

# THE GUIDON

1897

THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

2019

Col. George L. Willard Camp # 154, P.O. Box 13681 Albany, NY 12212-3681 [www.GLWILARD154.org](http://www.GLWILARD154.org)

SUMMER 2019

## Lincoln Luncheon 2019

The Lincoln Luncheon, the Camp's main annual social event, was held for the sixth time on June 15, 2019. The event is meant to bring together Brothers, family and friends to celebrate the year's accomplishments. It is at this time Brothers are installed into the Camp's service group, the Legion of Merit, and promotions in the group are recognized. Installation and promotion is based on service activities that are computed using a point system. A new level was introduced last year: Sentential of the Order. This is now the 11th and highest rank a member may attain. Six Brothers were promoted to this grade during the luncheon, They included: Brian Castler CC, David Dziejulski PCC, Robert Keough PCC, Ray LeMay III PDC, Leo McGuire PDC and Richard Straight DC. They all had accumulated the required 40,000 service points. Everyone enjoyed the very nice buffet put on for our Camp by Brown's Brewing Co. of Troy, NY. Good food, friendship and commitment cannot be beat.



Hope Parker (center) of the Allied Orders, a guest at the luncheon, talks with others before the awards ceremony.



Paul Cooney and other friends and members pass through the buffet line.



Brothers Keough, Castler, Dziejulski, McGuire, Straight and LeMay III hold up their "Star of the Order."

Sixth Annual

## Lincoln Luncheon

Brown's Brewing Co. Troy, NY



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Col. George L. Willard Camp 154

Noon, June 15, 2019

Brian Castler  
Camp Commander

Vince Jockimo  
Senior Vice Commander

John Swartwout  
Junior Vice Commander

## Strange Discovery

On May 30, 2019 the Brothers of the Col. George L. Willard Camp 154 SUVCW gathered at the GAR monument in Albany Rural Cemetery as we have for many years. The stones and lawn were well groomed for the event. After the ceremony a woman who had observed the event came over and told us about another GAR plot in the cemetery that no one in the Camp knew about. Paula Lemire, who works with Albany Rural Cemetery, explained to us that we held our annual remembrance at the GAR monument located at the "soldiers' and sailors' " plot and not the GAR plot. Ms. Lemire indicated that the GAR plot was in another part of the cemetery. After investigating we found that plot 100A was the real GAR plot that contained 37 graves. When first visited, the area was over grown with grass almost to the top of the headstones. Brother James King organized a work party with members of the 125th NY Regimental Association to make a first attempt at cleaning up the plot and creating a record of who is buried there. This took place on June 12th. After the Camp completes the projects at the General Thomas and Col. Willard gravesites we will begin a project to ensure that those buried in the GAR plot will not be forgotten and the area appropriately improved.



Brother James King gave us our first view of plot 101A in Albany Rural Cemetery.



View of plot 100A after Brother James King and members of the 125th NY Regimental Association worked on cleaning the area.

## Grant Remembered



Willard Camp Brothers and bugler stand on the steps of the Grant cottage at the end of the program.

Each year the Col. George L. Willard Camp 154 participates in the Grant Remembrance Day event held on the Sunday closest to the anniversary of his death. Brothers from the Camp formed the Color Guard for the event. They marched from the cottage to the nearby flag pole, removed and folded the flag and presented it to the re-enactor playing the part of U.S. Grant's wife at the ceremony. Brothers who participated on July 21 included Jerry Orton PDC, Robert Keough PCC, Brian Castler CC, Leo McGuire PDC and James King.

At the event the Brothers took time to make two special presentations. Leo McGuire gave Jerry a very nice hand-tooled leather notebook. Jerry was also presented with his 50-year SUVCW pin which marked his installation into the organization in 1969. During his time in the Sons he has travelled all over the country attending events involving the Allied Orders, served as Camp Commander, Department Commander, Department Historian and represented all things Sons. Jerry - - thank you for your friendship and dedication to the Sons.



Brother Jerry Orton PDC receives a hand-tooled leather notebook and an SUVCW 50-year pin from Brother Leo McGuire PDC.

## It's For Us To Remember



Camp Commander Brian Castler reads the graveside service at the dedication of a new marker for Pvt. James Cooney.

On July 27th, at Our Lady Help of Christians Cemetery and in support of Brother Paul Cooney, Willard Camp assembled to dedicate a new marker on the grave of Pvt. James Cooney. The original stone had deteriorated and the family felt it was time to replace it. If it were not for families and the SUVCW many markers could be lost to the future.



James Cooney's new marker. He was a private in Company C, 159th NY Volunteer Infantry Regiment.



Brother Paul Cooney, the Great Grandson of Pvt. Cooney, with his wife Phyllis at the site of the new marker.

## Interesting Artifact



Brother Tom Maggs tell us that this lighting device, from his collection, dates to the Civil War era. The eagle torch would have been carried at rallies on a pole high enough to be seen above the crowd. If one looks carefully, you may see the two burners, one on each wing of the eagle.

## SUVCW Supports Scouting

THE FOLLOW SCOUTS HAVE RECEIVED THE SUVCW'S EAGLE SCOUT CERTIFICATE FROM THE COL. GEORGE L. WILLARD CAMP.

NAME:	TROOP:	DATE:
ANDREW CONTRINO		2/9/2019
WILLIAM SUSTA	33	4/10/2019
DALE REYNOLDS		4/28/2019
TREVOR CROFTO	172	5/31/2019
ZACHARY MANNAN		6/17/2019
JOSEPH MOSCATO	4016	6/19/2019
BRETT CRUVER	33	6/19/2019
EVAN CZOLOWSKI	1062	6/24/2019
WILLIAM MITCHAM	6022	7/2/2019
AIDAN TREMPER	4022	7/16/2019
DOMONIC GIROLAMO	4016	7/16/2019
MICHEAL ECKERLE	2061	7/27/2019
STEVEN WIST	4016	8/14/2019
JACK CALLAHAN	63	8/14/2019
TRUMAN WEBSTER	262	8/21/2019
DANEIL WOLOSZYN		9/3/2019
JACOB KENNEDY	6099	9/6/2019
HUNTER MEYERS	650	9/12/2019

## CONGRATULATIONS

# All In Preparation

Seth Pierce never had a marker to denote his life or his service in the Union Army during the Civil War. In fact people were not sure where exactly he was buried. After some intense research, delving into local history and a little luck Brian Castler, Willard Camp Commander, solved the mystery. Seth lived in Newcomb, NY, died in Utica but was buried in Blue Mountain Lake, NY. A marker was ordered and shipped to Long Lake.

On July 27th Long-Laker Jim Croon, Brother Robert Keough and the Camp Commander got together at Blue Mountain Lake Cemetery in Blue Mountain Lake. The marker was emplaced, leveled and then cemented into place.

All this is in preparation for a future dedication of the marker by the SUVCW. All of the research on Seth was undertaken by Brian Castler both as a member of the SUVCW and in his role as the Town of Long Lake Archivist.



Long Laker Jim Croon moves the new government supplied marker into place.



Camp Commander Brian Castler positions the new marker in place before pouring concrete.



"Keeping Green The Memory"

Col. George L. Willard Camp # 154

## Camp Officers

Camp Commander . . . . .	Brian Castler
Senior Vice Commander . . . . .	Vince Jockimo
Junior Vice Commander . . . . .	John Swartwout
Secretary . . . . .	Leo McGuire
Treasurer . . . . .	Robert Keough
Camp Council. . . . .	David Dziewulski
Camp Council. . . . .	Richard Straight
Camp Council. . . . .	Ray LeMay III
Chaplain . . . . .	James King
Patriotic Instructor . . . . .	Paul Cooney
Guide . . . . .	Mark Isaacs
Guard. . . . .	Paul Cooney
Color Bearer . . . . .	Francis Rogler
Graves Registration . . . . .	James King
Monument Officer . . . . .	David Dziewulski
Eagle Scout Coordinator. . . . .	Brian Castler
Guidon Editor. . . . .	Robert Keough

## Coming Events

Oct.	5	Camp Meeting, President Arthur event
Nov.	2	Camp Meeting in Long Lake) (nominations)
Dec.	7	Camp Meeting (election)
	21	Wreath Across America at Albany Rural Cemetery

*The Guidon* is the official newsletter of the Col. George L. Willard Camp #154, SUVCW. It is published four times a year. The editor may be reached at: [rpkeough@aol.com](mailto:rpkeough@aol.com).

## Brothers 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/>