



THE LEGACY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE 140TH NEW YORK VOLUNTEER INFANTRY



Volume XLII Issue 3

June 2022

President's Corner

Hello all!

I hope your Spring and start to the Summer is going wonderfully. We have some nice weather (hopefully!) and good company to enjoy on the 26th, and we hope to see many of you there. This meeting will be hosted at our new residence at 6 pm, and our address is stated in the following bits of info in the rest of the Legacy. This is definitely a B.Y.O.C. situation (bring your own chair!), although we have a few spares if some forget theirs.

A Mumford note - please don't forget that this year you either need to register on your own or ask your pertinent Coordinator to do so with others. You do need to sign your own waiver, regardless, though!

We look forward to seeing you in a few weeks!

Your humble servant,
Sarah Northan

HEAD OF THE STREET

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting. I'll bring you up to speed on Mumford.

Mike O.

CIVILIAN COORDINATOR

Hello everyone,

Hope you're having a wonderful spring and getting ready for the upcoming season. We had a very nice Civilian Seminar and had a chance to get to know each other again. Some members have already been out to events at Newfane and Lain's Mills. As we continue to prepare for our main event at Mumford, it is very important that everyone registers and signs the waiver form **BEFORE** the event. I will bring some blank forms with me to the next meeting in case you're having trouble accessing it from the museum website. Please everyone try to attend our June meeting so that we can finalize our plans/scenarios for the event. Everyone needs to have a place/scenario to be assigned to and know what they are doing ahead of time. I will bring a list of what's going on where so you can choose what you would like to do. If you are unable to attend the meeting please contact me so we can assure your participation where you would like to be. Hope to see you at the meeting!

Cathy

NEWS

Congratulations to Susan Berardi! She has been elected as President of New York State's Daughters Union Veterans of the Civil War.

SEE REVERSE SIDE

NEWS FLASH!!!!!!

This month's meeting will be held at 6 PM at Sarah & Jarrett Northan's house
**1935 Lehigh Station Rd
Henrietta, NY 14467**

MEETING DATES

THIS UNIT MEETING IS AT 6 PM

UNIT MEETINGS

◆ June. 26, 2022

◆ Sept. 18, 2022

◆ Nov. 13, 2022

Election Meeting

Bring your own chair to the meeting!

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The meeting minutes and financial information are being posted on the unit's website. This information will not be included in the legacy

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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MILITARY COMMANDER	Mike O'Connor	oke6950@aol.com	585-683-6581
CIVILIAN COORDINATOR	Cathy Curley	ccurley12@verizon.net	716-685-3545

The Anniversary committee is looking for the unit's logo in a jpg or tiff format. Please contact Laurie P. at <lpinpell@aol.com> if you have a logo.

Were you "Woke" in the 1860's?

Woke - Having an active awareness of systemic injustices and prejudices, especially those related to civil and human rights.

As reenactors of the Civil War era we need to be aware of not just the events of the war, but of the social and cultural issues of the time including the civil and human rights issues of immigration, abolition, and women's rights. The opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 brought a wave of newcomers and new ideas to this area. Overcrowding and lack of good farmland in New England encouraged New Englanders to move here. The Famine in Ireland sent Catholic immigrants looking for new homes and new opportunities. Political upheavals in what later became Germany encouraged political refugees to emigrate and settle in this area.

This influx of immigrants prompted an anti-immigrant reaction. "Nativists" promoted the traditions and Protestant religious beliefs of white, native-born Americans over the foreign customs, languages, and religious practices of the new arrivals. They saw immigrants as a threat to the "American way of life". They were alarmed at what they viewed as an encroachment of Catholicism and the influence of the Pope. Like slavery and temperance, Nativism was politically and socially divisive. It inspired lectures and newspaper articles warning of threats to American culture from the growing foreign influence of immigrants. How did Nativists react to the 140th's Irish born Patrick O'Rorke and German Louis Ernst?

Western New York was a center of abolitionist activity during the canal era. Anti-slavery ideas spread from port to port. New York State abolished slavery in 1827. (The law was passed in 1817 freeing enslaved people born before 1799, but it would not go into effect until 1827). Many who escaped slavery followed the canal on their way to Canada or settled in towns and cities along the canal. Some of the leaders of the abolitionist movement lived near the Erie Canal, including Jermain Loguen in Syracuse, William Wells Brown in Buffalo, and Frederick Douglass in Rochester.

Activists organized anti-slavery societies in cities and small towns across the State. In October 1835, the first convention of the New York Anti-Slavery Society took place in Utica. The publication of "Uncle Toms Cabin" in 1852 opened many people's eyes to the plight of enslaved people, although some considered it just a work of fiction.

Social reform movements like the abolition and temperance movements gave women a greater sense of pride because of their participation. More women became involved in charitable institutions and were encouraged to take on public roles that took them away from the "domestic sphere" of the household. Many women abolitionists and temperance workers became advocates for the rights of women, including the right to divorce, own property, and vote.

All of these issues were "hot button" topics of the time and will make for good conversation around the military campfires, or in the kitchens and parlors of our civilians.

Submitted by,
Sue Erdle