

# MARY CHESEBRO LEE

## DETACHED TENT #23

<https://www.marychesebroleewi23.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/duvcwmarylee>



### Welcome Ann Keckonen!

Ann grew up in Sheboygan and met her husband Jon at Lawrence University in Appleton. She became interested in genealogy in 1981. She has now traced both the Leverenz and the Keckonen family trees back many generations and has met many distant cousins in the process. She visited her 3rd Great Grandfather's grave in the 1980s and discovered an emblem showing he fought in the Civil War. He was Joachim Leverenz, and he fought with Co. I of the 17<sup>th</sup> WI Vol. Infantry.

### UNCLE SAM

According to legend, the character came into use during the War of 1812 and may have been named for Samuel Wilson. The actual origin is obscure. The first reference to Uncle Sam in formal literature (as distinct from newspapers) was in the 1816 allegorical book, *The Adventures of Uncle Sam*.

The precise origin of the Uncle Sam character is unclear, but a popular legend is that the name "Uncle Sam" was derived from Samuel Wilson, a meatpacker from Troy, New York, who supplied rations for American soldiers during the War of 1812. There was a requirement at the time for contractors to stamp their name and where the rations came from onto the food they were sending. Wilson's packages were labeled "E.A.—U.S." When someone asked what that stood for, a co-worker jokingly said, "Elbert Anderson [the contractor] and Uncle Sam," referring to Wilson, though the U.S. actually stood for "United States".

At our "Christmas in July" meeting, Linda Tanner-Freitag was the recipient of Uncle Sam who came wrapped in a large box. Uncle Sam was a "gag" gift supplied by the always creative Barb Steuer. The gift was opened after the conclusion of a dice game which was popular during the Civil War.



Uncle Sam history source:  
Encyclopedia Britannica



## FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY

The next meeting of Tent #23 will held at  
The Delavan Community Centre  
on Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 6:30pm

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 133<sup>rd</sup> NATIONAL DUVCW CONVENTION



**Grand Opening Ceremony**  
Members of Tent 23 were escorted to their seats by Sons of the Union Veterans of Arizona. Pat Blackmer, Council Two (L), Susan Fallon, JROTC/ROTC (M) And (R) Linda Tanner-Freitag who was a Color Bearer for the convention.



**At the Sunday Memorial Service, Susan Fallon honored our Wisconsin Sisters, Sandy Behn and Shirley Peterson, who had passed away in 2023. As always it was a moving and lovely experience honoring all Sisters in DUVCW that we lost in 2023-2024.**

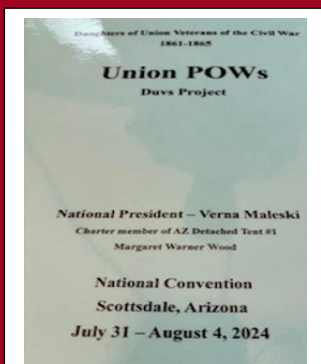


**National Administrative Officers for  
2024-2025  
Norma Fiedler, National President**

**Elected National Officers for  
2024-2025  
Pat Blackmer will serve as Council 2**

**Join us in Herndon, Virginia for the 2025 National Convention  
July 30 – August 3 at the  
Hilton Washington-Dulles Airport Hotel**

## TENT 23 MOURNS THE LOSS OF OUR SISTERS



Duv Natalie Scott's essay on Erastus Gould was published in the UNION POWs booklet that was the duvs project for the National Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona. Natalie has recently assumed the position of Tent 23's Patriotic Instructor. Natalie will start her junior year in high school at Wisconsin Heights. We are proud of this young lady.

**DELAVAN** – Kathleen “Kathy” J. Willemsen, age 82, of Delavan passed away on Saturday, July 27, 2024 at Aurora Lakeland Medical Center in Elkhorn. She was born in Elkhorn, WI on January 17, 1942 to Lewis and Olive (Mitchell) Larsen. Kathy was united in marriage to Peter Willemsen on November 7, 1964. He passed away on May 20, 2017. Kathy was an avid artist and also belonged to the DUVCW. Kathy was a charter member of the Mary Chesebro Lee Tent 23 and had served as a Patriotic Instructor for the Order.

Services were held at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, August 10, 2024 at Monroe Funeral Home, 604 E. Walworth Ave in Delavan. Visitation was held from 9:00 A.M. until the time of the service on Saturday at the funeral home. Burial took place at Roselawn Memory Gardens in Lake Geneva.

**DELAVAN** – Barbara Louise (Davis) Shreves, age 91, of Delavan passed away peacefully on Friday, July 19, 2024 at Delavan Health Services. She was born March 20, 1933 to Claude and Kathryn Davis. Barbara met Eugene Shreves of Sistersville, WV when he was stationed at the radar base in Williams Bay. They were married for more than 62 years.

Barbara trained at Mercy Hospital in Janesville as an X-ray technician. After her marriage, Barbara and Gene managed Delbrook Golf Course. She routinely served more than 100 lunches on Ladies Day despite not knowing how to cook. She switched careers again, returning to college. Barbara received her Bachelor of Arts and Masters in English, Speech, and Drama from UW-Whitewater. She taught English and Drama at Delavan-Darien High School, serving as drama director of school musicals and one-act plays. She retired in 1992.

After retirement she became involved with Walworth County Retired Educators Association, Friends of Aram Public Library, Delavan Historical Society, Meals on Wheels, and Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War. She was a charter member of the Mary Chesebro Lee Tent and served as a Patriotic Instructor.

Left: Photo -Kathy Willemsen

Right: Photo – Barb Shreves

