



10th Anniversary Newsletter Issue
Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1
Haymarket, VA
Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865
<https://elizabethvanlewtent.weebly.com>
June 2020



10
CELEBRATING
YEARS

June 10, 2010-2020

MESSAGE FROM YOUR CURRENT PRESIDENT—KAREN LYDDANE

Hello Egg-stra Special Sisters,

As it began, so it continues....

*In dedication and honor of the chartering in Haymarket of our sole Tent in Virginia,
Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1, Daughters of Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865....*

We were named in high spirits ten years ago after Elizabeth Van Lew, the spirited spy who creatively supported the Union by passing notes to General Grant in hollowed-out eggs carried by servants from Richmond to market in Washington, D.C. Those servants wore boots with hollowed-out heels that hid more messages. The servants had been slaves who were given their freedom, privileges, and affordable ways to purchase property, through support of Elizabeth.

Haymarket is steeped in Revolutionary War and, more recently, Civil War action. Near the Manassas National Battlefield, where many of our ancestors fought and gave the ultimate sacrifice, Haymarket made history again, on June 10, 2010. On that day, the first Virginia Tent of the DUVCW, 1861-1865 was formed.

The platform laid through Connie Schroeder's vision (other officers are named in Connie's letter) has gloriously sent us to this moment in time. That beginning stands as a great force toward what lies ahead of us.

To look over the presidential materials given when I took office, to give thought as to what took place, and to read this 10th Anniversary Issue, reinforces the need to use all that I can bring to this term, in setting our future. Times have changed, but these needs remain in various forms.

In rising each morning, consider the value that you brought to our Tent when you joined, and that remains today. Ten years ago, we were given an opportunity in this Old Dominion to rise in remembrance of often vague and sketchy memories of those we came from. They were, and are, important. They live through us. We joined to keep green their memory!

As it began, so it continues...with honor, glory, and yes, great spirits, as we, sisters of the Detached Tent 1, Elizabeth Van Lew, Virginia, carry our American flag in ultimate honor.

"Keep Green the Memory"

Karen

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MESSAGE FROM THE ORGANIZING TENT PRESIDENT—CONNIE SCHROEDER



In the beginning...

The idea for establishing a Tent in Virginia occurred to me when I paid my dues to the Tennessee Tent that I belonged to at the time. I thought how nice it would be to have a Tent in the Old Dominion and be able to attend meetings rather than be a long distance member. I contacted National and found out the requirements and mentioned the project to several other members of other organizations, including Suzanne Fichter and Margaret Stromberg. By word of mouth the project spread and within a very short time I was being contacted by many ladies interested in membership. Soon my evenings were spent approving applications and sending them to National.

An Organizational meeting met and conducted business at the Giorgio's Family Restaurant in Dumfries, VA. Officers were decided; banking information was taken care of and the name of the Tent chosen. The original Tent officers were: Connie Schroeder, Tent President; Diana Perrussel, Senior Vice President; Margaret Stromberg, Junior Vice President; Suzanne Fichter, Chaplain; Judith Lalley, Treasurer; Luann Whittenburg, Secretary; Gail Anderson, Historian; Laurie Nesbitt, Patriotic Instructor; Gretchen Lindsey and Michelle Gibson as Tent Council.

Regarding naming the Tent, members had a choice between Elizabeth Van Lew or Mary Elizabeth Bowser. Either would have been an excellent choice as both were spies for the Union. The choice was Elizabeth Van Lew because members thought it would be interesting and fun to belong to a tent named after "Crazy Bet".

The Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent #1 VA was chartered on June 10, 2010. The meeting was held at the home of Organizing Tent President, Connie Schroeder in Haymarket. Barbara Stone, National Junior Vice President, Vickie Day, Margaret McClellan, and Pat Kottemann, National Senior Vice President performed the ceremonies of instituting, initiation and installation of officers thus making the DUVCW "official" in the state of Virginia. Best wishes and greeting were sent to National officers who could not attend, including National President, Betty Ann Turner. There were twenty two members who signed the charter.

Meetings were usually held at the LDS Family History Center in Centreville. Speakers and programs were arranged; all consisted of up and coming plans for the new Tent including establishing Tent Bylaws and obtaining approval for them from National. The Tent had some memorable meetings such as the trip to visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Civil War in Arlington Cemetery, and an Open Hearth Cooking Experience using original colonial recipes (receipts as they were called then). This meeting was held at Connie Schroeder's home that had a fire pit. Tent members divided up into groups and planked a fish, roasted a chicken on string, and made colonial "green bean casserole", among other dishes. Members added a salad and bread and enjoyed what they cooked. All of us enjoyed the extra long meeting in our "not so fancy clothes" and went home smelling like smoke!

At the end of my second term I moved to Colorado and was there for almost seven years before moving back to Virginia last July. I am absolutely delighted to see how the Elizabeth Van Lew Tent has grown and prospered. Membership now covers the state! Tent members have been diligently working. I am proud to have been a part of establishing this organization with all the wonderful members of our Tent.

*In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Connie S. Schroeder, Organizing Tent President*



The **EGG-CITING TIMES** newsletter is so named as a reference to our namesake's use of hollow eggs to smuggle information out of Richmond to the Union commanders.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:



Know Ye, that in the name and by the authority of the

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861---1865

and reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism and fidelity of our worthy sisters:

*Connie L. Schroeder
Diana W. Percussel
Luanne A. Kane
Judith Ann Bohannon Salley
Juana Wittenburg
Lucile Wittenburg Crews
Katherine Arthur Lindsay
Arlis C. Olson*

*Oliver L. Anderson Shaw
Susan Bell Gentry
Margaret Kay Popovich Stromberg
L. Kathleen LaVelle Bryson
Faurie Parker Nesbitt
Hail P. Anderson
Jennifer K. Sheekop
Mary Anne Morgan Carter*

*Donna Galt
Michelle Lee Deane
Janice Lee West
Lorraine E. Allison
Elizabeth A. Juinn
Candace Lee Burk*

And by virtue of the authority vested in me, as President of the National Department of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, by the laws of the State of Ohio, and especially under and by virtue of Art. IV of the Articles of Incorporation of this Organization, "To Grant and Issue Charters, establish and organize Sister Bodies, subsidiary hereof," I do hereby issue this charter and establish them, their associates and successors, a Tent of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865.



To be known as Elizabeth Van Lew
Tent Number One
Located at Haymarket
In County of Prince William
State of Virginia



They are hereby duly authorized and empowered to perform all acts necessary to conduct the business of said Tent, in accordance with the constitution provided for its government, the general rules and regulations of the order, and its obedience to all legal orders coming from proper authority.

In Testament Whereof, I have hereto set my hand and caused the seal of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War to be affixed this Tenth day of June in the year of our Lord, two thousand 10, the two hundredth and 34th of the Independence of the United States of America.

ATTEST:

Nancy Hall Chatkey
Secretary

Doty Ann Lindsay
President

ELIZABETH VAN LEW 1818-1900(?)

The first Union flag to wave over Richmond in four years was raised in 1865 by this famous and effective Union spy. Born into a prominent Richmond family, Elizabeth Van Lew returned from her schooling in Philadelphia as an adamant abolitionist determined to fight slavery in the bastion of the South. "Slave power," she wrote in her diary, "is arrogant, is jealous and intrusive, is cruel, is despotic." Outspoken and rebellious, she appeared to her neighbors to be more than a little eccentric and soon became known as "Crazy Bet."

After Virginia seceded and Fort Sumter fell, she used her reputation for innocuous idiosyncrasy as a shield behind which her shrewd and resourceful mind devised schemes to abet the Union cause from within Richmond. Her first target was the Confederate Libby Prison, which imprisoned Union captives. Pretending to make a merely humanitarian gesture, Van Lew brought baskets of food, medicine, and books to the prisoners. What she brought out would have shocked the guards she learned to charm and deceive.

Not only did Van Lew help some prisoners escape, she also gleaned valuable information from various sources inside the prison. Newly arrived Union prisoners secretly recounted the strength and dispositions of Confederate troops they had seen on their way from the front to Richmond. Of even more use was information carelessly conveyed to the "harmless Crazy Bet" by Confederate guards and by the prison's Confederate commandant, Lieutenant David H. Todd (Mary Todd Lincoln's half-brother).

She even managed to penetrate the home of President Jefferson Davis by convincing one of her former servants to secure a position in the Davis household staff. At first, Van Lew simply mailed the information she retrieved in letters posted to Federal authorities. As her work continued, her methods grew more sophisticated. She devised a code involving words and letters that prisoners would underline in the books she lent them.

Van Lew also sent her household servants--though she had freed the family's slaves, many of them chose to stay with her--northward carrying baskets of farm produce. Each basket held some eggs, one of which contained encoded messages in place of its natural contents. She sent her information directly to Benjamin Butler as well as to Grant through an elaborate courier system. It was so fast and effective that General Grant often received flowers still fresh from his spy's large garden. Grant would later say of her efforts, "You have sent me the most valuable information received from Richmond during the war."

After the war, President Grant rewarded Van Lew with a job as postmistress of Richmond, which she held from 1869 to 1877. Although revered in the North, she was, needless to say, ostracized by her Richmond neighbors. "No one will walk with us on the street," she wrote, "no one will go with us anywhere; and it grows worse and worse as the years roll on." Failing to be reappointed postmistress under Rutherford B. Hayes, she lived on an annuity from the family of a Union soldier she had helped in Libby Prison. She died in Richmond, probably in 1900.

*Elizabeth Van Lew
Detached Tent #1, Virginia*



*Daughters
of the
of the
Civil War, 1861-1865*

~~~~~

*Institution of the  
Elizabeth Van Lew  
Detached Tent #1, Virginia  
June 10, 2010*

### Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### The National Anthem

O! say can you see by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;  
O! say does that star-spangled banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

### The American's Creed

I believe in the United States of America as a Government of the people by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a Republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my Country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

### PROGRAM

WELCOME: Connie S. Schroeder, Organizing Tent President

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS & GREETINGS: Connie S. Schroeder  
RITUAL:

OPEN BIBLE WITH PRAYER: Vickie Day

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Margaret Ann McClellan  
NATIONAL ANTHEM: In unison

AMERICAN'S CREED: Patricia Kottemann, Senior National Vice President

REMARKS: re: Elizabeth Van Lew Tent, Connie S. Schroeder

REMARKS: Barbara Stone, DUVCW Junior National Vice President

INITIATION: Barbara Stone, DUVCW Junior National Vice President

PINNING CEREMONY (pictures can be taken)

INSTITUTING OF Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent #1, Haymarket V.A.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: Barbara Stone

PICTURES

PRESENTATION OF APPRECIATION: Connie S. Schroeder

CLOSING - Connie S. Schroeder

BENEDICTION/BLESSING: Suzanne Bell Fichter, Tent Chaplain

At the request of the National President,  
the Guide for the ceremony will be

Patricia Kottemann, Senior National Vice President

## Memory of a Charter Member



This is Luann Whittenburg, 1<sup>st</sup> Secretary of Virginia Detached Tent 1, Elizabeth Van Lew, DUVCW. In 2009, I was working on genealogy with my aunt Lucile Whittenburg Crews (Tent #1 charter member) in Rome, GA when my father and I went on regular road trips to visit family. Aunt Lucile told me of great grandfather Joseph Whittenburg who was born in 1837 and fought for the Union in Company K, 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment, TN Infantry from Hamilton County, TN. Joseph enlisted on October 11, 1862 and served until June 30, 1865, the end of the War. He received a \$2

U.S. government pension for his service while his brother, George, fought with Confederacy. Luckily each survived the conflict. In 2010, we found the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War website <https://www.duvcw.org/> and were contacted by Cathy Quinn, National DUVCW, who told us a new DUVCW Tent was forming in Haymarket, VA.



Connie Schroeder with the four-leaf clover.

On June 10, 2010, Virginia Tent #1 was established with Connie Schroeder, President. Several National DUVCW members attended including Barbara Stone who became 2012 National President. Aunt Lucile presented our Tent with a four-leaf clover to bring good luck (photo). In 2013, my family commissioned a memorial to

Joseph Whittenburg in Ooltewah TN to honor his service and recognize his family as early pioneers of Hamilton County, TN. I joined DUVCW to honor my gr. grandfather, Joseph Whittenburg and enjoyed documenting our early history as Tent Secretary from June

2010 to June 2013 in Tent meeting minutes and voting records. In early meetings, we approved Bylaws, did a Civil War cooking

demonstration, voted to buy a President's gavel, voted to create the Elizabeth Van Lew website, supported establishing the Egg-citing Times newsletter, and presented a wreath on the grave the unknown Civil War soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.



Looking forward...



Sandra Millin, National President Sends Her Greetings

*"Congratulations on your 10 years!"*

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## June 10, 2010 Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1 Anniversary by Barbara Stone, Past National President

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865, National President Betty Ann Turner asked me to go to Haymarket, Virginia to institute a new Detached Tent, since she lived many more miles away in Las Vegas, Nevada than I did.

I took Sisters Vickie Day of Rebecca Otis Tent #54 of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and her cousin, Margaret Ann McClellan of Rebecca Otis Tent #54 of Muncie, Indiana with me to help with the instituting. We had a wonderful trip going to

Virginia, stopping to eat, getting gas, and buying candy and ice cream. I invited DUVCW Senior Vice President Patricia Kottemann of Alexandria, Virginia, to join us in helping with the instituting as she was approximately 30 minutes traveling time from Haymarket, Virginia.



Vickie Day, Margaret Ann McClellan, and I arrived in Haymarket the day before and stayed in a motel in Manassas, Virginia. Incoming Tent President, Connie Schroeder, came to our motel for discussing what was going to happen the next day during the institution.



Vickie, Margaret Ann, and I did some driving in the Manassas and Haymarket area, using a map to see where the Civil War took place in that area.

On June 10, 2010, we arrived at the home of Connie Schroeder for the instituting ceremony. The ceremony was held on the back deck of her home, which over looked several feet below the back yard. The instituting ceremony was lengthy and the weather was hot. After the ceremony, the new members had put together a very nice lunch hosted in the air conditioned house.

Connie's house was very nicely decorated with pictures of her ancestors and family members on the walls.

Thanks to Sister Karen Misiano, Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1, Patriotic Instructor, Webmaster and Newsletter Editor, and Karen Lyddane, Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1 President for inviting me to write a few words in remembrance of the Tent's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

At last year's DUVCW National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, I took the tour to Andersonville Cemetery to visit the grave of my daughter-in-law's Civil War ancestor, as he is buried there. Past National President Sarah Meyer, Karen Lyddane, and a few other Sisters were with me at the grave of my daughter-in-law's ancestor. I placed a floral arrangement that had already been ordered for his grave, we had prayer, and Sister Karen sang at our small ceremony (which inspired my tears). Sister Karen, this meant and still means a great lot to me.

We wish Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent continued success in the further years and hope to see some of you next year at the DUVCW National Convention.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,  
Barbara Stone, Past National President (2011-2012)



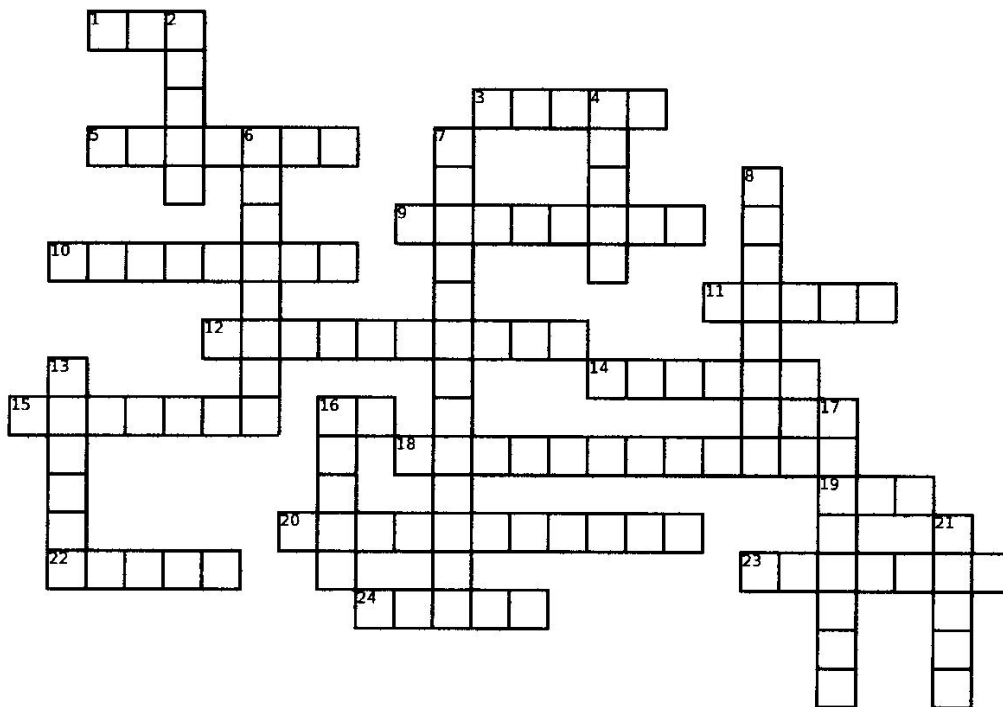
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## How much do you about our namesake, Elizabeth Van Lew?

Take a chance on this crossword.

If you do not know the answers, many are found on our own website or with an internet search.  
(Elizabeth Van Lew is referred to as EVL in the clues.)

### Elizabeth Van Lew



#### ACROSS

- 1 EVL passed notes via strips of paper, hidden inside a hollowed-out \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 The servants would carry information in the hollowed-out \_\_\_\_\_ of boots.
- 5 EVL died in \_\_\_\_\_. (word, not #)
- 9 EVL earned the nickname of "\_\_\_\_\_" due to her, possible feigned, eccentricity. (two words/no spaces)
- 10 EVL is buried in \_\_\_\_\_ Cemetery.
- 11 EVL supposedly had spies in the \_\_\_\_\_ House of the Confederacy.
- 12 Immediately after the war, General Grant appointed EVL \_\_\_\_\_ General.
- 14 EVL was educated in Pennsylvania in a \_\_\_\_\_ school.
- 15 Because EVL never married, she was viewed as the quintessential \_\_\_\_\_. (two words/no spaces)
- 16 Because her burial plot is so small, EVL is buried standing \_\_\_\_\_.
- 18 In 1993, EVL was inducted into the Military \_\_\_\_\_ Hall of Fame.
- 19 EVL even developed her own \_\_\_\_\_ ring, called "Richmond Underground".
- 20 EVL always pretended to be a loyal \_\_\_\_\_.
- 22 EVL continued to live in the \_\_\_\_\_ after

the war.

- 23 Even until today, many southerners consider EVL to be a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 24 It is believed that the local children during Reconstruction considered her to be a \_\_\_\_\_.

#### DOWN

- 2 When entering Richmond, Lieutenant General Ulysses S. \_\_\_\_\_, commander in chief of the Union Army, gave her personal protection.
- 4 EVL shared food furniture, and other supplies while helping prisoners plan escape from \_\_\_\_\_ Prison.
- 6 EVL was born and lived in \_\_\_\_\_, VA.
- 7 Major General Benjamin F. Butler referred to her as "my \_\_\_\_\_ in Richmond."
- 8 EVL was born in 18\_\_\_\_\_. (word, not #)
- 13 After her father's death in, EVL and her mother freed their \_\_\_\_\_ and many became paid servants.
- 16 EVL dedicated her life to preserve the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 17 EVL used servants to send \_\_\_\_\_ to the Union.
- 21 EVL is purportedly buried facing the direction of \_\_\_\_\_.

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## History of Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1 Daughters of Veterans of the Civil War by Gayle Machey, Tent Historian

Elizabeth Van Lew Tent 1 was chartered in Haymarket, VA, on June 10, 2010, with twenty-two members. The first officers were installed with the help of Barbara Stone, DUVCW National Junior Vice President. The officers were the following:

|                       |                                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| President             | Connie Schroeder                     |
| Senior Vice President | Diana Perrussel                      |
| Junior Vice President | Margaret Stromberg                   |
| Chaplain              | Suzanne Fichter                      |
| Treasurer             | Judith Lalley                        |
| Patriotic Instructor  | Laurie Nesbitt                       |
| Secretary             | Luann Whittenburg                    |
| Historian             | Gail Anderson                        |
| Council               | Gretchen Lindsey and Michelle Gibson |



At this point, it was, and still remains, the only Tent in VA honoring Union Veterans.

Margaret Stromberg shared these collection of memories: *“There were some outstanding programs that we had with Connie. One was a Civil War cooking lesson where we made the whole meal around her fire pit. My part was tying a big fish to a plank and standing it up on the edge of the fire. – It was really nice! Another was our first visit to the Tomb of the*

*Unknown Civil War soldiers. One other one was a sing along of Civil War songs that Gretchen Lindsey and I did. And, yet, another was Judy Lally as Elizabeth Van Lew; she did an excellent job!”*



**In January 2013**, Margaret Stromberg, President, sat down with members Trisha Everts and Gail Anderson to review the bylaws and National’s recommendations. By the end of the meeting, they were able to form the bylaws of the two-and one-half year old Elizabeth Van Lew Tent 1.

In April, members enjoyed a Field Trip on a beautiful day to Gordonsville Civil War Museum and lunch at Restaurant

Pomme. And, in October, they took a trip to Arlington Cemetery to honor the Unknown Civil War Soldier.

**In 2014**, we were 44 members strong, and new officers were voted in.

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| President             | Margaret Stromberg |
| Senior Vice President | Gail Anderson      |
| Junior Vice President | Jan MacQueston     |
| Chaplain              | Suzanne Fichter    |
| Treasurer             | Judith Lalley      |
| Registrar             | Patricia Everts    |
| Patriotic Instructor  | Laurie Nesbitt     |
| Secretary             | Luann Whittenburg  |
| Historian             | Gail Itschner      |
| Council               | Candace Burek      |
| Webmaster             | Karen Misiano      |



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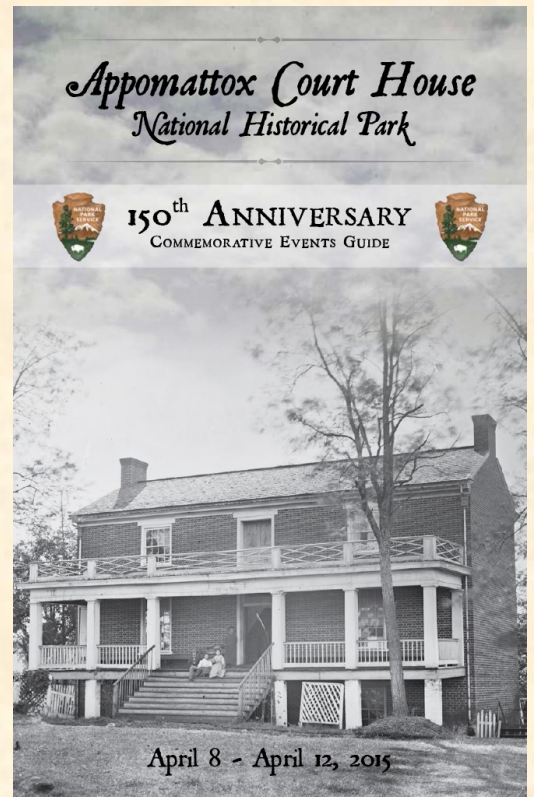


Margaret Stromberg, Karen Lyddane, and Jan MacQueston attended the National Convention in Gettysburg in July 30-August 3. EVL won an award for the greatest increase in membership.

Donetta Bantle and Margaret Stromberg attended a reenactment on September 27 in Henrico County to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the Battles of New Market Heights, Fort Harrison, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Deep Bottom where they handed out information about our Tent.



On April 9, 2015, Margaret Stromberg, Karen Lyddane, Jan MacQueston and Donetta Bantle traveled to Appomattox to attend the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Surrender of Lee to Grant at the Appomattox Courthouse.



In May, members visited Elizabeth Van Lew's grave in the Shockoe Cemetery in Richmond, and Margaret Stromberg attended Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, in August.

Our October meeting included a tour of the New Market Battlefield State Historical Park and the Virginia Museum of the Civil War.

The Tent was 46 members strong by the end of 2015.

**In 2016**, our officers were inducted in March by PNP Ellen Higgins in Fredericksburg.

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| President             | Jan MacQueston     |
| Senior Vice President | Karen Lyddane      |
| Junior Vice President | Donetta Bantle     |
| Chaplain              | Norma Fields       |
| Treasurer             | Marjorie Elliott   |
| Registrar             | Peggy Burroughs    |
| Patriotic Instructor  | Sandi Esty         |
| Secretary             | Gayle Machee       |
| Historian             | Gail Itschner      |
| Council 1             | Margaret Stromberg |
| Council 2             | Patricia Everts    |
| Webmaster             | Karen Misiano      |



Margaret Stromberg was honored to be asked by Past National President Ellen Higgins to assist her in carrying the DUVCW flag at the wreath laying at the Lincoln Memorial on the anniversary of Lincoln's birth.



Karen Lyddane and husband, Denis, received "The President's Volunteer Service Gold Award" for their participation in the Victorian Dance Ensemble performing troupe of the Civil War Dance Foundation.

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**In 2017**, the tent was up to 50 members.

In March, The Tent members visited Chatham, a Georgian mansion overlooking the town of Fredericksburg

Margaret attended the National Convention in Grand Rapids in July. National congratulated our tent for having the most volunteer hours of any detached tent!



**In 2018**, our officers were inducted at the January meeting in Manassas.

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| President             | Donetta Bantle     |
| Senior Vice President | Karen Lyddane      |
| Junior Vice President | Gayle Machee       |
| Chaplain              | Cynthia Matsumoto  |
| Treasurer             | Marjorie Elliott   |
| Registrar             | Peggy Burroughs    |
| Patriotic Instructor  | Sandi Esty         |
| Secretary             | Vicki Fairchild    |
| Historian             | Gail Itschner      |
| Council 1             | Jan MacQueston     |
| Council 2             | Margaret Stromberg |
| Webmaster             | Karen Misiano      |



In February, Margaret Stromberg was honored by an invitation from the DUVCW National President Caren Cleaveland to be the color bearer at the Lincoln memorial ceremonies in Washington, DC.

President Donetta Bantle presented a donation check to Ruth Snead of the Chesterfield Historical Society to help fund the memorial at Point of Rocks. Also in the photo is Scott Williams who presented a program about Point of Rocks, and Crystal Monroe who is a descendent of the original owners of the house where Point of Rocks is located. On June 25, Midge Elliott, Jan MacQueston, and Karen Lyddane went to the dedication of the Point of Rocks Memorial.



Our June meeting was a canal tour on the James River and Kanawah Canal in Richmond, which was important to Richmond during the Civil War.

At the invitation of Past National President Ellen Higgins, the Tent participated in a wreath laying in October to honor the 200th Birthday of Elizabeth Van Lew by the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. Donetta Bantle, Peggy Burroughs, Midge Elliott, Cynthia Matsumoto, Vicki Meadows, Karen Misiano, Jane Shackelford, and Margaret Stromberg attended. (Also pictured from DOLLIS are Caren Cleaveland; Ellen Higgins, National President; and Jan Davis, National Jr. Vice President.)



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In 2019, we had grown to 53 members.

In the January meeting, we were delighted by Andrew Oche's presentation on his First Ladies program at Gatsby's Tavern in Alexandria. Our special guest was National President Sarah Meyers.



On May 18, Karen Lyddane attended an historic marker dedication in Centreville, Virginia, for six recently discovered Massachusetts soldiers' Civil War graves.

In July, Margaret Stromberg, Luanne Whittenburg, Karen Lyddane, Vickie Meadows and Donetta Bantle toured Andersonville as part of the 2019 DUVCW National Convention in Atlanta. Once again, Margaret's Virginia baskets were a big hit at the auction and Carole Morton was excellent at auctioning them.



Our Tent members, including Margaret Stromberg, regularly attend the Irish Brigade, the Lincoln Dinners in Fredericksburg and the Memorial Day Parades in Washington, DC. Every year, they collect non-perishable snacks for the USO offices.



In 2020, we are 72 members strong. 2020 Officers were installed in January in Culpeper.

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| President             | Karen Lyddane     |
| Senior Vice President | Vicki Meadows     |
| Junior Vice President | Marjorie Elliott  |
| Chaplain              | Cynthia Matsumoto |
| Treasurer             | Crystal Geller    |
| Registrar             | Peggy Burroughs   |
| Patriotic Instructor  | Karen Misiano     |
| Secretary             | Amanda Morris     |
| Historian             | Gayle Machey      |
| Council 1             | Donetta Bantle    |
| Council 2             | Jan MacQueston    |
| Webmaster             | Karen Misiano     |

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# Weir Family Cemetery



We are often asked why this cemetery is so close to the house. The answer is simple – it's not the original site! The Weir cemetery was first located to the east, in what is now known as Point of Woods East/Lakeside. In 1989, with the consent of the family, 24 graves were exhumed and moved. Little was recovered with one exception – the remains of Walter Weir were found interred in a cast iron coffin with a glass viewing pane. The coffin itself is very unusual – only the very wealthy were able to afford them and not many have been discovered from the nineteenth century. The coffin did a good job of preserving Walter's remains, enough that forensic analysis determined he died from an infection, likely caused by an abscessed tooth. The headstone and everything found in the original cemetery were later reinterred according to the original burial plan.

1841 - 1870



Walter Weir's headstone (top) and cast iron coffin (middle). The present cemetery (left) contains the remains of Walter, his father William James, and other family members.  
— Manassas Museum Collection



Specialists from the Smithsonian Institution worked alongside city staff to carefully document graves that were exhumed and moved.  
— Manassas Museum Collection

Visit [www.manassascity.org/leisure](http://www.manassascity.org/leisure) or call 703-368-1873 to learn more



Lastly, the Irish Brigade Camp of the SUVCW honored the Irish Brigade soldiers buried at the Fredericksburg National Cemetery on Decoration Day. One Elizabeth Van Lew officer was able to attend, as well as two prospective members.



## Patricia Kottemann, PNP reminisces:

*In June 2010, it was my honor to take part in the Chartering of Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1, at Haymarket, Virginia. That day was a high honor for me to charter a new tent for the DUW, on the threshold of becoming the National President of the organization. To present the Charter, initiate the initial elected officers and the fellowship which followed.*

*I surely appreciated the hospitality of the ladies.*

*I wish the Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1, the best on your 10 years and pray that there will be many more.*

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## Jan MacQueton, Past Tent President, reminisces on one of her most memorable events as part of the Tent

"The afternoon sky was gray on April 9, 2015 and matched the uniforms of the Confederate soldiers gathered many with their heads bowed and others with tears in their eyes as they watched their beloved leader, General Robert E. Lee mount Traveler for a short ride to the McLean house located in Appomattox Court House, Virginia. There, he was greeted by General Ulysses S. Grant, representing the



Union. They walked quietly inside the house, discussed the terms of surrender, signed the document and in a very short time, the Civil War of the United States, that had lasted a bloody four years, was finally over. General Lee rode away to say thank his men and instructed them to go home. The Confederate colors were retired.



The Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War - Elizabeth Van Lew - Detached Tent 1 - Virginia gathered together to commemorate this incredible day. I will never forget the speeches that were given by *descendants* of individuals who had actually participated in the historic event. I fondly remember the descendant of a slave who spoke so eloquently, and the reenactor who portrayed General Lee. Yet, the most poignant moment was the ringing of the bell. At the exact second the surrender document was



signed, houses of worship and other significant bells across the nation and, an antique bell at Appomattox rang for four minutes (one minute for every year of the war). Honestly, you could hear a pin drop...the silence was *deafening*. There were thousands of people listening to the bell ringing and remembering...yes remembering one of the saddest times in our American history...yet coming together as a united nation.

It was an honor for me to be at Appomattox that day with my Sisters and most importantly, to represent my Great-great grandfather Edward Graichen who served so proudly for his adopted country and helped to save the Union."



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**Department of the Chesapeake**  
**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**

105 Eagle Mountain Drive  
Shipman, Virginia 22971  
jrarick@prodigy.net

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June 1, 2020

Sister Tent President,

Please allow me to convey the congratulations of the entire Department of the Chesapeake, SUVCW, on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Elizabeth Van Lew Tent No. 1 (Detached) of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War (DUVCW). As the only Tent of the DUVCW in the Commonwealth of Virginia you, like your namesake, stand strong for the principles of the Grand Army of the Republic.

It has been our great pleasure to partner with you, as the occasion has arisen, in "keeping green the memory of the Boys in Blue." We wish health, continued growth and success for your Tent. We also look forward to joining you in the future in the National Memorial Day Parade and at other occasions with the Camps of our Department.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

JAY A. RARICK  
Department Commander

Attest:  
MICHAEL BEARD  
Department Secretary – Treasurer



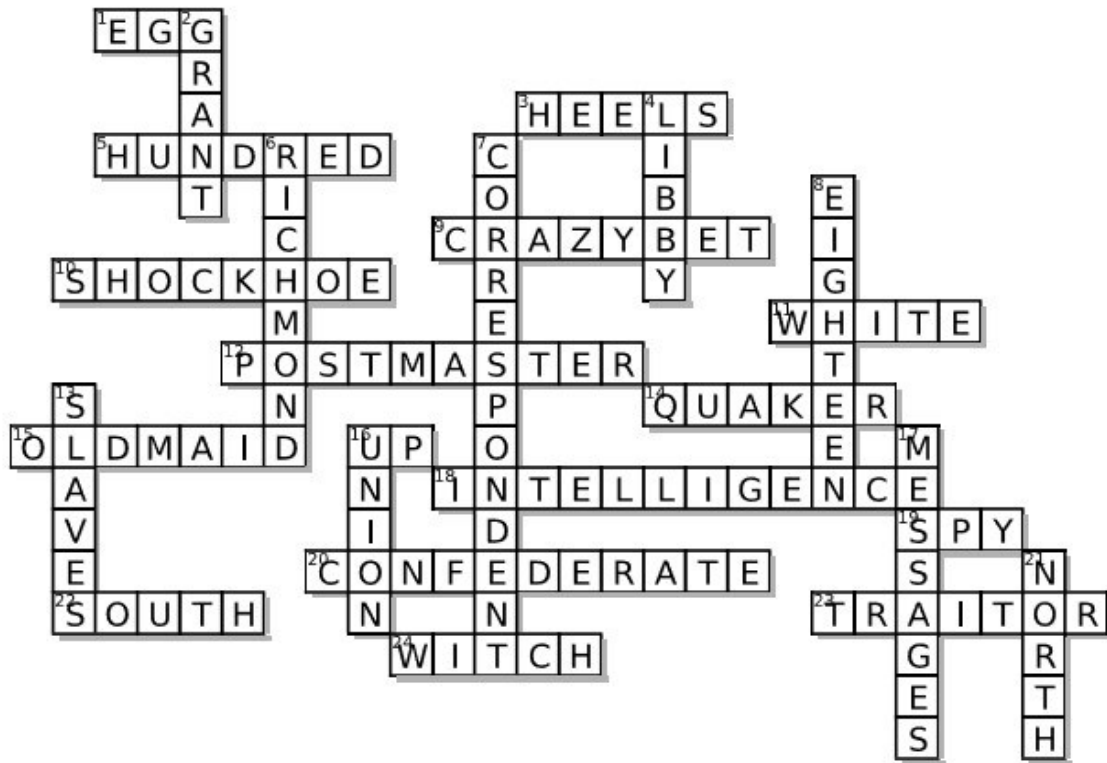
Organized 1881 heir to and representing the Grand Army of the Republic

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# How much do you about our namesake, Elizabeth Van Lew?

Crossword Answers

## Elizabeth Van Lew



### Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1 Officers & Appointed Officers/Chairmen

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*Ancestor Minute Committee:* Norma Fields [fieldsx4@comcast.net](mailto:fieldsx4@comcast.net)

Web address: <https://elizabethvanlewtent.weebly.com>

Tent email address: [elizabethvanlewtentVA@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethvanlewtentVA@gmail.com)

SUVCW Irish Brigade Camp Web address: : <http://irishbrigadecamp.com/index.html>

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