



Department President

Susan M. Mertz

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Department Order #1

Let us at all times remember that all American citizens are brothers of a common country, and should dwell together in the bonds of fraternal feeling.

Abraham Lincoln

The 134th Encampment in Cranberry Township is now a pleasant memory. Thanks to the site committee for their hard work, and to Sister Ellen Higgins for another well done encampment booklet. Our banquet was delicious and our speaker was excellent. We learned a lot about the tragedy at the Allegheny Arsenal.

We collected many items for the Butler County Veterans Home and our Patriotic Instructor chose them for our Campfire donation.

Our Memorial Service was lovely and the eulogies for PCinC's Bud Atkinson and Charlie Kuhn were heartfelt.

At our Saturday night banquet the Sons convened a Court of Honor and awarded two Sisters the prestigious Dr. Mary Walker Edwards medal for meritorious service to the Sons. Medal recipients were Darlene Alcorn, President of the LGAR, and Cynthia Fox PNP.

I was honored and humbled to be re-elected as your Department President for the term 2017-2018. I congratulate Department Commander Alfred Carty on his election, Daryl Reed, the newly elected President for the Daughters of Union Veterans, Darlene Alcorn, President of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. I hope that all of our Allied Orders have a great year. Our visiting Past National President Virginia Twist installed our new officers. I wish to thank our Department Officers and Auxiliaries for all of their hard work this past year.

I recently sent a report to our National President, Denise Oman listing many of our Department activities. We are a very busy Department with a lot of amazing hardworking Sisters. You all do a great job representing our Civil War veterans, helping our current veterans and troops, and our communities across Pennsylvania.

Our Chaplin, Barbara Day will continue to send cards to members who have experienced an illness or loss. She can be reached at 104 Mulberry Pl., Lynchburg, VA 24502. We wish to offer our condolences

to the family of Brother Gary Fike who lost his 10 year old grandson, and we wish to offer get well wishes to PDC Joseph Long who faces upcoming surgery.

I am appointing the following members to committees:

Site Committee-Faye Carlisle -Thomas, PNP

Charitable Deeds Committee, Judy Wolfe, PAP

Scholarship Committee- Mary Jo Long, PNP, Faye Carlisle-Thomas, PNP and Judy Wolfe, PAP

By-laws Committee-Margaret Atkinson, PNP

CR&R Committee Cindy Fox, PNP

Ritual Committee-Anne Sosnowski, PNP

I would like to thank Faye Carlisle-Thomas for her help with securing a hotel for next year's encampment in Williamsport. We had hoped to be in York for 2018 but an illness of one Son and the death of another Son working on the encampment made that impossible. Our Johnstown Camp offered to host the encampment but a delay caused them to lose the available hotel. Sister Faye again helped to save the day and we will once again be at the Genetti Hotel which has been very accommodating in the past. Future Encampments are being planned for Philadelphia and Johnstown.

I hope that you will be able to join us in Gettysburg on Remembrance Day for our annual wreath laying ceremony at the GAR Memorial, the SVR parade, the Past Camp Commanders and Past Presidents banquet and the SVR Ball. Check our website for information on upcoming events.

Please support our money officers as often as you can. Cash donations are great and raffle donations are always helpful.

I will try to attend as many activities as possible. My mother is in hospice care and we are hoping that she will make her 100th birthday in September. My husband's cancer has returned with a vengeance and he is hoping to try a new therapy.

A temporary roster of elected and appointed officers and committee members is attached and can be used until the official roster is completed.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer. I hope that the rain and humidity will soon be a thing of the past.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Susan Mertz,

Pennsylvania Department President

Attest,

Margaret Shuttlesworth

Department Secretary

2017-2018 Roster of the Pennsylvania Department Officers

Please use this roster as a guide until the official one is printed

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Vice President, Laura Kane, 7918 34th Street, Baltimore, MD 21237

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Council #1, Betsy Nightingale, PDP, 316 Pierson Rd Friedens, PA 15541

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Council #2, Judy Wolfe, 200 Lake Street Dalton, PA 18413

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Council #3, Barbara Indan, PDP, 2629 Fillmore St. Philadelphia, PA 19137

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Secretary, Margaret Shuttlesworth, PDP, 4570 Londonderry Rd. Apt. B-89, Harrisburg, PA 17109

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Treasurer, Faye Carlisle-Thomas, PNP, P.O. Box 23, Cogan Station, PA 17723-0023

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Chief of Staff, Cindy Fox, PNP, 1157 Isabella St. Williamsport, PA 17701

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Membership at Large, Ellen Essenwein, 948 Orr Avenue, Kittanning, PA 16021

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Co-Personal Aide, Dorothy Kelly, 1089 Pine Ridge, Bushkill, PA 18324

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Co-Personal Aide, Kristen Caddy, 127 Garfield St. Johnstown, PA

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Co-Counselors, Mary Jo, PNP and Joe Long, PDC, 500 Marcy St. Duryea, PA 18642

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