



## Department Historian Annual Report

The Department Historian shall fill out this report, forwarding one copy to the National Historian within 2 weeks after your Department Convention. One copy is to be kept on file in the Department.

Date June 24, 2026

To Eileen Sleckman, National Historian

I submit the following report of the Department of Pennsylvania

For the year ending December 31, 2025

Number of Tents in the Department 12 Number of Tents Reporting 10

Date Department received its Charter June 3, 1913

List Tents and their Charter date Tent 23, 1923; Tent 32, 1926; Tent 50, 1937; Tent 53, 1947; Tent 55, 1950; Tent 56, 1965; Tent 58, 2002; Tent 60, 2007; Tent 61, 2009; Tent 62, 2014; Tent 63, 2015; Tent 64, 2016

Number of Tents that have an ongoing history ..... 9

Tents instituted this year (Give name, number, place, and Charter date)

none

The Historian report is a complete history of your Department. Compile your report from the Tent reports. Include special events and outstanding and unusual projects and activities completed by the Department during the year. When completing this form please consolidate similar activities and events from each Tent into one Department wide narrative. Attach extra page if needed.

**Please see attached report.**

Leticia Meyer 6/27/26  
Department President – Date

Linda Skov 6.24.26  
Department Historian – Date

**DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HISTORIAN'S ANNUAL REPORT  
for Year Ending December 31, 2025**

Ten of the twelve Tents comprising the Department of Pennsylvania reported a wide range of special projects, events and volunteer service during calendar year 2025.

The report is again organized by topic, beginning with activities related to Memorial Day, Decoration Day and Remembrance Day, followed by participation and attendance at other notable events, and then volunteer services.

**Memorial Day and Decoration Day**

Five Sisters of Salome Stewart **Tent 55** marched in the Memorial Day parade through downtown Gettysburg and participated in the wreath-laying ceremony at Gettysburg National Park.

Members of Mary Morris Husband **Tent 58** attended Memorial Day events at Independence Hall and Christ Church Burial Ground in Philadelphia, and at Montgomery Cemetery in Norristown. On Decoration Day, members attended services at Laurel Hill Cemetery.

Sisters of Annabell Vorse Clark **Tent 60** participated in the Boalsburg Memorial Day Parade.

Sisters of Susanna Cook **Tent 61** placed a wreath on Memorial Day at Antietam National Cemetery. One Sister attended Memorial Day Services in Washington, DC and placed a wreath on behalf of DUVCW at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.

For the 161<sup>st</sup> Memorial Day in Boalsburg, Sisters of Katherine Wilson Curtin **Tent 62** marked the graves of 50 CW veterans buried in Boalsburg Cemetery with cards on stakes topped with pinwheels. The cards noted the soldiers' names and units of service. Three Tent Sisters marched in the late afternoon parade and were featured speakers at the evening ceremony. As a high school senior project, the Tent's duv had welded a clover-shaped trefoil from metal horseshoes to represent the Union Army's 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps. It was placed in front of the podium in honor of six Boalsburg soldiers killed in action and interred in unknown burial sites.

**Remembrance Day**

**Tent 55** hosted a tea at the Gettysburg G.A.R. Hall on Friday afternoon of Remembrance Day Weekend. Participating in the Allied Orders wreath-laying ceremony at the Albert Woolson Monument and/or marching in the Parade on Saturday were Sisters from **Tents 55, 58, 60 and 61**. In addition, Sisters of **Tent 58** laid a wreath at Gen. George G. Meade's Monument, provided transportation for parade participants, took photos for newsletters, and read names of Civil War veterans buried in the National Cemetery. Members of **Tent 60** also toured the Dobbins House and Adams County Museum.

**Participation or Attendance at Other Notable Events**

Sisters of Madaleine Gilbert **Tent 23** participated in Genealogy Day at Duquesne University, where they handed out pamphlets and helped attendees with family research. They also attended the Ohio Regimental Ball in Cuyahoga Falls, OH, the Civil War Show in Mansfield, OH, a

Sharon Historical Society presentation by the author of "Civil War in the Shenango Valley," and participated in the Veterans Day Parade in West Middlesex, PA.

In March, four Sisters of **Tent 55** participated in Recruitment Day at the Gettysburg Heritage Center. A Sister attended the Preservation Ball in the Capitol Rotunda in Harrisburg and participated in the Victorian Dance Ensemble's demonstration. In April, a Sister participated in the Dance Ensemble's dance demonstration for Penn State Health at the Hersey Hotel.

Members of **Tent 58** toured Civil War battlefields at Antietam, Gettysburg, Manassas and South Mountain. On July 2<sup>nd</sup> they volunteered for the traditional Pomp and Parade in Philadelphia's Historic District, and on the 4<sup>th</sup> volunteered for the Celebration of Freedom Ceremony at Independence Hall. Sisters visited a Civil War Encampment called "Keeping History Alive" at the Union Library Company of Hatboro organized by SUVCW Baker Fisher Camp 101 and also attended a memorial service for Brevet Major General Kilby Smith conducted by Baker Fisher Camp. They attended the Major Octavius Catto Honor Ceremony at Philadelphia City Hall and a wreath-laying ceremony at the tomb of Gen. John F. Reynolds in Lancaster. At the end of the year, they attended the annual Gen. George G. Meade Birthday celebration at Laurel Hill Cemetery and toured Civil War veterans' graves there.

A Sister from **Tent 61** attended the U.S. Army Military Academy at West Point Awards Ceremony to present an award to a cadet. Sisters played several roles in the popular Sons and Daughters of Union Veterans-staged play "12 Days: The Search for John Wilkes Booth."

**Tent 62** set up an information booth at the Centre County Grange Fair Emporium. Many Tent brochures were distributed. Several Sisters regularly attended the Centre County CW Round Table meetings. At the inaugural Civil War Weekend in Bellefonte, two Tent Sisters gave a presentation about the conservation of a French-made gown worn by PA Civil War First Lady and Tent namesake, Katherine Wilson Curtin.

Sisters of **Marie Tepe Tent 63** conducted a Memorial service for Private Melker Tarr, Co G 28th PVI at Mount Lebanon United Methodist Church Cemetery in Tarrs, PA.

Sisters of **Clara Barton Tent 64** participated in Wreaths Across America in Ebensburg.

### **Volunteer Service**

**Tent 23** presented a monetary award to a graduating Senior at New Wilmington HS who excelled in History, and worked with North Allegheny HS students to make favors and centerpieces for the 2025 Department Convention. The Tent designed and implemented a new project called "Works of Service" to provide food & personal items to local veterans. Each Sister earned 1 hour of credit for every \$10 spent or 1 hour of time dedicated to the project. Altogether they performed 480 hours of service. Tent Sisters continued to clean cemeteries, teach proper headstone cleaning and participate in the "Graves Registration Project" for CW Veterans' graves in the Pittsburgh area.

Sisters of **Tent 55** conducted a memorial ceremony at the grave of Tent namesake Salome Stewart at Gettysburg's Evergreen Cemetery. Four Sisters assisted with staffing and recruitment

at the Gettysburg Festival of Races. The Tent held a barn dance in October and in December held a joint dinner and joint installation of officers with the Sons of Union Veterans Gettysburg Camp in the GAR Hall promoting fraternal relations.

Sisters of **Tent 58** served in a variety of ways for many different organizations. For example, for historical and lineage societies, Sisters volunteered at the Genealogical Society of PA, helping with research and assisting others with applications for membership in the PA Ancestors Lineage Society. They volunteered at Spring Ford Historical Society, the Masonic Temple, Rosenbach Museum, and the GAR Civil War Museum & Archive conducting tours, doing research, and giving presentations; they served as docent for the Mutter Museum and volunteered at the Union League, including preparing a Good Citizen Day at the League. They volunteered for the Independence National Park Trust HQ helping with mass mailings, and tabled at various historical events.

For schools, youth and churches, including church and national cemeteries, Sisters of **Tent 58** served as classroom and library assistant, painted school hallways, decorated a local church and volunteered for the Girl Scouts and Scouting America. They served as administrator for a local cemetery with veteran burials and volunteered at Concord Schoolhouse Upper Burial Ground. At Pennepack Baptist Church, they gave a tour of the Civil War veterans' graves in the cemetery, researched the lives and service of those veterans and created a Memorial Book for the church. Sisters made and delivered wreaths to national cemeteries and participated in Wreaths Across America.

In the area of social and community services, Sisters led a Grief-Share ministry, shopped and prepared meals for shut-ins, volunteered at a food bank, provided physical and medical assistance to veterans, wrote cards to veterans and participated in Stamps for the Wounded Program. Other services performed by Tent Sisters included administrating at the Philadelphia Flower Show and other garden-related community events, writing articles for Civil War newsletters, and submitting an entry for the National duv Committee POW fundraiser book.

Members of **Tent 60** held two Wendy's fundraisers to support their activities.

Sisters of **Tent 61** presented a scholarship award to a student at Salisbury-Elk Lick High School, volunteered at Somerset Historical Center giving school tours, played dulcimer and clarinet at community band concerts, and hosted a breakfast for local veterans in December.

Members of **Tent 62** cleaned grave stones and placed wreaths on the graves of CW soldiers in Boalsburg Cemetery. The Tent's duv researched a female POW who had been sent to Andersonville Prison where she died. Her report was published in the National duv Committee Booklet Part 2. A fourth Memorial Brick was purchased and placed at DUVCW HQ in honor of a deceased Tent Sister. Sisters researched and gave presentations on Sgt. Major John Hamilton and Brig. General Joshua Chamberlain.

**Tent 64** Sisters sent handwritten Holiday cards to the residents of Hollidaysburg Veterans Home.

Compiled from submitted Tent Reports; Linda Kao, Historian, Department of Pennsylvania