local mother and her children learn the finer points of the *USS Monitor's* history from Brother Dave Dziewulski, PCC.



Brothers DJ Dziewulski (seated), David Dziewulski PCC, Richard Straight and Vince Jackimo discuss the weekend's events.

VETERAN OF CIVIL WAR CLAIMED

AMSTERDAM EVENING RECORDER, TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1928:

Alfred J. Castler, a respected resident of Amsterdam and veteran of the Civil War, died Sunday afternoon at 3:30 he was 83 years old.

One of the few survivors of the famous 115th New York Volunteers, in which he served with honor during the Civil war, Mr. Castler had a military record of which he was justly proud. He enlisted in Company A, of the famous fighting unit, at Fonda, on August 11, 1862 and was mustered into service as a private August 26 of the same year. He saw considerable action, being engaged with his regiment in several prominent battles and a number of engagements during his career in the Union army for three years. Among them were the battles at Cold Harbor, Va. the Petersburg, Va. assault and the engagement at the Petersburg mine. He sustained severe gunshot wounds at Olustee, Fla. and again at Deep Bottom, Va. Mr. Castler was made a prisoner by the enemy and sent to the famous Libby prison, where he remained for the period of twelve days before being exchanged and sent to the navy school hospital at Annapolis to have his wound treated. He was honorably discharged as a corporal June 29, 1865, at the close of the war.

Mr. Castler was an active member of Post E.S. Young No.33 G.A.R., and a past commander of that veterans' organization. He was also a member of the association which was composed of surviving comrades of his regiment and attended many reunions of the unit that served with such notable distinction during the war of rebellion. Corporal Alfred J. Castler was the Great - Grandfather of Brother Brian Castler a long time member of our Camp.



Corporal Alfred J. Castler of Co. A, 115th New York State Volunteer Infantry Regiment.

Photo: Andy Danish

Photo: In the collection of Brian Castler

Amsterdam Marker Rededication



Photo: Robert von Hasseln

Brothers Robert Walter, Jerry Orton PDC and Robert Keough CC stand in front of the rededicated GAR marker at City Hall in Amsterdam, NY.

Just off Route 30 and on the south lawn of City Hall in Amsterdam, NY is the Grand Army of the Republic Park. It was originally dedicated in 1953 to all the veterans from Amsterdam who had served their country. On August 16, 2014 color guards from the American Legion Post 701 and Polish American Veterans and their combined rifle squads gathered at the park for its re-dedication. Mayor Ann Thane, State Senator Cecilia Tkaczyk and Robert Keough, Commander of the Col. George L. Willard Camp 154, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War all made remarks concerning the importance of the event to the citizens gathered. Robert H. von Hasseln, City Historian, then removed the veil on the refurbished and remounted marker. At the conclusion of the remarks and after the unveiling of the marker, three volleys were fired and *Taps* was played. This concluded the event. Brothers Robert H. Walter, Jerry Orton PDC, in Civil War uniform, and Robert P. Keough CC represented Col. George L. Willard Camp 154 SUVCW.



Mayor Ann Thane (left), the color guard and City History Robert von Hasseln listen to State Senator Cecilia Tkaczyk's remarks at the GAR Park rededication.

Grant Remembrance

Brothers Charles Walter, Jerry Orton, Vince Jackimo, Patrick Reilly and Robert Keough CC along with a members of the 125th NYVI provided the Color Guard for the Ulysses S. Grant Remembrance Day. The event was held at Grant's Cottage on the Mt. McGregor State Campus in Wilton, NY. Remarks were made by reenactors representing Frederick Grant, the General's son and Little Julia, Grant's grand daughter. This was followed by a procession to the flagpole, the singing of *Amazing Grace* and the playing of *Taps*; after which lemonade and Funeral cookies (molasses ginger) and a tours of the Cottage were provided. It was hot, muggy and not a great day for wool.



Brothers Vince Jackimo and Charles Walter prepare to raise the American Flag and lower to half-staff.

In Memoriam

Brother LeRoy Lincoln Jr.

Born
November 16th 1924

Died
July 15th, 2014

Brother Lincoln was born in New Jersey in 1924 and served in the U.S. Navy in World War II. He was an ordained minister and raised a wonderful family. He had been a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for many years. Brothers David Dziewulski PCC, Robert Keough CC, Leo McGuire and Ray LeMay III PCC attended his Witness to the Resurrection Service at Brunswick Church in Troy on August 24th 2014

Brother Jerry's Corner



At the New York State Fair, in Syracuse, NY, visitors were able to view parts of Brother Jerry Orton's, wonderful GAR/Civil War collection.



Jerry took his Civil War display to the Oswego County Fair held July 4th to the 6th, 2014. It included items from the GAR, WRC and the SUV.

Commander Makes Introduction

Dressed in the uniform of a Union Army Captain, the Willard Camp Commander, Robert Keough was on hand to introduce Sharp Swan who lectured on the 118th NYVI Regiment. The event, sponsored by the Long Lake Library, took place on August 27th. Mr. Swan, from Essex, NY, has researched the 118th for many years. His computer program traced the unit from its initial mustering in Plattsburgh, NY in 1862, through all its engagements, to its mustering out in 1865. During the presentation members of the audience became the voices of soldiers as they read their letters. Brother Brian Castler, and his wife Kathy were also on hand.



Mr. Sharp Swan holding a copy of the "History of the 118th NYVI Regiment" as he begins his illustrated lecture.

Col. George L. Willard Camp # 154 Coming Events 2014 - 2015

Month	Date	Event / Location
November	1	10:00 a.m. Short meeting, voting on new Officers and lunch all at Brown's Brewing Co. Troy, NY
December	6	Camp Meeting St. Agnes 10:00 a.m. Installation of Officers Menands, NY
	13	Wreaths Across America Saratoga National Cemetery
January	3	Camp Meeting St. Agnes 10:00 a.m. Menands, NY
February	7	Camp Meeting St. Agnes 10:00 a.m. Menands, NY

Brothers Use The Web and Visit These Sites:

Col. George L Willard Camp # 154
<http://www.gwillard154.org/>
SUVCW Department of NY
<http://suvchw.org/ny/deptny.htm>

SUVCW National Headquarters
<http://www.suvchw.org/>
NYS Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee
<http://www.nycivilwar150.org/>