



# THE VIVANDIÈRE

Newsletter of Kady Brownell Tent #36 DUVCW  
<http://sites.google.com/site/kadybrownelltent36duvcw/home>

SUMMER 2015

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

## OFFICERS 2015

**PRESIDENT**  
Kathleen Powers-Vermaelen  
389 Second Ave.  
Bayport, NY 11705  
(631) 472-2839  
[gazettewriter@aol.com](mailto:gazettewriter@aol.com)

**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**  
Lynne Gallaudet Dolan  
89-17 Lyman St.  
Bellerose Manor, NY 11428-1407  
(718) 740-4847  
[lynne412@verizon.net](mailto:lynne412@verizon.net)

**JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT & HISTORIAN**  
Mary Cordato  
82 Garfield St.  
Garden City, NY 11530-2405  
(516) 437-8196  
[civilwarlady6165@gmail.com](mailto:civilwarlady6165@gmail.com)

**TREASURER**  
Laura H. Congleton  
35 Pierrepont St., Apt. 1-C  
Brooklyn, NY 11201-3359  
(718) 625-3535  
[lcongleton@earthlink.net](mailto:lcongleton@earthlink.net)

**PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR**  
Linda Jane Fritz Feierabend  
P.O. Box 601  
Shoreham, NY 11786-0601  
(631) 821-2314  
[lfeierab@verizon.net](mailto:lfeierab@verizon.net)

**CHAPLAIN**  
Barbara J. Ulrich-Giaimo  
63 Hamlet Ct.  
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590-4448  
(845) 298-9335  
[michaelangelo54@gmail.com](mailto:michaelangelo54@gmail.com)

**SECRETARY**  
Eileen Sleckman  
128 Midland Street  
Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724  
(631) 367-7431  
[esleck57@gmail.com](mailto:esleck57@gmail.com)

**PRESS CORRESPONDENT**  
Kathleen Wyer-Lane  
(347) 522-0630  
[kwyerlane@earthlink.net](mailto:kwyerlane@earthlink.net)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, ladies!

I'm so pleased to introduce *The Vivandiere*, our new semiannual tent newsletter, to you all.

This publication is a part of my presidential plan to improve tent communications and expand our reach. Please email your Civil War-related news, photos, book reviews, ancestor biographies, online resources, and so forth to me at [GazetteWriter@aol.com](mailto:GazetteWriter@aol.com). I welcome all original contributions with rampant gratitude!

Since January, I've attended various DAR and Colonial Dames events, where I've practiced word-of-mouth publicity at every opportunity. I hope that if you have the chance to "talk up the tent," you'll do the same!

On April 26<sup>th</sup>, I attended the President Grant Birthday Celebration at General Grant's National Memorial, which was just beautiful. Afterward, our group met at Chez Josephine for Sunday Brunch and raised a glass to Jean Claude Baker, who welcomed our group there on many occasions. We had a lovely afternoon.

I also went to NYDUVCW's 122<sup>nd</sup> Convention at Saratoga Springs in early May, which was interesting, educational, and fun. Our Long Island Wine Basket was a *huge* hit at the Grand Banquet; in the end, it was won by our Department President Eileen Sleckman. Please consider attending the 2016 Convention in much-closer Tarrytown next May! I think you'd really enjoy it.

Our social media presence is growing. I've established a public page for Tent #36, so if you use Facebook, please "like" *Kady*



*Brownell Tent #36 DUVCW* today. Our new web site (see URL above) has been sent to our state organization for approval; I will announce its official launch when National approval comes. I'm hopeful these measures will help to expand our tent membership.

Our next meeting will be on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at my Bayport home at 11 a.m. At noon, we'll adjourn to Islip Grange so we may experience the final hours of the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Civil War Weekend, hosted by the 67<sup>th</sup> New York Volunteer Infantry, a reenactment group. Tent members are encouraged to invite prospective members to join us there at noon that day. We hope to see many ladies there!

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please email me! I look forward to hearing from you.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

*Kathleen Powers-Vermaelen*  
President, Kady Brownell Tent #36

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message .....	1
Welcome, New Members!.....	2
Chaplain's News .....	2
Reminder: 2015 Dues .....	2
NYDUVCW Convention Photo .....	2
Important Announcements .....	2
Tent Officer Installations 2015.....	2
Next Meeting Date .....	2
Press Correspondent's News .....	2
Secretary's News.....	3
Aloysius A. Norton Award.....	3
Find Us on Facebook .....	3
Did You Know? .....	4
Useful Web Sites.....	4
SUVCW Grand Banquet Photo.....	4
Tent NYC Brunch Photo .....	4

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

**Bets Radley**

*Walter Cole White, 148th OH Infantry*

**Erin McKendrick**

**Norma McKendrick**

*Pvt. Thomas Stanley, 28th CT Infantry, Co. B*



*M. Cordato; K. Vermaelen; L. Dolan; E. Sleckman, DP; L. Congleton; B. Radley and E. Higgins, NP, at Davenport Press on Jan. 24th*

### CHAPLAIN'S NEWS

#### BARBARA ULRICH-GIAIMO

The "No Veteran Alone" program at the Castle Point VA hospital has been put on hold until September, due to upheavals at that facility, including the closing of a recently-renovated ward and the resultant transfer of patients to different facilities. Everyone involved with the hospital has questions, but no one is getting any answers from the hospital administration.

**REMINDER:** Our 2015 dues will be \$30.00 to compensate for recent increases in National dues.



*New York Department DUV CW meeting at the 122nd Convention, May 2nd. Tent members present included J. Guy, E. Sleckman, L. Dolan, B. Ulrich-Giaimo and K. Vermaelen.*

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE VIVANDIÈRE NEEDS YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!** Did you visit a Civil War battlefield, exhibit, or museum? Please send us your photos and a short explanation of who/what is in the picture and where/when it was taken. Want to share your ancestor's story? Why not submit a short article (250-500 words)? Have a relevant web site or interesting items to share? Please do so! Email your attached submissions to Kathleen at [GazetteWriter@aol.com](mailto:GazetteWriter@aol.com). We look forward to hearing from you!

### 2015 ANNUAL LUNCHEON AND OFFICER INSTALLATION

Our 2015 Annual Luncheon and Officer Installation took place on January 24th, 2015, at The Davenport Press, Mineola, New York. Although it was a slushy day, we had a nice turn out! We were joined by Ellen Higgins, National President of DUV CW, who installed the tent's incoming officers. Other guests included Scott McKendrick, Senior VP of Moses Baldwin Camp #544 SUCW, and several ladies representing the DAR's Long Island chapters. In addition to a delicious lunch, luncheon guests enjoyed participating in a fundraising raffle of chocolates, gift baskets, and a copy of Kathleen Vermaelen's book, which raised needed funds for the tent. Our 50-50 raffle to support Gallaudet University was won by Joseph Vermaelen, who donated the money back to the tent for its continued good work.

**KADY BROWNELL TENT #36's NEXT MEETING** will be held Sunday, **September 20th, 11 AM**, at the home of Kathleen Vermaelen, 389 2nd Avenue, Bayport, NY. Please RSVP to [GazetteWriter@aol.com](mailto:GazetteWriter@aol.com) or by calling 631-472-2839. Hope to see you there!

### PRESS CORRESPONDENT'S NEWS KATHLEEN WYER LANE

Kady Brownell Tent #36 and the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War made National headlines this Spring. *Newsday*, the Pulitzer Prize winning newspaper, featured a four-page spread on the history of the DUV CW. The centerpiece of the article highlighted Kathleen Powers-Vermaelen, newly elected president of the Kady Brownell Tent #36, and her vision and commitment to our Civil War history.

We are hoping to share this article with all of our sisters so as to inspire them to contact their local news and media outlets. The DUV CW has an amazing story to tell about our collective history.



Janice Guy, NYDUVCW President Eileen Sleckman & Lynne Dolan with Monitor Museum and Oliver Tilden Camp #26 members on May 29th.

## SECRETARY'S NEWS EILEEN SLECKMAN, DP

On May 29th I represented the New York Department of the DUVCW at a ceremony in Greenpoint, Brooklyn where the **Monitor Trail Marker** was unveiled by George J. Weinmann of the SUVCW Oliver Tilden Camp #26 and David Alberg of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This northernmost portion of the trail will link the historic sites of the Monitor to those in Virginia and North Carolina and marks the very spot where the U.S.S. Monitor was launched 153 years ago, also the site for the planned Monitor Museum.

The ceremony featured speeches from several local politicians; Mr. Alberg from NOAA, which is involved in constructing the trail, Midshipmen from Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy, and children from PS 110's chorus singing the National Anthem. Civil War era music was also performed by Arthur Kirmss of the Oliver Tilden Camp.



The dramatic moment of the unveiling coincided with the arrival of New York City fireboat 343, which proceeded to fire a water cannon salute. The fireboat is named for the 343 New York City firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty on 9/11/2001. As the Trail Marker is directly across from the Freedom Tower in lower Manhattan, it is a site that has great emotional resonance. The ceremony

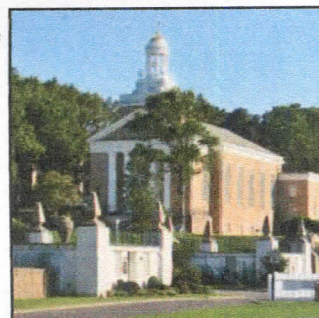
concluded with a Civil War Gun Salute and retiring of the Colors.

After the ceremony we continued on to the nearby Brooklyn Expo Center, where participants and visitors enjoyed the many displays and presentations throughout the day.

\* Read more in the article "USS Monitor Trail Marker Unveiled" by Janice Lauletta in *The Greenpoint Gazette* online: <http://www.greenpointnews.com/news/6974/uss-monitor-trail-marker-unveiled>

## ALOYSIUS A. NORTON AWARD 2015 by Eileen Sleckman, DP

On June 19, 2015, I had the honor of presenting the **Aloysius A Norton Award** to two midshipmen at Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy, one of the four National Service Academy Awards that we sponsor. The award is given to an individual who in the opinion of a panel of



judges, has written the best analytic essay or humanities sea project on a work of poetry, drama, fiction or literature and film, and as there was a tie this year, two midshipmen were awarded. It is given in memory of a professor who was a lover of literature and instilled that love in young people.

I am proud that we sponsor an award that places a high value on the humanities, and on the kind of introspective thinking that would go along with the writing of a paper of this caliber. For young people in the Merchant Marine Academy who are choosing a career of service, it emphasizes a kind balance that is wise to cultivate.

After the ceremony the Academy hosted a buffet luncheon outside near the museum. It was a beautiful day and I socialized with the other presenters. Kings Point has spectacular views of Long Island Sound and New York City and I always enjoy going there.



Search for "Kady Brownell Tent #36 DUVCW" and click the LIKE button!  
*Yes, it's that easy!*

# THE VIVANDIÈRE

Newsletter of Kady Brownell Tent #36

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865

## SECRETARY

Eileen Sleckman, DP  
128 Midland Street  
Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

## DID YOU KNOW...?

**Vivandière** is a French word that means “a woman who formerly followed an army or maintained a store on an army post to sell provisions to the soldiers.” Wikipedia states: “During the American Civil War of 1861-1865, many patriotic women on both sides served as vivandières, though exact numbers are unknown.” Kady Brownell is one of the most celebrated vivandières of her time.

Sources: Dictionary.com and Wikipedia.com



PRESIDENT GRANT'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION BRUNCH:  
K. Wyer Lane, K. Vermaelen and E. Sleckman, DP, at Chez Josephine, NYC, April 26th.



NYDUVCW AT THE SUVCW GRAND BANQUET, May 2nd, at the Saratoga Springs Holiday Inn.

## FOUND ON THE WWW

**127th NY Infantry: "The Monitors"**

<http://www.127thnewyork.com/index.html>

**Building the First Slavery Museum in America**

[http://www.nytimes.com/2015/03/01/magazine/building-the-first-slave-museum-in-america.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/03/01/magazine/building-the-first-slave-museum-in-america.html?_r=1)

**Underground Railroad and Coming War**

<http://blogs.dickinson.edu/hist-288pinsker/2015/02/26/underground-railroad-and-coming-war/>