

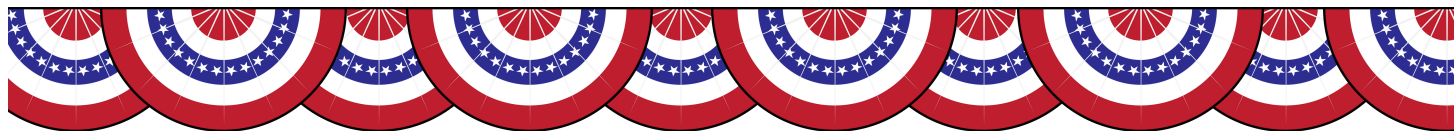
THE BUGLE CALL

Series 2025-2026

Doylestown, OH

Fall 2025-2026

NO. 1



Meet our National President:

Janice Stevenson proudly serves as the National President of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR), carrying forward a meaningful family legacy. She joined LGAR under the eligibility of her great-great uncle, Mathias E. DeLong, a dedicated soldier who bravely served in both the 51st Ohio Volunteer Infantry and the 11th Ohio Cavalry during the Civil War. Choosing to honor Mathias—who left no wife or children to carry on his memory—Janice embraced the mission of preserving the sacrifices of those who came before us.



Her journey with LGAR is marked by a deep and sustained commitment, having served in numerous circle-level offices including Circle President and National Patriotic Instructor. She also held the vital role of National Treasurer for seven years, demonstrating her dedication to the organization's growth and stewardship.

Beyond LGAR, Janice contributes her time and passion to the preservation of history as a board member of a National Historic Landmark. She is also an active volunteer at the Serving Area Military Center in Ohio, supporting service members and their families. Janice's personal life reflects her strong military ties—she is the proud wife of an Army veteran and a Blue Star Mom, with her son currently serving in the United States Army.

In her leisure, Janice enjoys genealogy and living history, pursuits that deepen her appreciation for the stories and heritage that connect us across generations. Under her leadership, LGAR will continue to thrive in honoring the legacy of Civil War veterans and inspiring new generations to remember and respect their contributions.



AMERICA250: CELEBRATING THE SEMI-QUINCENTENNIAL

The America250 Committee has kicked off the beginning of the celebrations with the announcement of new initiatives for our organization to strive for in the coming anniversary year! Be sure to check the website and social media for updates and news regarding this special time!

- **America Gives:** Promotes the culture of service in America, encouraging charitable giving, public service, community volunteering, and military support.
- **America Waves:** Encourages flag-related education and engagement, uniting Americans in the display and celebration of our national symbol—the Stars and Stripes.
- **250 Acts of Service:** A national initiative asking members to collectively complete 250 acts or hours of service to report to Congress in 2026.
- **Time Capsule Project:** Will preserve LGAR history and perspectives for future generations in a national time capsule to be opened at a future milestone.
- **Independence Day Ceremony:** Planning is underway for a meaningful and patriotic July 4, 2026, celebration to mark this historic event.
- **National Headquarters & Museum Exhibit:** A special Civil War exhibit will honor the contributions of Union

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NATIONAL OFFICERS 2025-2026**President****Janice Stevenson**1024 Irvington Ave
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ZBOctagonHouse@aol.com**Bugle Call Editor****Madeline Rock**353 High St.
Doylestown, OH 44230
madeline.rock@aol.com**BUGLE CALL SUBMISSION DEADLINES:**

September 15, 2025

April 15, 2026

Submissions should be sent
via email to the Bugle Call
Editor

January 15, 2026

July 1, 2026

***NATIONAL PROJECT:
PETS FOR VETS***

This year we took in \$722 to donate to
Pets for Vets! We are going strong and
the plans are to continue to support
this organization as our National
Project!

**AMERICA250: CELEBRATING
THE SEMI-QUINCENTENNIAL**

veterans to the American story as part of the broader national celebration.

- **Informative Flag Pamphlet:** Designed for youth and school outreach, these pamphlets teach flag history, etiquette, and meaning, fostering patriotism in the next generation.
- **Student Essay and Art Contest:** Launched to engage students nationwide in reflecting on what 250 years of American history means to them. The winner will receive a special invitation to our National ceremony on July 4, 2026.
- **America 250 Countdown Widget:** Now live on our website to generate excitement and awareness leading up to the celebration.

GENERAL ORDERS

National Headquarters
Ladies of the Grand
Army of the Republic
Janice Stevenson
1024 Irvington Ave NE
Massillon, OH 44646
ladymarian1938@hotmail.com



General Orders No. 1 2025-2026:

1. I extend my heartfelt thanks for the honor of being elected to serve as National President of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Inc. I pledge my dedication to the work and mission of our Order.
2. The Bugle Call Newsletter will be printed and mailed for the first and third issues of the year. An electronic edition will be sent for the Second issue, with an additional bonus issue. All Bugle Calls will also be available on the National Website.
3. Members are reminded to review and be familiar with the Ritual and Bylaws to ensure proper conduct of our Order's work.
4. Exciting changes are planned for our social media presence and the National website. Watch for these updates and take advantage of these resources to promote LGAR.
5. The America 250 initiative is well underway. Members are urged to use the America 250 logo, participate in National projects, view our video, and share activities within your Circles that commemorate this historic anniversary.

6. A new media kit is available on the National website. Circles and Departments are encouraged to make use of these materials for events, publicity and outreach.
7. Appreciation is extended to Lookout Circle, MN for hosting the 2025 National Convention. Please note the National business meeting will be held on Saturday going forward, and mark your calendars now for August 7-9, 2026 to be in Bedford, PA.
8. All members are urged to work diligently toward increasing our membership. Invite eligible women to join and help preserve the legacy of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Travel Log:

I am beginning this year's journey by honoring those who have gone before us. During my very first week as National President, I attended an end of WWII commemoration and wreath-laying ceremony at the Western Reserve National Cemetery. While there, I also placed flowers at the grave of my father, a proud Korean War veteran, to whom I dedicate this year of service. I have also traveled out of state to represent LGAR at a Civil War reenactment, connecting with fellow historians and honoring the memory of the Union veterans we serve to remember. As the months unfold, my travels may bring me to your area and I look forward to reaching out in advance to coordinate visitations, share in fellowship, and further the mission of our beloved Order.



William Boone Keith Circle No. 3 places Its First Flag Retirement Bin

Suzanne West-Ybarra

The Las Vegas LGAR William Boone Keith Circle No. 3 is proud to announce the placement of a U.S. flag retirement bin in the North Las Vegas VA Medical Center. The bin was placed on Friday, April 18, 2025, at the east entrance. The placement of this bin provides a respectful way to retire worn and tattered American flags. The flags are collected by the Circle on a regular basis and are then transported to the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City throughout the year to be properly disposed of according to protocol. The Ladies of Circle No. 3 would like to recognize our sister, Tina Bates, for all her efforts in organizing the flag bin placement. She saw a need and found a way that our Circle could uphold the tradition of retiring our country's flag with dignity and care. The following members were present for the installation of the bin: Tina Bates, Treasurer and Historian; Julia Fontenot, member; Suzanne West-Ybarra, Chaplain; Helen Carlson, member; (*cont. page 5*)



National Convention 2025

This year's National Convention was held at the historic Fort Snelling, Minnesota, bringing together members from across the country for a weekend of fellowship, business, and remembrance.

Thursday opened with the Advisory Council meeting, where leadership gathered to address organizational matters and prepare for the days ahead. Registration followed, allowing members to reconnect and welcome those attending their first National Convention.

Friday was dedicated to a full day of business meetings, where reports were shared, motions discussed, and plans for the future put into place. During the Floral Drill, \$117 was raised, and it was voted that these funds be directed toward the Headquarters and Museum for the preservation of a historic banner—ensuring our treasured artifacts continue to be protected for generations to come. The evening banquet was a highlight of the weekend, featuring a wonderful speaker who inspired and uplifted attendees while honoring the mission of our Order.

Saturday brought the Closing Advisory Council meeting, followed by our solemn Memorial Service. Together, we reflected on and honored the memory of those Sisters who have gone before us, reaffirming our commitment to the principles of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the members and volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this year's National Convention a success, as well as to all who attended in person to contribute to the business and spirit of the LGAR.



LGAR Poetry Books – Back in Stock!

Our treasured historic verses have been gathered into a special commemorative volume, now available for \$10 plus \$2 shipping.

**To order, contact Historian Lynne Bury at:
10095 Wadsworth Rd., Marshallville, OH 44645
Phone: 330-855-4251**

Payments should be made payable to "LGAR Historian's Fund."

Proceeds from the sale of these books help support the publishing of the complete history of our Organization.

A Memorial Service of One

After the recent convention in Minneapolis, I explored some sites in the Twin Cities area. I was eager to see the memorial urn placed by the Minnesota Department of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic in 1965 in the GAR soldiers' section of Longwood Cemetery in Minneapolis. I didn't feel I could go empty-handed, so I purchased some flowers before arriving. I stood alone in front of the urn, LGAR badge pinned to my blouse, read the American Creed and Articles of Faith, placed the flowers at the urn, thanked the ladies and the veterans for their service, then played Taps from my phone.

I then walked through the soldiers' circle and read the names on the stones. I jotted down a few names to honor them here: Pvt. William H. Blizzard, Co. K, 198th PA of Philadelphia; Corp. William Bowman Thompson, Pennsylvania 5th Veteran Volunteers. His obituary states the funeral was held "under the auspices of the GAR". Sgt. Calvin McClurg, Co. F, 191st PA from Dauphin County; William Day, Co. I, 193rd PA was born in Pittsburgh, and the funeral was conducted from his home by the James Bryant GAR post. Lastly, I'd like to recognize Pvt. Thomas C. Brackett, Co. A. 85th New York Infantry. He was one of our "Civil War Plymouth Pilgrims" serving at Plymouth, NC, alongside the 101st and 103rd Pennsylvania.

Unfortunately, due to the timing, weather, and flight schedules, my Rice Circle sisters, Tess, Carole, and Gayle, were unable to attend my impromptu memorial service, although I know they dearly wanted to pay their respects. So, ladies, honor the sisters who have gone before us, even if it's just you, as a memorial service of one. I'm sure the ones gone before us appreciated it.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Debra Miller, National Secretary



Frank Daggett Garage Sale Fundraising

The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic Frank Daggett Circle 105 Department of Minnesota held a fundraiser Garage Sale August 21 to 23, 2025. This free will donation sale was huge with over 40 10-foot tables plus an additional classroom with just kitchen ware. There was everything from afghans to toilet seats. These items were generously donated by local citizens. It was held at the Litchfield Minnesota National Guard Armory, Company B 334th Engineer Battalion, who did not charge for use of the building and even helped set up tables. The sale generated over \$3,500 for veterans causes plus \$166 for Pets For Vets. The remaining items were donated to non profit organization: The Housing Project which helps the homeless move into apartments, two local nonprofit thrift stores that benefit the disabled and the general public including veterans, Hawk creek Animal Shelter, and Goodwill. A fantastic crew of 9 volunteers who were not LGAR affiliated helped.

From Left to right in photo: The Daggett Circle 105 ladies participating were Bev Walker, Connie Lies, Diane Bragg, and Arlene Howanski. Not pictured was Rose Mortimer.

Submitted by Connie Lies
President Frank Daggett Circle 105.



(cont. from pg 4) Wendy Cummings, Registrar and Lois Collins, President. Any Circles that are interested in obtaining more information on the flag bin, you may contact Tina Bates at jaker6344@gmail.com



FROM OUR MEDIA RELATIONS CHAIR:

As we continue to strengthen our presence and share the mission of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic with the world, the way we present ourselves—both in person and online—matters more than ever. We are currently rebranding and working toward a cohesive design suite across our social media, the Bugle Call, our website, and other outreach efforts.

To help us achieve this goal, please follow these guidelines when submitting photos and information:

1. **High-Quality Photos** – Images should be clear, well-lit, and ideally sent via email in their original size.
2. **LGAR-Related Content Only** – Please send photos from LGAR events or from events where you officially represented LGAR.
3. **Professional Captions** – Include a brief, well-written caption for each photo that explains the event, identifies individuals when possible, and maintains a professional tone.
4. **Professional Appearance** – When representing LGAR, remember that our audience extends worldwide.

Your cooperation ensures that every post, article, and publication reflects the dignity, history, and mission of LGAR. Together, we can maintain an image that is both admirable and professional, while inspiring others to join our cause.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us tell the story of LGAR with pride.

Thank you! In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
PNP Madeline Rock



Coming Soon – Guard the Flag
We are excited to announce the upcoming release of Guard the Flag, a newly published history of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. This important work preserves and shares our story, honoring the women who have carried forward the principles of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty for generations. Stay tuned for details and updates on the progress of this project!

WORD FROM HEADQUARTERS

Our National Museum is preparing to welcome guests during Medina County's Fall Foliage Tour, October 11–12 from 12–5 p.m. Visitors will enjoy a full Civil War Living History experience, including presentations on the U.S. Sanitary Commission, the story of local soldier George Metcalf at Gettysburg, an authentic ladies' millinery shop, a recruitment booth for a Civil War honor guard, a guest speaker on Underground Railroad quilts, several living historians and more. The museum will also remain open on select Sundays through year's end, as well as by appointment.

NEW MEMBER SUPPLY KIT

Show your pride in the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic with our New Member Kit—complete with Ritual, Bylaws, an exclusive LGAR charm, and a bumper sticker to share your support everywhere you go. All this, with insured shipping, for just \$42.

✦ New! LGAR Badge ✦

Add to your collection with our beautiful LGAR badge—a symbol of honor and sisterhood—available now for \$50 plus \$9.25 shipping.

MOTIONS PASSED AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

Bylaws will now be on the website.

Bugle Calls: the fall & spring issue will be printed & the middle issue over winter plus a bonus issue will be emailed electronically

National Convention 2027 location will be Ohio

National Convention day of meetings will be Saturdays instead of Friday, to be ongoing for the foreseeable future.

National Headquarters & Museum begins goal of forming it's own 501C3.

Per Capita to increase by \$4 per person making the total Per Capita \$20 per person.

Want to see your article in the Bugle Call?
Email articles and/or photos to the National
Bugle Call Editor, PNP Madeline Rock
madeline.rock@aol.com

**WE NEED
YOUR EMAIL**

**This issue, and the Spring
issue will be the ONLY
MAILED issues. The
Winter issue, plus a bonus,
will now be emailed to
members. Please make sure
that National has a good
email for you!**


**Adopt
the Museum!**

**Wondering what you can do to
support our Headquarters?**

**Your Circle or Department can now
'Adopt the Museum' for a month to
assist with rental costs!**

*Send in \$125 to cover 1 month, and in
return get a shoutout on our Social
Media/Bugle Call! You can send in the
history of your Circle or projects you
have, or adopt 'in memory of!'*

**Checks and Info can be sent to the National
Secretary**

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2025

GETTYSBURG, PA

Join the HQ Committee as they walk the steps of George
Metcalf on the Gettysburg Battlefield!

Friday, November 14th 10-2

All members are welcome to march in the parade as well
on Saturday, November 15th 12:30



2026 HOSTING BID

The Isaac Rice Circle of Pennsylvania has
made the formal bid to host the 2026
National Convention in Bedford,
Pennsylvania. We are excited to gather in this
historic community for another memorable
year of fellowship and business.
It was also voted to adjust the schedule of
the National Convention to Friday, Saturday,
and Sunday rather than the previous
Thursday-Saturday format. This change will
take effect in 2026, with next year's
convention dates set for August 7-9, 2026.

Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic
Madeline Rock
353 High St.
Doylestown, OH 44230

Permanent Fund

Contributions to the Permanent Fund may be made in the amount of \$10 or more to honor any living person or in memory of deceased member or Veterans. Please include the full name of the person being honored and any titles. For a Veteran, give state, Military Company and Regiment. Make checks payable to The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Inc. and mail along with your contribution form to:

PNP Beth Null
20208 St Highway 71W
Spicewood, TX 78669
bethnull@mindspring.com

Donors Name:

Address:

City and State:

Zip:

Department of:

In Honor or Memory of:



Bumper Sticker	\$1
Vintage Sticker	\$1
LGAR Sticker	2 for \$1
Membership Cards	10 for \$1
Decals	\$3
Magnets	\$5
Rituals	\$15
Patriotic Face Mask	\$3
Ode Cards	\$3
Warrant Books	\$2
Receipt Books	\$2
LGAR Tumbler Cup	\$12
Flag Keychain	\$1
Pets for Vets Dog Tag	\$5
Charms	\$5
Membership Badge	\$50
LGAR Enameled Pin	\$10
LGAR Notepad	\$5
Patriotic Bandana	4 for \$1
LGAR Eligibility Cards	10 for \$1
LGAR Transfer Cards	10 for \$1
LGAR Hon. Discharge	10 for \$1
LGAR Good Standing	4 for \$1
LGAR Poetry Books	\$10
LGAR Charm Earrings	\$8
LGAR Museum T-Shirt	\$25
Bylaws	\$12