

WMA'NOUNCEMENTS

Official Publication of the Women Marines Association



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Serving our members since 1969

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The Race is Over!

It came down to the wire, but the "Run for the WMA Roses" was won by...everyone who attended!

Congratulations to the convention committee on a job well done. From arriving at the airport to a Marine Corps League escort, to going home with suitcases full of convention and Tack Room items, it was a fast-paced week of fun and camaraderie.

This newsletter is crammed full – almost as much as my suitcase was – with convention sights and information. So put your feet up! We're going for a victory lap around the track!

Sondra Metzger



Paula, you didn't tell the Commandant THAT joke, did you??

Photo courtesy of MarineLink.



Capt Verniece Armour points to her photo on the WMA photo board.

Photo by Micaila Britto.



A rousing time in the Hospitality Suite.

Photo by Micaila Britto.



Bernice Young, Betty Lerdall (center) and Carol Mutter. *Photo by June Dempsey.*



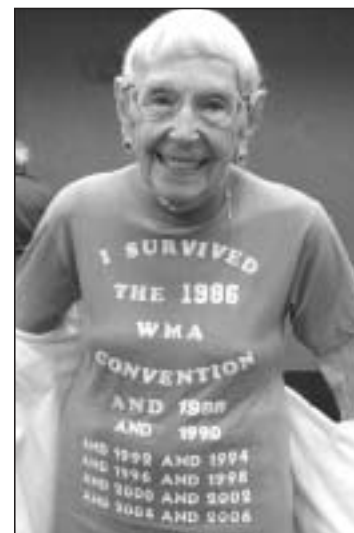
Who is that masked horse??



Nita Bob Warner surrounded by her favorite people - Marines! *Photo by Micaila Britto.*



The Marines of Registration (l-r): Doris Keane, Eileen Neiler, Lindsay Long, Barbara Chagnon, LaVerne Marts, Maggie Hart and Betty Lieser. *Photo by Barbara Chagnon.*



Helen Hannah Campbell decided to wear her dedication (and strength) on her shirt, which says, "I survived the 1986 WMA Convention and 1988 and 1990" all the way up to and including 2006.



Better keep our eye on *this* group! *Photo by Micaila Britto*



Convention Co-Chair Mary Sabourin (left) got caught with Jeanne Botwright in June Dempsey's camera lens.

"63 years of proud service to country and Corps"



Women Marines Association

63 YEARS OF PROUD SERVICE
TO COUNTRY AND CORPS

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WMA'NOUNCEMENTS

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President's Message

To the Women of the Corps,

I can't tell you what a thrill it was to attend the convention as your President! Dedicating the convention to our past presidents and having them there with two exceptions meant the world to me. The convention committee did a wonderful job and the venue was terrific. But even greater was the attitude and enthusiasm of the women who attended; from Helen Hannah Campbell (life member #2) to our latest Iraqi chapter representative – GySgt Crystal Henderson. The active duty women are pumped up about WMA and have promised to try and get 20% of the active duty women enrolled as members. I think WMA is in good hands with them on board and will last forever because of their response.

For me sitting at the meeting of the Life Member Fund Review Board with iconic past presidents was one thrill I'll never forget. Another was walking down the isle with my husband to your cheers and good wishes (in front of the Commandant of the Marine Corps!). And of course, meeting everyone there and seeing the smiles and energy that everyone brought to the event. The Loyal Escorts were great help to all, too. And the hospitality room was a blast!

From the women who made major history like Capt. Verniece Armour to the woman who told me she was just a clerk and didn't do anything - you have all made history and each of you have such great stories. I hope you won't let them go untold. I can't remember them all, you know? Your History Committee has many ways for you to contribute in the preserva-

tion of our history. Don't let it go unrecorded. It's up to you to save it. And the History Suite was one great event that everyone enjoyed. Nancy Wilt, Sara Phoenix, Marge Alexander, LaVerne Sarber, and Jo Slater and CO-1 members among others worked very hard to bring that to the convention. It was an expensive venture but I think well worth the investment. The response was categorically positive! If you want to see it in Houston, you'll need to get donations in to CO-1.

The professional seminars were a hit, too. We collected surveys and comments and hope to improve on them in Houston. The boat ride and other activities seemed to be a hit as well. Many thanks to the convention committee for their work in those additions.

Many of the committee chairs, appointed officers and representatives and special appointees are staying on board for the next term. Some are not. I'd like to publicly thank those who have chosen to move on for their dedication and service to WMA- Eileen Scanlon, Brenda Blair, Bev Short, Roberta Eaton, Lori Cousins, Jeanne Botwright, Pam Bloustine, Carole Hawkins, Doris Bell, Zelda Barrows, Ozell Barksdale, Doris Keane, Mary Sabourin and Pat Bond McLane. WMA owes each of you a big thank you. Certificates were prepared and names mentioned at the R & A luncheon, but it really wasn't enough because time was so short. I do apologize for that - you deserve much more. For those who did not get your certificates, I'll try to mail them soon.

Your Board of Directors and representatives at the business meetings voted on some great improvements for WMA with very little dissension.

The issues published in the summer issue of *'Nouncements* on pages 17 and 18 passed with one exception - 1.) Article 9, Section 2 - Elections, Ballots was withdrawn by the person who proposed it. So now we have moved into the 21st century in a big way. The board voted to experiment with virtual meetings to make our normal interim board meetings and convention board meetings easier to conduct and less time consuming. This will also help to speed up decisions that need quick replies. Your website is morphing into a very useable and efficacious system, but there is still work to be done so keep the comments coming when you run into questions and/or problems. Soon you'll be able to update address information and next of kin information electronically. This is a huge improvement to our record keeping. And that's just a glimpse of what we accomplished.

I can't thank the Board of Directors, the Convention Committees, and the Loyal Escorts enough for making this an event that none of us will soon forget. God Bless you all and Semper Fidelis! Oh, and Yee Haw! See you in Texas!

Paula Sarlls
President



WMA 501 (c) (3) ***Status Approved***

WMA received notice that our status as a 501 C(3) Corporation was approved retroactively to January 1, 2006. This 501 C(3) status covers all chapters that were included in the previous 501 C(19) exemption as reported on the 2005 tax return. No action by chapters is necessary at this time with regard to this matter.

Paula Sarlls

Notes from the 1st VP

Greetings Marines! I can't tell you how excited and privileged I am to serve as your 1st VP. I have been a member of WMA since 1989 both as an active duty member and now as a retired Marine. I believe it is imperative to emphasize our rich heritage through those who have served before us and look to our future through those who are serving today. The recent convention in Louisville gave me a great look at what is yet to come. I met so many motivated members who I know will contribute to the overall accomplishment of our mission of preserving our history and promoting the camaraderie of all women who have served.

One of the main job responsibilities as 1st VP is membership. I will work directly with and charge all area directors and chapter presidents to be proactive in their efforts to continue our membership growth. One way is by reaching out to our Members-at-Large (MALs). The number of MALs should continue to grow as we have recently mailed information to over 6,000 former Marines who are currently registered with Women in Military Service for America (WIMSA) but who are not yet members of the WMA. And let's not forget the thousands of active duty women who are serving today. There are so many possible members out there just waiting to be contacted, informed and educated about WMA.



Continued on next page

Notes from the 1st VP

Continued from Page 3

Your individual recruiting efforts, our WIMSA mailing and our new online membership registration have resulted in over 500 new members in just the last year and a half. With your help and support I plan to improve our current membership programs including the continued updating of our national website www.womenmarines.org and the formation of "virtual chapters" to support more of our Members-at-Large.

I look forward to working with all of you and I encourage you

to contact me with your ideas and suggestions on how we can better support WMA. Look for another column in this newsletter entitled "**Chapter Tool Kit**". This article consists of tips for chapter presidents and will be printed immediately before the Chapter Clippings section of 'Nouncements.

Semper Fidelis,
Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower

The \$4 million Marine

Claudia Mitchell, a 26-year-old former Marine, lost her left arm in a motorcycle accident in Arkansas in 2004. In 2005, after reading an article in Popular Science about Tennessean Jesse Sullivan who received the first bionic arms in 2001, Claudia knew she had to have one of those.

The arm she received, a \$4 million project funded for the most part by the National Institutes of Health, is more advanced than Sullivan's, using chest muscles instead of cranial implants to connect the arm to nerves that at one time sent signals to the shoulder, elbow, wrist and hand.

After some "re-wiring" of nerves and muscles in her chest, six muscles move six motors in the arm.



Occupational Therapist Kathy Stubblefield works with Claudia Mitchell to improve her mobility with a bionic arm.

Photo by Todd Rosenberg for USA TODAY.

Claudia can perform simple tasks such as folding a pair of pants without first stretching them out on a flat surface, but surgeons think the arm is clumsy and are working to make hers and future versions of the arm more precise and sensitive.

A volunteer at a Washington, DC military hospital, Claudia is hoping to go to college next year to study communications and is excited about the idea of being able to pave the way to make this type of surgery more common.

Her surgeons are now looking for amputees who have lost arms above the elbow in the past year to also participate in the project.

Marine Officer promoted on Coast Guard ship

Why would a senior officer in the Marine Corps, a service known for its long history and storied traditions, request to conduct her promotion ceremony aboard a Coast Guard cutter at a Coast Guard base 500 miles from her duty station?

Kate Tate was authorized to be promoted to colonel in September. She decided not to conduct her promotion ceremony at her unit, the 2nd Marine Air Wing at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, where she serves as assistant chief of staff for intelligence. Instead, she traveled to Philadelphia on 5 September and be promoted aboard the Coast Guard Cutter William Tate, a ship named for her great-grandfather.

"It was a real honor to be promoted aboard the ship," said Tate. "The Coast Guard is such a great organization." Tate's father and husband, a retired Marine lieutenant colonel, pinned on her silver eagles. Capt. Ted Harrop, deputy com-



Col. Kate Tate, promoted aboard the Coast Guard Cutter William Tate, a ship named for her great-grandfather.

mander of Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay, presided over the ceremony, read the promotion citation and administered Tate's oath. The ship's crew attended the morning ceremony, held on the bridge of the ship at its homeport of Philadelphia.

"I was honored to fulfill the colonel's request to be promoted aboard my ship," said Lt. Brian Huff, commanding officer of the William Tate. "Besides supporting a fellow servicemember, it gave my crew an opportunity to remember

William Tate and honor his contributions to this country."

The crew was given the opportunity to speak with Col. Tate's father, James Tate, Jr., about his grandfather, the ship's namesake. His first visit to the ship in years, he enjoyed a tour of the engine room.

"I was happy that my father could attend and participate in the ceremony," said Kate Tate. "It's a real honor for him to be able to visit this ship again and remember his grandfather."

Continuing to Serve

On 23 June 2005, a mail carrier lost her life. She loved delivering the mail, seeing faces light up by the sight of a simple letter. Had she not been killed when a suicide bomber rammed his truck into the truck she was riding in, she'd be in Cranston, RI right now getting her uniform ready to deliver the mail tomorrow, and smiling that big smile of hers because she loved it so much.

LCpl Holly A. Charette had a year to go when she became the first female Marine killed in Iraq. She was planning to leave the Marine Corps, come home and apply for a job with the postal service. She acknowledged that it wouldn't be the same as being a Marine, but at least she'd still be in uniform.

Instead, she came home in a flag-draped casket carried by the Marines she



LCpl Holly A. Charette

School East installed a plaque and planted a flowering dogwood tree on its campus, and Hugh B. Bain Middle School planted a sapling for her.

And now the post office at 57 Rolfe Square, Cranston, has been re-named the Holly A. Charette Post Office. The postal service unveiled a black and silver metal plaque honoring Holly that will be

also loved.

The day of her funeral, the governor of Rhode Island ordered the flags be flown at half staff.

She has since been memorialized by her alma maters.

Cranston High

mounted inside the post office.

Following that, Holly will represent Rhode Island in an upcoming book profiling troops injured or killed fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. "Faces of Freedom" is scheduled to be published early next year. It will include a chapter on one serviceperson from each of the 50 states, as well as Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C.

Proceeds from the sale of Faces of Freedom will go to The Fisher House and the Wounded Warrior Project.

The cover of the book will feature a photograph of a memorial service, held in Iraq, for Sgt. Mark Adams, 25, from Morrisville, N.C. In the photo, a Marine is seen touching Adams' helmet, which is perched atop his rifle.

*Sondra Metzger,
with excerpts*

from various online sources

A Compelling Visit

While I was in Louisville staffing the Women Veterans Wall of Honor display at the WMA's 24th Biennial Convention and Professional Development Conference, I learned about a very special woman veteran in the area and I went to visit her.

She resides in a nursing home in Louisville. This special woman veteran is 2nd Lt Mary Josephine Oberst from Owensboro, KY. She was one of the 67 American Army nurses who were held as prisoners of war by the Japanese in the Philippines for 33 months during World War II. They were captured when Corregidor fell in April 1942. Later they were moved to the Santo Tomas Internment camp in Manila, where they remained until 3 February 1945 when they were liberated by American forces.

There they suffered from loss of freedom and the lack of food and medicine. Starvation became a way of life, with a typical day's rations consisting of a small bowl of rice in the morning and a small bowl of corn mush at night. They grew what greens they could in the compound, and were able to buy some bread on the black market.

Occasional Red Cross packages would arrive, and the women would save these scarce rations for special days. Ms. Oberst recalls that on Thanksgiving Day 1944 their feast consisted of baked Spam with grape jelly and bacon gravy.

After the war, Ms. Oberst continued to serve as an Army nurse, was promoted to captain, but health problems stemming from her captivity forced her to take a disability discharge in 1947. Later, she served as assistant director of nursing at St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing in Evansville, IN until declining health forced her into early retirement in 1962.

"You never readjust," she said. "It changes you. You are never the same. You're thankful for fresh air, food, clothing, the little things. And you're so much more generous after having been deprived."

During the Vietnam and the Persian

*She was one of the
67 American Army
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World War II*



TN-1 with MaryAnn (center) in front of the Wall of Honor. Photo courtesy of Barbara Chagnon.

Gulf wars, Ms. Oberst sent packages to soldiers there, and remembered what it was like to be a prisoner of war far from home, although she says that she never doubted that she and the other Army nurse prisoners would go home again. Her faith got her through.

Ms. Oberst is a delightful 92 year old woman veteran who is still sharp, enjoying visitors and sharing her inspirational story. It was an honor and pleasure to visit with Ms. Oberst.

*MaryAnn Woodward-Smith,
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Unlikely Success

Marines come in a vast array of shapes, sizes, and abilities. Yet beneath the surface variations, measurable trends run through the ranks. For example, Marines tend to be history lovers. Many had a father or grandfather in the Corps. Most were athletes in high school or college.

Marine hopefuls with these traits will arrive in the Corps to find a commonality with their fellow warriors...but what about those Marines that don't fit the mold?

Can a person still be a successful leader in the Marine Corps if they aren't a garden-variety, history-loving athlete?

What if, instead, you were a physics nerd whose favorite sport was the Academic Challenge Team and running was something you abhorred?

1stLt Teresa Fazio can answer that question. A self-professed "hopeless geek" who was more analytical than athletic, Teresa was a peripheral candidate for Marine Corps success. But like many, her Type A personality led her to seek out opportunities for a challenge.

"I'd thought about becoming a Marine since I was about 12," she says. "My brothers were obsessed with military stuff, so my family and I wandered into a USMC recruiter's office one day. He said 'Come back when you're 17.' So I did."

To note that Fazio is intelligent would be to casually mention that Chesty Puller was decorated. Her test scores easily worthy of Mensa, she earned the Reserve Officer's Training Corps scholarship and was accepted to Massachusetts Institute of Technology,

choosing to major in physics at one of America's most highly-esteemed universities.

The rigors of the Marine Corps and the academically-demanding university proved to be the gut-check that she sought. When asked which institution was more challenging, she pondered a moment before answering.

"The hardest thing for me was not being the best," she said. "In high school, I was an overachiever, and it was easy to be the smartest. The Corps and MIT gave me many opportunities to fail. Failing was something that I had never been prepared for."

Standing 5'1" tall and weighing 118 lbs, Fazio's diminutive frame did not make it easy to physically keep up with her peers. She fell out of every hike her freshmen year of ROTC. "I was slow and I hated it," she relates. By the time she attended OCS and TBS, however, she had built up enough stamina to run every hike and never again fell behind.

"By then, I'd realized the challenge was truly more mental than physical. I willed myself to keep up."

Fazio added, amused, "I suspect everyone in the Marine Corps under 5'4" can sympathize. My platoon said it was like watching a giant pack move itself around on little legs."

Before long, her perfect tests scores were matched by her perfect 300 PFT scores. She maintained a 300 PFT throughout her Marine career.

Fazio's cerebral background affected her in other areas of the Marine Corps as well. "As a Second Lieutenant, being introverted made interaction with officers and Marines difficult for me," she said. "Compound that with being in a

foreign country and Marines dying outside the wire...yeah, that was tough but eye-opening."

It didn't take very long before 1stLt Fazio was forced to overcome her shyness. Soon after hitting the fleet, she was leading dozens of Marines in Iraq as a Communications Officer, where she was responsible for digging miles of trenches for commercial fiber infrastructure.

LtCol Emily Elder, who was 1stLt Fazio's Executive Officer at the time, commented on her performance. "The thing I respected most about her was her innate ability to balance her academic gifts and still be able to communicate with the Marines." She added with a chuckle, "Although we didn't always understand her math jokes."

Teresa was twice-decorated for her performance in the Marine Corps. She recently ended her active service and is currently attending Columbia University, pursuing her PhD in Materials Science.

Reflecting on her four years in the Marines, she says, "I miss the camaraderie, and knowing that Marines have my back no matter what. But I took away a fantastic work ethic and a gratitude for how wonderful my life is."

When asked for words of wisdom that she would give prospective Marines who feel they don't quite "fit the Marine mold", she offered the following advice:

"It takes all kinds to make the Corps run. As a shy geek, you have a unique perspective and a tendency to think outside the box," Fazio says. After a pause, she adds, "Plus, it's easier to convince your Commanding Officer that you're smarter than he is."

Capt Melinda Schon

New Merchandise



A book, "Parris Island: A Woman's Memoir of Marine Corps Boot Camp", signed by the author, Lisa Cordeiro. "The author's descriptions of Parris Island's training of women recruits are gritty, gripping, and beautifully written... I've never read a better account of the transformation worked by military training." - Nina Osier, reviewer. Cost is \$16.95 plus \$3.95 shipping. Or, you can order it online at www.lisacordeiro.com.

Magnets, "I'm Proud to be a Women Marine" red, white and blue ribbon magnet, 8"x3", cost is \$6.00 which includes



shipping; WWII magnet, 3 1/2" X 2 1/2", red lettering on white background with blue border, cost is \$2.00, which includes postage.

Another book, "Cooking with Marines", a collection of recipes from Marines. This is one of the fundraisers for the 2008 convention. Cost is \$12.50 (shipping included). You'll be seeing more about this as time goes on.

We have an exclusive design of a woman Marine cover cross stitch pattern, with backstitch eagle, globe and anchor. This comes with full



instructions such as stitch length and width, and colors to use for either green or dress blues, outline or full stitch. Cost is \$2.50 (includes shipping).

Last is the 2007 WMA Historical Calendar. Titled "Strike Up the Band!" the calendar features photos from not only the WR Band but also "The President's Own". A definite must-have for your WMA calendar collection. Cost is \$15.00 (includes shipping).

All of these items are listed in the Merchandise pages of this newsletter with contact and ordering information.



Every Bit As Gung Ho

(Editor's note - Below is an email that is in the current online newsletter from Sgt Grit.)

Dear Sgt. Grit,

I have been receiving your newsletter for about a year now and enjoy each and every edition. Like many of your readers, I was permanently infected with a profound love for our Corps while serving during the Vietnam War. Since leaving the Corps in 1977, I have found that inactive Marines are every bit as GUNG HO as the active Marines. I live in the San Francisco Bay Area where we do not have Marine bases close by, but you would never know it by the number of cars with Marine bumper stickers, emblems, etc. Additionally, if a home in this area displays a service flag, 99.5% of the time, it will be the Marine Corps flag. We are a proud band of brothers and sisters and aren't afraid to demonstrate that pride in every way possible.

Last year, I discovered a Women Marines Association (WMA) chapter in my area and promptly joined. It was a wonderful decision and has allowed me to be in the company of women who proudly served and who love the Corps every bit as much today as they ever did while active. During the first week of September 2006, I attended my first WMA Convention in Louisville, KY and it was a wonderful experience. The majority of women in the WMA are from the WWII and Korean Eras and they are the most amazing group of women you can

ever imagine. What a thrill it was just to be in the company of these exceptional women. I even managed to visit with my OCS roommate, another of our classmates and our series lieutenant. We visited like it was yesterday and it had been 38 years since we had seen each other.

*We are a proud
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Additionally, we had about 20 young active duty Marines who were a delight to be around. They ranged in rank from LCpl through BGen and each and every one of them was a credit to the Corps and to themselves. They were very outgoing, had great respect for the women who blazed the trail for them to follow and were full of Esprit de Corps. These young people are living in a Corps that is very different from the one we knew, but they are performing each and every task assigned to them with the same Marine "CAN DO" attitude we all shared. Almost all of them have served at least one tour in Iraq and they approached that assignment

like they would any other in spite of the difficult conditions and ever present danger. These women are a credit to their Country, to their Corps, to their families and to themselves. I wish them all success and safety in all future assignments.

Our final gathering at the convention was made extra special by a visit from General Michael W. Hagee, the Commandant of the Marine Corps. He shared some very interesting and amazing stories about the Corps and the 11,000 women currently serving. The Commandant was very gracious and took photos with all who asked. It was wonderful to share those few hours with such an exceptional representative of our Corps. Thank you General Hagee!

To any women who have served in the Corps and would like to share their experiences with other women of similar background, I recommend that you locate and join your local WMA chapter. Believe it or not, there doesn't even need to be a physical chapter in your area because WMA can now support virtual chapters using online tools like email. The National WMA address is WMA, P.O. Box 8405, Falls Church, VA. 22041-8408. They can help you locate a chapter near you. If any old friends see this letter and want to contact me, my e-mail address is Ktwright11 @ comcast.net.

To all who share the motto "The Fewer, The Prouder, The Women Marines", I say Semper Fidelis.

*Kathleen Wright
Sgt., USMC, 1965-1968
Capt., USMC 1968-1977*

Marine Transport Squadron 1 remembers fallen sergeant

The Station Chapel was quiet except for the sounds of rustling trousers, Marines' dress shoes dully registering on the carpeted auditorium aisle and the occasional hushed whispers of Sgt. Susan M. Babich's friends and family members.

As the crowd filed through the double doors to the auditorium, they saw a picture of her and her husband Sgt. Warren L. Babich at the head of aisle. Both were pictured wearing dress blue uniforms, presumably for the Marine Corps Ball. The smiles on their faces were a small portrait of the stories Susan's loved ones told at the memorial service earlier.

The Babich's romance ended tragically and abruptly, June 8,



Sgt. Susan M. Babich

when Susan was struck by lightning while crossing the flight line outside the Marine Transport Squadron 1 hangar at Cherry Point where they worked. Susan, at 27, was pregnant with her first child, a son, Liam Tyler.

Not content to sit at a desk, Susan became an airframes mechanic, specializing in nondestructive inspection and testing. She made two deployments to Okinawa. She earned her aircrew wings and qualified as both a transportation safety specialist and as a loadmaster on the C-9 aircraft.

*Excerpted from online story
and photo by Cpl Jesse R. Stence*

Patty Berg dies at 88

We featured her in our Summer 2003 newsletter when she was selected for the Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame. Afterward, I received a note from her, thanking me for the article.

Now we feature her again, this time to report her passing. Patty Berg died 9 September in Fort Myers, FL, of complications from Alzheimer's disease.

A founder and president of the LPGA, Patty won 15 major titles, 60 professional tournaments and 28 amateur tournaments during her playing days.

But in 1943, she took a "break" from tournaments to serve as a lieutenant in the Marine Corps for three years. When she wasn't teaching history at Camp Lejeune, she was using her celebrity to sell war bonds.

Patty became known for the golf clinics she conducted all over the world, over 10,000 in all by her count. A keen sense of humor and sharp wit helped her entertain crowds with clinics that included jokes, gags and trick shots, and provided valuable instruction.



The golfer

"No one gave a clinic like Patty Berg," Amy Alcott said. "It was one of the most amazing things you'd ever see."

In 1993, the Patty Berg Cancer Center at Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center was named in her honor.

She remained active in the golf community, regularly attending tournaments and award functions, and continued her clinics well into her 80s. She was well known for her dedication to helping junior golfers.

In 2004, she announced that she had Alzheimer's disease and her public appearances became fewer, but she never missed a World Golf Hall of Fame induction ceremony. This year's was 30 October.

Her sense of humor was a key part of Patty. So much so that her memorial service was filled with many memories and much laughter, just as she would want it. Everyone had a "Patty Berg story".

The LPGA has announced two charities to which golfers may donate if they wish to make a memorial donation in her name. Denote on your check that the



Patty Berg assists in raising the U.S. flag during the opening ceremonies for the 2002 Solheim Cup

donation is "In Memory of Patty Berg," and mail to one of the following charities: The Patty Berg Cancer Center, 2727 Winkler Avenue, Ft. Myers, FL 33901, or The LPGA Foundation, 100 International Golf Drive, Daytona Beach, FL 32124. Donations to The LPGA Foundation in memory of Patty Berg will be earmarked for junior golf programs.

Patty, as the saying goes, we hardly knew ye, but a sister you were, a Marine you will always be. It sounds like we missed out on a winner in more ways than one. Semper Fidelis, Patty.

Sondra Metzger

The Passing of an Extraordinary Woman

Coast Guard Captain Dorothy C. Stratton, the first director of the Coast Guard Women's Reserve (SPARS) and the last survivor of the original women's service directors who volunteered in WWII, passed away on 17 September at the age of 107.

No, that is NOT a typo, and I'm not pulling your leg.

Born on 24 March 1899, Capt Stratton died peacefully in her own bed in West Lafayette, IN, "the way she wanted to" according to longtime friend Sally Watlington, retired Navy captain.

Before joining the Coast Guard, Capt Stratton was the first full time Dean of Women at Purdue.

Like our WRs, she felt the need to serve her country and took a leave of absence from Purdue to join the Naval Women's Reserve in 1942. Lt Stratton was ordered to report to Washington, DC where the Coast Guard Women's Reserve was established by President Franklin Roosevelt. Newly transferred and promoted LtCmdr Stratton was sworn in as

its director a few hours later, simultaneously becoming the first woman officer accepted for service in the history of the Coast Guard.

The first thing she did was establish the name SPARs for the women's reserve by using the first letters of the Coast Guard motto, Semper Paratus — Always Ready.

LtCmdr Stratton was promoted to commander on 1 January 1944 and to the rank of captain one month later. When she completed her service to the Coast Guard in January 1946, she was awarded the Legion of Merit.

Though her career with the Coast Guard ended in 1946, she continued to serve the country as the first Director of Personnel for the International Monetary Fund from 1946-50, and then as National Executive Director of the Girl Scouts of



Capt Dorothy C. Stratton

America from 1950-60. In 2005, the Ottawa University Alumni Association awarded its Outstanding Achievement Award to her.

A memorial service was held on 1 October in Lafayette. National ensigns flew at half-mast at Coast Guard units around the globe to honor the legacy of Capt Stratton. She was buried during a private service at West Lafayette's Grandview Cemetery next to her parents.

Capt Stratton could easily have been a woman Marine. She always felt that it was important to remember one thing: those who came before us for they are our history; and it is vital to look ahead to those that follow us for they are key to leaving the world a better place.

Sound familiar?

*Information
courtesy of WIMSA,
Purdue University and the Coast Guard*

History, History, and *More* History

What a convention and my thanks to all who made the event possible. Our History Suite was a huge success with hundreds upon hundreds of you dropping by to view the exhibit and more importantly add stories, photos and treasured memorabilia to the collection.

Many of you shared information that tied together partial stories we had to make them complete. The photos are wonderful additions and the fact that we could get identifications of those in the photos is fantastic. CO-1 thanks all of you for your valuable items and stories that will help with the preservation of the women Marine history.

Just prior to convention we sent our first Women Marines Traveling Exhibit (WMTE) to the 3rd Marine Division Convention with great success. Our Wisconsin chapter received, set-up and staffed the exhibit. Many thanks to this chapter for a job well done. We have received great comments from the 3rd Marine Division as well as Carol Mutter, their guest speaker. This exhibit is available to any community or military group that would like to have it. Libraries, universities, schools, veteran organizations make great ways for us to tell our story. We ask all of you to advertise the availability of WMTEs in your communities. This is a great way for chapters to have an activity without cost to the chapter and only a minimal time investment. It allows all of us to tell the woman Marine story and our history. Contact the historian with all requests.

Since returning from the convention, six boxes have arrived as well as four envelopes of data for the collection. All were significant in the items and stories they have added to the collection.

Some of the new items are the enlistment documents of Rose Marcus, a WWI Marine assigned to HQMC. In addition to her enlistment, promotion and discharge papers are official directives from HQMC that would indicate problems the women were causing the Corps. One concerned women Marines and loitering in the hallways of headquarters and the corrective action that was to be taken. The other concerned women wearing

uniform items and awards that they did not rate nor were allowed to wear. These included the sam brown belt, WWI campaign medals, WWI campaign medals for service in France as well as gallantry medals issued to Marines by the French



A small section of the History Suite in Louisville.

government. These views into the past add immensely to our knowledge of the life of our WWI women and prove that the women were not given much training in Marine Corps regulations before

If we don't preserve our history the unique stories and the important contributions women Marines have made will be lost.

assuming their roles as US Marines. These documents will be displayed at the next convention in 2008 in Houston.

The History Project asks that you keep sending those items you promised to send during convention. Delve into those boxes you have and send, send, send. Current Marine history is as important as past history. We are in need of uniforms from all generations with special needs for the 1950's through the 1970's as well as buttons and rank insignia. Covers are needed as many are shipped in poor con-

dition. If you can share a cover with the History Project please pack it separately, well wrapped in a separate box.

If we don't preserve our history the unique stories and the important contributions women Marines have made will be lost. Please be part of this project.

Since returning to Colorado, CO-1 has tripled our storage facility space and has added new items to our "Women of the Corps" exhibit at the Castle Rock Historical Museum. We will be exhibiting for another year at the museum. CO-1 chapter members are acting as museum docents (volunteers) as well as assisting with the cataloging and maintaining of the storage facility.

Your contributions either financial or actual physical items (uniforms, pictures, memorabilia, scrapbooks, etc that have value) are now considered a contribution since WMA received its new tax status from the IRS. The historian has taken a valuation class and upon receipt of your items or financial contribution, you will be issued a certificate of contribution for amounts over \$20.00.

Following this article is a Letter of Instruction, requested by many at the convention with instructions to their families and friends concerning the disposition of their Marine items. After dating and signing the letter, it needs to be put with your other important papers or Marine items.

As the project grows, so does our need for operating funds. Please help in any amount you can. The monies are used for storage facility lease charges, computer support, display costs, uniform preservation, WMTEs, and many other costs. Perhaps WMA chapters can raise funds as a project. The History Project and our growing collection belong to all of us, not just CO-1. Please help. All contributions should be sent to the historian, Nancy Wilt, whose contact information can be found on Page 2 of this newsletter. Monetary contributions should be made to CO-1, WMA and mailed to Paula Sarlls, whose information is also on Page 2.

Nancy Wilt

Following this article (overleaf) is a Letter of Instruction to family and friends concerning the disposition of your Marine items. After dating and signing, please place with your important papers.



Women Marines Association

The History Project

LETTER OF INSTRUCTION

Date: _____

Dear Family and Friends,

It is my wish, that at the time I am no longer able to maintain my personal effects (through downsizing, age, illness or death) that those items pertaining to my life as a United States Marine are forwarded to the Women Marines Association History Project for preservation and use.

I treasure the time I spent as a Marine in service to my country and want to ensure that my service is remembered by those who follow me. The history project will preserve my story, uniforms, scrapbooks, photos and any other memorabilia pertaining to my service for future generations. Through museum exhibits, Women Marines Traveling Exhibits (WMTEs) and state of the art storage and computer systems, and preservation techniques, my experiences will continue to be a part of Marine history.

Contributions of my personal items are tax deductible and certification will be forwarded to you from the History Project of Women Marines Association. The History Project will also assist with shipping costs if the need exists. Items should be sent to:

Nancy Wilt
History Project Coordinator
7679 Berkshire Lane
Castle Rock, CO 80108
303-663-3747
niwilt@aol.com

or

Paula Sarlls
President, CO-1
3066 So Granby St.
Aurora, CO
303-766-9023

Thank You for Following My Wishes,

Signature



Generally Speaking

Did you hear that crash a few months ago, around August? Are you sure? It would have sounded like glass smashing into little tiny pieces.

That “crash” was the glass ceiling being broken once again by one of our female warriors. This time, BGen Angie Salinas was the one doing the breaking.



MajGen John M. Paxton Jr., her predecessor, congratulates BGen Angela Salinas at their change of command ceremony.

After promotion to her current rank, BGen Salinas was given a command...MCRD San Diego, the first female general officer to command a recruit depot and the Western Recruiting Region.

But this isn't the “first” time she has been a “first” in female Marine history. In June 1989, Salinas became the first female in the Marine Corps to command a recruiting station. In June 1992, she became the first woman ever to be assigned as a combat service support ground monitor. Then in the spring of 2001, she became the first woman to serve as a recruiting district commanding officer. And she is the first Latina to reach brigadier general.

BGen Salinas also received several recognitions throughout her career. WIMSA selected her as a “ground breaker,” she received *Latina Style Magazine's* Leadership

Award, was named as one of the top 100 most influential Hispanics in the country and as one of the country's 80 most elite women by *Hispanic Magazine*.

Sondra Metzger



LtGen Jan C. Huly and sister Janie Leal pinned on BGen Salinas' new rank insignia in front of friends and family at Quantico. Overseeing the pinning is MajGen Walter E. Gaskin, CG, 2nd Marine Division.

Photo by LCpl. Kari D. Keeran.



LtGen Jan C. Huly presents BGen Angela Salinas with her personal flag during her promotion ceremony.

Photo by LCpl. Kari D. Keeran.



LtGen Francis Wilson

Another Lieutenant General

LtGen Frances C. Wilson was promoted to her current rank earlier this summer. In July, she took over as the 12th president of the National Defense University at Fort McNair, Washington, DC.

Gen Peter Pace presided over the change of command ceremony.

The National Defense University, which was founded in 1976, is made up of the of the National War College, Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Joint Forces Staff College, Information Resources Management College, School for National Security Executive

Education, Institute for National Strategic Studies, Institute for Homeland Security Studies, Center for Technology and National Security Policy, Center for the Study of Weapons of Mass Destruction, and seven special programs including Capstone, Pinnacle, Keystone, Joint Reserve Affairs Center, International Student Management Office, Secretary of Defense Corporate Fellows, and the NATO Staff Officer Orientation Course.



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen Peter Pace (back to camera) accepts the National Defense University (NDU) flag from retiring NDU Commander Air Force LtGen Michael M. Dunn before turning it over to LtGen Wilson at the NDU change-of-command ceremony July 14.

Photo by SSgt. D. Myles Cullen, USAF.



Col Julia E. Hamblet

Col Julia E. Hamblet Award Nominations Solicited

The National WMA Board has approved a \$500 Colonel Julia E. Hamblet Award to be given annually to the individual or team who has done the most to further the recognition of the history of women who have earned the title Marine. This award will be given at the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation Dinner.

The first recipient of this award was BGen Margaret Brewer, USMC, (Ret).

Winner(s) could be male or female, civilian or military. Nominations are hereby solicited and should include the name, address, phone number and e-mail of the nominee(s) along with the accomplishment(s) that justify consideration for this award. Submissions should be in the hands of Eileen Scanlon, 1415 Springvale Ave., McLean, VA 22101-3528, no later than 15 January 2007.

2006 Scholarship Recipients



Ethel & Armin Weibke
\$1500 Memorial Scholarship
 Caitlin Augustin
 Altamonte, FL
 University of Miami
 Major/Minor: Civil Engineering/
 Environmental Engineering
 Sponsor: Neita Armstrong - Friend



Lily H. Gridley
\$1500 Memorial Scholarship
 Kamilah Keith
 Powder Springs, GA
 N. Georgia College & State University
 Major/Minor: Spanish with Business
 Emphasis/Leadership
 Sponsor: Kamilah Keith - Self



LaRue Dittmore
Music Scholarship
 Derek Slattery
 Ludington, MI
 Spring Arbor University
 Major/Minor: Music Performance
 WorshipArts
 Sponsor: Lori Robinson - Friend



LaRue Dittmore
Music Scholarship
 Gregory Johnson II
 State College, PA
 Major/Minor: Music/Music Education
 Sponsor: Martha Richards - Friend



LaRue Dittmore
Music Scholarship
 Rebecca Kotte
 Fargo, ND
 University of Miami
 Major: BFA Musical Theater
 Sponsor: Carol Mutter - Friend



WMA \$1500 National Scholarship
 John Peterson, Morristown, IN
 Air Force Academy
 Major: Engineering
 Sponsor: Jane Peterson -Mother



WMA \$1500 National Scholarship
 Dani Visser, Portland, OR
 Boston College
 Major/Minor: Psychology/English
 Sponsor: Nancy Visser - Mother



WMA \$1500 National Scholarship
 Jamie Thomas, Oxnard, CA
 University of California
 Major: Political Science
 Sponsor: Eleanor Judge - Friend



WMA \$1500 National Scholarship
 Victoria Williams, Decatur, GA
 Clayton State University
 Major: Business Management
 Sponsor: Victoria Williams - Self



WMA \$1500 National Scholarship
 Joan Schwarz, Escondido, CA
 University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
 Major: Library & Information Science
 Sponsor: Dorothy Muilloe- Friend



WMA \$1500 National Scholarship
 Alyse Rand, Montezuma, GA
 University of Oklahoma
 Major: Business Management
 Sponsor: Laura Ward - Friend



WMA \$1500 National Scholarship
 Gail Rouscher, Battle Creek, MI
 Spring Arbor University
 Major: Management & Organizational
 Development
 Sponsor: Isabel Bond - Mother



WMA \$1500 National Scholarship
 Wendy LaJoie, Wilbraham,
 Bay Path College
 Major/Minor: Biology/Pre-Medicine
 Sponsor: Eleanor Grise - Grandmother



WMA \$1500 National Scholarship
 April Lindley, Westampton, NJ
 Messiah College
 Major/Minor: Elementary
 Education/Theatre
 Sponsor: Marie Juliano - Friend



WMA \$1500 National Scholarship
 Joseph A. "Tony" Bertucci, Jr.,
 Martinez, GA
 Georgia College & State University
 Major/Minor: Biology/Chemistry
 Sponsor: Megan Guinee- Friend



WMA \$1500 National Scholarship
 Sarah Zilch, Hurrican, WV
 Marshall University
 Major/Minor: Business/Fashion Design
 Sponsor: Pamela Zilch - Mother
 Previous Winner



**Oregon Chapters \$1500 Meg Dawes
 Memorial Scholarship**
 Leah Ramey, Sublimity, OR
 Chemeketa Community College
 Major/Minor: Biology/Business
 Administration
 Sponsor: Hattie Kelley - Friend



**Gulf Coast of Florida \$1000 World
 War One Memorial Scholarship**
 Megan Messano, Alpharetta, GA
 University of Georgia
 Major/Minor: Music and
 English/Spanish
 Sponsor: Shirley Messano -
 Grandmother
 Previous Winner



**Gold Coast of Florida \$1000
 Blanchard Miller Memorial
 Scholarship**
 Samantha Seasons, Jacksonville, NC
 University of South Florida
 Major/Minor: Anthropology/
 Chemistry
 Sponsor: Pat McLane - Friend



**Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter
 \$500 Father Charles Covert
 Memorial Scholarship**
 Ryan Ford, Golden, CO
 University of Colorado at Boulder
 Major/Minor: Business/ Broadcast
 Journalism
 Sponsor: Miriam Thome -
 Grandmother
 Previous Winner

First Timer's Meeting

In the first week of September 2006, I found myself in Louisville, Kentucky getting ready to attend my very first WMA Convention. After getting settled in my room and getting registered for the convention, my first scheduled event was to attend the First Timers Meeting scheduled for 1300 on Friday.

At 1300, we had a room full of first timers, as noted by the red "First Timer" ribbon attached to our bolos, sitting around and visiting with our immediate neighbors when a loud voice hollered "HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?".

We all turned to see who was speaking and much to our surprise, it was precious Kathleen Eidson who proceeded to entertain us with stories, songs and her totally contagious spirit. In no time at all, she had all of us smiling, laughing and enjoying the moment. Kathleen was an absolute delight and provided an excellent opening for this meeting.

After Kathleen finished her performance, we moved into the business portion of the meeting where we were provided

with information about the WMA courtesy of our president, Paula Sarlls, and the Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter courtesy of their president, Ken Cross. We also met a number of national level officers.

Upon completion of the business portion of the meeting, we went into the door prize portion of the meeting and much to our surprise, it went on and on and on until it seemed as though just about everyone would win something.

All in all, it was a very enjoyable event and set the tone for a very pleasant week for all attendees. When the comment sheets were reviewed, the most frequent comment was to ensure that Kathleen opens the 2008 First Timers Meeting as well. I wouldn't be at all surprised if many of the non-first timers attend the next First Timers Meeting just to catch Kathleen's opening act!

The team that organized this event should be commended for a JOB WELL DONE!

Kathleen Wright
The Greater San Francisco
Bay Area Chapter, CA-3



Kathleen Eidson with her tale of "woe" – when she was young and (turn the newsletter upside down and look at the poster she's holding) when she got old.
Photo by Micaila Britto.



1st Timers Meeting

Cruisin' the Ohio

The Spirit of Jefferson Boat Cruise left the Louisville Port about 1900 after we loaded 150 members and guests aboard. Some of the ladies made their way up to the second deck, but the buffet dinner was served on the lower deck and boy, was that a wonderful and fulfilling meal. Our DJ played a variety of songs, allowing many of the ladies the opportunity to dance the night away.



Aboard *The Spirit of Jefferson*

Others watched and took pictures of the most beautiful sunset.

When we arrived back at the dock we were all sad to see the night end. Our DJ let us all know that he never had such an outstanding bunch of ladies on his cruises and thanked us for our service to this wonderful country.

Thanks to all that took the cruise and see you all in Houston.

BettyJean Cannon

The Business Meetings

Attendees at the 2006 Women Marines Association Convention met for two business meetings among all the other wonderful events planned for them. The members at the business meetings, in addition to receiving many door prizes, voted on all Bylaws and Standing Rules changes printed in the Summer 2006 issue of *'Nouncements*, except as noted below. All changes will be included in the next publication of the Resource Manual and Directory.

Important items discussed included:

- The change for WMA from a 501(c)(19) to a 501(c)(3) was approved by the IRS as of 1 January 2006.
- It was also reported that we just received the report of a two year audit of WMA finances and we passed with flying colors.
- More than 90 "first timers" attended this convention out of a total of 345 members registered.

Bylaws and Standing Rules changes:

- "Financial Secretary" was changed to "Membership Secretary".

- Authorization approved to conduct certain types of business electronically.
- Proposed change to Article 9, Section 2 regarding elections and ballots was withdrawn.
- Duties between the WMA Data Base Administrator and the Membership Secretary were clarified.
- Definition of who can form chapters was expanded to include those who "share a common USMC special interest/experience (e.g. music, aviation, drill instructor, deployed, etc.)."
- WMA Geographic Area definitions were expanded to include areas of the world in addition to the U.S.
- The requirement for the budget to be annual was deleted. Independent auditors have recommended WMA do a bi-annual budget.
- Additionally, the membership present voted to allow visitors into WMA Business meetings at the discretion of the Credentials Committee.

Carol Mutter

Churchill Downs Tour

There was electricity in the air as we all loaded up for our trip to the home of some of the finest athletes on four legs. In a matter of two minutes, the Kentucky Derby turns a thoroughbred into a national champion. The place was enormous and had an air of grace and sophistication we didn't expect for a horse track. The twin spires above the grandstand in the background looked like towers to a castle and are even on the state symbol. Both are the oldest structures still standing at the track.

The half-hour trackside walking tour started in the courtyard area. Surrounding the top of the walls of the courtyard are the winners of the Kentucky Derby from the first winner, Aristides, in 1875 to Barbaro, the 2006 winner. A lawn jockey wearing Barbaro's silks was in the center of this area.

The next stop on the tour was the paddock pavilion area where the horses are saddled before the race. A new paddock was built to accommodate 20 instead of 16 horses. The new paddock is thought to be cursed because there have been no Triple Crown winners in the 28 years since the paddock was built.



The track

Next was the winner's circle where winning horses from the hundreds of races run each year stand afterward. Across the track was a huge red rose horseshoe, the Kentucky Derby winner's circle, and is only used for the Kentucky Derby winner.

We went up into the stands to get an overlook of the track. It was a shock to see that the seats in Millionaire's Row were folding chairs in sets of eight. The seats can only be sold in sets of eight and months before the Derby they are sold out for \$4,800.00 a set. Total attendance on Derby Day is 140,000 and 150,000.

We finished the walking tour by visiting the museum's retired resident thoroughbred named Assorted in a corral in the garden terrace area. He is 6 yrs old, and son of 1978 Derby winner Affirmed and Native Dancer, and grandson of 1937 Derby winner War Admiral and great-grandson of Man O' War. He shared the spotlight with a 13 yr old miniature horse named Winston. Outside of this area was the Kentucky Derby Walk of Champions where the gravesites of three Derby winners, Carry Back (1961), Swaps (1955) and Brokers Tip (1933) are located.

The backside tour was next and was exciting because it was our chance to see the horses up close and behind the scenes. We rode in a van to the 47 horse barns housing about 1400 horses.

The pony barn is where lead ponies are housed. A lead pony is a quarter horse or gelding whose job is to escort the more high-strung racehorses to the track before a race. Lead ponies calm them down. Most racehorses have a goat that lives with them from the time they are colts to keep them from being lonely. In fact the saying, "I'm gonna get your goat!" was first used to get horses to move where you led the goat.

We got out of the van at the barns and walked around visiting the different horses. The horses showed off a little bit, grinning and showing us their lip tattoos. They were the true stars of the show.

After the backside tour we went back to the museum area. The first exhibit area is the museum winner's circle where most of us got our picture taken with the model of current Derby winner Barbaro complete with jockey and a garland of roses. There were exhibits on all the walls, footage of past Derbys back to 1918 and interviews with jockeys, trainers and owners of past Derby winners.

The presentation of "The Greatest Race" is the culmination of the first floor. It is a 360 degree multimedia presentation using 96 projectors to tell the story of the Kentucky Derby. It tells the story from the birth of a foal to the winner's circle.

Some of our lady Marines even weighed in and got aboard the Rider's Up exhibit which gives you the feel of riding like a jockey. It was a totally different experience from the horse ride in front of the local supermarket.

We finished up our tour by going to the Finish Line Gift



Kentucky Derby Walk of Champions, where only the head, heart and hooves are laid to rest. The head represents the will to win; the heart represents courage and the hooves represent speed.

shop. It was an educational fun-filled day and gave us horse lovers a new appreciation for the beauty behind the horseflesh.

Marti Raney

(Editor's note ~ Apologies are extended to Marti. She wrote an outstanding and thorough article that had to be edited WAY down due to space limitations. This was a hard one to edit because of all the information she provided. Thank you, Marti!)



The lawn jockey with the winning silks, which are blue with green sleeves.



Betty Cook with the life-size statue of the current Derby winner, Barbaro

The Winners

History Book

- 1st place - GA-1, Dogwood of Atlanta
- 2nd place - MA-1, Bay State
- 3rd place - MI-2, Motor City
- Honorable Mention - CA-3, Greater San Francisco Bay Area

Newsletter

- 1st place - MI-2, Motor City
- 2nd place - GA-1, Dogwood Chapter
- 3rd place - OR-1, Lady Marine
- Honorable Mention - MN-1, Minnesota Leathernecks

Chapter Achievement

Category A

- Class 1 - 1st place - TN-1, Rocky Top
- Class 2 - 1st place - OH-2, Chesty Puller

Category B

- Class 1 - 1st place - TN-1, Rocky Top
- Class 2 - 1st place - CA-3, Greater San Francisco Bay Area
- Class 3 - 1st place - MI-2, Motor City
- Class 3 - 2nd place - MA-1, Bay State

Category C

- Class 1 - 1st place - TN-1, Rocky Top
- Class 2 - 1st place - CA-3, Greater San Francisco Bay Area
- Class 3 - 1st place - MA-1, Bay State
- Class 3 - 2nd place - MI-2, Motor City

Recruiting Derby Individual Awards

Individual recruiting awards were presented to: 1st place, Mary Ingram; 2nd place, Natalie McPherson; 3rd place, Natalie Schumaker; honorable mention, Mary Ann Merritt.

The Awards in Pictures NEWSLETTER



Accepting newsletter awards were (l-r): Heidi Tanada, OR-1, 3rd place; Dot Witcher, MN-1, honorable mention; Sheryl Young, GA-1, 2nd place; Mary Ann Merritt, MI-2, 1st place.



HISTORY

Accepting history book awards were (l-r): Kathy Wright, CA-3, honorable mention; Lona Turner, MI-2, 3rd place; Micaila Britto, MA-1, 2nd place; Sheryl Young, GA-1, 1st place.



CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENT

Chapter achievement, category A, class 1 winner was TN-1, accepted by Eileen Neiler (left); class 2 winner was OH-2, Ellen Leidy accepted.

Chapter achievement, category B, class 1 winner was TN-1, Eileen Neiler accepted (left); class 2 winner was CA-3, Kathy Wright accepted. These two ladies also accepted awards for category C, class 1, with 1st place going to TN-1 and class 2 1st place to CA-3.



Chapter achievement, category B, class 3 winners were MI-2, 1st place, accepted by Natalie McPherson (left); 2nd place was MA-1 with Ellie Canty and Kay Carpenter accepting. These two chapters also won category C, class 3, with MA-1 taking the 1st place streamer and MI-2 getting 2nd place.

Recruiting Derby Winners



GySgt Crystal Henderson accepts the class 1 chapter recruiting award for INT-1, Iraqi Lioness Chapter, from Lori Cousins.

Photo by Barbara Chagnon.



Muriel Underwood (center) accepts the class 2 chapter recruiting award for IL-2 from Ken Cross and Lori Cousins.

Photo by Micaila Britto.



Lillian Cross accepts the class 1 Loyal Escort recruiting award for her chapter, CA-7, from husband Ken and Lori Cousins.

Photo by Barbara Chagnon.



Natalie McPherson accepts the class 3 chapter recruiting award for MI-2 from Lori Cousins.

Photo by Barbara Chagnon.

Lori Cousins presents the Area Director recruiting award to Area 2 Director Alice Dolbear.

Photo by Barbara Chagnon.



Lori Cousins presents the class 2 Loyal Escort recruiting award to OH-2 representative Ellen Leidy. *Photo by Barbara Chagnon*

The Awards in Pictures

SPECIAL AWARD



BGen Angie Salinas presents the Centurion Award to Sgt April Scarbrough for recruiting 100 Marines that successfully completed recruit training.

Photo by Barbara Chagnon.

CHARTER PRESENTATIONS

VA-3
OH-2
KY-1
INT-1



Alice Dolbear acceptance on behalf of VA-3, Hampton Roads.

Each new chapter receives a copy of their charter, a set of desk top flags (presented here by Paula Sarlls) and a streamer from the Loyal Escorts that goes on the National WMA colors (presented by Ken Cross).



Ellen Leidy accepts for OH-2, Chesty Puller.



Mary Broussard accepts for KY-1, Winning Colors.



Kathy Van Gorders accepts for PA-2, Liberty Belles.
Photo by Micaila Britto.



GySgt Crystal Henderson came back to the states from Iraq to accept for INT-1, Iraqi Lioness.

The Opening

The opening banquet was, as all opening banquets are, fabulous! The emcee for the evening, Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower, announced that the convention was being dedicated to all the past national presidents.

The chapter flags were carried in, not in alphabetical order, but in order of when they were chartered. The last one, the newest chapter and the one garnering the most applause, was the Iraqi Lioness Chapter, carried by GySgt Crystal Henderson.

The first speaker, Col Robert Chase, commanding officer, OCS, Quantico, was chief of operations in Al-Anbar province in June 2005 when a seven-ton truck carrying female Marines was hit by a suicide bomber in Fallujah, killing Cpl Ramona



Nita Bob Warner being escorted into the Opening Banquet by Tabitha Cunningham.

Photo by Lona Turner.

Valdez, LCpl Holly Charette, PO1C Regina Clark and severely injuring 11 others. All were part of a group of women who volunteered to search female Iraqis coming through checkpoints after finishing their eight-hour shift at CommOps Center.

Articles about the incident and those killed and injured appeared in the Fall 2005 issue of this newsletter. This night, we got to hear another side of the story from a command perspective.

Col Chase relayed that, as word of the disaster spread that evening, a young female corporal approached him while he was helping run crisis control at the command center. She said she urgently needed to talk to him. When he stepped out of his office to meet with her in the hallway, he encountered about a dozen more female Marines. "Sir, we know we've had women killed," said the corporal. "We have to replace them—we want to go." They were packed and ready to go. The colonel was stunned.

"It was one of the most emotional and profound moments for me," he says. "I don't often work with women as an infantry officer, but at that moment, there

were no women there—there were just Marines."

The colonel did not leave the banquet without first being made an honorary member of the Loyal Escorts.

The next speaker was Col Sara Phoenix, who began by stressing how important our history is, wishing everyone had kept a journal during their time in the Corps, and then began her story of life in Iraq.

When her tour in Iraq began, she was as "dumb as a rock" when she got there (her words!). Clothes were either tan or green, the sky was always blue, the sunrise gorgeous, the air difficult to breathe and the sand was like talcum powder. They would take lawn chairs to the roof of the command center to watch the sunset, and then the stars coming out. For a few moments, all was right with the world.

Then the firefights would start. They were constantly in a heightened state of awareness. When it would rain, it would rain mud. Food was prepared by contractors who didn't understand portion control.

The water came out of the Euphrates, so it had a smell to it. You couldn't drink it, but could (Continued on next page)



Col Robert Chase



Col Sara Phoenix.
Photo by Micaila Britto.

shower in it (Iraqis wouldn't drink water that came out of pipes). It smelled like a dirty gym bag. The country itself smells like a burning trash dump.

The sounds of Iraq were normal, except for the incoming mortars or outgoing artillery.

Col Phoenix said the Iraqis want the US forces there, that it's only a few and others who have come from somewhere else who don't want our troops there.

She concluded by thanking all the women who contributed to

blaze the trail for today's active duty.

The National Service Awards were presented to Carol Mutter, Nancy Wilt and Trish Martin. There is another article on these worthy recipients elsewhere in this newsletter.

The no-host reception beforehand gave time for many photo opportunities, renewed friendships and brand new "how-do-you-do's."

Sondra Metzger



Sgt April Scarbrough and new national Chaplain Joan Hammond visit before the opening banquet

The Installation

Your new board waited in the wings while Lillian Cross installed the new board for the Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter.

Everyone except the president, Ken Cross, was installed first, held hands forming a circle but leaving an opening. When it was Ken's turn, he entered the circle; the other officers gathered around and closed it. The act was symbolic of the rim of a wheel. To quote the installation: "The president is the hub of the wheel; the officers and directors, the spokes of the wheel. If the hub shall break, the spokes will fall. If one spoke shall break, the wheel cannot turn, it also falls to the

ground. If each member of this wheel will carry his share of the load, the burden will not be too great on any one of the officers and directors, and the wheel will be sturdy and strong."

After much applause, photos and congratulations, it was the ladies' turn. Two active duty members served as pages and escorted all the area directors in at the same time. When it came time to escort the rest of the officers to the table, it was difficult for the two pages to get the job

done in a timely manner due to the size of the room. In true Marine fashion, other active duty members jumped up and assisted with the escort duties.

Afterward, the receiving line formed at the back of the room and everyone took their turn congratulating all the newly installed officers.

Presenting your new 2006 - 2008 board of directors for WMA and Loyal Escorts.



Installing Officer Carol Mutter congratulates newly installed National President Paula Sarlls.



Your area directors, standing (l-r): June Worden Area 1; Alice Dolbear, Area 2; Sheryl Young, Area 3; BettyJean Cannon, Area 4; Judy Anderson, Area 6; Carol Watson, Area 8; and Karen Reeves, Area 9. Area 5 Director Pam Garcia and Area 10 Director Geri Fiorello could not attend the convention. Your national officers, sitting (l-r): Betty Cook, 3rd vice; Sara Phoenix, 2nd vice; Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower, 1st vice, Carol Mutter, immediate past president; Paula Sarlls, national president; Maria Crowley, secretary; Shanda Elkins, treasurer; Debbie Barker, membership secretary.



The pages escort the area directors to the head tables.

The officers of the Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter are, standing (l-r): Tony McPherson, director; Russ Dolbear, parliamentarian; Donald Cannon, vice president; John Holvoet, director. Sitting (l-r): Nancy Luebben, chaplain; Ken Cross, president; Tabitha Cunningham, director. Missing from photo are Jeanne Cantrell, secretary/treasurer, and Paul Dossin, immediate past president



The Closing...

The closing banquet is always an exciting time. We've just been through a great week, spending time with old friends, making new ones, learning, having fun, taking home awards and more information than we thought we could hold. By closing banquet, the bonds...the camaraderie...the motivation levels...have all reached a "fever pitch", for lack of a better description.

This closing banquet was no different. Dressed to the nines, mingling with the Commandant of the Marine Corps. You couldn't ask for a better ending to a great week.

The Commandant and his wife Silke were the center of attention at the reception. The general met everyone, shook their hand and had his photographer take a photograph of them together. Three hundred and fifty, to be exact. After everyone went into the ballroom, he posed for one more with the past national presidents.

The Commandant came to the floor to speak to everyone rather than stand behind the podium.

In his speech, he talks about all the emails he received from older Marines complaining about BGen Angie Salinas being assigned to MCRD San Diego instead of Parris Island. She was, in his opinion, better qualified for San Diego than Parris Island. She knew the "lay of the land" and the community in San Diego better than anyone else. He mentioned MajGen Mary Ann Krusa-Dossin

who served as director of Public Affairs during a very difficult and challenging time in the Corps, and made it look easy. She is now the commanding general of Camp Butler, Okinawa, the first female to do so. All the Corps' female generals, in his opinion, will set the standard for all Marines.

The general feels that the 180,000 Marines currently on active duty (11,000 females) are involved in the global war on terrorism regardless of where they're serving.

When he was inspecting posts in the fall, he came up to LCpl Christine Fox, who had an M-240G machine gun. He asked her if she was qualified, she said yes. He asked when she last fired the weapon, and she rattled off all the answers to rules of engagement. He asked what her MOS was, she said, "Supply warehouseman, but every Marine is a rifleman".

He spoke of LCpl Juana Navarro – company honor man – iron woman – received the Molly Marine Award. She epitomized what it means to be a Marine, until a sniper shot and killed her while she was doing house searches in Iraq.

He concluded, "There are thousands of young men and women wearing the uniform and asked to do incredible things every day. They are willing to give up everything – for Marines on their right, Marines on their left. They believe in something larger than themselves – true honor. You can't buy that; you can't lose that. And we won't because of WMA. I have been in the Marine Corps for 38

years, and I've never seen a better battle-hardened Marine Corps. The 11,000 females are an integral part."

Afterward, Gen Hagee was made an honorary member of the Loyal Escorts by Loyal Escort President Ken Cross. Mary Broussard presented him with a framed certificate making him an official Kentucky Colonel. The general couldn't go home without having a copy of the painting of the female Marine in Iraq, which was presented to him by Paula Sarlls.

As great as that was, there was one more item that was better...the awarding of the Ruth & Dick Broe Award for outstanding chapter achievement. This year, the award went to (drum roll, please) the Rocky Top Chapter, TN-1. Presented by Sue Sousa and Gen Hagee, the award was accepted by a jubilant Barbara Chagnon.

We closed with a song, and a tribute. Betsy Menin, long time director of the Sometimes Singers, has decided to "retire" from that position. Her singers presented her with flowers and a gift before the group sang for the last time at the convention.

And then it was over. The next day, we dragged our exhausted selves out of the hotel to whatever mode of transportation we were using to get home, hearing one refrain – "see you in Houston!"

If you didn't attend, you missed a good one. And if ya'll don't attend the one in Houston in 2008, don't come cryin' to me up yonder a-ways above the Red River!

Sondra Metzger



The Commandant of the Marine Corps making his way through the atrium of the Galt House.

Photo by America Zarate.



Gen Hagee meets Karen Beatty, TX-2.
Photo courtesy of MarineLink.



All our active duty Marines with the Commandant before the reception.



Gen Hagee and his wife Silke with National President Paula Sarlls.
Photo courtesy of MarineLink.



The past national presidents with the General and Mrs Hagee, standing (l-r): Carol Mutter, Doris Keane, Mrs Hagee, General Hagee, Paula Sarlls, Lou Teixeira. Sitting (l-r): Sue Sousa, Helen Hannah Campbell, Helen Laukes and Virginia Allred.
Photo courtesy of MarineLink.

R&A Extras



Retired MGySgt Helen Hannah Campbell meets the Commandant. *Photo courtesy MarineLink.*

Entering the ball room.



The speech.



Ken Cross reads the certificate making the Commandant an honorary member of the Loyal Escorts.

The General acknowledges the honor.



Carol Mutter pins the National President's pin on Paula Sarlls before the close of the convention.



Betsy Menin accepts gifts from the Sometimes Singers' new director, Nancy Luebben on behalf of the group.



Sue Sousa and Gen Hagee present the Ruth & Dick Broe Award to Barbara Chagnon, TN-1. *Photo courtesy MarineLink.*



Left: In grateful appreciation for their work during the 2004-2006 term as Editor & Electronic Communications Chair (Sondra Metzger, left), and as Public Relations Officer and Committee Chair (Mary Ann Merritt), as well as the extraordinary effort they both make on behalf of WMA, Sondra and Mary Ann were presented with certificates, and contributions were made in their names to the WMA Scholarship Fund. *Photo by Macaila Britto.*



Right: Betsy Menin also received recognition for her years of service as the director of the Sometimes Singers. Her certificate read, "Presented to Betsy R. Menin in grateful appreciation for the years of dedication to the association by working with members to share their voices in song at conventions. A difficult task since the group only meets at convention. You have seen to their preparation, promptness, and presentation in an exemplary manner. Our hearts are fuller, our spirits calmer, and our thoughts more positive because of this wonderful group and your leadership. May God bless you always." Sondra Metzger makes the actual presentation for National President Paula Sarlls who was at the podium. *Photo by Barbara Chagnon*

R&A Extras



Carol Mutter (left) and Lou Teixeira after presenting Lou with an award for her years of dedication to the association and for her service as President from September 2004 to September 2005. Her certificate stated, "Your inspiration and vision for an improved organization are being realized everyday."

Convention Photos

You can view and purchase the 2006 WMA Louisville Convention photos taken by Lona Turner and her crew at www.wmaphotos.com.

You can also still pre-order your 2006 Convention Keepsake Album; send check or money order for \$22.00 to: Picture Works, 4390 10th Street, Ecorse, MI 48229. These albums will ship in February 2007

Proceeds from the sale of these photos goes to support the MI-2 Chapter for future conventions.

Presidential Certificates Awarded

Position Title

Area 1 Director
Area 2 Director & Marine Corps JROTC Committee Chair
Area 3 Director
Area 4 Director
Area 5 Director
Area 6 Director, Convention Arrangements (2008) Chair
Area 7 Director
Area 8 Director
Area 9 Director
Area 10 Director
Bequest Advisory Chair
Chaplain
Contractor
Convention Coordinating (2006) Chair
Editor & Electronic Communications Chair
Financial Advisory Committee Chair
Financial Secretary
First Vice President, Membership Committee Chair
Headquarters Marine Corps Liaison, History Committee Chair
Historian
Historian & History Committee Chair
History Committee Chair
Immediate Past President, Ways and Means Committee Chair
Life Membership Fund Review Board
Merchandise Sales
Molly Marine Award Representative
National Marine Corps Council Representative
Navy/Marine Corps Council
Parliamentarian, Bylaws Committee Chair
Plans & Policies Committee Chair
President
Property Control, WMA Headquarters
Public Relations Officer and Committee Chair
Recognition & Awards Committee Chair
Scholarship Committee Chair
Scholarship Committee Chair
Second Vice President, Area 2 Director, and
Nominating/Convention Site Chair
Secretary
Third Vice President
Third Vice President
Treasurer
Veterans Affairs Volunteer Service
WMA Legal Officer

Name

June E. Worden
Alice Dolbear
Pat Bond McLane
Betty Jean Cannon
Mary Ellen Stone
Judy Anderson
Pamela A. Garcia
Carol Watson
Zelda Barrows
Ozell W. Barksdale
Geraldine Fiorello
Bev Short
John Holvoet
Mary Sabourin
Sondra Metzger
Karen Kelly
Carole Hawkins
Lori Bronson Cousins
Eileen R. Scanlon
Anna Hopkins
Nancy Wilt
Karen Laino
Carol Mutter
Doris Kean
Gloria Nix
Linda Priest
Margaret Brewer
Laura Dennis
Anne Zink
Mary Bacon Hale
Lucille (Lou) Teixeira
Lillian Cross
Mary Ann Merritt
Linda Lacy
Luann D. Weeks
Robert A. Eaton

Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower
Jeanne A. Botwright
Pamela J. Bloustine
Betty Cook
Doris Bell
Brenda Blair
Denne Howard

The Memorial Service

Every convention has that moment when life quiets down to almost a standstill. Everything around you has stopped, but now your mind and your heart are moving...moving through memory after memory with each name that is read that you know. Each name attached to a person who touched your life like no other because only she understood. Only she knew the bond, the camaraderie, because she had been through the same thing you went through. No matter when you experienced it, or whether it was together, you still went through it.



GySgt Crystal Henderson
(in cammies) and Capt Christine
Rabaja

And when both of you came out the other side, you both wore an emblem. You both EARNED an emblem. You both were United States Marines. You both ARE United States Marines.

So the names roll on, one after another, 180 in all. A flag is placed, a memory recalled. And we march on, heavier of heart, but knowing how very blessed we were to have known them.

Sondra Metzger



The Sometimes Singers at the
Memorial Service.

Yeeeeeee-hawwww 2008!

(I apologize to Marti Raney. I asked her to do this article for me. Being the excellent writer she is, she did a wonderfully detailed article. But I thought it lacked the energy the luncheon promoted. Maybe because she was too close to it, being involved in the work that an event like this generates. So I "pumped it up". Marti, thank you so much! ~Sondra)

Are you a football fan? Do you know the feeling behind the line, "Are you ready for some football!?" It's excitement, it's high energy, a party atmosphere.

That was the feeling everyone walked away with after the 2008 Convention luncheon, themed "Mission: Roundup 2008." There was so much electricity in the air that I think, had it been possible, members would have registered and signed up for rooms right then and there. The line I heard most was, "if this is any indication of what the convention is going to be like, we're in for a great time!"

All you had to do was walk into the ballroom. Between the festive Texas cowboy boots, wildflowers and oil rigs on the tables, the Texas attire on the attendees and the music, it was an energized atmosphere.



The best dressed Texan "wannabes".
Photo by Lona Turner.

On every chair was a "Don't Mess with Texas" bag. Inside each bag was (among other things) a game sheet called "Hello Neighbor/Hello Texas". It was a way to get acquainted with others in the room by looking for people who fit the question and having them sign the sheet. Questions like, (blank) drives a red car; (blank) is from Kentucky; (blank) is a red head. If you found enough people to fill in all the blanks on the sheet, you won a tumbler with Texas flag symbols in the bottom. Over forty tumblers were given to winners within the first half hour. People were practical-

ly running from table to table getting answers to their questions.

TX-2 President Judy Anderson opened the luncheon with a video of past conventions called, "That's right! You're not from Texas". The menu was Mexican quesadillas, Spanish rice and cheesecake for dessert. The recipe for the quesadillas was taken from TX-2's cookbook, "Cooking with Marines" (do you have your copy yet?).

After lunch we had a sing-a-long to "Deep in the Heart of Texas" with Betsy Menin, the Sometime Singers and the audience. Each bag had a cut out of either the state of Texas, a heart, a star or a hand. When we sang about the particular symbol, the audience lifted that symbol high. This was so much fun that we had a few encores!

The "Mission: Roundup 2008" video was shown next, narrated by LCpl Scott Simpson, USMCR, and an astronaut in a space suit. At the end of the video, the astronaut walked into the ballroom waving a Texas flag and carrying a bucket of Kentucky Fried Chicken and a lasso. Once on stage, the helmet visor went up revealing TX-2 Vice President Karen Beatty.

Karen held the room in the palm of her hand, introducing herself as Hostess Texana and her guest hostess, her "mom" Miss Rose, played by Marian Ives. During part of the luncheon, she interviewed Sgt April Scarbrough, native Texan recruiter from the Houston area and the recipient of the Centurion Award. She is also the mother of three and the wife of a fellow Marine. She has completed a tour in Iraq and is a true hero to all of us for her contributions.

Karen played a video tour of Texas



Audience participates for "Deep in the Heart of Texas"

and Houston, which showed what Texas has to offer and all the trips that were planned for the 2008 convention. The audience was told to pay close attention because the door prize questions would come from the video. She asked questions while Miss Rose walked through the tables picking members to answer the questions. This was a lot of fun and the last question for Editor Sondra Metzger was, "name the 2005 NCAA National Football Champions". Sondra, being a true Sooner fan, refused to say the "Texas Longhorns", but was given the prize anyway. (*Sooners are strictly forbidden from saying that name in that context ~ S.*)

The next part of the program was when ten active duty Marines came forward and read the top ten reasons why TX-2 members joined the Marine Corps.

One of the favorites was Marti's, "I'm from Arkansas and all my male cousins were married". The number one reason was, "I wanted to be on my own with no rules". That got a roar from the crowd. We also had a contest for the best dressed Wannabe Texan. Bobby Flock, Jessup, MD was the winner in her Dale Evans attire.



Astronaut Karen Beatty.
Photo by Lona Turner.

The program ended with the word that Texas is the "Friendship State" and in keeping with that slogan they turned the program over to GySgt Crystal Henderson of the Iraqi Lioness Chapter. She showed an outstanding video of the women Marines in Iraq and what life is like for them over there. It gave us all a feeling of sisterhood and amazement to see how far we have come in our desire to be equals with our male counterparts in the Corps.

It was a fun luncheon with a lot of audience participation and excitement, far more than was related here. However, we cannot close without asking YOU a question... what's bigger than Texas?

**Marti Raney &
Sondra Metzger**



The Award Selection Process

Chapters! Listen up! A task is upon us.

For this year's Recognition and Awards, there were only 13 total entries. That's not 13 newsletters or 13 history books or 13 chapter achievement books. That's 13 TOTAL CHAPTERS PARTICIPATING!

So, what's going on, ladies? There are many more chapters that send in Clippings. With all you do, there should be more than 13 history/chapter achievement books. Tell us...is there something

we can do to help with these tasks? Is there a problem with the R&A system? What can we do?

For the record, among the judges this year was a retired male colonel who is a historian for Camp Lejeune & the Museum of the Carolinas, and a retired Navy nurse who has been a judge for the American Legion and other veterans' organizations. Both were very tough.

Congratulations to all the chapters that

submitted something to the competition! It IS a lot of work, but you all did very well.

I don't need to remind those of you who were at the convention that Texas does a lot of bragging about being the biggest and the best at everything. Do you think we can "compete" with that state to produce the biggest and the best R&A contest?

Life Membership Fund Review Board Report

The Life Membership Fund Review Board (hereafter referred to as "the Board") met on 2 September. The report by the Chair was provided in the Summer 2006 issue of *Nouncements*. The Chair for 2006-2008 will be Helen Laukes and the Recorder will be Carol Mutter. The Board is transferring all responsibilities for tracking of life members to the Financial/Membership Secretary working with the Administrative Support Contractor. The Board has provided guidance to the Financial Advisory Committee in their work to provide recommendations regarding re-defining criteria for various WMA funds and will be recommending to the National Board

guidance regarding the investment decisions that are made for WMA. The Life Member Fund Review Board also requested semi-annual reports and will be reviewing/updating their guidance at least every two years.

There are currently 2,063 living life members. The balance of the Life Member Fund as of 30 June 2006 is \$341,077.93; proceeds transferred to the General Fund for the two fiscal years ending 30 June 2006 were \$39,528 (averaging approximately \$20,000 per year). A total of \$10,600 (\$50 for each deceased life member in the last 2 years) was transferred to the Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Carol Mutter

Hospital Update

Those who attended the convention were informed that Gwen Herbert was taken to the hospital with breathing problems. Gwen was not discharged until the Saturday after the convention. Her sister Jeanne remained in Louisville and traveled back to California with her.

The following Monday, after going to see her primary care physician, they were going to lunch when Gwen fell, breaking her left humerus at the shoulder. Jeanne stayed with her until 23 September.

She was doing better after seeing the cardiologist and the orthopedist, but after Jeanne left, Gwen was back in the hospital for 24 hrs and now seems to be on the right path and is feeling much better.

Both ladies thank you for your thoughts and prayers during this time.



Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter

The Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter had a terrific time in Louisville. I know you saw the red and gold 15 hours a day. We were busy the whole time we were there doing something-escorting, helping, carrying, setting up and tearing down, even bell hopped a few times, thanks to Russ Dolbear and his two-

wheeled dolly. Our congratulations go out to the Region 1 Area Directors and Mary Sabourin for putting together another terrific convention and conference.

Tabitha Cunningham, with the help of Nancy Leubben and others, ran the Tack Room (Boutique) table and did an excellent job. She also organized the Loyal Escorts and the members of OH-2 (a new chapter who received a portion for their treasury) to run the 50/50 and collected quite a sum for the winner(s). A job "well done" goes to Tabitha.

Don Cannon had the responsibility of running the Hospitality Room. He ran a packed house for three nights running and the bar didn't lack a thing. His assistants were Tony McPherson and Al Broussard. Our barkeep Leigh was from the local Marine Corps League facility and she wasn't afraid to fill those glasses! Many thanks to Lou Teixeira for bringing her guitar and taking everybody down memory lane.

Jeanne Cantrell's sister Gwen Hubert suffered an asthma attack and was hospitalized for a week with other complications. They both traveled to Gwen's home in Moreno Valley, CA where Jeanne stayed for a few more days before traveling back to Texas.

I would like to welcome all the new members that have joined in the recent months and also welcome our newest honorary Loyal Escort, General Michael Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps. I had the opportunity to visit with Mrs. Hagee at the Closing Banquet. It was the first time she had attended the WMA convention and was very interested in everything that went on.

As part of our business discussions here are some of the things that were decided:

- We will keep the name Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter.
- We have applied for a change to the IRS tax code from 501(c)(19) to 501(c)(3).
- We will purge our life membership roster. If you are aware of any Loyal Escorts who are no longer with us, please report them to myself, John Holvoet, or Jeanne Cantrell.
- We will complete the process of updating the WMA flag with the current chapter streamers, as our responsibility. The iron-on felt material in the gold color has been a challenge to locate in quantity.
- We have elected new officers. We have an energetic group this term and I am pleased to be able to work with them. Please keep their names and phones numbers handy.

When Paul Dossin turned over the reins of the Loyal Escorts, I wasn't sure of a lot of things. He gave me some pointers and said "go for it". Using Carol Mutter's analogy of the "Big Rig" and with the dedication of the Loyal Escort officers and membership, we hope to become a wheel on WMA's rig and keep it rolling to bigger and greater things.

Ken Cross



Why are these two smiling so big? Because they are the PAST convention co-chairs, Ellie Judge (left) and Lillian Cross. Nothing like being the past, eh girls?



Gen Angie Salinas with active duty members. Photo by Micaila Britto.



The Tennessee Valley Health Care System display attracted a lot of attention.



The "Tack Room", aka the WMA-PX, aka The Boutique.

Forwarded for all former military that may have an interest, and you should have an interest. The below "blurb" mentions employment, BUT you should also take your DD-214 with you when you apply for Social Security. Military service affects the amount you will receive, since the military made "extra contributions" on your behalf, and normally those do not show up in Social Security records.

It's official -- DD-214s are now online. The National Personnel Records Center has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214s online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>.

This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site.

★ ★ ★

Gen. Michael Hagee will celebrate one more birthday ball as commandant, then step down in mid-November.

A defense official who was not authorized to disclose the date confirmed that Hagee's change of command is set for 13 November, three days after the Corps' 231st birthday.

Former I Marine Expeditionary Force com-

mander Lt. Gen. James Conway will take Hagee's place as commandant. *Courtesy of the Marine Corps Times.*

★ ★ ★

Every state has an office for Veterans' Affairs/Services and most have someone who handles women veterans' issues. To join the Massachusetts Women Veterans' Network run by the MA Dept of Veterans' Services you may call 617-210-5781 or email DVSWomen@vet.state.ma.us. I found their card at the Boston airport USO when passing through. I presume they provide information and assistance for women veterans. And I'm sure some of our Massachusetts members are familiar with them. ~ Carol Mutter

★ ★ ★

The National Organization for Women (NOW) and its foundation recently named BGen Wilma Vaught and three others as 2006 Intrepid Award winners during the 4th Annual Intrepid Awards Gala in Washington, DC, on 14 September. BGen Vaught, artist Louise Bourgeois, scholar and activist Dr. Johnnetta Cole, and Latina journalist Maria Elena Salinas were each honored as "extraordinary women whose lives epitomize the dictionary definition of the word 'intrepid' -- resolutely courageous, fearless and bold," according to a the summer 2006 NOW National Times electronic newsletter. NOW, celebrating its 40th anniversary, is a multi-issue organization that advocates for lasting change for women.

WMA Chapter Tool Kit

This column is the first in a series that will be printed in future editions of 'Nouncements to provide you with some useful tips for your chapters. Here are just a few topics that will appear in upcoming columns: membership recruiting; fundraising tips; bookkeeping and treasurer responsibilities and what our Database Administrator John Holvoet can do for you and what you can do for WMA by updating information on the database. These are just a few among a long list of tools available, so go out and get your Tool Kit ready to store all of the great "tool tips" coming your way. If you have any specific ideas that you would like addressed contact me at wma-lebrescu-amtower@cox.net.

First Tip for the Tool Kit: "Flag Etiquette"



Did you know that when organizational flags (WMA chapter flags) are posted along with our U.S. national flag that bears the "eagle topper ornament", the organizational flagstaff (chapter flag pole) topping ornament, should be the "spearhead"?



Since we always display our national flag with an eagle topper ornament, WMA chapter flags should use the "spearhead" topper ornament. So now is the time to go out and get the correct ornament ("spearhead") for your chapter flags for the 2008 Houston Convention. You can purchase a spearhead ornament for approximately \$30 at such websites as <http://www.united-states-flag.com/accessories.html>. This ornament is listed as the "Army Spear" style.

Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower

Chapter Clippings



CA-5

The highlight of our summer was the Annual Picnic in August at the home of our president. It was well attended and all enjoyed the food and games. Larry Lephart took care of the barbeque. We were pleased to have Valarie Erskine join us.

Our general meeting was held 23 September at Rita Stonebraker's clubhouse. Great potluck and bunko games. Mary Luebben talked about the convention. All who attended were quite pleased with the hotels, programs and food. We are looking forward to Houston.

The next luncheon will be the Women Veterans Luncheon on 4 November. The Navy is chairing the luncheon this year.

Our annual Christmas party will be held on 3 December. It's always well attended. Our collection for Toys for Tots is always a great success.

We were fortunate to have Connie Schroller volunteer to edit our monthly newsletter. Seems members are very pleased to get chapter news monthly.

Mary Ann Rogers



CA-7 - Edith Macias Vann S. California

CA-7 had a very busy summer time, and that is just warming us up for the fall. The chapter was honored to have Past National President Carol Mutter as a guest at our June meeting. Notice of her visit doubled our attendance bringing guests from surrounding chapters -- what a great day and event. There were sad times as CA-7 lost two long-time members, Milly Hoover and Charlotte O'Brien.

The annual summer get together was graciously hosted by Loyal Escort President Ken Cross and of course Past Chapter President Lillian Cross -- a great time was had by all.

Then the chapter got to work giving out three scholarships of \$500 each, sending care packages to GySgt Crystal Henderson in Iraq and to our Loyal Escort GySgt Talamantes, husband of Vice President Isela Talamantes. We look forward to having him home soon. GySgt Henderson is one of our members and attended the convention, accepting the charter and flags for the Iraqi Lioness Chapter.

Some of our members laid a wreath for women on Memorial Day at the San Luis Rey Mission, while others went to the dedication of a bench for deceased WMA member Betty Noble (CA-2) in Alpine.

September had us back meeting regularly, celebrating our chapter anniversary and making plans for the coming year! Semper Fidelis!

Peggy Reiber



CA-9 - Redwoods

President Joyce Donegan arranged for us to meet for lunch on 23 September at the Red Grape, a popular gourmet pizza spot, in Sonoma.

We heard reports from Maggie Hart and Bonnie Medin who both attended the WMA convention in Louisville. Each

expressed high praise for the organization and content of the convention, not to mention how much fun it was. All of this was well documented by photos which each shared with us. Maggie carried our new flag in the opening ceremonies. One of her photos shows her "stepping out" in that procession with pride and a big smile. We thank Maggie for being such a great representative for CA-9. She also documented her home chapter (CA-3) friends and advised that they won three ribbons at the convention!! Hooray! Congratulations, CA-3!

Bonnie, on the other hand, was there not only as a CA-9 member but also represented USA-1, the WWII WR Band chapter. She carried their flag in the opening ceremonies with special pride; they were indeed a unique group and still share a kind of camaraderie rarely found. Bonnie was the only band member at convention this time. She also shared photos. Bonnie is a Sometimes Singer and they always add a special touch to conventions with their joyous music.

Our new flag was given to us by SgtMaj Jessie Branch, USMC (Ret) from nearby Fairfield. We arranged a lunch meeting at Compadres in Yountville where the SgtMaj presented the flag to Maggie Hart. Doris Panzer and Betty Kelley were there also representing the chapter. We are grateful to the SgtMaj for this generous gift.

Maggie's flag duties turned adventurous during her trip to Louisville. She found a rifle case to be the ideal carrier for the flag, staff and eagle. This unique equipment caught the attention of the security people who refused to open it. Maggie simply exclaimed: "It's a flag for the women Marines." After several interviews, she was allowed to pass. Ever the stalwart woman Marine, she won the day!

Joyce, a resident at the Veterans Home in Yountville, experienced anxious hours during the night of 22 September when a fire raged in the hills just behind the Home. Residents were put on alert. The fire began to creep over the ridges but our super heroic CA Department of Forestry fire fighters held off the flames. The fire was not declared out until 27 September. Fortunately, no homes were lost, no one was hurt and the Veterans Home was spared.

We look forward to the Veterans' Day Parade and also to a joint chapter Christmas party on 9 December sponsored by Mt. Diablo Chapter (CA-6). It will be at the Dead Fish restaurant, our favorite party place.

In the meantime, we will honor the Marine Corps' 231st birthday on 10 November. Semper Fidelis!!

Doris Panzer



CA-15 - San Fernando Valley

At the right in the photo is CA-15 member Joan Vitale standing with Carolyn Blashek, founder and high-energy leader of Operation Gratitude. In the background you can see some of the thousands of packages which have been sent to our men and women in Iraq and elsewhere. To date, Operation Gratitude has sent out over 155,000 packages to American troops deployed overseas, and we are



glad to be a part of this effort, although we hope with all of you that it won't be needed much longer.

As we have for a number of years now, over the holidays CA-15 will again bring gifts to patients at the Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center (VA Hospital). We will bring useful gifts for these men and women to our November meeting and our multi-task champion member Nonie Lann will deliver them to the hospital's volunteer center.

Lastly, it is an honor to tell you that our vice president, Geri Fiorello, is now Area 10 Director. She plans to stay on as vice president of CA-15, thank goodness. Congratulations, Geri!

Joan Vitale

WMA CO-1 - Colorado Columbine

The Colorado Columbine Chapter opened a second exhibit at the Castle Rock Museum on 9 August. A number of items from that exhibit traveled to the convention in Louisville where we set up the History Suite. Nancy Wilt, Sara Phoenix, LaVerne Sarber, Marge Alexander, and Jo Slater worked on the exhibit at convention. Many thanks to our Loyal Escorts who helped with the exhibit and at convention - Bill Sarber, Tony Sarlls, and Patrick Sofin. We have acquired more storage space and are working on buying a new computer and printer.



Runners take off in the 5K run/walk at the Jefferson County Courthouse in Golden. Proceeds from the event benefit the History Project in Castle Rock and the Marine Corps Memorial.

On 1 October we conducted the inaugural MC Memorial 5K Run/Walk to benefit the History Project and the Marine Corps Memorial in Golden. The Young Marines, the Marine Corps Memorial Association, and the Marine Corps League along with the Marine Corps SOS breakfast group, Frontier Airlines,

Einstein Bagels, and Lamar's Donuts helped with the run. This will be an annual event in October each year so if you're a runner put it on your calendar!

Nancy Wilt and Paula Sarlls taught a class in Marine Corps Birthday Ball manners to a group of Young Marines on 26 September.

Members of the chapter plan to attend a number of birthday balls around the city and Nancy Wilt will be attending the Museum Opening in Quantico. Sadly, one of the CO-2 members lost her husband in September and he was interred at the Ft. Logan National Cemetery in Denver. Members of the chapter attended the funeral in support of Kay Sankey, who has since passed away in early November.

Jan Clay

WMA FL-4 - Tampa Tarpons

On 1 May at the annual VA Voluntary Service Award luncheon at Dollar Tree Restaurant, Mary Sherron was presented with the President's Call to Service Award for her 4,788 volunteer VAVS hours. This award is earned for 4,000 or more volunteer hours.

Alene Bohn, now at home member has spent time phoning & writing letters to get the veterans at the James Haley VA Nursing Home, Care Unit C, some of the wanted treats on their wish list. Two deliveries have now been made of complimentary non alcoholic O'Doul's beer for their weekly Happy Hour on Fridays and she is working on other snack ideas for Happy Hour, all very much appreciated by the vets. Alene received an award for the 1,327 Volunteer VAVS hours she has given over seven years.

Laverne Myers

WMA FL-8 - Spaceport



FL-8 at their May meeting.

Our May meeting was a picnic at the home of Helen and Lewis Hockman in Rockledge. We had a very good turnout to enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs and all the trimmings.

Members were in attendance at the Palm Bay High School MCJROTC awards ceremony on 11 May. Marge Collins, still looking sharp in her WWII uniform, presented \$35 gift certificates to Cadets Shayna Jackson and Ashley Lovewell. Mary Bevan also made a presentation as the commandant of her Marine Corps League detachment.

Our chapter was represented at the dedication of the replica of the Vietnam Moving Wall in Melbourne's Wickham Park in April. We contributed to the local group of veterans who constructed The Wall.

Our chapter hosted the Brevard County Women Veterans' Luncheon on 21 October. It was held at the Indian River Colony Club in Viera. Women Veterans from all the services were invited.

Our regular meetings resumed on 8 September at Perkin's in Viera. Other events on our calendar are the Marine Corps Ball in Barefoot Bay and Massing of the Colors in Cocoa on 11 November.

Sad to report the loss of another member, Beverly Stokes, who passed away in June. She was a faithful volunteer at the Veterans Clinic in Viera and will be sorely missed.

Betty-Jo Birney

WMA GA-1 - Dogwood of Atlanta

Things slowed down to a reasonable pace during the summer for the Dogwood Chapter. For our third annual Girl's Weekend, six of our chapter members were joined by three friends for whitewater rafting and two nights at a cabin in north Georgia where we kicked back, relaxed and learned how to play a little Texas Hold 'em poker.

On 4 July the town of Marietta, a suburb north of Atlanta, held a parade which we participated in for the first time. We had outstanding vehicle support from David and Buffy Scheaffer and along the parade route a gentleman called out that his mother was

a Marine so we handed him a card and made contact with her later.

On the speaking circuit, Sgt Rachel Bergstrom was invited to the Squires & Stags, a men's group in the resort community of Big Canoe in North Georgia. Her presentation, entitled "To Iraq and Back", drew the biggest crowd they have ever had. From that appearance she was invited to speak to the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter in Dawsonville. During the 4th Marine Division Association's reunion in Atlanta at the end of August, Kathleen Eidson was invited to speak at the Ladies Breakfast on 26 August. She entertained them with stories and song and brought many to tears with her patriotic salute at the end.

Sheryl headed to Parris Island on 17 August to observe Kristina Allen and Heather Sparks, former MCJROTC cadets at N. Forsyth High School, going through the Crucible. Knowing she would not be able to attend their graduation on 1 September, Sheryl arranged to see them during this phase of their training and presented each of them with a 4th Battalion Challenge Coin at their Warriors Breakfast.

In addition to these two new Marines, we were delighted to have Mildred (Lunsford) Talmadge join our chapter this quarter.



LtCol Laura Ward, Kathleen Eidson, Gen Hagee, June Dukes and Sheryl Young.

At the convention, five members represented us in Louisville: Kathleen Eidson, June Dukes, Sheryl Young, Linda Clark-Wolford and Laura Ward, who was attending her first convention. We were proud to bring home another first place award for our history book as well as another second place in the newsletter category. Our polo shirts sold very well again in the Tack Room, as did a red fleece jacket embroidered with the WMA logo. Although busy with her new responsibilities as Area 3 Director, Sheryl did find some time to spend with four of her boot camp buddies: Viola Tovar, Debbie Bowen, Joanne Wallace and Lorna Dupouy, who had recently joined WMA and were attending their first convention. Everyone enjoyed making new memories with new friends and old. Our congratulations to the 2006 Convention Committee for the outstanding job they did!

Sheryl Young



IL-2 - Blanche S. Osborne

Now back from a great convention, and we offer lots of oohs to the new Kentucky chapter, Winning Colors! They did a marvelous job.

The highlight for our chapter is winning a ribbon to attach to our chapter flag! Quite unexpected! It was for the most new members enrolled in the Recruiting Derby.

We had 12 members who drove down to Louisville from the Chicago area: Genevieve Bowen, Helen Laukes, Bernadette Kruszynski, Mae Glassbrenner, Mary Roa, Martie Nawrocki, Rose Teipe, Carol Eubanks, Vera Donlan, Muriel Underwood, and Mary Zabel.

Another highlight of the convention was in the History Suite: seeing the two paintings of Gene Bowen in her uniform during WW II. They were painted by her brother, Stanley J. Gordon, a well-known portrait painter whose work includes two portraits of Ronald Reagan, one of Pope John Paul II, George H. W. Bush, and Jimmy Carter. That painting hangs in the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library.



Gene Bowen between the two paintings of her done by her brother, Stanley J. Gordon.

Also, this past summer we hosted a luncheon for WMA president Paula Sarlls and husband Tony as they were on their way to her daughter's wedding. Area 4 Director BettyJean Cannon and husband Donald joined us, along with Past National President Helen Laukes, and a number of chapter members. Paula met Billie Weigman, who had the same job as Paula did in service - a control tower operator.

Our summer picnic was also well attended, held in Gene Bowen's back yard. Connie Svoboda, a new member who drove up from Streator, about 150 miles southwest of Chicago. Connie's hobby is sky diving; she has several hundred jumps to her name.

Muriel Underwood



KY-1 Winning Colors

Our members were everywhere but together during the convention, but most of us really were there, working in the Tack Room, attending workshops, meetings, meals or enjoying the great Hospitality Room.

Member Susan Vogedes opened the convention with her bugle. Her friend, Lori Simpson, a Navy veteran, sang. Member Donita Pruitt was everywhere, but mostly in the Tack Room with Kathleen Drummond and Carmela Chapelle.

We finally got our charter and, thanks to the generosity of our Marine Corps League, were able to purchase our own flag that Donita carried in the opening ceremony.

To all who attended the convention, we hope you enjoyed Louisville and y'all come back! If you live in Kentucky and didn't come - you sure missed a fun time. But we are not going to give up on getting you to the next one. After a short rest, we plan to take to the roads and bring the chapter to you!

If you were at the Recognition and Award Luncheon, a group of MCJROTC cadets handed out letters thanking you for your service. Those students were from Seneca High School, but Jeffersontown High School cadets also wrote letters. If you wish to send thank you notes, mail them to: Col Richard A. Maloney, SMI, Seneca High School MCJROTC, 3510 Goldsmith Lane, Louisville, KY 40220 or LtCol Mark Dobbs, SMI, Jeffersontown High School MCJROTC, 9600 Old Six Mile Lane, Louisville, KY 40299.

Mary Broussard



MA-1 - Bay State

Summer is done. A most successful convention/conference has concluded and the fall foliage is starting to show its beautiful colors.

Our July picnic was held in Joyce Barden's lovely garden. Sixteen members had a great luncheon and a wonderful afternoon on a most beautiful summer day.



MA-1 at the Lobster Fest.

baked beans, salad and a huge assortment of scrumptious desserts. It surely must take Claire and Agnes a week to prepare this spread. They have some great neighbors (the kitchen help) who lend a hand each year.

We had a turnout of eight of our members for the great convention in Louisville. We took in the World Fair on the Belvedere, a dinner cruise on the Ohio River, a tour of Churchill Downs (home of the Kentucky Derby), a baseball game at Louisville Slugger field, (the home team, Louisville Bats, won) and who could miss going to the Louisville Slugger Factory to watch the creation of baseball bats. That was a wonderful take in. The convention committee worked very hard and surely it showed in a wonderful time for everyone.

At the Recognition & Awards Luncheon our chapter proudly received one first place and two second place awards. Are we ever pleased.

All the summer fun is over and we are getting back to our regular activities. Our new chapter president, Micaila Britto, is full of great ideas for the upcoming year.

With Toys for Tots upon us very soon, Thanksgiving and Christmas and the New Year cannot be far behind.

Kay Carpenter



MI-1 - Michigan



Members of MI-1 at the convention with members of a local MCJROTC.

The annual meeting of Michigan-1 was held in Owosso at J. Olivers on 16 September. Social hour started at noon, lunch was served at 12:30 after which the business meeting was called to order by the

president, Dorothy Mrozovich.

Members who had attended the national convention in Louisville reported on the activities, meetings and trips they took part in. Some very interesting pictures and souvenirs of the good time they had were displayed.

The spring meeting will include a trip to the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame and Historical Center in Lansing. This meeting will be hosted by Alice Haber and Lorie Casanova.

Hostesses Alice Phillips and Lucille Otis passed out the door prizes. The meeting was adjourned and the "March of the Women Marines" was sung.

Alice Haberer



MI-2 - Motor City

With convention now over, MI-2 feels proud to have won several awards. We felt equally lucky to have 14 of our members in attendance and added two more while in Kentucky to our roster. We would like to thank the entire convention crew for a job well done.

October 28th was Make a Difference Day. Thanks to the generosity of many, MI-2 was able to pack and ship out 500 boxes to our men and women in Iraq. Many of those boxes shipped went to our Iraqi chapter for their spa day. I think we will have kept them feeling pretty for quite some time. We will continue our troop support until all are home safely.

December will see us collecting for Toys for Tots and planning for a major fundraiser for Operation Caring Friends.

We hope y'all are planning on coming to Houston in 2008.

Mary Ann Merritt



Mary Ann Merritt accepting the Newsletter Award from Sue Sousa and Ken Cross. Photo by Micaila Britto.



MN-1 - Minnesota Leathernecks



MN-1 at the convention.

Minnesota Leathernecks started off the summer (in 90 degree heat, can you believe that) on 18 June by participating in the Water Carnival parade in Hutchinson. This small town of 14,000 swells to about 50,000 for this parade which is the last day of festivities with fireworks to end the day. Seven members of MN-1 and four Loyal Escorts arrived at the Witchers for a brunch before the parade. We were unit 8 out of 160 units, and the parade was 1.6 miles. Mary McGee and Emily Rodich carried the banner and the rest of us were in two convertibles. We had two great drivers of the convertibles and while waiting for the parade to start, we met two fine young men who had been in the Marines and just recently were discharged after serving in Desert Storm and Iraq. The crowds were terrific with a lot of cheering and waving. After the parade, we came back to the Witchers for cooling drinks and another snack before heading for home.

On 8 July, our annual summer picnic was held at the home of Gayle Herseth, who has a lovely home with a patio - ideal for a pot luck picnic. This is one of our great social events. With barbecuing hot dogs, and a table bulging with food along with delightful weather, what could be better? As customary, a short business meeting was held before everyone headed for home.

Six members of MN-1 and two Loyal Escorts attended the National Biennial Convention in Louisville. It was great to meet and greet so many friends and all the active duty Marines. The days were filled with meetings, and super luncheons and the

nights were hilarious in the hospitality room - great job Loyal Escorts! The history exhibits were sensational - the presentation by Houston for 2008 was extraordinary - a great job by all.

Dot Witcher



NV-1 - Sagebrush Chapter

I finally got a chance to go shopping and buy some new clothes, you know we all need a reason to do this and the convention is my reason. Since I was installed as the new Area Director, I was informed I had to wear all white for this installation. So, of course, I needed new white pants, a nice white top, a white jacket, white shoes and some nice white and gold jewelry. What a wonderful time I had at the new Las Vegas Outlet.

This being my first convention I was very excited about going and I knew I would have lots to tell you at the general meeting on 9 September. There was only one person I knew there and I have not seen her in over 50 years. We were stationed together at Henderson Hall, so this was a treat for me.

Our fund raising projects are well under way and I hope you will take the time to help your chapter by selling the raffle tickets that were sent to you. I tell you all the time about the packages we have sent to Iraq and they each cost postage. There is a need to get more money in our treasury to allow us to continue to do this type of thing and to help our local hospitalized veterans. The dog tags are our other fundraiser. I took some to the convention and sold quite a few. For those of you who don't come to our chapter meetings, you don't know about our dog tags. They are so cute and I love wearing mine. Semper Fidelis!

Carol Watson



NY-5 - Central New York State



June Dempsey, June Worden and Jeanne Botwright at the Convention 2008 luncheon.

My compliments to June Worden, Area One Director and NY-5 president, and the convention committee for a most enjoyable national convention in Louisville. I am proud to include members Janis Nielsen and Beverly Taylor also as convention attendees. Meeting up with Hazel Strook and her friend from the Wisconsin Chapter was especially enjoyable.

I am looking forward to reading the comments in 'Nouncements from other chapter members who attended. Semper Fidelis!

Marge Rowoth



OH-2 - Chesty Puller

I don't know if our other members have stopped running, but my legs are giving out from all our activities.

We had our annual picnic/business meeting at our president's house and what a turn out from our chapter. We had members from all over the state and some traveled up to four hours to get there. Our director, Betty Jean Cannon, came in from Michigan

and the convention was our big topic. When we left for the convention, we had a van stuffed full, a pick up truck filled and a car with a full trunk. We left Akron and met up with a member outside Columbus and on to Louisville. It was a fun trip until we got off the interstate and tried to find the entrance to the Galt House. After a couple U-turns and going around the block we finally found the front entrance. We went to the Hard Rock Café for dinner where we met up with the Monkey Man. He gave me a balloon that looked like a monkey and I still have it. Monkey has lost a lot of air, but looks good for its age. We had one day to look around the city and then it was off to the races and we ran all week. We had a good time in the Tack Room and met so many wonderful people. It was a good convention and we all met members we hadn't seen for years. Every member has their stories and this column is not long enough to hold them.

When we returned from the convention, the Akron area had a Stand Down. A Stand Down is a day for our homeless and displaced veterans. Our members along with the Waves 21 Unit had tables with personal hygiene items, underwear, hats, gloves and other items for the women veterans. This was the first Stand Down we had and what a huge success it was. We would like to thank Laura Dunlop (Army vet) for all her support as chairman of this event and involving our chapter in other veteran activities.

We will participate in a state wide health fair on 28 October, and are gearing up for Toys for Tots and Salvation Army Kettles.

Our condolences to OH-1 on the passing of Helen Shirey.

Thank you to all our members of OH-2 for your support. We are scattered, but each member gives in their own way and we care about each other. Happy Holidays from OH-2! Go Bucks!!

Elva (Elvie) Pounder



OK-2 - Heartland Chapter

Let's see, where were we? Hey OR-1!! You can call off that request we made a few issues ago... it has been raining cats and dogs since around midnight and still going strong.

Having just been 'served with marching orders' to become correspondence secretary in addition to my other duties in the chapter, I had to take a moment to get seriously up to speed. My gosh! We missed getting into the summer Chapter Clippings! Well, we have all been busy, busy, busy!

Since several of our OK-2 members are also members of the Women Veterans Organization of Oklahoma (www.okwvo.org) where I am currently serving as president, I, and surely some of the others, get a bit confused about what we have been up to as a WMA chapter, since we do work closely with WVO on several of our projects.

Since our last offering in the spring issue we have had a couple of chapter meetings and been busy planning or helping to plan various events, in addition to sending Sondra Metzger and Joan Willauer to the convention.

One of our efforts culminated on 30 September when, in conjunction with the WVO, we pulled off the 2nd Annual Oklahoma Veterans Dance and Benefit Show. This is an event we use to both raise funds for the Annual Women Veterans Recognition Day event and raise awareness about women veterans in the state of Oklahoma and beyond! We expect the dance to get bigger and better every year, and it met our expectations this year!

Recognition Day, which is a program started 22 years ago by

Lynda Waldroop, a Navy vet and VA employee, has become "our" project over the past few years and thanks to the efforts of Pam Bloustine, Brenda Blair, Sondra Metzger and Joan Willauer, as well as Clara Mark, from our "Artillery" and several of the WVO members, it gets bigger and better every year. Soon it is going to be hard to find a venue to accommodate the growing crowd! It is a wonderful tool to help us in our efforts to make contact with the almost 24,000 women veterans who are supposed to be residing in the great state of Oklahoma.

Our annual pool party chapter meeting on 26 August was held at Pam Bloustine's "spa" where we gathered around her pool for lunch and chatter before adjourning indoors to get out of the 100+ degree heat and take care of chapter business and talk about upcoming events, which included: the Freedom Walk in Downtown OKC on 11 September, 2nd Annual Oklahoma Veterans Dance & Benefit Show on 30 September, the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure (walk or run) on 14 October, Oklahoma Marine Corps Coordinating Council birthday luncheon on 3 November, and the Oklahoma Women Veterans Recognition Day on 4 November.

Our latest chapter meeting was held on 14 October after the Komen Race. We headed to the well-known Cattlemen's Restaurant in the Stockyards for the meeting and a great breakfast buffet, which we all dove into after the rigors of the race! During the meeting we got a rundown on the convention from Sondra and Joan, elected new officers, introduced ourselves around the table to a new WMA member, Domonique Maestas, and signed up two of our "Artillery", Clara Mark and U.S. Coast Guard retiree Nadine Lewis, as members of the Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter.

So, we forge ahead towards November and the Recognition Day Program, all the Marine Corps birthday events, Veterans' Day, and to our December chapter meeting and installation of officers, gathering Toys for Tots, and hopefully some more hoopla about the convention from Joan and Sondra, who already have us all chomping at the bit in anticipation of the 2008 Convention in Houston. So look for us again in the Winter 2007 issue!!

Dorothy "Jingles" Rimbold



OR-1 - Lady Marine Rose

Oops! The cut off date for the last edition of 'Nouncements crept up on me as I was visiting my sister and Loyal Escort, Clarinda Leep, in Idaho so I guess I will have to condense our chapter activities for the last two quarters in this issue.

April 8th...Eight of our members journeyed to Eugene for their annual Spring Fling. A buffet luncheon and spirited auction was enjoyed by all. New members, Joyce Olson and Mary Luby, said they enjoyed the "fling" and the camaraderie with their fellow Marines.

May 6th...Past President Hattie Kelley was asked to represent the Marine Corps Coordinating Council in presenting the traditional sword to the outstanding Marine ROTC graduate at OSU, making it the first time a female has done the honors. Hattie presented the sword to GySgt Bradley T. Brill during a morning ceremony on the parade grounds and again in the auditorium in the afternoon. The following day she installed the officers of OR-4 at the home of Barbe Hosier in Salem.

May 4th...Ruth Falconbury and husband Carnett, Hattie Kelley, and Nanci Visser appeared on the Military Report, a live radio

talk show broadcast from Dupont. The host of the show, retired Army colonel Alphonso Knight, Jr., interviewed the women, asking what it was like to be a woman Marine and Carnett told about his service as a Marine in China. The KLAY Station Manager was pleased with the 55 minute broadcast and the participants thought it was fun and were glad they had participated.

May 24th...Hattie Kelley, Marcia Dean and Golda Fabian attended the Aloha High School Living History Day. They were in a classroom with four male Marines and proceeded to enlighten the students on the high cost of freedom. The banter and repartee among the seven caused one student to remark "You Marines sure are a tight group, aren't you?" Yes, we are.

June 24th...was our last meeting for the term and our annual "Strawberry Festival" held on the Falconbury's houseboat on the Columbia River. Seventeen members and guests enjoyed the sunshine, gentle breeze off the river, and bountiful luncheon topped by delicious Oregon strawberry shortcake.

July 4th...Six of our members participated in the annual Hillsboro 4th of July parade. The parade started with a thunderstorm in the distance and a threat of rain which fortunately did not materialize. Heidi Tanada, Elaine Premo, Sallie Van Wie, Golda Fabian, Hattie Kelley and Bunny Gray along with Heidi's two grandchildren proudly represented the Women Marines Association in the two and a half mile long parade.

July 15th...The Oregon Capital Chapter held their annual picnic/potluck/auction. Although only four of our members and a Loyal Escort were able to attend, they reported having the usual fun time.

July 26-30th ...Was our annual garage sale held at the home of Bobbie Aaby, Loyal Escort. Thanks to the efforts of Heidi Tanada, Hattie Kelley, Betty Workman, Ruth Falconbury, Nanci Visser, Golda Fabian, and Bobbie the club added a tidy sum to their treasury.

Sept 9th ...Marked the 98th birthday of member Evelyn Baker and four of our members showed up at her home with a cake, balloon and red roses to help her celebrate the day. Evelyn still lives independently in her own home with the aid of her good friend and neighbor, Carolyn Jones. Although Evelyn is suffering from macular degeneration and her eyesight is failing, she says she is in good health otherwise. Way to go, Evelyn!



OR-1 members Betty Workman, Jackie Eittreim and Hattie Kelley help Evelyn Baker celebrate her 98th birthday on 9 September. Hattie Kelley took the photograph.

Our President, Heidi Tanada, her sister, Loyal Escort Bobbie Aaby, and Vice President Ruth Falconbury and husband attended the convention in Louisville. We are looking forward to our first meeting of the season on Sept 23rd to hear all of the details.

That about sums up our summer activities. Please, remember our troops in your prayers.

Golda Fabian



OR-3 - Eager Beavers

Greetings from the Pacific Northwest...

It won't be long before we are turning our clocks back and hunkering down for the winter in these parts. But before we all semi-hibernate, the gals of OR-3 have been enjoying a wonderful summer in the northwest.

As reported in our last issue, July was time to travel north to Salem and share a picnic day with the gals from OR-4. It was, as always, a fun day filled with good food and good friends. We all left with less money in our pockets, the result of auction bidding at its best.

August brought wonderful weather and a trip to the Oregon coast for several of our members. It's always nice to leave the hot western Oregon valley area for the milder climate of the coast. Reports from those who went were all favorable.

September took some of us to our member Helen Juza's home in the Cascade Mountains. What a wonderful, relaxing, and fun time we had. Watching the ~~Oregon football team~~ *PAC-10 OFFICIALS* ~~square~~ *HAND* over a victory over the Oklahoma Sooners was part of the fun. [CORRECTION courtesy of your national editor, the Sooner.] We all ate until we thought we'd pop.

Next for our chapter is a special presentation in October by Marine Mom, Deb Conrad. November will see us at the Marine Corps Ball festivities and the Veterans' Day parade. Our Christmas sharing this year will be at Carolyn Anderson's home when we make up food baskets for the less fortunate and help with Toys for Tots.

We've put another year in the books with much to be thankful for. Best wishes from OR-3 for 2007. Until next issue, Semper Fidelis.

Karen Reeves



OR-4 - Oregon Capital

Members of Oregon Capital Chapter met 16 September at the home of Treasurer Barbe Hosier in Salem. There was much lively discussion about the recent WMA Convention in Louisville, with pictures and souvenirs from the three chapter members who attended: Melva Love, Bunny Gray and Lorre Wardyn. They also advised us to plan to attend the 2008 convention in Houston.

Plans were made for a holiday luncheon on 16 December at a Salem restaurant. The upcoming Marine Corps Birthday Ball, sponsored by the Salem Marine Corps League Detachment, was announced. Members are pleased that local area Marines are becoming more active. Treasurer Barbe moved that we donate \$100 toward the cost of shatterproof sunglasses being purchased by the Marine Corps League for our men and women in Iraq and Afghanistan.

We also voted to donate \$100 to the Marine Corps Family Foundation's "Operation Santa", organized by two local mothers of Marines, who send Christmas packages, decorations and stockings filled with goodies to our Marines overseas. This year they plan to send these items to 22,000 Marines!!

We are a small chapter and cannot do a great deal on our own, so we feel that we can best support our Marines by assisting other organizations with their successful programs. We enjoy getting together and sharing our stories of life in the Corps--and having a bit of dessert, too!

Barbe Hosier



PA-3 - Mountain Laurel

Each July 4th, the City of Scranton maintains a tradition that goes back many decades -- a ceremony that is conducted and represented by members of many area veterans organizations who gather at Nay Aug Park to celebrate our nation's birthday. Members carry their respective flags in a short parade which culminates in a flag raising ceremony and a firing squad salute by the Marine Corps League. Pictured is our president, Shirley McAndrew, carrying the chapter colors.



Our only delegate to the convention was our treasurer, Doris Keeler. She was again joined by three of her sisters, one of whom is WMA member Sally Medcalf, AR-1. While viewing the history exhibits, Doris noted that a field grade officer dress blue hat is needed, and she is sending in the one she happens to have.

Those of us not fortunate enough to attend the convention are enjoying the pictures shared on the internet, and look forward to complete coverage in the next 'Nouncements. Semper Fidelis!

Virginia M. Swartz



TX-2 - Texas Gulf Coast

Well, ladies, we can't thank y'all enough for the kind words and smiles we experienced during the TX2 luncheon introducing the 2008 Convention to be held in Houston. I personally want to thank the ladies and gentlemen who helped with the set-up and the take down. You just jumped in and helped with anything we needed - from moving tables, to putting out goodie bags, to setting out the centerpieces, to making a really late night Wal-Mart run. Thank YOU!!! We had a rip-roarin' good time putting on the luncheon, and so many of you were kind enough to tell us how much you enjoyed it and that you can't wait to see what we do in Houston - looks like we're going have to kick it up a notch for the 2008 attendees. I think we can handle that. We've got some really creative gals here, and each one of them is a blast to work with.

Note: Judy Anderson said to let y'all know that someone left a "Florida Keys" beach bag at our table in the Tack Room. If you give her a call, she'll make sure it gets sent back where it belongs. Her number is 281-480-2038. Give her your name and address. If you don't want it, just let her know that too, and you'll probably get it back as a door prize somewhere in 2008!!

Many of you were kind enough to purchase the cookbook we've published as our fundraiser - "Cooking With Marines". I thought it was great to get to see some of the faces that went with names on recipes. The book is ready for purchase at \$10/each + \$2.50/postage and handling (check or money order made out to WMA TX2). You can obtain the books by sending a request, along with payment, to: B.J. Huggins (WMA) P.O. Box 1821, Pasadena, TX 77501. I may be partial, but I believe the covers alone are worth the price.

The ladies who stopped by our table in Louisville found out that we will also be publishing a sequel titled "More Cooking with Marines", so even if you no longer cook, please send us your favorite recipes. We'd like to set a cut off date of 30 June 2007,



TX-2 at the installation luncheon.

and the book will be ready for sale by end of November 2007 (just in time for Christmas gifts).

As many of you know, TX-2 currently publishes the historical calendar every year. This year's is really nice, and features the WR Band, along with current members of "The President's Own" (currently on sale for \$12/ea plus \$3.00 postage and handling).

Next year will be the last one we will publish, and we want to cover a topic that is of immense historical importance and REALLY special... "Friendships That Were Formed In The Corps". If you have friends you met in the Corps, and those friendships have endured the passing of time, we want to hear about it. If you have pictures (either from "way back when", or current), we want to see them. If your friend is still alive, we'd like to hear her side of the story too... where did y'all meet, what time in history did you serve together (WW2, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq 1&2, or between conflicts/wars), how did that friendship affect your lives, what's going on now in both lives? If you have a favorite story about you and this friend, we want to hear it. I think we all have friendships that formed in the Corps... some survived, and some we'd really like to re-ignite, if only we knew where that friend is now. One of my "Corps" friendships (for 40 years now) was here in Texas when 9/11 occurred... we cried together. We have so many memories of our time in service (most of those stories are probably best left untold, if you know what I mean) as well as the years since that time. My children and grandchildren know her as Aunt Mary Ann, and I'm Aunt Betty to hers. We've spent endless hours on the phone and exchanged tons of letters, cards etc. (mostly from her this way - I'd rather hear a voice). When our marriages broke up, we cried on each other's shoulders, and when our children went absolutely insane in their teens, we kept each other strong.

I know each of you probably has at least one story just like this. Please share them with us. We want to tell the world about the wonderful bunch of women who have served our country in time of peace and in time of conflict, and about the relationships formed between them. These relationships have impacted our history - personally, and as a nation. Send your stories and pictures to the same addresses as the recipes: B.J. Huggins (WMA) P.O. Box 1821, Pasadena, TX, 77501 or by e-mail to kebeaty1961@yahoo.com. Our cutoff date for the stories is 15 April 2007. We look forward to hearing from you!

Again, don't forget to get your copy of the cookbook. They make nice gifts or can be used as a recruiting tool for new members!! Just as an example, on our way back to Texas, Karen Beatty and I gave a cookbook to a gal who is now the manager of a Cracker Barrel located just inside Tennessee on 65. She was overwhelmed to meet other women who had also served in the Corps. We had a great visit with her, and gave her the website address. Some of you Tennessee ladies might want to go look her up. Her name is Mary Beth Hershey, and she works at Cracker Barrel, Store #26 @ 4323 Sidco Dr. in Nashville, TN 37204. Let her know there are others of us out here - she's not alone.

We sincerely hope each of you have a wonderful Thanksgiving and the happiest, most blessed Christmas holiday season possible.

BJ Huggins



WA-1 - Evergreen

The only get-together this summer since our February meeting was at Emerald Downs race track on 22 July. Twenty-five members and guests were there for all the excitement. The fourth race was dedicated to WMA and some of the members had their picture taken with the winning horse and jockey. As in the past, a great time was had by all.

Three of our members, Zelda Barrows, Honey Langdon and Pat Karrasch made presentations at three high schools located at Kent, Tacoma and Snohomish for MCJROTC cadets. The three cadets selected were each given a \$200 savings bond.

The following members of WA-1 were in attendance at the national convention held in Louisville: Gerry Ahnstrom, Juanita Leighton, Barbara Pratt, Marion Lavrinec, Virginia Allred and Zelda Barrows. All reported a very successful and fun convention.

We would like to express our appreciation to Zelda Barrows, our treasurer, who served for eight years as the Area 9 Director. She covered a lot of territory and made many friends.

We have once again lost two long-time members of our chapter. Marian Ishler McNamara (known as "Mac") died on 13 June in Kirkland. A memorial service was held at the Evergreen Hospice on 19 June. Marian was a charter member of WA-1 and also a life member. She served in the Marine Corps from March 1944 to August 1977 and was discharged as a master sergeant. Zelda Barrows represented our chapter at the memorial service.

Alice Bond served in the Marine Corps from October 1943 to June 1946 and was discharged as a major. She later became a professor at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma and retired in 1976. Alice passed away 21 July in Tacoma. Zelda Barrows and Juanita Leighton represented our chapter at the memorial service on 28 July.

Semper Fidelis.

Louise George



WI-1 - Wisconsin Women Marines



L to R, WI-1 convention attendees (l-r): Annette Howards, Iva Stark, Hazel Strook (flag bearer and donor of the flag), Connie Allord, Mibs Ewald, Marceline Paulin and Joyce Amato.

The convention in Louisville can be called nothing but a total success - well planned, great food, fun, but most of all, the camaraderie.

Pictured are the delegates from Wisconsin, taken after the Grand Banquet where everyone enjoyed the evening, especially General Hagee's down-to-earth talk down on the floor among the "troops", old and new.

Marceline and LeRoy Paulin made a family reunion of the convention with daughter Annie from San Diego joining them. Daughter Katie and husband drove them down, had a suite and threw a great party for Wisconsin members and friends, among them Carol Mutter and BGen Angie Salinas. A great time was had by all.

In June, Marge Marshman and Connie Allord attended the state Marine Corps League convention in Oconomowoc where they were both elevated to "Pedigree" in the Military Order of Devil Dogs. Then both had further commitments back in Madison where Connie attended the annual Women's Health Conference at the VA Hospital with other women veterans from around the state.

Megan Daley, president of WI-1, reports that she attended a "family reunion" with her parents of the 3rd Marine Division in Milwaukee. Her father is a Vietnam veteran of the 3rd Marines (3/12) so it was no doubt a nostalgic event for the family. The Colorado chapter sent out a really nice historic display that Megan put up during the reunion and it was mentioned by Carol Mutter at the convention.

For two days in August the Department of Veterans Affairs met in northern Wisconsin with Connie attending as a committee member with the department. After the meetings a new building at the Northern Cemetery at Spooner held a dedication, named for a former member of the board.

Also in August the United Women Veterans made their annual trek to the beautiful campus of the King Veterans Home where they took the women veterans who reside there for lunch and their

monthly meeting. There is an ever increasing number of women and Lisa Dowhen, former Marine, is the transportation director and transports the women in their specially equipped bus. Some residents cannot make the outing so afterward several WMA members visited Isobel Baldyga who had been a very active member. She was so delighted to see old friends.

Returning from the convention on 6 September was not to rest because it coincided with the arrival of the Moving Wall at a VFW facility overlooking the city of Madison. Annette and Connie were among the Marine Corps League members in a ceremony placing a wreath at The Wall. A Huey helicopter added to the reality. Marge did her part in volunteering during the week also. The week seemed to replicate the monsoon season in Vietnam but not stopping the steady stream of visitors. On the last day and for the closing ceremonies the skies really opened up, drenching the speakers, color guards, volunteers and visitors but none were seen leaving. It was a very emotional event, to say the least, especially for the many Vietnam veterans mingling and reminiscing among the displays in a huge tent, even "serving time" in the bamboo cage. We honor their service.

Connie Allord

2006 Marine Corps Times Marine of the Year

SSgt Kent Padmore, a Marine reservist, works in civilian life as a City of Miami Fire-Rescue Department emergency medical technician (EMT). On 23 June 2005, that knowledge and skill would be put to the test and earn him a Purple Heart for the second-degree burns on his hands and arms he suffered while dragging 10 Marines out of the burning wreckage of a 7-ton truck in Fallujah.

An anti-tank missileman by military specialty, Padmore was leading the security force at a civil-military operations center near Fallujah, Iraq, when he and his Marines were assigned to escort a two-vehicle convoy to Camp Fallujah, 20 minutes away.

The lead 7-ton truck carried a special

detail of female Marines trained to search Iraqi women. Padmore and most of his Marines were riding in the back of the trace vehicle when a suicide car bomber crashed into the front of the convoy.



SSgt Kent Padmore

Padmore's driver slammed the brakes and the security detail in the back of the truck tumbled forward as debris from the lead vehicle flew over them.

Padmore said he knew it was a mass-casualty situation that could potentially overwhelm the one or two corpsmen on hand. As enemy small-arms fire began barking from rooftops lining the road, he leapt from his vehicle and rushed across 200 yards of open terrain

to reach the wounded.

When he made it to the burning vehicle, rounds from its mounted .50-caliber machine gun were cooking off in all directions. Padmore dragged six Marines to cover, left his helmet and weapon with them, and returned to the vehicle to rescue four more people.

Disregarding the burns on both his hands, Padmore went into EMT mode, triaging casualties and administering first aid that was later credited with saving the life and leg of one of the wounded Marines. For that, he was awarded a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with "V".

And now, the 2006 Marine Corps Times Marine of the Year.

John Hoellwarth



What do the active duty Marines do after hours when convention programs are wrapped up for the day? They go out on the town... At Joe's Crab Shack.



At the Hard Rock Cafe...



At the Louisville Slugger Museum
Photos by America Zarate.

MCJROTC Awards



Marge Collins, FL-8, and Cadet Ashley Lovewell, Palm Bay High School, Palm Bay, FL.



North Forsyth High School Cadet Sgt Corey McIntyre congratulated by Sgt Rachel Bergstrom, GA-1.



Sheryl Young, GA-1, and Cadet SgtMaj Ashley Tibbetts, Newton High



Diane Raley presenting to Cadet Capt. Andrea Smith, Rutland High School, Macon, GA



Alice Bennett with Cadet SSgt April Cooper, J.O. Johnson High School, Huntsville, AL



LtCol Laura Ward with Cadet Sgt Chris Yarrington, Parkview High School, Lilburn, GA



Muriel Underwood, IL-2, with Outstanding Cadet, Eisenhower High School



LtCol Tom O'Connell, Celia Camacho, Muriel Underwood (IL-2) and SgtMaj Hayes, Noble Street Charter High School



Muriel Underwood, IL-2, with Maria Magana, Curie Metro High School



Rose Nichols and Cadet Tanya Hill, River Rouge High School



Diana Ward and Cadet Stacy Winterroad, Ben Davie High School



CWO-2 Mary-Julia Hill USMC (Ret) and Cadet SSgt Nicholas Tingquist, Catholic High School, Little Rock, AR

Photo Gallery



Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen Michael Hagee, SgtMaj of the Marine Corps SgtMaj John Estradda and LtGen Frances Wilson all congratulated Cpl Elena Mihai (left photo) for receiving the Sgt Harry D. Myers Award "for meritorious service while serving as Fiscal Administrator, Medical Logistics Company, 1st Supply Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group"; and Cpl Rachel S. Carmichael (center photo) for receiving the SgtMaj Bertha Peters Award for "distinguishing herself in the performance of her duties while serving as Electronic-Optical Ordnance Repairman, MEU Service Support Group 31, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit". The awards were presented on 13 September at the Modern Day Marine Enlisted Award Parade and Expo. Both Marines also received complimentary one-year memberships in WMA. *Photos at presentation courtesy of MarineLink, CMC photo gallery; with LtGen Wilson courtesy of Carol Mutter.*

Beware!!! The tax man cometh with a new look

Recently, the IRS announced it has contracted with three private debt-collection agencies to go after deadbeat U.S. taxpayers who owe back federal taxes. This poses a potential problem for all of us -- even those of us who do not owe a dime in back taxes. That's because such a move opens up all kinds of potential for abuse at the hands of scam artists posing as collectors commissioned by the IRS. Phony collectors with bogus claims could be coming out of the woodwork, contacting millions of Americans in an attempt to make them believe they owe money.

Your best defense, whether you owe or not, is to be knowledgeable about the program, to know your rights as a taxpayer and to be keenly aware how to identify a scam artist.

- The IRS does not communicate with

taxpayers through e-mail, and it will not e-mail taxpayers about debts turned over to private collectors. If you get an e-mail message that appears to be from the IRS, do not respond. Dismiss it as malicious spam.

- The IRS will never ask you for any passwords or PIN numbers that would give the agency access to your bank or credit-card accounts. If you are asked to give this information, dismiss it as fraudulent.

- You will know the contact is legitimate when you get a letter from the IRS that names the company handling your debts. This letter will also include information advising you of your rights as a taxpayer. It will be followed by another letter from the collection agency telling you that you will soon be contacted for payment. Both letters will specify the

amount you owe.

- Taxpayers chosen for debt collection through one of these private collectors will make their checks payable to the IRS, not to a private company. If you are directed to make your check payable to any entity other than the IRS, dismiss this as a scam.

- If you are found to owe taxes by one of these authorized collection agencies, you can set up an agreement to pay your debt in installments over a three-year period.

- If you are one of the taxpayers turned over to one of these private companies for collection, you can opt out of and demand that the IRS handle your case. However, you need to do this in writing and then be prepared to cooperate fully with the IRS.

The National Museum of the Marine Corps



Views inside of the new National Museum of the Marine Corps at a "soft" opening attended by the Commandant and a host of other VIPs in October 2006.



Molly Marine Award

There was only one Molly Marine recipient from Papa Company, Series 4024 and 4025 combined due to small numbers. She is PFC Anthonie Hoffman from Cibecue, AZ.

The following is something Mary Ann Merritt wrote in a response to an email. I thought you all would enjoy it as much as I did.

"I think you may be missing the point about Molly. She is more than just a part of our "old" history. She should appeal to all. The person who is chosen as Molly Marine is the one who most exemplifies the best qualities of being a woman Marine. It is what every Marine is to strive for. To be the Iron Lady... to stand up and weather all the storms. She looks up and toward the future, for herself, for her Marines and for the Corps. She should be the icon of every woman Marine as is our eagle, globe and anchor. Our women have always been volunteers; they have always stepped up to the plate. We are made of a special fiber that should bond all of the eras. No Marine should ever feel left out or out of place due to when they served. Molly is a symbol of all women Marines, the struggles and the victories. If our younger Marines do not know this then we need to educate them."



WMA Membership Reports

(NEW) TERM MEMBERS

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RAWDING, ELIZABETH G 221 FREEDOM BLVD WEST BRANDYWINE, PA, 19320
RICHARDSON, JENNIFER KEE 1742 MALLOW CT. CARLSBAD, CA 92011
RIDDLEHOOVER, SHIRLEY ANN 829 SADDLEBACK TRAIL RD CHESAPEAKE, VA 23322
RIVELEY, ANNE E 600 CANTON AV. #210G MILTON, MA 02186-3141
ROBERTSON, SANDRA L 17227 SW ELDORADO DR TIGARD, OR 97224
ROLLINGS, JUNE 3049 WINDERMERE LEXINGTON, KY 40502
RUDSILL, ANGELA S 4115 HOBBS CV BARTLETT, TN 38135-1638
RYAN, SHEREL L 9 WEST RICHARD ST HAZLET, NJ 07730
RYDBERG, KIM JEANETTE PSC 556 BOX 534 FPO AP 96386
SANDORA, BETTE A 2900 CROSBY AV. PITTSBURGH, PA 15216
SAVELLI, SHIRLEY A 4808 KUTZTOWN RD. TEMPLE, PA 19560-1552
SCARPILL, MARYANN V 562 OAK AV. PO BOX 65 WARRINGTON, PA 18976
SCHAGER, JENNIFER NATALIE 2 OLIVER CT FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22406
SCHIPPERS, JENNIFER RENEE 6574 E. CUNNINGHAM BLVD. TUCSON AZ 85708
SCHMIDT, KATHI LYNN 2425 JENKINS DAIRY RD. GASTONIA, NC 28052-7158
SCHWARZ, JOANIE M 27735 MOUNTAIN MEADOW RD. APT 18 ESCONDIDO, CA 92026-7302
SEELY, LYDIA (LEE) B 6705 117TH AV. KIRKLAND, WA 98033-8423
SEFCHICK, CHERYL ANNE 4431 GROVE CITY RD. GROVE CITY, OH 43123
SEVERYN, BOBI M PO BOX 1113 CONCRETE, WA 98237
SHELTON, LYNDISAY M 9TH COMM BN A CO WIRE PLT UNIT 42575 FPO AP 964262575
SILVA, KATHLEEN LOUISE 322 CAMINO DE TEODORO WALNUT, CA 91789
STATH, CHARLYN J 1637 PARK HURST DR. INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46299-4130
STEELE, JACQUELINE 5139 VIA MALAGUENA OCEANSIDE, CA 92057-2627
STOLTZ, REGINA I 1930 KENNETH RD. APT 415 YORK, PA 174089124
STOVALL, VENICE L 4055 10TH AV. TEMPLE, PA 19560
STRAATSMAN, GRETCHEN LEON 5025 BOBOLINK CIRCLE RENO, NV 89506
TALMADGE, MILDRED L 214 HAWKINS FARM CIRCLE BALL GROUND, GA 30107-4387
THAYER, ANNE MARIE 6368 PILLMORE DR. ROME, NY 13440
THOMPSON, BARBARA S 26 ELM ST, UNIT 521 TOPSHAM, ME 04086
THOMPSON, WENDIE LEIGH 11090 CANYONBROOK WAY HIGHLANDS RANCH, CO 80130
THORSELL, LAURA DAWNE 713 CENTURY CT NE LACEY, WA 98516
TRADER, MARJORIE E 16304 SLATER AV. BELTON, MO 64012-1789
VANDEUSEN, ELLEN MARIE 12713 SULLIVAN CT. BELTSVILLE, MD 20705
VAUGHN, DOROTHY E 7118 ASHCROFT DR. BLACKLICK, OH 43004
VELEZ, REBECCA LUCY 599 IMPALA DR. IMPALA WOODS #7 ONALASKA, TX 77360
WARD, SHIRLEY ANN 4827 TARA WOODS CT. JACKSONVILLE, FL 32210-7918
WARNER, SHIRENE K PO BOX 780 QUANTICO, VA 22134
WATSON, LUZETTE 794 OLD STAGE RD. SALINAS, CA 93908
WEBER, KAREN ANNE 72 ROTARY WAY APT H VALLEJO, CA 94591
WEEKS, TORRIE B 2046 BARNETT AV. QUANTICO, VA 22134
WEISS, DOROTHY A 186 RUTSONVILLE RD. WALKILL, NY 12589
WHITE, GLENNA L 101 MEYERS DR. ROCKY HILL, CT 06067
WILKINS, MICHELLE R 3304 1/2 2ND ST. BROWNWOOD, TX 76801
WILSON, BRANDY N 1MEFG4 UIC 42510 FPO AP 964262510
WILSON, RUTH E 2033 HUDSON RD. CAMBRIDGE, MD 21613
WILSON, SANDRA (SANDY) LYNN 3025 KELLOGG CREEK RD. ACWORTH, GA 30102
WILSON, TANYA A 3979 LINDLEY DR. POWDER SPRINGS, GA 30127-2038
WITSCHEN, MARY KATHLEEN 9249 17TH ST. S.E. ST. CLOUD, MN 56304
WOODSON, CAROLYN ELIZABETH 6517 VILLA SPRINGS DR. LOUISVILLE, KY 40291
WRIGHT, ADRIENNE JOY 17442 PARKER DR. TUSTIN, CA 92780-2340
WYNTER, NAQUEEBA N 5622 B NELLIS DR. BELTON, MO 64012
ZARATE, AMERICA X 7732 BRISTOL PARK DR. APOLLO BEACH, FL 33572
ZAUNBRECHER-PAYNE, NANCY LOUISE 2713 DOYLE CT. TRACY, CA 95377

WMA Membership Reports

(NEW) LIFE MEMBERS

AUBITZ, NANCY T 3118 ARKLOW RD. CHARLOTTE, NC 28269-0999
 BENNETT, KAREN A 613 SOUTH 186TH ST ELKHORN, NE 68022-5601
 BOWEN, DEBRA K 258 BAY RUN NEWPORT, NC 28570
 BOYD, JANET C 10282 N 250E CHRISTY, IN 47611
 BOYSEN, THELMA K 10450 W COUNTY RD. 15 LONGMONT, CO 8050-49447
 BRACKETT, SHIRLEY SCHMETZER 2335 MORNINGSIDE CIR SANTA ROSA, CA 95405-9131
 CARROLL, JEAN L 501 RIBIER AV LODI, CA 95240-5620
 CARTER, IVA JEWELL 110 RIVER WEST RD BONAIRE, GA 31005
 CARTER, RUTH N 7615 HALIFAX DR RENO, NV 89506-1944
 CHANNELL, OLIVE M 617 N SCHOOL ST AMANDA, OH 43102-9773
 CRITTENDEN, ANN L 4 TIMOTHY LN STAFFORD, VA 22556
 DEANE, SUSAN G 114 STONEBRIDGE TR. HAVELOCK, NC 28532
 DEPAOLA, JAMIE BECK 82 WALL ST COVENTRY, CT 06238
 DICAIRE, ADELIN 12260 WOODSIDE DR GRAND BLANC, MI 48439
 DUTCHER, SHERRI L 6067 PEAR AV. NEWAYGO, MI 49337-8919
 GALASSO-ALEXANDER, VIVIANNE O 102 PROWLER LN HAVELOCK, NC 28532-9485
 GOCHANOUR, JANICE MARCEYNE 1921 W OWEN PL SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105
 GROTEGUT, PAMELA M 10321 101ST AV WESTMINSTER, CO 80021-3704
 HARTLEY, THELMA C 32 HUNTERVALE AV RYE, NH 03870-2621
 HAYES, PRISCILLA I 1625 BERRY ROSE CT #A FREDERICK, MD 21701
 HEHMAN, BETTY J 107 GLENELL DR WOODSTOCK, GA 30189-2309
 HENNEFORTH, MARY E TWO FRANKLIN TOWN BLVD, APT 2001 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103
 HERDON, FRANCES 402 JENNIFER CT. DUBLIN, GA 31027
 HOFFMANN, FRANCES S 1425 BORDEAUX ST NEW ORLEANS, LA 70115
 HOFSTETTER, MELINDA 9315 HAMILTON DR. FAIRFAX, VA 22031
 HURLBURT, PATRICIA PO BOX 950 UNION, ME 04862-0950
 JOHNSON, JOLENE 319 EDEN DR #1SW LONGVIEW, TX 95605
 KAMMERER, CORA I BOX 31 PRINGHAR, IA 51245
 KELLY, LAINE 418 SAN PEDRO DR LADY LAKE, FL 32159
 KILLEFER, CAROLYN 1661 PINE STREET, APT 345 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109
 KING, MELINDA S 12865 CAMINITO DEL CANTO DEL MAR, CA 92014
 KLIMA, JUDY ANN 35 W 549 FIELDCREST AV. ST CHARLES, IL 60174
 LEWIS, CANDACE A PO BOX 1971 PO BOX 1971 BANNER ELK, NC 28604
 MACDONALD, WILMA J PO BOX 2096 JOLIET, IL 60434
 MAINWARING, JERONA L 26948 STATE HIGHWAY 71 WILTON, WI 54670
 MARTIN, SANDRA K 255 HAYES DR PLEASANTVILLE, IA 50225-7537
 MCGRAW-KUEHN, SHANNON M 109 HERRINGTON LN. CHESAPEAKE, VA 23325
 MITCHELL, SHIRLEY A 220 UNION ST 2ND FLOOR BOONTON, NJ 07005-1748
 MOSSOR, ELIZABETH A 207 PARLIAMENT DR ANNVILLE, PA 17003-9061
 NELSON, BRENDA K 20365 SW COMANCHE TERRACE TUALATIN, OR 97062
 NORTON, VIRGINIA LEE 381 E. RIVER RD. PALATKA, FL 32131-4175
 OWEN, TEGAN K 2245 BLAIN DR. KAILUA, HI 96734-4816
 OWENS, IRENE L 149 MEADOELARK DR. WATERBURY, CT 06708-3913
 PACKER, MERLE 4632 N 74TH PL. SCOTTS DALE, AZ 85251-1418
 PANKAU, JONI MARIE 707 DAWN ST. BEAUFORT, SC 29906
 PARENT, BERNICE M 31 SUMMER ST. PLAINVILLE, CT 06062-2329
 RADDER, SUSAN JANE 4996 TYLER ST. CHINO, CA 91710-3433
 RAND, KAREN SUE 5301 ZOLA AV. PICO RIVERA, CA 90660-2626
 REUTER, NANCY B 24537 OLD CAROLINA RD. ALDIE, VA 20105-2711
 RICHARDS, BETTY LOU PO BOX 950 UNION, ME 04862-0950
 ROPKE, HELEN M 4833 W 97TH PL. OAKLAWN, IL 60453-3016
 RUH, HELEN J 6421 SAND POINT WAY NE SEATTLE, WA 98115
 SCHMUNK, ELLA MUELLER 6211 SE DIVISION ST. APT 243 PORTLAND, OR 97206-1383
 SIMKINS-MULLINS, CAROLINE A 2992 THOMPSON PK. LN. FAIRFAX, VA 22031
 SKAIN, KRISTI M 4100 BRICKELL DR. APT 201 FAIRFAX, VA 22033
 SNYDER, NAUDETTE PATRICE 5241 ROUTE 287 WELLSBORO, PA 16901
 STEFFANS, VICTORIA ARLENE 127 RAILROAD ST. KELLOGG, IA 50135
 STERNS, JOANNE R 45 PARK DR. WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221-6936
 SUTTON, BRENDA LOUISE 20870 NAVORRE HARRAH, OK 73045
 THOMAS, RENEE F 6444 GERMANTOWN AV. PHILADELPHIA, PA 19119-2343
 THOMPSON, MURIEL A 849 COAST BLVD CT 881 LA JOLLA, CA 92037-4223
 WAHLS, PATRICIA A 800 N SEMINOLE DR. PONTIAC, IL 61764
 WANTUCK, SHARON S 224 N CONTINENTAL DR. ROCKTON, PA 15856-3406
 WIER, CAROL WILLIS 3415 MOUNTAIN LN. BIRMINGHAM, AL 35213-4307
 WILKINSON, RUTH G 6716 MISSION RIDGE TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49686-6131
 WIMMER, ELIZABETH J 1007 SAN ANTONIO AV. FULLERTON, CA 92835-1917
 WRIGHT, KELLEY A 3866 BOSEN ST. SAN DIEGO, CA 92115
 WRIGHT, PRISCILLA R 1630 HAGUE AVE, APT 1 ST PAUL, MN 55104-6275

(LIFE (FROM TERM) MEMBERS

BEJGER, ANNAMAE 7506 DRAKE CANYON SAN ANTONIO, TX 78254-5417
 CAPUTI, JACQUELINE 1153 CAJON DR. VISTA, CA 92083
 ENGLISH, LORELI M 5341 SIERRA VISTA AV. LAS CRUCES, NM 88012
 ENSOR, NANCY HOUGHTON 11949 RIVERSIDE DR. SP 168 LAKESIDE, CA 92040
 HASTEN, GIGI G 19 FIREHOUSE RD. WALNUT BOTTOM, PA 17266-9761
 MANGAN, DEBORAH E 243 LEINWOOD DR. HAVELOCK, NC 28532
 MORRISON, MICHELLE L 1609 HUASNA DR. SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93405
 SANCHEZ, TAMARA 2850 REYNARD WAY, #4 SAN DIEGO, CA 92103-5460
 SINNOTT, CATHERINE E 3374 MILDRED LN. LAFAYETTE, CA 94549-5445
 SPATZ-WISZNEAUCKAS, SANDRA L 4716 PLANTATION VIEW DR. TALLAHASSEE, FL 32311
 SWOBODA, MELINDA L 6319 LEDGETOP DR. GREENLEAF, WI 54126-9794
 ZITANI, JENNIFER MARIE 141 SETTLERS CIRCLE JACKSONVILLE, NC 28546

(REINSTATED) TERM MEMBERS

ALBERINI, WANDA 15197 CLAYTON RD. #706-2 CHESTERFIELD, MO 63017
 ARMSTRONG, NANCY J 3201 HEMPSTEAD CT. CHARLESTON, SC 29414
 BACON, PATRICIA S 1130 PERRY DR. ALGONQUIN, IL 60102-4504
 BROOKS, NANCY J 5153 BONG AV. BELTON, MO 64012-4003
 BURTON, CAROLYN JOYCE 5938 E. 129TH ST. GRANDVIEW, MO 64030
 CARROLL, EVELYN 8425 E CORINTHIAN TUCSON, AZ 85715-5448
 CARTER, ELLEN E 1350 N LAKE #84 AVON PARK, FL 33825-2461
 COLLINS, ANNE H 519 DEVINE ST. SAN ANTONIO, TX 78210
 FLYGER, LOUISE 'LADDIE' B 1287 TERRANCE LN ARNOLD, MD 21012-2214
 GRAVINO, JANET E 3125 CRESTDALE APT 1338 HOUSTON, TX 77080-3966
 HABERMAN, RUTH M 1 RIVERSIDE BLVD 8-108 METHUEN, MA 01844-6026
 HIGGINS, CLARE D 2075 WASHINGTON ST. CANTON, MA 02021-1676
 LIBARDONI, CONSTANCE 107 HOWIE RD. BRAINTREE, MA 02084-3012
 LUTZ, EVELYN A 13061 OAK HILLS DR #221F SEAL BEACH, CA 90740-3232
 MCGILLICUDDY, ELIZABETH K 422 WESTOVER PKWY. LOCUST GROVE, VA 22508
 MORSE, DOROTHY JEANNE PO BOX 254893 SACRAMENTO, CA 95865-4893
 POORE, PRISCILLA H 47 BUZZELL RD, #3 WELLS, ME 04940-5338
 PRUITT, DONITA G 422 HEYWOOD AV. #212 LOUISVILLE, KY 40208-1349
 PUDINSKI, BARBARA J 899 ISLAND DR #206 RANCHO MIRAGE, CA 92270-3143
 SCHANCE, KATHLEEN C 514 DARLING WAY ROSEVILLE, CA 95678
 SCHWARTZ, JOAN P 243 LIME CIRCLE SOUTH DUNEDIN, FL 34698
 STENSEN, LESLIE A 4246 KNOLL POND SAN ANTONIO TX 78247
 SULLIVAN, RUTH 600 CANTON AVE BOX 121 MILTON, MA 02186
 TINDALL, KRISTI A 400 S.E. 10TH ST. TROUTDALE, OR 97060-3249
 WACHS, VESTA O 1200 TURNMEYER DR. APT 1103 HUNTSVILLE, AL 35803-3359
 WHITE, DARA L 5890 POLECAT LN. WEST BRANCH, MI 48661-8466
 YOUNG, BERNICE C 4137 LIBERTY POINT OWENSBORO, KY 42303-1889

Membership Totals

Membership statistics are:



Life.....	2092
Term.....	1361
Honorary	1
Total	3454



Carol with her silent auction win. And no, it wasn't the Commandant.



Sheryl Young and Nancy Wilt are singing the chorus to that new hit song, "Dogwood Done Won it Again!"



Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower was labeled early on as a "mic hog" and was the best sport ever as her friends chided her all week long. At the end of the week, she was "awarded" her own microphone and toy pig.

Photo by Lona Turner.



10 November 2006

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

On November 10th, 1775, our Corps was born as the Continental Congress raised the "first and second battalions of American Marines." Each year as we celebrate our birthday, we pause to reflect on the Marines of yesteryear who fought in our touchstone battles and forged the modern Marine Corps with their courage, integrity, and undying commitment to their fellow Marines. Each of our storied battles is a link in the long chain that binds all Marines together—from the Continental Marines at Bunker Hill to the *Teufelhunden* crossing the wheat fields of Belleau Wood. This chain binds us to the Marines on the crest of Mount Suribachi; it passes through the ice and snow of the Chosin Reservoir and the steaming jungles of Vietnam, and it anchors firmly today in the desert sands of Iraq.

This year's celebration again finds many from our ranks serving with distinction in harm's way. As we have for the past 231 years, our Corps is answering the Nation's call. I can report first hand that our Marines fighting on the front lines of the Long War on Terror are performing brilliantly, acquitting themselves with honor, dedication, and dignity in difficult and dangerous environments.

All Marines are making a difference. Regardless of where you are serving, you are adding new chapters to the legacy that was earned with sweat and blood on old battlefields. Just as previous generations of Marines shaped today's Marine Corps, your deeds are molding the Corps of tomorrow. Our Corps has never been stronger, and all Americans are extremely proud of your magnificent performance and unwavering commitment to serve our Corps and country. With high caliber Marines like you, our future has never been brighter.

Another irreplaceable element of our success as Marines is the terrific support we receive from our families. Through the long hours, the exercises, and the combat deployments, their support is unconditional and firm. They give us love and devotion, providing us with the strength to drive on when duty calls. Today we should all acknowledge our loved ones for their patient, steadfast service.

To all who have earned the title Marine, to the superb Sailors who serve with us in every clime and place, and to our precious families—I wish each one of you a heartfelt *Happy 231st Birthday*.

Semper Fidelis and Keep Attacking!

Mike Hagee
M. W. Hagee
General, U.S. Marine Corps

WMA National Merchandise Sales

WMA Patch, small \$4.00 WMA Patch, large \$4.50
WMA Pin, Hat (pin or clutch) \$3.00 WMA Pin, Life \$3.90
WMA Clock (10 3/4" diameter gold toned frame, green lettering and logo) . . . \$10.00
Bezel \$4.00
WMA Flag \$182.00
Chapter Streamers (36" red ribbon embroidered with chapt. designation and name) \$35.00
Book, "Above & Beyond, Former Marines Conquer the Civilian World"
(shipping & handling included) \$30.00

NEW WMA insulated travel mugs (red with USMC emblem on both sides) . \$8.00
NEW WMA insulated travel mugs (green with WMA patch on one side and the USMC emblem on the other side) \$8.00
WMA Cap (3 months delivery) \$30.00
Chapter designation: _____

Example: CA-1 (4 spaces only except USA-1,2,3.) Size: (1" above ears - allow for hair style)

40% Sale on Selected Items - supplies are limited

Medallion, 90 Denver Conv \$3.00
50th Anniversary Medallions \$5.00
50th Anniversary Paper Weights . . . \$10.00

Make All Checks Payable to WMA
Contact: Gloria Nix, Merchandise Sales Chairman
3802 North 12th Ave., Pensacola, FL 32503-3162
email: Dixidust@bellsouth.net



Chapter Merchandise Sales

Send chapter ads to Sondra Metzger, 3805 NE141 Circle, Edmond, OK 73013-7221. When WMA sales items are no longer available, notify Sondra so they can be removed.

Books

Item: Not "Just Another Cookbook" More than 100 recipes by food grouping. Size: 6"x9"

Cost: \$5.75 (includes shipping) Chapter: NC-1

Contact: Mary Sabourin, 339 Bear Creek Rd., Hubert, NC 28539-3409



Item: A limited edition booklet of line drawings portraying Women Marines, signed and numbered by the artist, Marion A. Allen, a Regimental Artist during WWII. The original art is now a part of the U.S. Marine Corps Art Collection at the Museums Branch, Washington, D.C. Printed in Forest Green ink.

Size: 12-Page Booklet (10"x7-1/4")

Cost: \$3.00 (including postage) Chapter: TX-2

Contact: Barbara Clark, 3539 Teakwood Drive, Pearland, TX 77584 or e-mail Brchoho@aol.com



Item: History Book of WRs and the MCWR Band in WWII
Cost: \$17.00 (includes mailing) Chapter: USA-1 (WR Band)

Contact: Bonnie Medin, 3585 Round Barn Blvd. #334, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Item: We Are Marines: History & stories from women who served & are serving

Cost: \$25.00 (\$4 shipping & handling) Checks: NC-1

Contact: Mary Sabourin, 339 Bear Creek Rd., Hubert, NC 28539-3409

Item: "The American Flag" Booklet

Cost: \$4.00 (includes shipping) Payable to: CA-8, WMA

Chapter: Texas Gulf Coast

Contact: Ozell Barksdale,
President, 5394 Sierra Street, Riverside, CA 92504
(951) 688-2806 e-mail:ozellb@pacbell.net



Item: "Parris Island: A Woman's Memoir of Marine Corps Boot Camp"
Signed copy by author Lisa Cordiero

Cost: \$16.95 (\$3.95 shipping) Chapter: MA-1

Contact: Lisa Cordiero, 35 Berkeley St., Watertown, MA 02472
or order online at www.lisacordio.com



Item: "Cooking With Marines", a collection of recipes from Marines (2008 Fundraiser)

Cost: \$12.50 (includes shipping) Chapter: TX-2

Contact: B.J. Huggins, (WMA) P.O. Box 1821

Pasadena, TX 77501



Cards/Stationery

Item: Note pads- 3"x5" green border and WMA logo in the center on a light yellow background. These are unique!

Cost: \$3.50 for a pack of 3 pads which includes postage

Checks: CO-1, WMA Chapter: Colorado Columbine

Contact: Paula Sarlls, 3066 So. Granby St., Aurora, CO 80014

Item: Name Tags, White w/ green border and logo; Two lines (name and organization); 3" x 1"

Cost: \$8.00 Chapter: Make checks to FL-2

Contact: Sylvia Morgan, 13662 87th Avenue, Seminole, FL 33776

Item: One-sided Chapter Membership cards

Cost: 20 cents each (includes postage) Chapter: WMA-NJ-1, Garden State

Contact: Winifred Reuschle, 49 Scott Drive, Bayville, NJ 08721-1224

Item: WMA Postcard - 5 1/2" x 4 1/4" Wide green stripe top & left margins. WMA logo in upper left corner

Cost: 10 for \$1.60; 15 for \$2.10; 20 for \$2.60 (prices include P&H)

Checks: CA-7, WMA Chapter: EMVSC (CA-7)

Contact: Eleanor L. Judge, 282 San Dimas Avenue, Oceanside, CA 92057

Decals

Item: "My Grandmother was a Marine" decal for t-shirt

"My mother was a Marine" decal for t-shirt Cost: \$2.25 each (includes shipping)

Item: Women Marine Rose Decal (1 large, 2 small) Cost: \$3.50

Chapter: Ohio Emerald (OH-1)

Contact: Mary Lou Gruber, Treasurer, 30427 Wolf Road, Bay Village, OH 44140

Item: WMA Decal (Inside auto windshield)

Cost: \$1.00 ea. (includes postage). For Chapters: \$20 for 25 decals

Chapter: Make checks payable to Gold Coast of Florida (FL-3)

Contact: Ruth Beisner, Lyndhurst E-99, Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

Item: Seals

Cost: \$1.25 for 10 Chapter: Make checks to FL-2

Contact: Sylvia Morgan, 13662 87th Avenue, Seminole, FL 33776

Shirts and Sweats

Item: Night Shirt/VCoverup, White, knee length, round neck, WMA logo

"The Few, The Proud" in green Cost: \$20.00 (Incl. postage and handling)

Size: One-size-fits-most, short sleeve only Chapter: Bay State, MA-1

Checks: Payable to Bay State Chapter, WMA

Contact: Joyce Barden, 56 Poor St, Andover, MA 01810

Item: White Sweatshirts and T-Shirts Women Marines' logo in green (WWI, Current, WWII) Courtesy of Col Charles Waterhouse

Cost: Sweatshirts: L, XL \$20.00; XXL \$22.00 T-Shirts: L, XL \$9.00;

XXLG Sold Out (Prices include shipping)

Contact: Jeanne Hesser, 217 Laurel Ct, Swatara Village, Pine Grove, PA 17963

Item: Golf shirt Dark (Hunter) Green with WMA logo (matches green covers) embroidered in white. Available in sizes (S) to (XXL)

Cost: \$28.00 (includes postage) Chapter: VA-1 Crossroads

Make checks payable to: WMA, VA-1

Contact: Lori B. Cousins, 2220 Wildflower Way, Locust Grove, VA 22508 (540) 399-9925 Email: BronsonLC@juno.com

Item: White short-sleeve T-shirts with a gold WMA logo on the left breast pocket-side and the letters WMA printed in gold beneath the logo; sizes M, L, XL. Cost: \$13.00 each (includes shipping)

Item: Medium sage Green polo shirts with dark green trim around sleeves collar and button placket. Two color logo on left chest (dark green and khaki). Personalization with name and/or chapter affiliation available. Please specify.

Cost: \$35.00 includes shipping and personalization

Size: S, M, L, XL and 2XL (If you don't want it snug, suggest a size up)

Chapter: GA-1 WMA

Contact: Sheryl Hobden, 7158 Avalon Dr., Douglasville, GA 30135. 678-838-0620
WMAGeorgia@yahoo.com. Please include your phone and/or email with order.

Item: "I'm The Marine In This Family" t-shirt or sweatshirt; Your choice of red or black.

Cost: T-Shirt, \$15 plus \$5 postage; Polo shirt, \$20 plus \$5 postage;

Sweatshirt, \$20 plus \$5 postage. Size: S-XXXL

Chapter: OH-2 Chesty Puller

Contact: Ellen Leidy, 1107 Columbus Ave., Barberton, OH 44203
(330) 825-8935 e-mail: leidyrun@aol.com

Item: Blue Denim Shirt Eagle, Globe & Anchor in gold and silver embroidery over left pocket, Women Marines Association in red print left of logo, individual's name printed on right side.

Cost: \$35.00 plus \$5.00 for shipping

Size: S, M, L, and XL (shirts run large) specify short or long string style

Chapter: Texas Gulf Coast Checks: Payable to TX-2 WMA

Contact: Judy Anderson, 726 Beachcomber, Houston, TX 77062
e-mail: gulfcoastwm@AOL.com

Item: Forest Green Sweatshirts, t-shirts, short sleeved golf shirts, long sleeved golf shirts and low profile cap. All shirts are embroidered with WMA on the left side and Women Marines Association underneath. Embroidery is in white; low profile cap has WMA embroidered in white.

Cost: All prices include shipping and handling per item.

Sweatshirts: M- XL - \$26 each; 2X - \$28 each

T-Shirts: M - 2XL - \$16 each; Short sleeved golf shirts: M - XL - \$28 each

Long sleeved golf shirts: M - XL - \$32 each

Low profile cap: one size fits all - \$16 each

Checks: Old Dominion Chapter, WMA VA-2

Contact: Mickey Jennings, 6486 Lark Way, Mechanicsville, VA 23111
E-mail: mickeyjennings@hotmail.com

Jewelry

Item: WMA Bolo w/ WMA Logo and cord in gold finish (also available bolo with USMC Emblem only).

Cost: \$20.00 (includes shipping) Chapter: Make checks payable to TX-3, WMA

Contact: Anne M. Collins, 519 Devine St., San Antonio, TX 78210-1505

Jewelry continued

Item: Pin "WOMAN MARINE"
Cost: \$10.00 (includes shipping)
Item: Marine Corps emblem pendant w/18" chain
Cost: \$18.00 each (includes shipping)
Chapter: New York Metropolitan **Checks:** Payable to NY-2
Contact: Roberta Eaton, 18 Maple Court, New Hyde Park, NY 11040-3105

Item: WMA Logo Earrings (matches gold bolo)
Cost: \$10.00/pair (includes shipping)
Chapter: Make checks payable to: TX-3 WMA
 Please designate one: ☐ Wire/Dangle Clip-on ☐ Post
 Note: Post can also be worn as a lapel pin.
Contact: Anne M. Collins, 519 Devine St.,
 San Antonio, TX 78210-1505



Item: WMA Ring. Jeweler - Jostens
Cost: Lustrium (non precious white) \$181.00
 Quesstra (non precious gold) \$218.00
 10 Karat Yellow Gold \$325.00
 14 Karat Gold \$395.00 (Cost includes three initials inside ring & shipping)
 Note: Include ring size and phone number when ordering
Chapter: FL-7 First Coast
Contact: Gayle Plant, President FL-7, PO Box 463
 Keystone Heights, FL 32656; (352) 473-7826



Item: WMA Pendant on chain Size: 7/8 inches round
Item: WMA Lapel Pin Size: 7/8 inches round
Cost: \$19.75 each (including shipping)
Chapter: FL-7 First Coast
Contact: Gayle Plant, President FL-7, PO Box 463
 Keystone Heights, FL 32656; (352) 473-7826



Item: Charm "Semper Fi"
Cost: \$15.00
Chapter: Lady Marine Rose (OR-1)
Contact: Cleary Creations, 2225 NE 130th Ave.
 Portland, OR 97230-1704



Item: Red, White, Blue Austrian Crystal elastic bracelet
Cost: \$12.00 includes shipping
Chapter: IN-1 **Checks:** Payable to IN-1
Contact: Diane Ward, 8310 W. 88th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46278 (317) 873-4113

Miscellaneous Items

Item: USMC Sun catchers (also have other military branches)
Cost: \$5.00 each
Size: 4" round w/suction hanger **Chapter:** CA-15
Contact: Pat Murray, 40701 Rancho Vista #92
 Palmdale, CA., 93551 (661) 718-8324

Item: Travel neck pouch, black w/two zippered sections
 on one side with clear section on reverse with
 WMA logo; adjustable strap; size 6-1/2" x4-1/2"
Cost: \$5.00 each (includes shipping)
Chapter: NM-1 (checks payable to NM-1 Sandia Chapter)
Contact: Stella Delgado-Kinnison, 204 General Patch NE
 Albuquerque, NM 87123



Item: WMA Logo Magnet. Ideal for gift. Size 2" long, 1 1/2" wide
Cost: \$2.00 includes postage **Chapter:** NJ-2
Contact: Lorraine Nankivell, PO Box 208, 38 Point Pleasant Rd,
 Hopatcong, NJ 07843-0208

Item: New aluminum license plate in distinctive RED
 lettering on white. Includes a Semper Fi sticker
Cost: \$8.00 (postpaid) **Chapter:** FL-4, Tampa Tarpons
Contact: Laveme H. Myers, 3803 Drexel Avenue, Tampa, FL 33611-1517



Item: WMA "Semper Fi" bumper sticker (for anyplace—boat, luggage, etc.).
 White w/green - 2" x 9"
Cost: \$1.50 ea. for 5 for \$6.45 or 10 for \$11.00; postpaid
Contact: Laverne H. Myers, 3803 Drexel Avenue, Tampa, FL 33611-1517

Item: High quality 16 oz Stainless Steel Insulated Travel Mug w/locking lid, green
 WMA logo on both sides, Comfort handle, fits universal auto
 holder.
Cost: \$12.00 each including shipping & handling
Chapter: OR-3 **Checks:** Payable to WMA OR-3
Contact: Karen L. Reeves, 6923 Jessica Drive, Springfield, OR 97478
 (541) 741-1213 e-mail: klor42@aol.com



Item: WMA Umbrella, green with WMA logo, Automatic Open Button
 Size: Collapsed 15 inches long, open 21 inches long and 36 inches wide
Cost: \$17.75 (includes shipping) **Chapter:** FL-7 First Coast
Contact: Gayle Plant, President FL-7, PO Box 463, Keystone Heights, FL 32656
 (352) 473-7826

Item: WMA logo Rubber Stamps
Cost: Large stamp: \$11.00 (includes mailing) Small stamp: \$8.00 (includes mailing)
Chapter: CA-7 (Checks to: EMV, CA-7, WMA)
Contact: Marie A Proulx, 748 Pearwood Street, Oceanside, CA 92057-8618

Item: Fanny Pack WMA Logo
Cost: \$10.00 **Chapter:** FL-2
Contact: Sylvia Morgan, 13662 87th Avenue, Seminole, FL 33776

Item: Clear Vinyl Bag with Long Zipper, WMA Logo Women Marines Association.
 Green/White Size: 9" x 12"
Cost: \$6.25 (includes shipping) **Chapter:** NC-1
Contact: Mary Sabourin, 339 Bear Creek Rd., Hubert, NC 28539-3407

Item: US Marine Corps Bear. Stuffed bear, red with Marine Corps emblem on front
Cost: \$15.00 includes shipping **Chapter:** IN-1 **Checks:** Payable to IN-1
Contact: Diane Ward, 8310 W. 88th St., Indianapolis, IN 46278; 317-873-4113

Item: Mouse Pad, 7" x 8", white background, WMA logo,
 "The Few, The Proud" in green
Cost: \$10 **Chapter:** Bay State, MA-1 **Checks:** Payable to Bay State Chapter, WMA
Contact: Joyce Barden, 56 Poor Street, Andover, MA 01810

Item: Molly Marine picture, 8 x 10
Cost: \$12 each (includes shipping) **Chapter:** AR-1
Contact: Vickie Davis, Treasurer, AR-1, 415 Maryland St.
 Benton, AR 72015



Item: 2007 WMA Historical Calendar:
 "Strike Up the Band"
Cost: \$15 each (includes S&H)
Chapter: TX-2, WMA
Contact: Judy Anderson,
 726 Beachcomber
 Houston, TX 77062
 email, gulfcoastwm@aol.com



Item: Handmade soy wax candles (Lavender, White Tea and Ginger, Rose, Lemon and
 Lovespell)
Cost: 9 oz. \$10 (plus \$5 Shipping); 16 oz. \$15 (plus \$5 Shipping)
 (Two candles or more contact Bonniesbunch@yahoo.com or Rosa_rmr@yahoo.com for correct shipping)
Checks: WMA-Phyllis Alexander **Chapter:** SC-1
Contact: Rosa Robertson, WMA, P.O. Box 5296, Parris Island, SC 29905 (or via email)

Item: USMC Fleece Throw, 48" x 60"
Cost: \$20 each (includes postage & handling) **Checks:** WMA, CA-8
Contact: Ozell W. Barksdale, 5394 Sierra St., Riverside, CA 92504-2139
 (951) 688-2806, ozell@pacbell.net

Item: "I'm Proud To Be A Women Marine" ribbon magnet, 8"x 3"
Cost: \$6 each (includes postage)
Item: WW II magnet, 3-1/2"x 2-1/2", red lettering on white
 background with blue border
Cost: \$2 each (includes postage)
Contact: Marie Proulx, 748 Pearwood St., Oceanside, CA 92057-8618



Item: Woman Marine cover cross stitch pattern, with backstitch
 eagle, globe and anchor.
Cost: \$2.50 each (includes shipping) **Chapter:** OH-1
Contact: Janet Lascko, 3157 W. 82nd St., Cleveland, OH 44102 or
janlascko@yahoo.com. Payments can be made through PayPal at this
 same email address.



Acceptance of an advertisement for printing in 'Nouncements in no way
 endorses, nor does it indicate approval of the quality of the product. All
 local and state taxes, including any licenses, are the responsibility of the
 chapter submitting the ad. A percentage of profits from the sale of mer-
 chandise advertised on these pages must go to a chapter in order to be list-
 ed here.

WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION

Application for Membership (PLEASE PRINT) Check Applicable box: ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Reinstated ☐ New Life ☐ Life

Dates served _____ to _____ How did you hear about **WMA**? _____

Name _____
(Last) (First) (M.I.) (Last Name Used On Active/Reserve Duty)

Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip+4)

SSN _____ DOB _____ Chapter Code _____ Phone (_____) _____
(mo/day/yr) (i.e., CA-7)

Molly Marine Award Recipient _____ If yes, year _____ MOS/Special Skills _____

Email Address _____ Please add Email to WMA Communications List _____

Dues include **'Nouncements** and the Resource Manual and Membership Directory. Please check your membership level

Annual Dues: ☐ 1 Year \$15 ☐ 2 Years \$25 **Life Dues** (pro-rated by age): ☐ 30 & Under \$220 ☐ 31-45 \$190 ☐ 46-60 \$150 ☐ 61 & Over \$120

I certify that by my signature that I am now serving or have served honorably in the United States Marine Corps, regular or reserve components.

Signature _____ Date: _____ Enrolled by: (member/chapter) _____

Please provide Next of Kin information in case of an emergency.

Next of Kin _____ Relationship _____

Address _____ Phone (_____) _____

Make check payable to WMA and mail with application to: **Women Marines Association**
P.O. Box 8405 • Falls Church, VA 22041-8405

Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter *The Auxiliary of the WMA*

Application for Membership (Please Print)

Check applicable box ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Reinstated
☐ Regular ☐ Life-Sponsor must be
a WMA Life Member

Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Sponsor Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (zip + 4)

Telephone: _____

DOB: _____ SSN: _____
Day / Month / Year (Necessary for machine accounting)

Sponsor's Chapter Code: _____

Your Relationship to Sponsor: _____

Live with Sponsor: _____ Yes _____ No

Enclosed Dues Amt: \$ _____

Dues include 'Nouncements if not already received in household.

☐ 2 Yrs.....\$25.00

Life Membership

(Fee pro-rated by age)

(Sponsor must be a WMA Life member)

Sponsor's WMA Life Membership # _____

☐ 40 & under ...\$175.00 ☐ 41 to 45 ...\$145.00

☐ 46 to 60 ...\$125.00

☐ 61 to 70 ...\$100.00 ☐ 71 to 80 ...\$75.00

☐ 81 & Over ...\$50.00

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter is an organization of close relatives of WMA members. Persons related within two degrees of kinship; i.e., spouse, sister, brother, parents, grandparents, children & grandchildren. Non-relatives who are current members may remain as members as long as their dues are current, but cannot vote or hold office.

A LOYAL ESCORTS OF THE GREEN GARTER MEMBER MUST BE SPONSORED BY A WMA MEMBER

Make check payable to Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter.

Mail to: Jeanne Cantrell, Treasurer, Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter, 11 Brown Street, Irving, Texas 75061.



Address Service Requested

Women Marines Association
P.O. Box 8405
Falls Church, VA 22041-8405