

Plaque Dedication at Congress Park in Saratoga Springs



L to R: Jamie Parillo, Exec. Director of the Saratoga History Museum; Mike Veitch, Deputy Commissioner DPW; Ray LeMay III PDC; Staff; Dave Dziewulski PCC; Jason Golub, Commissioner of DPW; Lance Ingmire; Staff.

On October 5th, the City of Saratoga Springs officially recognized the many contributions made for the restoration of the 77th New York Volunteer Infantry statue situated in Congress Park. Shortly after the statue was vandalized on the early morning of July 17, 2020, Willard Camp started a Go Fund Me account to help with restoration.

Many concerned and generous members of the public contributed to the fund. In addition, The New York Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee donated the remaining funds in their account to assist in the effort. Contributions helped with both restoration of the monument and a security system that included updated cameras and monitoring.

HUZZAH!

New Officers Elected for 2024 Camp Year

During the regular Camp meeting held on December 2, 2023, elections of officers was held. The newly elected group is a blend of familiar faces and newer members. Willard Camp is grateful for their willingness to serve.

Commander - John B. Swartwout, Jr.
Sr. Vice Commander - Justin Devendorf
Jr. Vice Commander - Michael Golden
Secretary/Treasurer - Leo McGuire

The following brothers were elected to the Camp Council:

Chair - Richard Straight, PDC, PCC
Member 2 - Thomas O. Maggs, PCC
Member 3 - Vincent Jockimo



The full slate of appointed positions will be announced in the Spring edition of the *Guidon*. Good luck to all!



Plaque installed near the 77th New York Volunteer Infantry statue recognizing the contributions of Willard Camp, Brothers Ingmire and LeMay III and the many donors who helped in the restoration effort (Congress Park, Saratoga Springs).



Overall view of the monuments restored at Old Mt. Ida Cemetery during October.

On-Going Work at Mt. Ida Cemetery

As reported in the last edition of the *Guidon*, the first phase of the ARPA-funded Mt. Ida Cemetery Project was completed on June 10, 2023 in the "old" portion of the cemetery. Work was resumed by Joe Ferrannini and Cameron Smith on October 1 and continued, with some interruptions due to weather, until October 17. Afterwards, Cameron completed filling repairs with Lithomex (special lime-based patch) to finish this phase of work. A total of 41 monuments were restored.

In early November, multiple arborist work crews spent two days in both Old and New Mt. Ida trimming trees. Many limbs and dead wood were removed from a number of trees without damage to any of the monuments. This trimming work completed the remainder of the Fall 2023 efforts that were planned.

A photographic archive of the work is available at:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/zSD4gpwCRLGKr7NV8>

The next round of work is planned for the Spring of 2024 at New Mt. Ida Cemetery on Pinewoods Avenue. Dates will be announced once they are available.



Recovery of Veteran's Headstone



During the recent work done in Old Mt. Ida Cemetery, a stone for (Jacob) Quincy Wood was recovered and reset. He served in Company I, 125th NY Volunteer Regiment. His grave was located immediately behind the small service building that faces Pawling Avenue. We are all grateful that this Civil War veteran can again be properly remembered.

A Civil War Christmas (Carol)

It may be difficult to believe that much of how many celebrate Christmas today has roots in the Civil War. Early in the 19th century, the holiday was not widely celebrated. For example, in Boston businesses were open and churches were closed! But the mid-century conflict solidified traditions and popularized much of the familiar music. Even Thomas Nast's now popular drawings of Santa found in *Harper's Weekly* had their roots in the political propaganda of the day.

It would not be difficult to put together a program of Civil War Christmas carols. *Silent Night*, which originated in Germany in 1818, was introduced to the US in a translation by an Episcopal priest in New York City in 1859. Examples of other carols and their dates of origin, before or during the Civil War, include:

- ❖ *O Holy Night* - 1847
- ❖ *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* - 1849
- ❖ *The One Horse Open Sleigh (Jingle Bells)* - 1857.
- ❖ *We Three Kings of Orient Are* - 1863.
- ❖ *Up on the Housetop* - 1864.

Paint and Sip Fundraiser --

Paint-n-Gogh will be hosting a fundraiser for Willard Camp 154, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War on Saturday January 27, 2024. They are located at **114 Milton Avenue in Balston Spa, NY**. This social event will offer wine, beer, cheese, crackers and, most importantly, good company. Special deals are available for cheesecake bites, chocolate truffles, and individual-sized cheese or charcuterie boards. These can be selected when you register for the event at:

<https://paintngoghbspa.as.me/willardcamp>

Tickets: \$45.00, plus tax \$3.15, total \$48.15

Contact Heather at 518-879-6869 or heather@paintngoghbspa.com



SUVCW Supporting Scouts

The follow scouts have received the SUVCW
Eagle Scout Certificate from the
Col. George L. Willard CAMP #154

Name	Troop	Date
Christian Burger	4016	1 Feb 2023
Aiden LaLone	6016	1 Feb 2023
Aidan Armitage	6027	3 Mar 2023
Logan Harppinger	6016	3 Mar 2023
Matthew Michailoff	1	1 Feb 2023
William Henkin	173	15 Dec2 2022
Joshua Henkin	173	9 Mar 2022
Lucas Bertone		30 Mar 2023
Zackery Gardner	45	21 Apr 2023
Tristan Riggs	1	27 Feb 2023
Colin Murley	4011	3 May 2023
Robert Oravsky	6013	3 May 2023
Anthony Halliday	6013	3 May 2023
Jack Meffert		13 Jul 2022

Congratulations

2023 Welcome!!

New Members:

David Schock
Douglas Sherman

Transfers:

Justin Devendorf
Richard Miller

Returning Camp Member:

Richard Otheimer

Pending any year-end changes,
we currently have 65 members in
our Camp.



The Sons of
Union Veterans
of the Civil War

"Keeping Green The Memory"

Camp Officers

Col. G. L. Willard Camp #154

Camp Commander John Swartwout
Sr. Vice Commander Justin Devendorf
Jr. Vice Commander Michael Golden
Secretary/Treasurer Leo McGuire
Camp Council Richard Straight
Camp Council Vincent Jockimo
Camp Council Thomas Maggs

Guidon Editor David Dziewulski
Guidon Editor Emeritus Robert Keough

Upcoming Events - 2024

December 16	Wreaths Across America
January 6	Camp Meeting
January 27	Paint & Sip Fundraiser
February 3	Camp Meeting
March 2	Camp Meeting
April 6	Camp Meeting
April 27	Camp Meeting
April 28	Grants Tomb (New York City)
May 3-5	Department Encampment Canandaigua, NY
May 25 Memorial Wknd	Oakwood Cemetery Ceremony
May 25 Memorial Wknd	Saratoga National Cemetery
May 30 Memorial Day	Memorial Day at Oakwood & Albany Rural Cemeteries
June 1	Camp Meeting
June 15	Lincoln Luncheon
July 20	Grant Remembrance Day at Grant Cottage

Browse These Sites:

Col. George L. Willard Camp #154

<https://www.glwillard154.org/>

SUVCW Department of NY

<https://nysuvcw.org/>