



Series 2025-2026

Doylestown, OH

Summer 2025-2026

NO. 4



AMERICA 250: Celebrating 250 Years of the American Story

This month on the Fourth of July, the United States marks 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, a milestone that calls us not only to celebrate, but to remember.

America's story is one of courage, sacrifice, perseverance, and hope. It is the story of ordinary men and women who believed in the promise of liberty and gave of themselves to preserve it for generations yet to come. From the first patriots who declared a new nation, to the soldiers who fought to save the Union, to the countless citizens who have served their communities in quiet and faithful ways, our history is built upon duty, devotion, and love of country.

For the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, this anniversary holds special meaning. Our Order was founded to honor the memory of the Union veterans of the Civil War and to preserve the principles for which they served. As America celebrates her 250th birthday, we are reminded that remembrance is not simply looking back, it is carrying forward the values of patriotism, unity, service, and sacrifice.

Throughout this anniversary year, the National Organization will continue to honor America's 250th through special programs, ceremonies, and acts of remembrance, including a national

ceremony at our National Museum and Headquarters. These observances will give us the opportunity to reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and inspire future generations to cherish the freedoms entrusted to us.

May this historic anniversary renew in each of us a deeper gratitude for our country, a stronger commitment to service, and a lasting devotion to the American story.



NATIONAL OFFICERS 2025-2026**President**

Janice Stevenson
1024 Irvington Ave
Massillon, OH, 44444
ladymarian1938@hotmail.com

Sr. Vice

Gloria Garrett
1343 Pelican Rd
Sanibel, FL 33957
gloria.garrett.marketing@gmail.com

Jr. Vice

Autumn Marthey
729 Cleveland Ave
Orrville, OH 44667
autumn.marthey@gmail.com

National Secretary

Deb Miller
108 Loghouse Lane
Manns Choice, PA 15550
pa101st@yahoo.com

Asst Secretary

Madeline Rock
353 High St
Doylestown, OH 44230
madeline.rock@aol.com

Treasurer

Elizabeth Rock
68 W Marion St
Doylestown, OH 44230
OctagonLR@aol.com

Chaplain

Tess Shimer
3195 Raystown Rd
Hopewell, PA 16650
teshimer@gmail.com

Patriotic Instructor

Carol Ann Smith
3049 357th Ave NW
Cambridge, MN 55008
deptofmnlgar@gmail.com

Registrar

Connie Lies
640 E 2nd St
Litchfield, MN 55355
Lies.Connle.M@gmail.com

Historian

Lynne Bury
10095 Wadsworth Rd
Marshallville, OH 44645
ZBOctagonHouse@aol.com

Bugle Call Editor

Madeline Rock
353 High St.
Doylestown, OH 44230
madeline.rock@aol.com

www.lgarnational.org

NATIONAL PROJECT: PETS FOR VETS

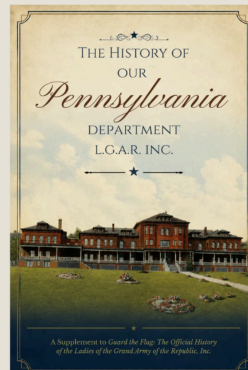
**HELP US HONOR THOSE WHO
SERVED BY SUPPORTING PETS
FOR VETS, LGAR'S NATIONAL
PROJECT BENEFITING VETERANS
AND RESCUED ANIMALS ALIKE.**



PAMPHLET RELEASE

A SUPPLEMENTARY RELEASE TO GUARD THE FLAG:
THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE LADIES OF THE
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, INC.

Available Now!



\$10 or more donation fo LGAR Inc.

Available now as a fundraiser!

ORDER AT LGARNATIONAL.ORG

NATIONAL LGAR CELEBRATES AMERICA 250

As our nation celebrates America's 250th Anniversary, the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic proudly joined communities across the country in honoring this historic milestone. National Officers, our National President, Past National Presidents, and members from Ohio gathered at the National Headquarters & Museum for a special America 250 ceremony held on behalf of our entire organization.

Together, we continue to preserve our history, honor our veterans, and inspire future generations.
Happy 250th Birthday, America!



NEWS FROM PENNSYLVANIA:

To my LGAR sisters across the country,

The Department of Pennsylvania recently held its department elections. I was honored to be elected Department President. As such, I want to thank Shirley Dines, PDP, for her years of service to Pennsylvania. I appreciate her continued guidance and support. Also, last Fall, we lost a long-time Starkweather Circle member and Department officer, Frances VanScoy. She was an active, devoted member and contributed much to the organization. We will miss her.

Our Department has faced some challenges. I want everyone to be assured that our organization is the only sanctioned LGAR Department of Pennsylvania. We continue to represent the LGAR with heads held high and hope that the Pennsylvania sisters who came before us are proud of our work.

I recently attended a Medal of Honor Memorial Service at the Ligonier Valley Cemetery in Ligonier, Westmoreland County, PA for Pvt John C. Ewing. Of Co E 211th PA Vol Inf. and Alvin P. Carey of 38th Inf 2nd Infantry Division. It was organized by the Capt. George A. Cribbs, Camp #276 SUVCW, Department of Pennsylvania. They asked me to place the wreath, and I was pleased to do so.

In April, Sisters Sue Llewellyn, Senior VP, Department of Pennsylvania, Pam Dodds, and I attended the Appomattox Luncheon held by the SUVCW, Department of Pennsylvania. We had delicious German fare. Mike Kraus, curator of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall in Pittsburgh, spoke on Contributions of the Pennsylvania Dutch in the Civil War. I was asked to introduce myself as the new Department President. I was thankful to do so and announced that the LGAR National Convention will be held in Bedford, PA this year.

Also in April, Department Secretary, Gayle Cotchen and Department Treasurer, Denise Messer, will place a wreath and speak at the graves of William Sample and John Corey in McKeesport, PA. These Pennsylvania Union soldiers helped to carry Abraham Lincoln from Ford's Theater to the Peterson House. This is being hosted by the SUVCW Davis Camp. Photos will appear in the next Bugle Call.

In May Veterans' Sacrifices in Post- Civil War Tradition. "COMMEMORATIONS" is this year's message. Monongahela Aquatorium, 200 Railroad Street, Monongahela, PA. We honor those who have served our country & have passed in last 12 months. Military Salute, Taps by Mon Valley Honor Guard & Firing Squad. Starkweather Circle of Monongahela, PA has performed this ceremony annually since the circle was chartered in 1911.

In June, our members will attend the Pennsylvania Allied Orders Department Encampment. In addition to participating in the Memorial Service, our Department will have a display and information table at the event, thus having a designated area for members to congregate and converse with the LGAR. The table will be sporting our new LGAR, Department of Pennsylvania banner.

We intend to plan another educational trip as well. We are considering the Soldiers and Sailors Museum in Pittsburgh or the GAR Museum in Philadelphia. MAL sisters are always welcome and encouraged to attend any of these events with us.

The Department of Pennsylvania is very much active and growing. We are optimistic about the future!

Debra Miller, President

Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Pennsylvania



The James Tharp Circle #2 of Georgia presented a wreath at the Marietta National Cemetery Memorial Day Service by the Circle's newest member, Cheryl Holloway

REPORT REMINDER

NATIONAL OFFICERS, DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS ARE REMINDED TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT THEIR REPORTS AHEAD OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION. REPORTS SHOULD BE EMAILED IN A COPY AND PASTABLE FORMAT TO THE NATIONAL SECRETARY, AND PRINTED AND BROUGHT WITH YOU TO THE MEETING.

TIMELY REPORTS HELP PRESERVE THE WORK OF OUR ORDER AND ENSURE CONVENTION BUSINESS PROCEEDS SMOOTHLY.

On Saturday, May 23, 2026, William Boone Keith Circle No. 3 held its annual Memorial Wreath-Laying Ceremony at Woodlawn Cemetery in Las Vegas, Nevada. The ceremony honored two Civil War veterans buried side by side: William Boone Keith, a Union soldier, and Joseph Moore Graham, a Confederate soldier. The event was co-sponsored for the second consecutive year by the Las Vegas Civil War Round Table.

Keith and Graham met in Las Vegas after the Civil War and formed a lasting friendship despite having served on opposing sides. After Graham's death, Keith purchased two adjoining plots at Woodlawn Cemetery, one for Graham and one for himself, and designed their shared memorial. The obelisk between them bears a poem honoring their friendship and the bond they formed after the war. The ceremony opened with the Presentation of Colors by Scout Troop 149. Members shared remarks on the history of Memorial Day, the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Las Vegas Civil War Round Table, and Woodlawn Cemetery. Dr. Linda Miller, portraying Helen J. Stewart, spoke about Stewart's role in securing land for Las Vegas' first cemetery.

Five wreaths were laid in honor of Keith, Graham, the L.G.A.R., the Civil War Round Table, and all Civil War soldiers buried at Woodlawn, as well as military service members who gave their lives in later wars. Civil War reenactors performed a Three-Volley Salute, followed by the playing of "Taps." Several members of William Boone Keith Circle No. 3 attended in Civil War-era dress, despite the Las Vegas heat. Circle No. 3 proudly continues the tradition of caring for the gravesite, a role previously carried on for many years by Emmaline and Major Leonard Becker.

Approximately 37 people attended the ceremony, including members of the Becker family. Food and refreshments were served afterward.



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.

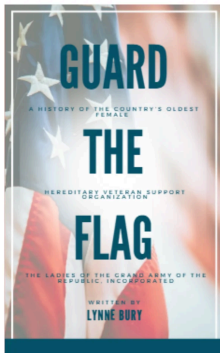
To help us achieve this goal, please follow these guidelines when submitting photos and information:

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

The LGAR Headquarters & Museum has had a busy summer! Local members continue presenting our Star-Spangled Banner program to area historical societies, while visitors are enjoying our current exhibit on the history of the U.S. flag. We are also pleased to welcome back our summer college intern. Looking ahead, planning is underway for our 2027 fundraiser, *Lincoln's Last Breath*, an immersive dinner theater experience exploring the final hours of President Abraham Lincoln through those who stood at his bedside on that historic night.

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 ✦

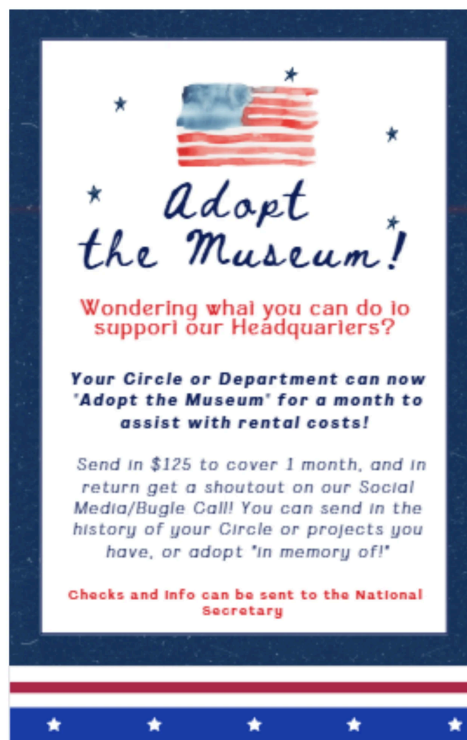
Add to your collection with our beautiful LGAR badge—a symbol of honor and sisterhood—available now for \$50 plus \$9.25 shipping.

NOW ACCEPTING BIDS FOR 2028 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Now accepting bids from Departments and Circles interested in hosting the 2028 National Convention. This is a meaningful opportunity to welcome Sisters from across the country, showcase your local history, and help carry forward the traditions and work of our Order. Interested parties are encouraged to begin preparing their proposals for consideration.

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



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

WE NEED YOUR EMAIL

The Fall and Spring issues 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!

★ 2026 NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Isaac Rice Circle of Pennsylvania is hosting 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.

Be thinking about your own bid to host Convention!

YELLOW ROSE TRIBUTE *Fundraiser*

Honor your Civil War ancestor with a meaningful tribute on the Gettysburg Battlefield

Through our Gettysburg Yellow Rose Campaign, a yellow rose will be placed on the battlefield where your ancestor's unit fought during Remembrance Day Weekend in November.

Each tribute includes a brief written dedication read aloud, and a photograph of the rose placement will be provided to you.

\$10 per Rose

Proceeds support the Ladies of the G. A. R. National Museum and HQ

Order online now through November 1, 2026

Register at www.lgarnational.org

A simple rose. A lasting remembrance. A legacy honored.



AMERICA250: CELEBRATING THE SEMI-QUINCENTENNIAL

We continue to lead our organization in commemorating this historic anniversary year. Our initiatives will remain active through the end of the year as we continue honoring our nation's 250th birthday. Members are encouraged to participate, share their local efforts, and follow our website and social media pages for continued updates & opportunities to take part in this special time of remembrance and celebration.

- **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.
- **National Headquarters & Museum Exhibit:** A special exhibit will honor the contributions of Union 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.



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:

*  *	
* <i>Supplies</i> *	
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 Enamel 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



[Home](#) | [Shop](#) | [Previous Issues](#)

Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Inc.

353 High Street, Doylestown
United States of America

[Unsubscribe](#)



Best regards

Madeline Rock, PNP, Bugle Call Editor

madeline.rock@aol.com

