



DEPARTMENT OF

NEW JERSEY

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2021



FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDER

Commander Gary DeSiver

webmaster@njdept-suvchw.org



Dear Brothers,

It has been my honor to have been your Department Commander during the past year. I would like to thank the following people who served as Department officers during this year. The Department would not have been as successful without your help.

Senior Vice Commander - Jay Godin

Junior Vice Commander - Francis A. Tomasello Jr

Secretary-Treasurer - Dr. David Martin, PDC 1993-94

Council - C Jeffrey Heagy, PDC 2014-16

Council - Fred Mossbrucker, PDC 2016-18

Council - Robert Meyer, PDC 2018-20

Patriotic Instructor - John Farley Scott

Chaplain - Ronald L Brower PDC 2012-14

Graves Registration Officer - Frederick W Otto

Historian - Dr. David Martin, PDC 1993-94

GAR Records Officer - Joseph F. Seliga, PDC 2004-06

Eagle Scout Coordinator - Daniel Lynch, PDC 2008-2010 and Robert Meyer, PDC 2018-20

GAR Highway Officer - Bruce Sirak

Civil War Memorials Officer - Clark D McCullough, PDC 2000-02

Camp Organizer - Robert C. Meyer, PDC 2018-20

Color Bearer - William J. Locke

Assistant Secretary - Charles F. Morgan, Jr.

Recruiting Officer - Francis A. Tomasello Jr

Assistant Treasurer - C Jeffrey Heagy, PDC 2014-16

Assistant Eagle Scout Coordinator - Charles F. Morgan, Jr.

Counselor - David Hann, PDC 1995-97

The 2021 encampment will be held virtually on Saturday June 12th at 10 am. Those planning to attend need to register by Tuesday, June 8 with PDC David Hann. I will send the Zoom meeting invitation to all that preregistered. I hope to see all of you at the encampment, even though it will be in little zoom boxes.

I would like to thank SVC Jay Godin for taking the lead to develop a Department newsletter for the first time in many years. This newsletter is intended to be a joint effort of the department. We look forward to having articles by each Camp and from Department officers in each issue.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Gary DeSiver

Commander New Jersey Department

OFFICE OF THE EDITOR

Senior Vice Commander Jay Godin

Jgcivilwar1@gmail.com



Hello, and welcome to the official Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Department of New Jersey Newsletter.

I'm Br. Jay Godin Department Sr. Vice Commander and Editor of the Newsletter.
My Home Camp is Major General George. A Custer Camp #17. Which I am past
Camp Commander.

I would like to say This is your newsletter. If you are My Brother in this
organization then this Newsletter is open to you to send important updates and
camp information you would like to share with the rest of the department. Don't
hesitate to send along all the great things that your camp or yourself does for the
SUVCW.

I hope to hear from all the camps as we plan to make this a Quarterly letter that
will be sent out via email. Send pictures, stories, news, and updates and we will do
our best to get everything included.

I can be reached at the above email address, and will get back to you as quick as I
can.

I hope we can make this newsletter a great resource for all our New Jersey
Brothers.

Br. Jay Godin

CAMPFIRE NEWS

CAMP 100 - PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN CAMP

The State Camp of New Jersey, serving the entire state. Meets in Hightstown and Cranbury in the central area of the state.

Commander: David Potts

Point of Contact: Secretary-Treasurer Dr. David Martin PDC

In previous years, our meetings have included a business meeting, an educational presentation and a great lunch. This year, we've had to forgo the lunch and meet virtually. On February 13th, PDC Dr. David Martin gave a presentation on newfound evidence on the flag losses of the 10th NJ Infantry in 1864. On April 10th, he discussed the unusual death and burial of Confederate Major Benjamin Leigh at Gettysburg. We hope to be meeting in person soon.

CAMP 7 - COLONEL LOUIS R. FRANCINE CAMP

Serving Hammonton, Turnersville, and points east

Commander: Wayne Grant

Point of Contact: Dave Hann PDC

Francine Camp will perform its annual and traditional Memorial Day ceremony on May 30, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., at the GAR section of Greenmount Cemetery in Hammonton, New Jersey. The Camp will be assisted by Company A, 7th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve.

The Camp will also be participating in Hammonton's Memorial Day services on
Monday, May 31 at 10:00 a.m.

Francine Camp's next meeting will take place in August TBA

Anticipated to be an outdoor picnic.

CAMP 17 - MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE ARMSTRONG CUSTER CAMP

Serving Ocean County and parts of Monmouth and Middlesex counties

Commander: John Farley Scott

Point of Contact: Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Clark D. McCullough PDC



Until future notice all meetings will be held at the Ardena Baptist Church in
Freehold NJ

Oct 30, 2021 at 1 pm Ardena Baptist Church

Dec 4, 2021 at 1 pm Ardena Baptist Church

Plans for Memorial Day

Fairview Cemetery Middletown, NJ 10:30 am 29th NJ Monument, Arrowsmith
GAR Plot, Gary Walling's ancestor.

Hirschhorn Cemetery Middletown, NJ 11:30 am Hirschhorn Civil War soldier's
grave. Kings Highway Rt.35.

Free church Cemetery West Long Branch TBA Contact Arthur Green

Holy Sepulcher Cemetery East Orange, NJ 11:00 am Felix Branigan grave contact
Dan Lynch

CAMP 20 - MAJOR GENERAL PHILLIP KEARNY CAMP

Serving Hudson, Bergen, Somerset and Essex counties and parts of Passaic and
Middlesex counties

Commander: Peter Lindsay

Point of Contact: Clark D. McCullough or webmaster Eric Bal



Scheduled Meetings

Abraham Clark Memorial House, 101 W. 9th Ave, Roselle, NJ

Upcoming Meetings Sept 11th, 2021 1:00 PM Roselle, NJ

Nov 13th, 2021 1:00 PM Roselle, NJ

Fairmount Cemetery Newark, NJ 11:00 am Contact Chris Sands

CAMP 73 - GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT CAMP

Serving the South Plainfield area

Commander: Frank M. McGonigle

Point of Contact: Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Clark D. McCullough PDC



Meetings are at the Van Veghten House, Bridgewater, NJ (9 Van Veghten Dr, Bridgewater Township, NJ 08807).

Scheduled Meetings

Sept 18th 2021 at 1:30pm Van Veghten House

Nov 13th 2021 at 1:30pm Van Veghten House

Memorial Day Service

Hillside Cemetery Scotch Plains, NJ 11:00 am

Contact Frank McGonigle

CAMP 82 - JAMES S. STRATTON CAMP

Commander: Bruce Lutz

Point of Contact: Scott West, Secretary

Memorial Day Celebration 2021 as per Br. West

As you may know, Becks' Philadelphia Brigade Band is made up of Brothers from the membership and others; we share in our SUVCW activities as a group. In this way, we can make a much broader impact. This Memorial Day, we honor our Civil War veterans buried at Philadelphia's Historic Laurel Hill Cemetery. For the occasion, we have found and arranged for brass band only, a piece of music originally composed for Memorial Day, May 30, 1884, exactly 137 years ago. Meade's Memorial Chant, by J.A. Gardner, was written in memory of General George G. Meade and dedicated to the George G. Meade Post#1, GAR For only the second time, Becks' Band will play this dirge at the grave of General Meade. We will then honor several others in various parts of the cemetery, culminating in the ceremony at the statue of "The Silent Sentry".

Memorial Day was, and remains to this day, a very special occasion in Laurel Hill Cemetery, final resting place of thousands of Civil War soldiers and sailors, some marked, and, sadly, many others unmarked. According to the program for that day in 1884, after the celebration "A line will then be re-formed and proceed to the

boat landing, the Choristers, accompanied by the Band, [most likely Becks Band] singing the recessional hymn. An extra steamer for the accommodation of families and friends of comrades will leave Laurel Hill Landing immediately behind the steamer “Belmont” and follow closely to Fairmount. Arriving at Fairmount, the Post will return to [GAR] Headquarters via Green, Broad, and Chestnut Streets.”

We are honored to once again play our small part in this Memorial Day.

CAMP 10 - BRIGADIER GENERAL NATHANIEL LYON CAMP

Serving Vineland and Cumberland counties

Commander: Morrel Wolf

Point of Contact: Secretary-Treasurer Robert Wilhelm PDC



Attached is a photo of Lyons Camp Memorial Day salute.

Every year they participate in the Vineland Memorial Day Parade and fire a salute and perform a ceremony at the Lyon Post 10 GAR monument in the center of town.

All Lyons camp activities for last year were cancelled yet They still managed to gain 2 new members and 2 Junior members!!
planned activities for this year are as follows:

Vineland Founders TBA

Vineland Memorial Day Parade (Salute to be fired)

May 31st 2021 Finns Point Memorial Day (Fort Mott) 2:00pm

NJ Dept Encampment SUVCW June 12th

Lyon Camp meeting BBQ July 26th at 2:00pm

National Encampment SUVCW –St. Louis, MI Aug. 5th - 8th

Mullica Hill Oct. TBA

Lyon Camp mtg 7:30 PM Vineland Hist. Society. Nov. TBA

Gettysburg Remembrance Day Nov.20th

Mullica Hill Candle light tour Dec. TBA

Possible Display at Millville Historical Society TBA

Possible Display at Vineland Women's Club TBA

Updates are being planned for our Camp web site www.lyoncamp.org.

CAMP 4 - PRESIDENT JAMES A. GARFIELD CAMP

Serving the Trenton/Lawrenceville Area

Commander: Tim Murphy

Point of Contact: Joseph F. Seliga PDC

A new location for the Museum is still underway. Contact Joseph F. Seliga PDC for more information.

CAMP 104 - SERGEANT HIRAM W. PURSELL CAMP

Serving the Northwest Quadrant of New Jersey consisting of the following counties: Hunterdon, Morris (partial), Passaic (partial), Sussex, and Warren.

Commander and Point of Contact: Cliff Laing



Due to the pandemic Camp 104 has not met in person since it's onset... they however have been meeting every other month via Zoom.

The plan for Memorial Day is to have another Zoom ceremony to celebrate!!!

Camp 104 did a last soldier ceremony in July,2019. The above is a Camp group picture from that ceremony. They plan on more when the restrictions are lifted.

DEPARTMENT NEWS



Honoring our Past brothers in blue with a New Flag Pole And Ceremony. PDC Robert Meyer Dept. Of New Jersey SUVCW and the Matawan American Legion post 176 along with a crowd close to 100 paid their respects to Charles Hendrickson, William A. Jamison, James H. Riley and William Sherno United States Colored Troops (USCT) at the St James A.M.E. Zion church cemetery in Matawan NJ, April 24th at 10am. PDC Meyer spearheaded the function and “made it happen”. Brothers in the photo PDC Robert Meyer, PDC Clark McCullough, Dept SVC Jay Godin and Br. Chris Sands.

October 16th 9am Sharp!

Rahway Cemetery, Rahway NJ

1583 High Street Rahway NJ 07065

Exit 135 off GSP, easy to get to.

Grave Clean Up, and flower bulbs to be planted for our GAR Ancestors.

Third year event open to all camps. Over 300 men that fought for the Union are buried here.

Around 80 Revolutionary War Veterans and Abraham Clark Signer of the declaration of Independence Union are buried here.

Date is subject to change for weather etc. contact for event Br. Jay Godin

Jgcivilwar1@gmail.com.



*** The Department encampment will be conducted virtually (via zoom) on June 12th 2021 at 10am. Contact your Camp Commander or Camp Secretary for more information.**

HIGHLIGHTED MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

AND HIS ANCESTOR

PDC Robert Meyer

Private Fredrick Westlake



What PDC Meyer has done since joining in 2008.

PCC Custer camp 2012. PCC Kearny camp 2014. The Current Vice Commander of Scott camp. PDC Department of New Jersey from 2018 until 2020. In Addition to being the unit commander Captain of Company A First New Jersey SVR.

Things that he has done for SUVCW.

Fundraising PDC Meyer Has introduced many ways to effectively raise money for camps and the department.

PDC Meyer has effectively made our organizations name known to the people through Wounded veteran campaigns, Community projects, collecting canned food for food pantries and Christmas presents for children.

PDC Meyer helped establish the Gen Philip Kearny camp number 20.

PDC Meyer helped establish Gen Winfield Scott camp number 73.

With actions of the camps that PDC Meyer has worked with and on projects that we felt were important, 2 camps were issued the Lincoln award that PDC Meyer is a member of.

PDC Meyer's Ancestor

Pvt. Fredrick Westlake co. B 5th NY volunteer infantry

He died in action at the battle of Gaines' Mill Virginia June 27th 1862

The Battle of Gaines' Mill, also known as the Battle of Chickahominy River, took place on June 27, 1862, in Hanover County, Virginia, Part of the Seven Days Battles Peninsula Campaign of the American Civil War.

Gen. Lee launched the largest Confederate attack of the war, about 57,000 men in six divisions to repel the Federals. At the end of the day the Confederates pushed back the federals and saved Richmond.

The seven days battle was some of the bloodiest fighting of the war, with an estimated 35 to 40 thousand casualties over the course of the battle.

Here is Some interesting paperwork of Pvt Westlake and a portrait



Camp 3rd N.Y. Inf.
near Henry House Va
Feb. 20. / 63.

Mrs Westlake,
Madame.

copy of my name
to be sent to
you
1/20/63

Westlake of my Co.
died at the battle of Fair Oaks June 27th / 62
he was last paid April 21st / 62 to date. so there
is about 2. months pay owing to him, from
which there is deducted \$6.14 which is a Balance
due to the U.S. and the Clothing account,
he is entitled to one hundred dollars bounty,
and you are entitled to about 8 dollars a
month pension

Yours Respectly

Wm. Hoffman
Capt. Co. B. 3rd N.Y. Inf.

CASUALTY SHEET.

Name: *Fred W. S. Westlake*

Rank: *1st Lt* Company: *B* Regiment: *9th*

Arm: *Inf* State: *Calif*

Nature of Casualty: *Death*

CAUSE OF CASUALTY—(NAME OF DISEASE, &c.)

Killed in action

BY WHOM DISCHARGED.

FROM WHAT SOURCE THIS INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED.

Col G. R. Stof Decas. ed Soldiers 102-

DEGREE OF DISABILITY.

BY WHOM CERTIFIED.

Lt. Hoffman

REMARKS.

No effect.

DATE OF DISCHARGE, DEATH, &c.

June 27, 1862

PLACE OF DISCHARGE, DEATH, &c.

James Mill re

[Signature]
Clerk.

FINAL MUSTER

FREDERICK WILLIAM COLE

Camp 10 - Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon Camp

b. 01/04/1945

d. 05/04/2020

GENE COSTILL

Camp 7 - Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp

b. 02/06/1926

d. 04/21/2021

JOHN MAKOS JR. PDC

Camp 7 - Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp

b. 02.27/1950

d. 04/15/2021

WILLIAM RIGHTER

Camp 7 - Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp

b. 06/25/1942

d. 08/29/2020

WILLIAM J. VOLONTE

Camp 20 - Major General Phillip Kearny Camp

b. 03/07/1954

d. 02/05/2021

West New York, NJ 07903



AUXILIARY TO THE NJ SUVCW

Attached to Lyon Camp 10 is our Ladies Auxiliary "Hancock
Auxiliary # 10.

