

Our
117th
Year



**CAMP
OFFICERS**

Camp Commander
Richard Straight

Senior Vice
Commander
John Swartwout

Junior Vice
Commander
Vince Jackimo

Secretary/Treasurer
George Malinoski

Camp Council
Robert Keough
David Dziewulski
Leo McGuire

Chaplain
George Malinoski

Patriotic Instructor
Vincent Jackimo

Guide
Tim Mabee

Guard
Paul Cooney

Color Bearer
Richard Farr

Graves Registration
James King

Eagle Scout
Coordinator
Brian Castler

The Guidon

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Winter 2015 - 2016 Robert Keough Editor

Camp Adds New Brothers

As in any other organization, membership is very important to a healthy SUVCW Camp. All types of organization are have on-going problems of maintaining a healthy membership level. The George L. Willard Camp has been fortunate over the past number of years in keeping its membership constant. Yes, we have lost members through age, new interests and death but we have been able to attract new members to fill the ranks.

At our January meeting we inducted Michael Marchand in to the camp and at our April meeting we also inducted Francis Rogler. All members should be working to recruit new members; don't forget to recruit associate members from the ranks of people interested in the Civil War but without a relative who participated in the conflict. Wearing the badge of our Order and attending events is key to maintaining a public profile. Events like Earth Day at New Mt. Ida Cemetery, Civil War reenactments and events at Grant Cottage allow us to wave the flag for recruiting.



Past Camp Commander Leo McGuire pins the member badge on new member Michael Marchand at our January Camp meeting.



Past Camp Commander David Dziewulski reads the Initiation as Francis Rogler holds the flag and repeats the Initiation Oath.

Sisters Make Camp Visit



Sister Hope Parker, President of the NY Auxiliary of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War addresses the Camp on March 5, 2016.

Women at a Camp meeting is not the norm but at our March 5th meeting we had the pleasure of having Sister Hope Parker, President of the New York Auxiliary of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and Sister Virginia Twist, Past President of the National Auxiliary in attendance. President Parker spoke about the Auxiliary and its mission and goals, which is to assist the SUVCW in keeping alive the memories of our ancestors and their sacrifices in order to preserve the Union; instill true patriotism and love of country; and to spread and sustain the doctrine of equal rights, universal liberty and justice to all. She also addressed the steps that would be needed for the Willard Camp to create an Auxiliary. We are pleased that the Sisters would take the time to drive across the state to make this visit and make their presentation. Thank you!!



Sister Hope Parker, Ray LeMay III DC, and Virginia Twist, Past National President of the Auxiliary of the SUVCW at the March meeting.

Bells Across New York for the G.A.R.



The Col. George L. Willard Camp 154 SUVCW participates in a statewide event

Bells Across New York For The G.A.R. took place at noon on April 9, 2016 in all parts of New York State. In the Albany area Department of New York Commander Ray LeMay III, Brothers of the Col. George L. Willard Camp 154 SUVCW, re-enactors from the 125th NYVI Regiment, members of the Friends of Oakwood Cemetery, cemetery staff and members of the public attended the event. The program included posting of the Colors, Pledge of Allegiance, the singing of the Battle Hymn of the Republic, invocation by the acting Camp Chaplain and The recitation of the American's Creed. This was followed by the ringing of the 3000 pound bronze Vanderheryden Memorial Bell, a Salute Volley fired by the 125th NYVI, Taps and a closing benediction. The Colors were then retired and the event ended on a very beautiful spring day at Oakwood Cemetery in Troy, NY. This was one way to keep green the memory of our Civil War ancestors.





Hand salute in honor of the founding of the Grand Army of Republic in 1866



On a smaller scale . . .



Brian Castler, Dick Farr, Harrison Hall and Bob Keough PCC after bell ringing.

At noon on April 9th under blue and sunny skies bells rang out at the Calvary United Methodist Church and St. Henry's Catholic Church in Long Lake, NY. Local members of the Col. George L. Willard Camp 154 of Albany, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War were on hand for the occasion. The event was to mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic in April of 1866. This organization was formed by veterans of the Union Army and Navy of 1861 - 1865. The GAR, as it was known, became a very important political force in this country up to the time of World War I. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was founded in 1887 to "keep green the memory" of these veterans. An interesting historical note is that Harrison Hall, shown in the figure above, is the great, great, great grandson of Harrison Hall who was the local guide who was charged with finding Vice President Teddy Roosevelt after President McKinley was shot in Buffalo, NY.

Thomas ribbon part of exhibit



General Thomas ribbon, produced by the Camp, is part of a display on the history of Oakwood Cemetery created by the Rensselaer County Historical Society.

Camp takes up cause



Five Brothers were on hand January 5th at the Altamont Village Hall to support the local historical society in their fight to preserve the Dr. Fredrick Crouse home in the village. Members of the 134th NYVI were treated there on their way to and from the Civil War. The motion passed and work is now underway.

Col. George L. Willard Camp # 154 Coming Events 2016

Month	Date	Event / Location
April	23	Earth Day Mt. Ida Cemetery 9:00 a.m. to Noon
April 29-30	May 1	133 rd Department of New York Encampment
May	7	Camp Meeting Grace Fellowship Church 10:00 a.m.
May	14	Lincoln Luncheon at Brown's Noon
May	30	Memorial Day starts at Albany Rural 10:00 a.m.
June	4 - 5	Civil War Days Masonic Hall
July	30	July Meeting at Vale Cemetery in Schnectady

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/>