



DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT

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DEPARTMENT ORDER #4

GRATITUDE IS NOT ONLY THE GREATEST OF VIRTUES, BUT THE PARENT OF ALL OTHERS.

MARCUS TULLIUS CICERO

Whereas Auxiliaries and Sisters of the Department of Pennsylvania have no departmental recognition program for the work that they do to carry out our mission, I am instituting an awards program. There will be three awards for Auxiliaries that will be statistically based. They are as follows:

The Margaret Atkinson, PNP Award for the Auxiliary with the largest number of new members, including junior members.

The Audrey Long, PDP Award for the Auxiliary with the largest percentage of new members, including junior members.

The Dorothy Kern PDP, Award for the Auxiliary with the greatest amount of charitable activities as reported on our annual charitable activities report.

Our award for individual Sisters will be the Marie Tepe Recognition Award for exemplary service to the Department of Pennsylvania ASUVCW. Sisters who have done exceptional work, having combined the pursuit of excellence with their assigned Auxiliary duties will be considered. Sisters who have done an outstanding job in the areas of Civil War research, education, or preservation FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER will be eligible. No work that was done for compensation will be considered.

The eligibility period for all awards will be from July 1st until May 31st.

The rules for the Marie Tepe Award are as follows:

All candidates must be a member in good standing and shall have been a member of the ASUVCW for five years.

No candidate may be nominated by a family member.

(2)

All nominations will be confidential.

Nominees at the Auxiliary level must be approved by their Auxiliary President. All nominees at the Department level must be approved by the Department President.

To apply for this award those Sisters who are nominating someone must provide a narrative of the work that qualifies the individual for the award. The Auxiliary or Department President must sign the narrative verifying that the information contained therein is correct. If an Auxiliary wishes to nominate their President, the Department President will review the application. A President may decline to approve an application. Up to three awards may be given annually or committee may decline to give any awards. It is up to their discretion.

Marie Tepe is a Pennsylvania heroine. This award honors our "A list" Sisters but also is given in Marie's memory. I have tried to make the criteria and requirements for this award as specific as possible as I feel that to do anything less would be both a dishonor to her memory and to our Sisters.

The 2018 award will be at the discretion of the Department President. Future awards will be decided by a committee of three Sisters who will be appointed by the Department President.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Please remember PNP Janice Harding in your prayers as she is having serious surgery. I am providing the following information on Marie Tepe or "French Mary" as many of us know her, for those newer Sisters who may not be familiar with her.

Marie Tepe, nee Brose was born in France and acted as a vivandiere for the Union Army. She initially followed her husband into the 27th PA and later enlisted in 114th PA, (Collis' Zouaves). Marie carried water or whiskey to the troops, was a sutler, provided nursing care to the troops, cooked, washed, and mended clothing. She was often in hazardous conditions and troops reported that her skirts were riddled with bullet holes. She was present at First Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Fair Oaks, Gettysburg, and Spotsylvania.

Marie was one of two women who were awarded the Kearny Cross, but refused the award. She was wounded at Chancellorsville. She committed suicide in 1901 reportedly because of chronic pain from her wartime injury and arthritis. She is buried near Pittsburg.

Marie Tepe did a wonderful job taking care of our Boys in Blue. Now their collective memory rests in our hands.

Susan Mertz, Department President