



THE AUXILIARY VOICE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AUXILIARY TO SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

How amazing it was as National President not only to celebrate our Nation's 250th year, but also to preside over our National Encampment in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Gettysburg is a city rooted in the life histories of many of our ancestors. The town, the battlefields, farms, and roads now take on such serene, beautiful nature, while the cemetery, monuments, buildings, and cannons take on the silent document of carnage, pain and suffering of war. It was through the bravery of those young men who fought, died or were spared to fight another battle that our nation was shaped. The veterans, the Grand Army of the Republic, carefully shaped our Allied Orders. Through our endeavors as members, we strive to carry on the Principles of our Order. What a beautiful opportunity to carry on the traditions in Gettysburg.



Congratulations to the sisters who were elected or appointed as National Officers for the ensuing year. I look forward to working with you throughout the next year. The Order will benefit from the time and effort you provide.

This year we will focus on obtaining the 501c3 status, an effort on which our National Secretary and committee members have been working diligently.

The other challenge is recruiting and retention. Let us show our pride in our Order by inviting like-minded women to join the Auxiliary. To be more inclusive of young families wishing to belong, we recognized that having an age limit prevents full participation of the parent. By the time the child reaches 6, they have already joined other organizations that accept their child's age group and skills. Therefore, we will now accept children from birth until age six as Pre-Juniors so that they may learn from and be nurtured by our members. This will provide us with members with years of learning and skills once they reach the age of full membership.

The parent is solely responsible for the behavior of the child and may be removed when it detracts from the activity. The young will learn proper etiquette and acceptable behavior while growing within the Order. Pre-Juniors will pay no dues, have no voting rights, receive no badges, and be ineligible to hold office.

It was a wonderful experience welcoming three new members on the floor of the encampment. Let us keep this momentum going.

I would like to thank the host committee for allowing the encampment to run smoothly by their due diligence. Your efforts, planning, and behind-the-scenes problem-solving made for a wonderful Encampment. You were a vital part of an outstanding experience.

I cannot express the depth of my gratitude and humble appreciation to the many brothers and sisters who honored me, showered me with thoughtful gifts, friendship, and guidance. I treasure all of you. Without you, we couldn't get it done; for it takes many hands to reach success.

If you wish to have me or a representative from the National Organization attend your activities or meetings, please let me know. I will make an effort to attend or appoint a representative. Please provide the day, time, and location of the event.

An activity that you can do as an individual or group is to visit your ancestor's grave, your Auxiliary's namesake's grave, your husband's Civil War ancestor's grave, or a local Civil War soldier's grave sometime this year. Make a lasting impact by learning more about the individual and then telling that person's story.

Take pictures of the event and remember to wear your badge. Don't forget to share your findings with our news editor.

With gratitude,
Danielle Michaels, PNP
National President



National Vice-President

Dear Sisters,

I would like to thank every one of my Sisters who voted for me to become National Vice-President at the recent National Encampment held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. What a great time was had by all! Please make plans to join us in Franklin, Tennessee for the 2027 Encampment. We have such a fantastic group of ladies within our organization, it is truly wonderful to renew old friendships, make new friends, and honor those no longer with us. In many ways, the National Encampment is like a big family reunion, filled with the love and laughter of Brothers and Sisters reunited once more.

Working together is instrumental. Like most organizations, we can accomplish more together than we could ever hope to do as individuals. As your National Vice President, I am eager to help grow our organization. Talk to your friends, talk to your family, talk to everyone about this fantastic organization that we belong to. Invite them to an event where they can meet your Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers of the Sons. Open the door and welcome them to the family!

I am looking forward to working with our National President Danielle Michaels and all of the Sisters who were elected National Auxiliary officers in this coming year.



If you have any questions or concerns, or just want to chat, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. Email or text is the best way to reach me, but if you leave me a detailed voice mail, I will call you back.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Ann M. McMillin

(717) 462-5871

ammcmillin@gmail.com

Every Member Counts

The 2026 ASUVCW National Five-Year Census

PLEASE RESPOND BY OCTOBER 31, 2026



It is time for the ASUVCW National Five-Year Census—and we need every member to take part. As required by our Constitution, Rules, and Regulations, the National Auxiliary conducts a census every five years to maintain accurate membership records and current contact information.

This census is especially important because it supports plans already underway to improve communication with our members. Accurate email addresses, telephone numbers, mailing addresses, and membership information will help us distribute newsletters and other National information more efficiently while continuing to serve members who prefer traditional mail.

The 2026 census form has been updated to make responding easier and to collect information that will help us maintain more complete membership and historical records.

Choose the option that works best for you

- Complete the census online in the Members Only section of asuvchw.org.
- Download the fillable form, type your information, save it, and email the completed form to asuvchwwebmaster@gmail.com.
- Print and mail the form to Wanda Langdon, 3779 Mantell Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45236.

Deadline: October 31, 2026

The password for the Members Only section is changed each year following the National Encampment for security. If you do not know the current password, please send us a message through the Contact Us page at asuvchw.org.

The Communications and Technology Committee will collect and compile the census information as part of its work to improve the National Auxiliary's technology and communications.

Please do not assume that we already have your current information. Completing the census helps ensure that you remain connected and that our National records accurately reflect the members who carry our mission forward.

Thank you for your participation!

Wanda Langdon, PNP

National Webmaster

Communications and Technology Committee Chair

National Chaplain

Greetings Sisters!

Thank you for electing me to the position of National Chaplain. I am honored to serve and look forward to getting to know each of you better throughout this year. Please let me know if you know of a Sister who is in distress or needs a word of encouragement. If any of our Sisters are serving in the military, please let me know so that we can lift them up in prayer for their safety. And one last request, let us also share our praises so we can rejoice together.

A missionary friend once shared with me:

Burdens shared are divided,
Joys shared are multiplied.

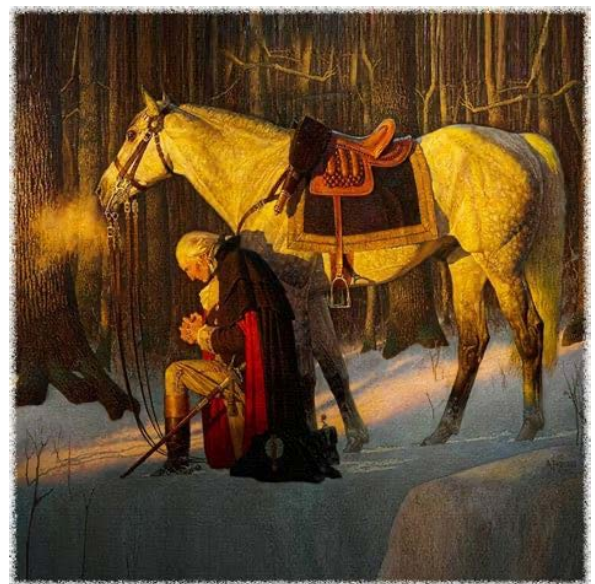
You can reach me at: (chaplain@asuvchw.org) or call/text me at: 770.598.4627. For those Sisters with Facebook, you can always report prayer requests/praises on our “Chaplain’s Corner, ASUVCW” page.

As we continue to celebrate America’s Semiquincentennial year, I’ll close with George Washington’s prayer that is read aloud each day at Mount Vernon’s public wreath-laying ceremony.

The prayer is adapted from Washington’s Circular Letter to the States, which he wrote on June 8, 1783, as commander in chief at his headquarters in Newburgh, New York. This circular was directed to the governors and states of the new nation. His reference to them has been replaced by the words “the United States.” Otherwise, the words and the spellings are those of General George Washington of the Continental Army.

From: <https://www.mountvernon.org/the-estate-gardens/the-tombs/george-washingtons-prayer-for-his-country>

“I now make it my earnest prayer, that God would have the United States in his holy protection, that he would incline the hearts of the Citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to Government, to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow citizens of the United States at large, and particularly for their brethren who have served in the Field, and finally, that he would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all, to do Justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that Charity, humility and pacific temper of mind, which were the Characteristics of the Devine Author of our blessed Religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy Nation. Amen”



NATIONAL SECRETARY

Happy Fall, y'all! Keep flooding my mailbox with new members. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing what our Auxiliaries and Departments are doing.

Election season is upon us. Please do not forget that all installations must be completed by January 31, 2027. Get your forms to your Department Secretaries as soon as possible after that.

AUXILIARIES AT LARGE (and only AUXILIARIES AT LARGE), to save postage this year, I am trying something special just for you. Please submit the following by April 1, 2027:

AO1 installation report

AO2 annual report with the check for your per capita tax

An up-to-date roster

If you get new members between now and then, feel free to send in your paperwork as needed. If you have any questions you can always contact me.

All Department paperwork remains the same. Please be reminded that, as passed at the National Encampment, DO2, which is your annual report filing, is due April 15, and the late-fee date was moved up to April 30. These changes are already on the forms on the website.

Nancy Hilton, PNP
National Secretary

NATIONAL SUPPLY OFFICER

A special thank you to all Sisters and Brothers who shopped our supply table at the recent National Encampment. For those of you who ordered and paid for jackets, they are being embroidered at this time and will be delivered in Gettysburg during Remembrance Day weekend in November. Christmas is just around the corner, so why not remember your spouse, sweetheart, daughter, friend, or yourself with one of our jackets or vests? New orders for embroidered pieces must be ordered and paid for by October 1st to be included in free delivery to Gettysburg.

I am also hoping to begin offering a jewelry line for your shopping pleasure. Keep your fingers crossed.

Any other orders for paperwork, badges, ribbons, etc., placed before November 1st will be delivered to Gettysburg with free shipping.

Jane Graham, PNP
National Supply Officer

National Patriotic Instructor

Patriotism.

What is it?

Webster's says it is "a love for or devotion to one's country."

Most of us celebrate Independence Day, fly a flag, and sing the national anthem before an athletic event. Being in Texas during the World Cup Soccer Games this year, I heard that a lot of visitors were amazed that Americans really DID all that. But we take it for granted. We don't give our patriotism much thought.

If you ask a veteran or a Gold Star mother you might get another definition of patriotism. Few of us go so far as to give our lives for our country.

I'm going to give you a challenge. Think about your patriotism every day. Consider what benefits you receive by being a citizen. I'm not asking you to be political and support a particular party, but find something about your country to be proud of.

Coleen Swafford, PAP
National Patriotic Instructor



National Press Correspondent

It's Fall, Y'all! While the lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer are behind us, our Auxiliaries have been anything but idle. As our nation celebrates its historic 250th anniversary throughout 2026, did your Auxiliary or Department host or participate in special events honoring the founders and defenders of our great republic?

I want to hear about it—and share your achievements with both our membership and the public! Auxiliary and Department Press Correspondents, please check in with your sisters:

- Has a member been recognized for going above and beyond?
- Did someone earn accolades for community or professional service?
- Did your Auxiliary organize an outstanding fundraiser or commemorative program?

Write up a summary, include high-resolution photos with captions, and send them in!



Sharing our work ensures our communities understand our mission, values, and ongoing dedication to the memory of our Union ancestors. In addition to submitting articles, you can spread awareness by downloading the new National ASUVCW brochure from asuvchw.org, placing printed copies in local libraries and historical societies, and sharing them with other heritage groups.

At the National Encampment in Gettysburg, I was honored to accept reappointment as your National Press Correspondent. Looking forward, I have asked that our position description be reviewed by the National Special Committee on Job Descriptions so we can modernize our public relations strategies and embrace modern digital outreach. With your stories, news, and photos, we can ensure the ASUVCW shines brightly in communities nationwide.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Barbara Lynch
National Press Correspondent

Wreaths Across America



SAVE *the* DATE

for National Wreaths Across America Day
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2026



TN ASUVCW Joseph H. Rider #62

Keeping with America's Semiquincentennial, our goal this year is to place 1,776 wreaths here at Shiloh National Military Park Cemetery, Shiloh, TN.



Eliza Hudnall #13

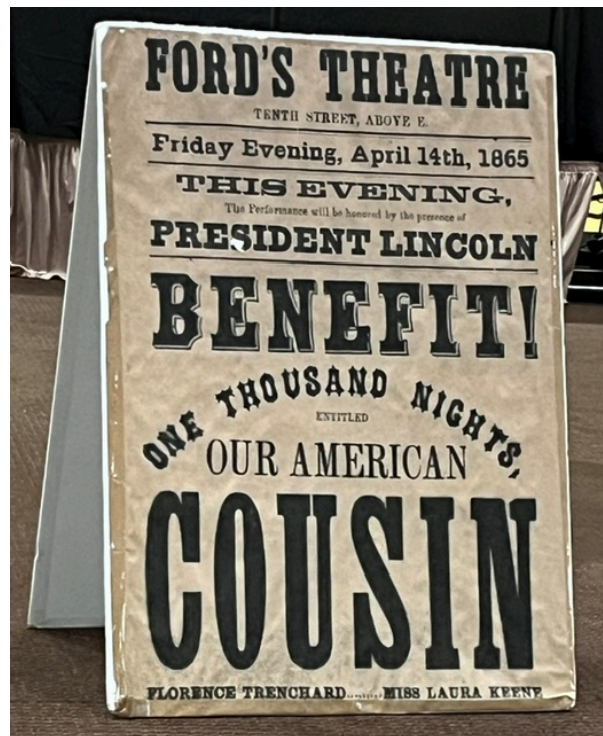
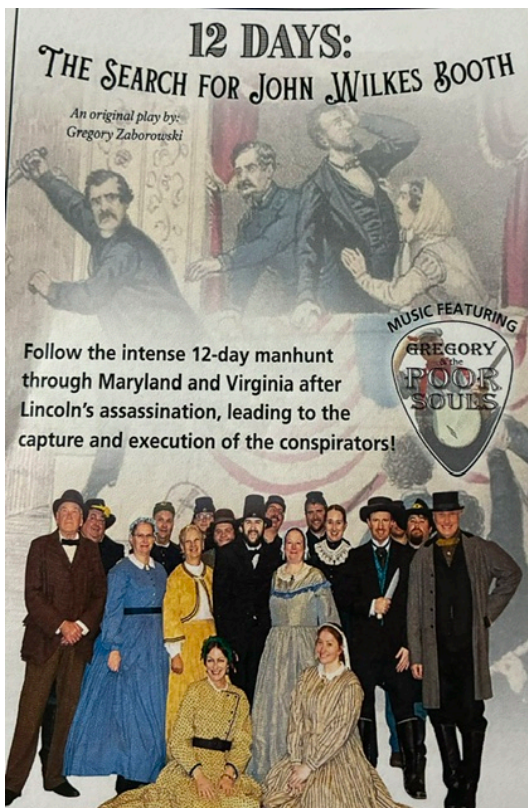
Members of Florida Auxiliary #13 attended the 145th Sons of Union Veterans National Encampment in Gettysburg. They also participated in the National Auxiliary Meeting held at the same event. A wonderful time was had by all.

The highlight of the event was a play presented by Pennsylvania titled "12 Days: The Search for John Wilkes Booth." This was an outstanding presentation by all who participated. At the closing-night banquet, all joined in singing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Congratulations to our newly reelected President, Danielle Michaels. We wish you a successful new year.

Auxiliary #13 members pictured were: Ellen Higgins, Diane Mellor, Rebekah Thomas, and Sandy Vogelpohl.

Sandy Vogelpohl,
Chaplain, Eliza Hudnall #13



Louisa Volker #215 Auxiliary in Missouri



**A special Memorial Day Service
conducting the GAR 1897 Memorial Day**



**Auxiliary Members, Twyla & Abigail Warren,
join brothers from the Department of
Missouri SUVCW to attend the Last Real Son
of a Union Veteran (William Pool) funeral in
Bolivar, Missouri - June 2026**



**Volker Auxiliary Members assisted their brothers in the
Fletcher Camp #47 (volunteering for the National Park
Service) with a special living history at U.S. Grant's
actual cabin (Hardscrabble) at Grant's Farm in St. Louis,
Missouri - September 2026**



Volker Auxiliary Members assisted their brothers in the Fletcher Camp #47 with a history timeline for a special 4th of July Parade (honoring the nation's 250 by representing Colonial era - World War II) - July 2026



Volker Auxiliary Members joined the Department of Missouri SUVCW and sisters from the Julia Dent Grant Tent of the DUVCW at the annual U.S. Grant Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Volker Auxiliary Members assisted their brothers in the Fletcher Camp #47 (volunteering for the National Park Service) with a special living history at U.S. Grant's actual cabin (Hardscrabble) at

WE ARE PRE-SELLING T-SHIRTS FOR 2027!

You can order them for pickup at Remembrance Day or 2027 National Encampment!

<https://suvcw2027natlencampment.square.site/>

Please consider helping us avoid credit card fees by clicking the "Cover Credit Card Fees" checkbox when you order!

The 146th Allied Orders National Encampment

August 12 – August 15, 2027, Franklin, TN

Encampment Hotel: [Franklin Marriott Cool Springs](#)
Reservations will open after the first of the year.



Department of the Chesapeake

National Encampment Pre-Game 2026

On June 19, 2026, in Clarksville, Maryland, Department of the Chesapeake Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Brother and Past Department Commander (PDC) Faron Taylor and Department of the Chesapeake Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (ASUVCW) Sister and Council Member Holly Taylor held a “National Encampment Pre-Game.” The event was attended by a nice-sized gathering of ASUVCW Department of the Chesapeake Sisters and SUVCW Department of the Chesapeake Brothers. The purpose of this gathering was to strengthen fraternity and prepare for the 2026 National Encampment, to be held July 30-August 2, 2026, in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The fellowship and pre-game camaraderie were accompanied by a bounty of pork barbecue, coleslaw, baked beans, cornbread, and a delicious chocolate sheet cake. It was a resounding success!



Left to right: ASUVCW Past National President Rosemary Martin, ASUVCW Department of the Chesapeake Secretary/Treasurer Dani Vance, SUVCW Antietam Camp Commander Larry Vance, ASUVCW Past Department of the Chesapeake President Barbara Day, Larry Slagle, SUVCW PDC Brian Horgan, and SUVCW PDC Clay Matthews



Many of the attendees at the Department of the Chesapeake Pre-Game Event



SUVCW Department of the Chesapeake Commander Eric Atkisson, SUVCW PDC Faron Taylor, and ASUVCW Department of the Chesapeake Council Member Holly Taylor

Photo Credits: Kevin Martin and Rosemary Martin

TN ASUVCW Joseph H. Rider Auxiliary-at-Large #62



(Left to right) Cheryl Boley, Council #2; Sue Wright, Secretary; Julie Huttick, Counselor/Treasurer/ Membership Sec.; Marsha Fetty-Huffman, President; Lorrie Moore, Chaplain; and Tammie McCarroll-Burroughs, Vice President

The Sisters from TN ASUVCW Joseph H. Rider Auxiliary-at-Large #62 attended the 2026 National Encampment in Gettysburg in preparation for next year and cordially invite you to join them in Nashville for the 2027 National Encampment.



A huge thank-you goes out to all Sisters, Auxiliaries, and Departments that became Charter Members of the YELLOW RIBBON SOCIETY. It was so great to see so many in attendance at our National Encampment. Let's hope that we can have an even bigger turnout in Tennessee.

To those Sisters who were given shawls to pass on to someone in need: I hope you have done so and will be willing to share the story of where the shawls went.

And as 2027 approaches, it is time to renew your \$15.00 membership. It will be interesting to see who the next group of Sisters will be to "pass on something" different.

- Renewal is \$15.00 per Sister
- \$20.00 per Auxiliary
- \$25.00 per Department

All funds support the work of our National Organization. We need your help.

Jane Graham, PNP
Yellow Ribbon Society Chair

New Brochure

We Are Dedicated To...

- † Preserving history
- † Promoting ideals of patriotism for ourselves and our descendants
- † Sharing a love of our ancestors and relatives who gave to their country, especially during the Civil War



We strive to assist the Sons of Union Veterans in keeping alive the memories of our ancestors and their sacrifices for the maintenance of the Union; to aid in caring for helpless and disabled Veterans; to properly observe Memorial Day. We continue their work to educate future generations in history and patriotism.



Honoring Our Heritage




For Further Information...

Visit our website at
asuvcw.org/asuvcw.org



Auxiliary to
Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War



An Allied Order of the
Grand Army of the
Republic



Thanks to our Auxiliary Brochure Committee, a new modern brochure was unveiled at the National Encampment. Visit our website to view it. You will find it under "About Us". Click on it to view and click on it twice to download. Remember to abide by the Auxiliary requirements; the brochure is to be copied in color and on glossy or semigloss paper. To look professional, it is not to be copied in black and white. It is readily available for your use.

