

## 77th Monument Destroyed



Police tape cordons off the crime scene in Congress Park, Saratoga Springs.



The zinc head of the Civil War soldier is seen at the base of the statue.



Investigators mark the evidence on the ground around the monument.

A monument to our Nation's fallen heroes should never be a crime scene, but on July 16 that was the case at Congress Park in Saratoga Springs, NY. At about 3:30 a.m. two police officers found that the Civil War soldier at the top of the 77th NYVI Regiment had been toppled and shattered. This was the second case of vandalism at the park in as many days. The 77th regiment was raised in the Saratoga Springs area and served during most of the war, being mustered out in June of 1865. Some 284 members of the unit died of wounds or disease. They were also called the Bemis Heights Battalion and were part of the Army of the Potomac. The monument, created by J. W. Fiske & Company of New York City, was originally dedicated in 1875. It is unclear who toppled it, and for what reason the city continues to ask that members of the public with any information on this incident contact the Saratoga Springs Police Department at (518) 584-1800.

## Go Fund Me

The Col. George L. Willard Camp 154, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War started a Go Fund Me page in an attempt to raise funds for the restoration of the vandalized 77th NYVI monument in Congress Park. The Go Fund Me site is at: <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/restoration-of-saratoga-springs-77th-soldier-monument-civil-war>. The campaign raised over \$8000 and with pending donations will eventually exceed a total of \$12000. Discussions have been held with Saratoga Springs on how the funds will be used.



The 77th monument as seen before the vandalism on July 16, 2020.

# New Members

On September 5th, at our first face-to-face meeting in some time, the Camp inducted two new members. Andrew Krupski and Aidan Rivenburg became our newest Brothers. Over the last number of years we have been able to keep our membership numbers stable even as interest in fraternal organizations like ours have been on the decline.



**Andrew and Aidan take their oath as members of the SUVCW.**



**Brother Mark Isaacs and Camp Commander Brian Castler conduct the initiation ceremony at the Camp's altar.**



**With hands on the flag and bible candidates recite their oath and become members of the Willard Camp**

# Naval Museum Fire

The National Civil War Naval Museum (formerly the Confederate Navy Museum) in Columbus, GA has accumulated a number of artifacts, documents and parts of actual ships. The museum is a resource for the public, private historians and researchers of the naval aspects of the Civil War. It was reported in early June 2020, by multiple news media and a poster on Civil War Talk, that arsonists set fire to a storage shed adjacent to the museum. The open padlocked shed protected the 19th century costal schooner Virginia, the recovered fantail and attached armor of the ironclad CSS Jackson, an engine from the CSS Chattahoochee, assorted machinery from the Columbus Iron Works and other excess material. The shed was completely destroyed. Although the iron components may ultimately be displayed in the museum, the rare wooden components were consumed by the fire.

This article should bring to mind the word "responsibility." If we collect history we are responsible to protect it. I am pleased that we have taken the action we have and placed our collection in a safe place.



**CWNM shed remains with salvaged canon.**



**Burned out CWNM shed from the air.**

MIKE HASKEY MHASKEY@LEDGER-ENQUIRER

Columbus Fire and EMT

# SUVCW Supporting Scouts

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

Name:	Troop:	Date:
Cole Genevivi	6027	7 July 2020
Evan Schmid	4024	16 Sept. 2020
David Gottschalt	4016	16 Sept. 2020
John Navarra	4013	16 Sept. 2020
Sean Mannix	6016	23 Sept. 2020
Trever Borden	4024	23 Sept. 2020
Mark Gregory	4016	23 Sept. 2020
Myles Dower	1	6 April 2020
Sean Streets	6016	20 Oct. 2020
Owen Burnham	6044	20 Oct. 2020

**Congratulations  
to all our Scouts**

# New Book Cover

The Willard Camp has recently purchased a new handmade cover for its scrapbook and member registry. This beautiful cover was designed and created by leather worker Dave Dellecato of Kingston, NY under the direction of Brother Richard Straight, PDC. It will serve the Camp for decades to come.



Camp's new scrapbook and member registry.

# Willard Signage



Three in a row, Willard, Thomas and Uncle Sam.

Col. George L. Willard has joined the likes of Uncle Sam and Major General George Thomas at Oakwood Cemetery in Troy, NY. New signage designed by Brother Keough and helped through production by Brothers King and Straight have been installed. This included directional signs and a marker at his grave site. This was a joint project between the Camp (from remaining General Thomas project funds) and the 125 NYVI Association.



Marker at the grave site of Col. George L. Willard.



Marker with Willard's gravestone in the back.

# Closing the Books



**Brother Jerry Orton, PDC with Irene Triplett a number of years ago.**

The U.S. Government can now close the books on Civil War pensions. The person collecting the last Civil War pension died on May 31, 2020 at a nursing home in North Carolina. Irene Triplett was the daughter of Mose Triplett, a Civil War veteran. She was 90 when she died and was receiving \$73.13 a month (\$877.56 a year) from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Mose fought for both the South, in the 53rd North Carolina Infantry, at the beginning of the war, and for the North in the 3rd North Carolina Mounted Infantry, a Union unit, at the end of the war. He was 84 years old when his second wife Elida Hall, who he had married in 1924, gave birth to Irene in 1930. Mose Triplett died in 1938 of complications from a broken hip. Both his wife and daughter suffered from mental disability and could not support themselves. Visit this site for a short video on Irene: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bpgodCoJov8>.



**Irene Triplett at 90 just before her death on May 31, 2020.**



## The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*"Keeping Green The Memory"*

## Camp Officers

Col. George L. Willard Camp # 154

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 . . . . .	Paul Cooney
Chaplain. . . . .	Tom Maggs
Patriotic Instructor . . . . .	Paul Cooney
Guide . . . . .	Chris White
Guard . . . . .	Peter Swano
Color Bearer . . . . .	Francis Rogler
Graves Registration. . . . .	James King
Monument Officer . . . . .	David Dziewulski
Eagle Scout Coordinator. . . . .	Brian Castler
Guidon Editor. . . . .	Robert Keough

## Coming Events

Nov.	7	Camp Meeting (nominations)
Dec.	5	Camp Meeting (election)
	21	Wreath Across America at Albany Rural Cemetery
Jan.	2	Camp Meeting

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## 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/>