



AUXILIARY TO SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT

Department Orders #1

588 Plowman Rd.
Vintondale, PA 15961
August 15, 2026

Greetings Sisters!

First, I want to thank the Sisters of our great Pennsylvania Department for electing me President at our Encampment in Carlisle June 26-28. It is an honor to serve as your President.

Our Department Officers for 2026-2027, as elected at the Encampment, are as follows:

President.....	Pamela Fisher, Aux 615
Vice President.....	Gracee McMillin, Aux 50 & 27
Council #1.....	Darlene Alcorn, PDP, Aux 502
Council #2.....	Susan Bender, Aux 276
Council #3.....	Joyce Dowler, Aux 502
Secretary.....	Betsy Matthews, PDP, Aux 502
Treasurer.....	Barb Indan, PDP, Aux 1
Patriotic Instructor.....	Amy Williams, Aux 276
Chief of Staff.....	
Chaplain & Aide.....	Joan Webb, Aux 615
Counsel.....	Ann McMillen, PDP, Aux 50 & 27 and Michael Peter, Commander PA Dept SUVCW
Membership-at-Large.....	Betsy Matthews, PDP, Aux 502
Webmaster.....	Ellen Higgins, Aux 1

Currently, our Chief of Staff position is unfilled. This is a fundraising office and is very important to our Department's future. If you are interested in this position,

please contact me, Sister Secretary Betsy Matthews, or Sister Treasurer Barb Indan. Please think about volunteering – this would be a great way to be an integral part of our PA Department.

Sister Auxiliary Secretaries, please be sure to distribute copies of these orders to our members. Communication is very important in ensuring everyone is up to date on our news and events. Also, please verify that your names and addresses for your auxiliary are correct and send them to our PA State Secretary, Betsy Matthews at betsy1865@verizon.net.

My first time representing you as President was to attend the National Auxiliary Encampment in Gettysburg, July 30 to August 1, along with our delegates Ann McMillin, PDP, Dorothy Prentice, Gracee McMillin, Betsy Matthews, PDP, Joan Webb, Susan Bender, Amy Williams, Lynne Galluadet Dolan, Jessica Hartzell, Darlene Gallagher, Lisa Taylor and Pamela Parks. We were well represented at National. Our leadership at the National level were very welcoming and helpful. I was excited and happy to give a report on all the great things PA Auxiliaries are doing.

We are especially proud of our own Sister, Ann McMillin, PDP, Aux. 50 & 27 who was elected National Vice-President. Congratulations Ann, we couldn't be more excited for you! Also, Congratulations to Dorothy Prentice for receiving the National Dr. Mary Walker award.

Congratulations also go out to our National President Danielle Michaels who was re-elected President of our National Auxiliary 2026-2027. I've invited Sister Danielle to our encampment next June. Hopefully she'll be able to attend.

Remembrance Day will be here before we know it! The weekend long events in Gettysburg will be November 13-15. I will be attending and laying a wreath at the Woolson Monument at 11:00 am on Saturday the 14th. The parade begins at 1:00pm. If you can march in the parade, attend the ceremony at the monument, attend the ball or simply come and watch the parade, this weekend is always fun, meaningful and a great time to connect and catch-up. Hope to see you there!

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Pamela Fisher
PA Department President ASUVCW
scotlander1745@protonmail.com
814-243-7994 (call or text)

Attest: Betsy Matthews
PA Department Secretary

Attachments:

Greetings from the Vice President
Greetings from the Patriotic Instructor
Greetings from the Chaplain

cc: Auxiliary Presidents
Auxiliary Secretaries

Greetings sisters,

I hope you all are enjoying your summer.

I am writing to you as your newly elected Pennsylvania Department Vice President.

My duty in this position is to gain new members and build our membership through recruiting. That being said I cannot do this without the help of the sisters in our department. I thought it might be helpful to give ideas on some wonderful ways to recruit people. I have found that setting up a table at a local event with information on our organizations helps. You can also talk or drop flyers off at your local libraries. We also need younger members. This can be a family thing. I have grown up in this department and have always enjoyed the events we have been involved with and the amazing opportunities that this organization brings. We can do this, ladies.

I know I look forward to setting up a table with my auxiliary. I hope to build the Pennsylvania auxiliary membership in my term as your vice president.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty

Gracee McMillin

Pennsylvania Department Vice President

A Friendly Greeting from Your Pennsylvania Patriotic Instructor

Dear Sisters,

It is a joy to introduce myself as your Pennsylvania Patriotic Instructor for the 2026–2027 year. My name is Amy L. Williams, and I am a member of Auxiliary #276, George A. Cribbs Camp #276. We are located in Greensburg, PA, and serve Pennsylvania and Fayette Counties. Our Auxiliary is newly formed, with our charter initiated on June 11, 2026, and I am honored to serve as its current President.

As I step into this Department role, I do so with gratitude, humility, and a deep respect for the mission we share. The work of patriotic instruction is more than sharing historical facts. It is about keeping memory alive, helping each generation understand the sacrifices made for the Union, and encouraging pride in the values of service, loyalty, courage, and remembrance.

This year, I hope to help create stronger lines of communication among our Auxiliaries and Department officers. There is immense value in sharing information consistently, usefully, and easily passed along to local members. One idea I would like to develop is a department newsletter that could include patriotic education pieces, news from other offices within the Department, National updates, fundraising opportunities, reminders, and other information that may benefit our Auxiliaries. To help keep costs down, the newsletter would be sent electronically by email.

I hope that this newsletter will become a helpful resource for all of us. It could provide local Auxiliaries with educational materials to share at meetings, provide updates from the Department and National levels, and help ensure that we are all receiving essential information in a timely and organized way.

I also look forward to supporting the National Patriotic Instructor's work. Funds raised for this purpose help support memorial wreaths, the scholarship fund, the GAR fund, and other patriotic efforts. I would welcome suggestions for simple, meaningful fundraising ideas that could be considered at the State level.

To help begin this work, I am asking Auxiliary Presidents to please send me your name and email address, along with the names and email addresses of your local Patriotic Instructors. Having this information will allow us to build a stronger communication network and better share patriotic education materials and Department updates throughout the year.

I am excited for the year ahead and look forward to working with you, our department officers, our Auxiliaries, and our national offices as we honor the legacy of our Union ancestors and carry their spirit of service forward.

In F., C. & L.,

Amy L. Williams
Patriotic Instructor, Pennsylvania Department, ASUVCW
Auxiliary #276, George A. Cribbs Camp #276
amylwilliams2026@gmail.com
724-972-2036

From Your Department Chaplain:

Greetings Sisters,

Our 143rd Encampment began with a change in leadership. Sister Darlene Alcorn could not attend due to health reasons; therefore, Vice-President Sister Pam Fisher moved into the President's chair. Council #1 Sister Ann McMillin filled the Vice-President's chair according to Article III, Section 3 of the C. R. & R. regarding vacancies that occur in the Elective Offices of the Department. Everything proceeded in good order.

Congratulations to Sister Pam and Sister Ann for conducting a successful, harmonious and enjoyable encampment for us. We missed Sister Darlene and pray that very soon she will once again be enjoying good health.

Brother Clark Brocht, Chaplain for the Sons, planned a lovely Memorial Service to open the proceedings. The theme, "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day," was unusual for June but the message it brought is for all seasons. His request that everyone bring a bell was honored and the ringing of the bells as we sang the last stanza of the song was magical, just like Christmas.

We paid tribute to the many members that passed away since our last encampment. Some were lifetime members of the Auxiliary. They will be missed for their combined experience and knowledge of the Order, which was invaluable to all of us. With their passing, we are reminded that it now falls on us to carry on in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty the tradition of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

I am honored to serve as Chaplain for the Pennsylvania Department. Please know that you are remembered daily in my prayers. Let us all continue to carry on the tradition of honoring the memory of the veterans of the Civil War and of all the wars our country has been engaged in. Let us do what we are able to aid our present day veterans who need and deserve our support.

If you have a prayer request, please contact me via email at 19jwebb48@gmail.com or by phone at (814) 410-2424.

May God bless you all and in this 250th year, may God bless the United States of America!

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Joan Webb, Chaplain PA Dept. ASUVCW