



THE BUGLE CALL



Devoted to the Interests of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic

Series 2015-2016 Barberton, OH

Fall 2015

NO. 1

Dr. Stephenson Memorial Plaza Project Rose Hill Cemetery Petersburg, Illinois

Do your part and send donations to the National Secretary. Donations should be made out to "LGAR National Organization" with the Stephenson Project in the memo line. Elizabeth Rock, 68 W. Marion St., Doylestown, OH 44230

DEADLINE DECEMBER 31, 2015

The Ladies of the Grand Army has been raising \$2500 for a granite bench with our name and badge engraved on the front. To Date of Publishing, we still need \$500!!



Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson, founder of the Grand Army of the Republic and provisional Commander-in-Chief, April 6, 1866 to November 21, 1866. Born in the Wayne County, IL October 3, 1823, his father being a native of South Carolina and his mother a native of North Carolina.

On April 6, 1866, in Decatur, IL, there was formed post no 1 of the Grand Army of the Republic with 12 charter members. Dr. Stephenson then worked enthusiastically to promote the formation of more posts, often neglecting his own personal interests.

He died at Rock Creek, Menard County, IL, August 30, 1871, and was buried there. August 29, 1882, the body was removed to the Soldiers Plot in Rose Hill Cemetery, Petersburg, IL.



This project will bring true honor to the creator of the Grand Army of the Republic.

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Deadlines for Bugle Call Submissions:

January 15, 2016

April 15, 2016

September 15, 2016

Madeline Rock

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For all other updates pertaining to the Roster please visit the newly updated website for committees and news.

<http://suvchw.org/LGAR/Home.html>

Find Membership Applications, all required forms for the year and the National Brochure to download and print.

If you have something that you would like to have on the website (a project, correction, article, meeting dates etc.) please let the webmaster know.

OUR REVISED BY-LAWS WILL BE AVAILABLE AS A DOWNLOAD FROM THE WEBSITE COMING SOON.

Reminder:

**Per Capita is now paid to National
by Departments & Circles under National
ONCE A YEAR.**

Per Capita is due May 15, 2016.

**A \$25 Late Fee will be charged after the 15th and
billed to your Dept. or Circle under National.**

**All Departments & Circles under National will be sent
all forms for the year at the beginning of 2016.**

All copies are on the website news & events page.

Supplies can be ordered from the National Treasurer

**Please make checks payable to
"National Organization, LGAR"**

The current National Brochure is currently available for the cost of shipping, contact Judy Rock today for a price quote! Please distribute them to your local libraries, historical societies, American Legion Halls, and anyplace you can think of to gain new members. Be sure to put your name and contact info on the back of the brochure. *You can also download the National Brochure from our Website & print for yourself.*

**PURCHASE OUR REVISED BY-LAWS
MANY CHANGES THAT AFFECT OUR ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP
\$3.00
AVAILABLE NOW**

National Headquarters

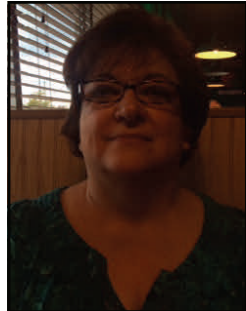
Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic

**4710 Eby St. Merriam, KS 66203
913-709-4308 cagosto8@gmail.com**

General Orders No. 1, 2015-2016

Dear Sisters,

I am proud to have been elected as your new National President! I will do my best to represent you in a most patriotic way.



1. We have many new officers adding to those who continue to serve. Please take time to take note of them and where they are from. We welcome your ideas and comments to improve our organization and welcome new members.
2. We continue to accept donations for the memorial bench at Dr. Stephenson Memorial Plaza Project. Many of the Ladies will attend the memorial service in Springfield this Spring. More information will be your way.
3. I have asked my Sr. Vice President to create a Civil War era quilt to sell for a Ways and Means project. She has been busy researching and recruiting help. If you are a quilter and would like to help and or give advice about Civil War quilts please send a email to Ray Ann Alt. In time we will be sending each department/circle raffle tickets to sell for our quilt. I would like everyone to participate in this and sell to everyone not just LGAR members.

In FC&L, Carolyn Agosto

YOUR PRESIDENT'S TRAVEL

In my first year in LGAR I was elected National Chaplain. Then I became the National Treasurer and I served for four years. Serving as National President I believe will be a new horizon for me as I have not traveled to any of the sites where I will represent our organization. Wish me luck!

What a wonderful time we all had in Sandusky, OH. The Ohio ladies really know how to make a convention special and there was so much to see and do. Have you ever heard of blueberry wine? Neither have I but it was one of the fun items in a basket I bid on and won. The wine and cheese evening was special with great cheeses and crackers and fruit. We

also got a "tour" in the museum by Don Young in the room dedicated to Johnson's Island, a Civil War POW camp for Confederate Officers. The next evening we car-pooled there. During the war the only way to get to that island was by boat. It had a peaceful yet eerie feel to the place looking at the grave markers that are the only things that remain. I also greatly enjoyed eating lunch with Veteran's at the Ohio Veterans Home. They enjoyed seeing the ladies in white and one lucky lady received a marriage proposal the first day! We also found ourselves at a lively Carousel Museum and later at Toft's dairy to eat real ice cream. I cannot tell you enough that the friendships you make, the history and fun things you do at these conventions is so important, not only to you but to the organization.

About me, I grew up in rural SE Kansas where I graduated from Neodesha High School. After being married and having 2 children I went back to school and became an LPN. Much later and after baby number 3 grew up I again went back to college. I now have a Masters Degree in Nursing from KU and my ultimate goal is to finish the Certification for Nurse Practitioner. Meanwhile I continue to work in Critical Care. I am also a Master Gardener which is an extension of my love of gardening and nature. I live in Merriam, KS which is a city within Johnson, County, KS. A part of the Kansas City area.

I am a Christian and like many of you I worked in many roles in my church from Sunday school teacher to Worship leader. I am a mother, grandmother and great grandmother. I have 2 sons, Chuck and David Skinner. They each have three sons. Chuck also has a daughter who has 2 young daughters. David is married to Denise. Daughter Erin is single. Love of family and our roots brought me to research, and talk to extended family about our ancestors. Through them I was able to join the DAR, and later found out about the LGAR from PNP Barbara Knopke. My Great-great grandfather Hugh Jefferson Slaton was born in Kentucky, 1831. He traveled to Illinois to enlist on 21 Aug 1862. On 29 Oct 1862 he mustered into Company F, Illinois 120th Infantry Regiment. He was promoted to Full Sergeant. Hugh mustered out on 10 Sep 1865 at Memphis, TN.

I will be traveling to Gettysburg in November to attend the Remembrance Day Ceremony and banquet. I've never been "East" before in November so I am praying ahead of time for mild weather.

In FC&L, Carolyn Agosto

QUARTERS FOR HEADQUARTERS

PLEASE COLLECT QUARTERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND MAKE YOUR DONATIONS PAYABLE TO "LADIES OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, NATIONAL ORGANIZATION" WITH QUARTERS FOR HEADQUARTERS IN THE MEMO LINE. MAIL THIS DONATION TO OUR NATIONAL SECRETARY ELIZABETH ROCK AT 68 W. MARION ST. DOYLESTOWN, OH 44230

DONATIONS WILL SERVE OUR HEADQUARTERS IN A MYRIAD OF WAYS. MUCH WORK HAS BEGUN TO PRESERVE OUR ARTIFACTS AND WILL CONTINUE FOR SEVERAL YEARS TO COME. WE ALSO ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE OUR ROOM INSURED YEARLY FOR OUR CONTENTS.

DO YOUR PART AND ASSIST WITH OUR HEADQUARTERS MUSEUM ROOM.

2016 NATIONAL CONVENTION

AUGUST 11-13, 2016

TO BE HELD IN MANSFIELD, OHIO

FULL DETAILS IN OUR NEXT ISSUE OF THE BUGLE CALL

For more information contact the

Chairman of Arrangements for 2016 Encampment

Laverne Piatt 4036 Beam Road Crestline, OH 44827

419-683-3667 laverne.piatt@gmail.com

Final Travels of PNP Judy Rock...

Dear Sisters,

First let me say I have enjoyed being President of the LGAR for the last 4 years. I have met wonderful people and made many new friends. Thank you for putting your trust in me.

My last update ended with me getting ready for Memorial Day in Washington DC. What an honor to be a part of this glorious tradition to pay homage to those who fought and died to defend our freedom and reunite a divided nation. It was a very warm May 30 but the attendance was wonderful. All five Allied Orders National Heads were there to participate. MOLLOS & DOLLUS were also there joining us. The band played wonderful patriotic music and the public attendees were numerous. Several speeches were made but kept short, I think, due to the heat. Wreathes were placed at the Tomb of the Unknown Civil War Soldiers, many pictures were taken and we all departed for the SUV CW meeting at the Officers Club at Fort Meyer. We had a luscious meal and good company. Then it was back to the hotel to get ready for my flight the following morning.

This was the last ceremony I would attend as your National President.

My next adventure was to Sandusky, Ohio for the LGAR National Convention at our Beautiful National Headquarters. It was the best attended convention in several years. There is a slate of many new faces holding office at this time. My congratulations to all who are new, and hang in there, to those who have been in office for some time.

I would like to especially thank Carolyn Agosto for her willingness to become your new National President.

CONGRATULATIONS Carolyn.

As I close my last travel report, I just want to remind you; this is your organization and your input is needed to help it continue to grow.

God bless you all and once again thank you.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty, Past National President, Judy Rock

2015 National Convention Highlights

The 2015 National Convention was held at our National Headquarters Museum on the grounds of the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky, Ohio. Guests were treated to a tour day that included stops at Historic Milan, the birthplace of Thomas Edison, downtown Sandusky, the Carousel Museum, and Toft's Dairy. Thursday evening featured a wine and cheese reception in the Museum, when members could look at



all of our inventory and enjoy the rest of the museum. After our business session on Friday, many members enjoyed dinner at a local family restaurant, followed by a tour of the Johnson's Island Prison Cemetery. Both Friday and Saturday lunches were in the Veteran's



Hall, so that our members could spend time with the Veterans while eating. This year we were able to have our traditional Memorial Service, a Patriotic Instructor's Program and received Greetings from several organizations and representatives. The Saturday evening Banquet was held at our Comfort Inn Hotel,



where a delicious buffet meal was enjoyed, followed by special guest speaker and member, Barbara Brugler, who portrays Mary Todd Lincoln. Thank you to all that registered and/or attended



(Continued on page 7)

THE END OF AN ERA

On August 7, 2015 the delegates attending the National Convention voted to retire three clubs which existed within the organization for many years. The following is a brief history and explanation of each club beginning with the youngest.

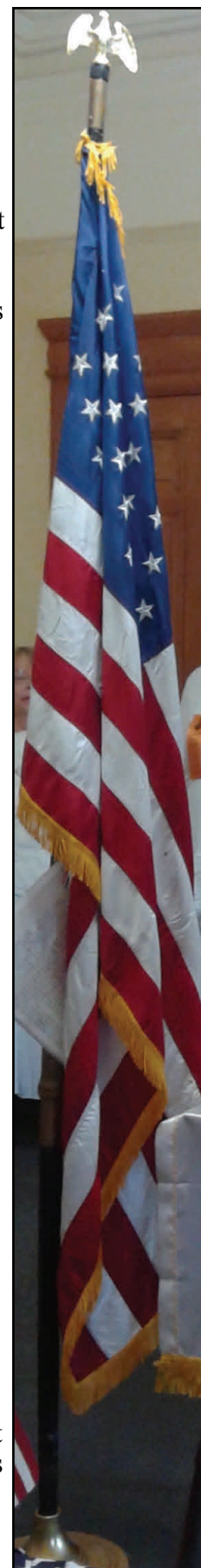
The Pioneer Club was the brain child of National President Sarah Ehrmann in 1933. She felt that our older members in terms of service to the organization were not properly involved and appreciated. Therefore only members with at least 25 years of service were eligible to join this club. The first official Luncheon and meeting was held August 15, 1934 at Sarah's National Convention in Rochester, New York with 79 Ladies in attendance. Chairman of the luncheon was Sister Clara Sawyer (National President 1906-1907) who was elected first President of the new club and the sitting National President was always the guest of honor. These ladies often presented a flag or other appropriate gift to the National President and over the years collected their dues and donations to support whatever fund of the National Treasury that needed a little help. In 1957 at the Detroit, Michigan convention the club established the "Sarah J. Ehrmann Fund for Patriotic Purposes" in her honor. The bulk of their meetings seemed to consist of reminiscing about the "good old days".



The Betsy Ross Club was formed at the 1927 convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan and membership consisted of past and present Department Presidents and Presidents of Circles under National Jurisdiction. It's original purpose was to augment mutual work between Departments and the early annual breakfast meetings served as question and answer sessions as well as opportunities to share ideas and encouragement in the successful operations of our Circles and officers. In more recent years the emphasis shifted to patriotism with numerous presentations of flags and Lincoln portraits. At the club meeting in Des Moines, Iowa in 1931 Sister Rose Bergseng presented a silk flag and named it the National Betsy Ross Travel Flag. At all meetings from that point a report was made by the flag as it traveled with the Patriotic Instructor of

the club to whom it was entrusted. The flag was retied in Des Moines in 1977 when it was presented to new member and future president Lynne Bury to be placed on display at her house museum. This flag with its history now resides at our National Headquarters and was used next to the altar at this year's National Convention there. The tradition was then continued with a Betsy Ross doll who also traveled with the Patriotic Instructor and will soon reside with the flag in Sandusky, Ohio. This group also hosted the National President at its breakfast meetings and donated flags and funds where needed.

Although the first mention of the **Past National Presidents Association** appears in the Journal of 1925 as an official club with elected officers, it is obvious that our P.N.P.'s met for dinners and/or receptions at the National Conventions for many years prior. These dinners most likely began with the early years official reception which were often held by the convention host committee to honor the National President and her staff of officers as well as the Past National Presidents. Some time in the 1930's the P.N.P.'s made it their duty to place an L.G.A.R. grave marker on the final resting place of their cohorts who passed away during that decade. This practice seems to have ended in the 1940's. During the years of greatest attendance at National Conventions



(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

these dinners became somewhat political in that much discussion centered around who was running for offices in the organization. It was well known that their influence was strongly felt in our national elections well into the 1970's. However, once the competition for office died down, the club became once again purely social in nature. Like the other two clubs they often made donations to support various projects of the National Organization. By virtue of the eligibility requirement this club was the most influential and revered over the many decades of its existence.

Submitted by Historian Lynne Bury

SHARE YOUR CIRCLE OR DEPARTMENT NEWS IN THE NEXT BUGLE CALL

DEADLINE JANUARY 15, 2016

(Continued from page 5)

our 2015 National Convention.

2015 National Motions Carried

- *The motion was made and carried to change the location of our National Bank Accounts to PNC Bank.*
- *The motion was made and carried for the Floral Drill monies to go towards the restoration of a G.A.R. monument in the Piasa, IL cemetery. \$70 was collected and sent.*
- *The motion was made and carried for our Lincoln quote to remain on the Springfield, IL corner until the wooden letters deteriorate, at which time a donation would be made to a local service organization to have said wooden monument removed. A new committee was formed to investigate our options within the cemetery and town for a new bench or plaque etc. to be placed within the town.*
- *The motion was made and carried to keep both LGAR Facebook pages and to have each cross reference and support each other. The two Facebook pages are: 'The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic' & 'The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic Headquarters.'"*
- *The Betsy Ross & Pioneer Club, as well as the PNP Club voted to disband the clubs. They voted to have any leftover dues that had been collected go to the Dr. Stephenson Memorial Plaza for our LGAR granite bench.*
- *The motion was made and carried that when things are turned over to our LGAR Headquarters Museum, these items are inventoried and included within the insurance, and will remain at the Headquarters, not to be removed and returned to any Circles or Departments.*
- *The motion was made and carried to have a full convention for 2016 in the Mansfield, OH area, for the second weekend in August.*

FOR THE FULL 2015 NATIONAL CONVENTION MINUTES, PLEASE SEND \$5 TO:

Elizabeth Rock 68 W. Marion St. Doylestown, OH 44230

Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic
Madeline Rock, Editor
68 W. Marion St.
Doylestown, OH 44230

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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 Phyllis Houston
5070 SW 163rd St Aloha, OR 97007
503-649-2389 phyllis.houston@yahoo.com

Donors Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Department of: _____

In Honor or Memory of: _____

Membership Certificates

Anyone who has been a continuous member for 25 or 50 years is entitled to a Membership Certificate. The form is printed below.

After it is completed by the Department Registrar it should be mailed to Jennifer Knopke
21733 W 56th St., Shawnee, KS 66218

Date: _____

Name of Member: _____

Circle Name: _____

Department of: _____

Circle President Signature: _____

Place Department Seal Here