



THE AUXILIARY VOICE

*Official Newsletter of the
Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

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Winter 2020

FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT —



The holidays, with all their hectic activities, are now behind us, and a new year and a new decade is upon us. I hope each of you had a blessed and joyous holiday season and hope this year brings new blessings to you.

It has been a very busy few months. In September, I attended a Constitution Day luncheon hosted by the Sons of American Revolution (SAR), who invited many of the other hereditary groups in the area. There is a lot of collaboration and collective events taking place in our area. I also attended the annual ceremony to honor Gen. William H. Lytle, who was killed at the Battle of Chickamauga. October brought a trip to a District Ohio Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War (DUVCW) meeting, which was also attended by the National President of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR), which facilitated relationship-building among our groups.

November brought the annual Remembrance Day weekend activities in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. All the Allied Orders were in attendance and it was my honor to place a wreath at the Albert Woolson monument.

December 7th is, of course, a “date which will live in infamy” and I had the great honor of placing a wreath at the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day event in Phoenix, Arizona. The National Presidents of the DUVCW and the Woman’s Relief Corps (WRC) also took part in the ceremony and we were all deeply moved by the event. I will share more details of this event in a separate article.

December also brought the annual Wreaths Across America service. My husband and I were honored to serve as the location coordinators for the service at the historic Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati, Ohio. The event took place in the Civil War section where 999 Civil War veterans are buried. This was another joint event with many groups participating to place wreaths and honor our veterans.

Now that the new year has arrived, it is time to plan seasonal events as well as Department Encampments. I will be traveling to Maryland this month to institute the new Sgt. James H. Harris Auxiliary No. 38, Department of the Chesapeake. So far, I have information on Department Encampments for Wisconsin, Michigan, Chesapeake, and California & Pacific. Please get your information to me and my Personal Aide as soon as possible since my calendar is filling up quickly.

Sisters, as you plan your events to Honor, Serve and Celebrate, I ask that you focus and think strategically about a push for membership. We need to grow our numbers to accomplish our mission. The best recruitment tool I have found is a very simple one – a personal invitation. Invite everyone you meet to come to an event, a meeting, or take them to lunch and tell them how excited you are about our group. Then share your successes with all of us.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Wanda Langdon, ASUVCW National President

Meet the National Chief of Staff

Rebekah Thomas is a devoted mother of two spectacular children and “Gamma Bekah” to five adorable grandchildren, ranging in age from 6 to 25. She is a lover of history, especially American history, with a focus on the Revolutionary War and Civil War. Besides working full-time, Rebekah is involved in many organizations, including President of Ivy Stiers Auxiliary No. 23, ASUVCW, Vice President of the ASUVCW’s Department of California and Pacific, docent for the Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery, and Vice-President of The Saturday Afternoon Club (the oldest continuous ladies’ club in America). She is currently finishing her application to join the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).



Meet National Council #2



Beverly “Bev” Graham lives in San José, California and has been married to her husband Tom for 55 years. Tom is Past Commander of Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 and Past Commander of the Department of California and Pacific, SUVCW. Bev is currently President of Dr. Mary E. Walker Auxiliary No. 52, Past President of the Department of California and Pacific. Bev and Tom have two children: Sheri, who lives in Santa Clara, California, and Michael (wife Tina) and two grandchildren, who live in Springfield, Missouri. Bev was a Girl Scout Troop Leader for 45 years. In addition, she served on Girl Scouts of Santa Clara County Board of Directors for 15 years and served on numerous Council committees. Bev’s passions are traveling with her RV, reading, and visiting with the grandkids.

National President’s Schedule

Department Encampments and other events are fast approaching. If you wish to invite the National President to any of these events, please do so as early as possible. While she cannot attend every event to which she is invited, the National President would like to attend as many as possible, or designate another officer as her representative. Please contact National President Wanda Langdon at president@asuvcw.org or 513-505-6871 and copy her Personal Aide, Judy Brown, at personalaide@asuvcw.org or 513-370-8984.

General Orders, Series 2019-2020 As issued by National President Wanda Langdon

General Order No. 3 – National Treasurer

In accordance with the ruling of a hearing council, Sister Mary Flynn is removed from the office of National Treasurer, with Sister Amy Miller to fill the vacancy until the National Encampment.

Special General Order No. 1 – Passing of PCinC Richard Partington

Acknowledges the passing of Past Commander-in-Chief Rev. Richard O. Partington, Sr. on December 8, 2019.

Full text of General Orders may be found online at: <http://asuvcw.org/general-orders/>



Our Future — Junior Members!

On December 14, 2019, Abigail "Abbie" Warren was inducted into the Louisa Volker Auxiliary No. 215 in Missouri as a Junior Member on her sixth birthday. She has Union ancestors through both her maternal side (blacksmith Benjamin Davis, 16th Pennsylvania Cavalry) and her paternal side (Pvt. William S. Reed, 25th Missouri Infantry and 1st Missouri Engineers). Abbie has been participating in Civil War history

events since she was two months of age and is very knowledgeable about children's roles and toys during that time period. She is the daughter of proud parents Twyla D. Johnson Warren (Auxiliary No. 215 President and founder) and D. Christopher Warren, PDC (Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp No. 47).



Our Future — New Auxiliaries!



Congratulations and welcome to the new Sgt. James Harris Auxiliary No. 38 Department of the Chesapeake! National President Wanda Langdon initiated the Auxiliary and Department President Rosemary Martin installed the officers. Charter members include Jennifer St. Thomas (President), Bethany St. Thomas (Vice President), Nancy Agarwal (Council), Connie Uy (Council), Emma Weltz (Secretary), Ginger Franklin (Treasurer), Branda St. Thomas (Patriotic Instructor), Abigail Kelley, Juli McKoy (Guide), Dr. Stephanie Kelley (Color Guard), and Kimberly Mumper (Guard).

National Chaplain's Corner

Thank you to the ASUVCW for electing me as National Chaplain. I promise to keep the "Chaplain's Corner" Facebook page up to date. If you know of any sisters or brothers in distress or in need of prayers, please let me know. Send any prayer requests to me via email at chaplain@asuvcw.org, or call or text me at 262-994-4199. Requests will be posted to the "Chaplain's Corner" Facebook page as well as published in *The Voice*.

Psalm 46:1-3 — *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its water roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.*

Deuteronomy 31:8 — *It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you for forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.*

Prayer Requests

- PNP Nancy Hilton of Ohio who is in rehab for her injuries suffered in a trip to Vietnam.
- PDC Brian McManus of Wisconsin whose wife Laura passed.
- PNP Diane Mellor and PCinC Perley Mellor of Florida for loss of Perley's Cousin Don Mellor.
- PNP Margaret Atkinson of Pennsylvania whom has been having some health issues.
- PNP Mary Jo Long of Pennsylvania who lost her husband, a Marine Corps veteran that served during Vietnam.
- PCinC Rev. Richard O. Partington of Pennsylvania, who passed away December 8, 2019. He was Commander-in-Chief in 1987-1988. Please pray for his family.
- PCinC Dave Medart of Ohio who suffered a heart attack.
- PNP Denise Oman of Wisconsin who lost her father-in-law.
- National President Wanda Langdon of Ohio who had knee and meniscus surgery.
- National Chaplain Emeritus Jerome Kowalski of Illinois who has had health issues with his heart and intestinal system. Please keep Jerry's wife Jo Ellen in your thoughts and prayers as Jerry goes through these trying times.
- Commander William Cole who is having issues with his replacement heart valve. Please keep his wife Judy in your prayers as it is a trying time for her with her husband sick.



Rev. Isaac Groot Duryee (1810-1866)
Chaplain of the 81st New York Infantry

Stuffing the Purses



Left to right: Cheri Canama, Lynda Doran, Viola Loder-Smithcors, Patty Wilhelm

Sisters of Cornelia Hancock Auxiliary No. 10, Department of New Jersey “Stuffed the Purses”. At our last meeting, Sisters brought gently used purses and placed items in the purses. Items included tissues, combs, hand cream, pens, notepads, and hand sanitizer. After the meeting, the stuffed purses were delivered to the Volunteers of America’s Eleanor Corbett House in Glassboro, New Jersey. The 54-bed facility provides emergency housing for single women and their families. Daily meals, case management, workshops, tutoring, special events, transportation, and supportive services are provided to residents. The volunteers at the home were thrilled to receive the stuffed purses for the residents. The Auxiliary was glad to be able to brighten the day of women who are struggling. Fantastic job ladies!

Wine Country Activities


The Sisters of the Ivy Stiers Auxiliary No. 23, Department of California and Pacific continue to represent the order in the Wine Country region of California.



 Left to right:

Rebekah Thomas, Ann Schleeter, Amelie Brown, Colleen and Roger Vincent (aka Mary Todd and President Abraham Lincoln), Cindy Eddy and Paige Mitchell at Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery to hear President Lincoln give the Gettysburg Address on November 17, 2019.



Front row, left to right: Olivia Scott and Penelope Scott (Junior Members – paperwork on the way). *Back row, left to right:* Cindy Eddy, Amelie Brown and Rebekah Thomas at the Petaluma Veterans Day Parade on November 11, 2019. Following the Auxiliary, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - Camp Ellsworth. 

ALLIED ORDERS OF ARIZONA REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR DECEMBER 7, 1941 - "A DATE WHICH WILL LIVE IN INFAMY..."

All five of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic came together at Wesley Bolin Plaza in Phoenix, Arizona to pay tribute to those who lost their lives in the attack at Pearl Harbor 78 years ago.

The beautiful Plaza features an anchor from the USS *Arizona* and two-gun barrels resting side by side, one from the USS *Arizona* and the other from the USS *Missouri*, symbolically representing the beginning of the US involvement in World War II at Pearl Harbor and the ship where it all ended with the signing of the Japanese surrender in Tokyo Bay. The gun barrels are 405 inches apart, with each inch representing 1,000 American lives lost in World War II. Between the gun barrels are nine blue steel pillars that represent the nine minutes it took the USS *Arizona* to sink.



Each year, Phoenix holds the largest Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony outside of Hawaii and this year was no exception. The ceremony began with the 108th Army Band, POW/MIA Honor Guard, the New Caledonia Marching Band and a flyover by a rare B-17 heavy bomber, the *Sentimental Journey*. It was an honor to have Richard Fuller, one of the three remaining of the 355 Pearl Harbor survivors from the USS *Arizona*, on hand who spoke about the importance of family.

It was a glorious show of unity by the Allied

Orders. National President Wanda Langdon presented a wreath a behalf of the ASUVCW, and was escorted by her husband, Kerry Langdon, Past Commander of the Department of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). Also in attendance were Jessica Booth, National President of the Woman's Relief Corps (WRC); Sandra Millin, National President of the Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865 (DUVCW); Ellen Higgins, WRC National Chaplain; Jerry Bloom, Jr., Commander of the Department of the Southwest, SUVCW; Ayla Booth, President of the WRC's Junior



Corps; officers and members of the Margaret Warner Wood Tent No. 1, DUVCW; Picacho Peak Auxiliary No. 1; Susie King Taylor WRC No. 4; Lew Wallace Circle No. 77, Ladies

of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR), Picacho Peak Camp No. 1, SUVCW; and Grant Camp No. 3, SUVCW.

Eighty-three organizations laid wreaths around the anchor of the USS *Arizona*. The Allied Orders presented nine of the wreaths and was the largest group at the ceremony.



REMEMBRANCE DAY GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The 63rd Annual Remembrance Day Parade and associated ceremonies took place on November 23, 2019.

The events marked the 156th anniversary of Lincoln's *Gettysburg Address* at the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery.

Above, all five national heads of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic were present.

At right, ASUVCW National President Wanda Langdon presents a wreath in honor the Grand Army of the Republic, escorted by Brothers Henry Shaw and Don Darby.



National Encampment

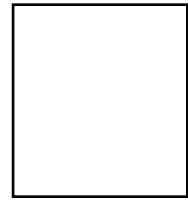
It's not too early to begin planning for the upcoming National Encampment!

When: August 13-16, 2020

**Where: Atlanta Marriot Buckhead Hotel and Convention Center
3405 Lenox Road North East, Atlanta, GA 30326**

More information will be posted online as it becomes available. Visit the following link:
http://www.suvcw.org/?page_id=2791

**Auxiliary to Sons of Union
Veterans of the Civil War**
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We're on the Web!

www.asuvcw.org

**Also check us
out on Facebook!**

www.facebook.com/ASUVCWNational

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War can be obtained through eligibility in several ways:

1. Women who are lineal or collateral descendants, of soldiers, sailors or marines regularly mustered and honorably discharged from the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States of America during the War of the Rebellion 1861-1865. Daughter, granddaughter, great-granddaughter, niece, grandniece, etc., & legally adopted daughters qualify.
2. Mothers, wives, widows, daughters & legally adopted daughters of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in good standing. (Not Associates)
3. Associate Memberships: Available to women who do not qualify through heredity, #1 & #2 above, who demonstrate a genuine interest in the Civil War and can subscribe to the purpose and objects of the Auxiliary. An Associate may vote and hold any office except that of National Vice-President and National President. Associates may not exceed one-third of the total membership of the Auxiliary at the time of election.
4. Junior Membership: For young ladies of not less than six (6) years of age.

For a membership application, please visit:

www.asuvcw.org/mem.htm