



Brigadier General Margaret A. Brewer, 1930-2013

Brigadier General Margaret A. Brewer retired from the Marine Corps on July 1, 1980.

Born in Durand, MI, in 1930, she received her primary education in Michigan but graduated from the Catholic High School in Baltimore, MD, prior to entering the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. She received a bachelor's degree in geography in January 1952, and was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant in March of that year.

Her first assignment was at the Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, CA, where she served as a communications watch officer until June 1953.

She was then transferred to Brooklyn, NY for a two-year tour as Inspector-Instructor of a woman Marine reserve unit.

From September 1955 until June 1958, then Captain Brewer served successively as Commanding Officer of the woman Marine companies at Norfolk, VA, and Camp Lejeune, NC.

During the 18 months following, she was a platoon commander for woman officer candidates at Quantico, VA, during summer training sessions, and for the balance of time, a woman officer selection officer with headquarters in Lexington, KY.

Transferred to Camp Pendleton, CA, in November 1959, for duty with the Commissioned Officers Mess (Open), she was promoted to major in September 1961 and in April 1963 returned to



BGen Margaret A. Brewer

Quantico to serve as executive officer and later as commanding officer of the Woman Officer School.

From June 1966 to February 1968, she was the Public Affairs Officer for the 6th Marine Corps District, Atlanta, GA, where she was promoted to lieutenant colonel in December 1966.

She served as Deputy Director of Women Marines, at Headquarters Marine Corps, from March 1968 to March 1971. She was promoted to colonel in December 1970. Reporting to Quantico, she assumed duty as Special Assistant to the Director, Marine Corps Education Center. She became Chief of the Support Department, Marine Corps Education Center in June 1972, serving in this

capacity until she was selected as the seventh Director of Women Marines on February 1, 1973.

On July 1, 1977, then Colonel Brewer assumed duty as Deputy Director of the Division of Information, Headquarters Marine Corps, when the Director of Women Marines' office was disbanded because of the strides made in integrating women into an expanded role in the Corps. For meritorious service as the Director of Women Marines, she was presented the Legion of Merit by the Commandant of the Marine Corps on June 30, 1977.

While serving as the Deputy Director of the Division of Information, she was nominated during April 1978 for appointment to the grade of brigadier general. She was appointed to that grade and assumed duty as Director of Information on May 11, 1978, at which time she became the first female general officer in the U.S. Marine Corps. On December 1, 1979, the Division of Information was redesignated as the Division of Public Affairs, and Brigadier General Brewer's title was changed to Director of Public Affairs. She served in this capacity until retirement on July 1, 1980, at which time she was awarded a second Legion of Merit.

Brigadier General Brewer died on 2 January 2013.

www.usmc.mil

MEMORIAL TO A WOMAN MARINE

A band of sisters we are called -- and rightly so. For ours is a kinship of the spirit, and the ties of the spirit which bind us are as strong and as enduring as the ties of blood or birth. This spirit -- this esprit de corps -- is the common heritage of all who, like us, have been Marines. It is epitomized in our proud motto: **"Once a Marine, Always a Marine."**

It recognizes no barriers of time or place -- of rank or station. It lives in the loving memory of those who, having served beside us, have finished their course and answered their final muster. Throughout our lives, we hold them in our hearts and prayers. We perpetuate their memory in scholarships which open doors of opportunities in others. More, each time we gather in convention, we pause to honor them in a service of remembrance and love.

This, then, is that pause of loving remembrance which strengthens and renews the ties that bind us, one to another, as friends and as Marines. These sister members of the Women Marines Association have been called by our Divine Commandant to join Him in eternal life. We are their sister Marines. We now honor her memory and pray for the repose of her soul.

May her soul and all the souls of our departed sister Marines rest in peace.

Happy 70th Anniversary Women Marines!

Happy Anniversary women Marines! This year, we celebrate 70 years of camaraderie and service to our great country. I hope everyone enjoyed the anniversary celebrations. I have already seen some great pictures on some of your Facebook pages.

Our 70th anniversary does come with some sad news. Before the deadline, we lost two of our firsts. In December, **Sergeant Major Bertha Peters Billeb**, First

Sergeant Major of Women Marines passed away, and in January, we lost **Brigadier General Margaret Brewer**, the first female general officer in the Corps. These women opened doors for many of us, and because of them, women who are new to the Marine Corps can believe that the sky is the limit. And, it actually is.

After our deadline, we got news from the Department of Defense that the ban on women in combat had been

lifted. Women are now eligible to sign up for certain combat MOSs, although we have been unofficially serving in combat roles since the beginning of the Global War on Terror. **Captain Vernice Armour** wrote an opinion piece on women in combat for CNN.com that appears in this issue of 'Nouncements.



Gy Sgt Tawanda Hanible greeted by President Obama at the White House dinner for veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Congratulations are in order for a couple of our members. **GySgt Tawanda Hanible**, whom we featured in an article last year about her non-profit organization, Operation Heroes Connect, is this year's senior enlisted winner of the Major Megan McClung Leadership Award. Tawanda is a proud member of VA-1.

Also, **Stephanie Kifowit**—or should I say, *Illinois State Representative Stephanie Kifowit*-- won a seat in the state's 84th House District. Way to go, Marines!

Another first for women veterans this year was the inclusion of an all-female color guard in the inaugural parade in Washington, D.C. If you were watching, you saw the Native American Women Warriors (NAWW) marching. They are the first all-female, all Native American color guard in the country. Former Sergeant **Arlene Duncan**, color guard member and event coordinator for NAWW, represented the Marine Corps on that day.

We have come a long way in 70 years, but we still have work to do. There are more firsts to come. I sure hope that I am around to see our first female Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps and Commandant.

Wanda Antoine



Courtesy photo



Our Task: Carrying On What Those Pioneers Began

OOHRAH! Happy Anniversary to you as we celebrate our 70th Anniversary of the establishment of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve.

What a journey we continue to travel as Marines. As I place pen to paper, so much has happened that directly impacts us, as Marines, as citizens and as members of the Women Marines Association.

As 2013 began, we bid farewell to our first female Marine General, Brigadier General Margaret Brewer. As news was released of her passing, I received many reflections on how she impacted careers, communities and lives. Her farewell was in keeping with her wishes, and was in keeping with a burial of our first female General. As we walked to her burial site, there was the Commandant in full dress blues (with medals) with the Marine Corps Band and two platoons of Marines. It was an honor to represent you as I recited "A Memorial to a Woman Marine". We must fervently work to keep WMA growing as we say farewell to many of our sisters. Please ensure that this last rite is bestowed upon all our WMA members. After all, whatever our individual beliefs, we will be called by our Divine Commandant one day.

In this issue of *'Nouncements*, we've tried to capture the many significant milestones that have happened since the last publication, and will continue to find innovative ways to send you messages through other venues to ensure you are aware of WMA's activities on your behalf. I know that many of you rely on this informative publication and may not have access to the internet and social forums. We are working hard to make sure that we can keep mailing this keepsake to you so that you may remain connected as an active participant of WMA. I am thankful for each member, and please know, I always have in my heart, what is best for WMA.

It is on the shoulders of our great mem-

bers, you who have ever earned the Eagle, Globe and Anchor, whose shoulders I stand...I take this honor to my core being. I believe the same sentiments that were spoken in our President's Inauguration address, "It is now our generation's task to carry on what those pioneers began." WMA must continue to ensure our foundation principles, values and guidelines are representative of our association and collectively represent our thousands of members.

Did you hear the great news? Molly Marine is rising again, very soon! Her new home in the Semper Fidelis Memorial Park outside the National Museum of the Marine Corps will be forthcoming. Please join WMA, the Young Marines and the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and countless others to make this a reality. Watch our website at



www.womenmarines.org as more details become available.

Women Marines continue to prove themselves wherever and whenever we are called. With the announcement to remove the combat exclusion regulation, it allows women to have more opportunities for promotion and to continue to prove themselves in new and challenging assignments. The decision provides the opportunity for women to continue to serve and provides a measure of equality that will allow current and future Marines to keep rising to the challenge and contributing to the mission of the Marine Corps. Many women are qualified for certain military occupational specialties and now will be able to fully serve and enhance our military readiness. I am so very proud of all women Marines from yesteryear, today and tomorrow.

Finally, we are an association of legends. To raise your hand and join our ranks, it takes a certain woman...a legendary woman. As I close out this message, I'm reminded daily of the richnesses you bring to our world...even once we are gone. I've just learned of the passing of the first Sergeant Major of Women Marines, Bertha Peters Billeb (1961-1963). We also lost a charter member of WMA's first chapter (DC-1), Judge Joyce Capps. Another star has dimmed, but we have so many more stars that are just waiting to be a part of our illustrious Corps. Join us in the I PLEDGE



WOMEN MARINES CONTINUE TO PROVE THEMSELVES WHEREVER AND WHENEVER WE ARE CALLED. WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT TO REMOVE THE COMBAT EXCLUSION REGULATION, IT ALLOWS WOMEN TO HAVE MORE OPPORTUNITIES...

CAMPAIGN so that we can continue to be a relevant, active, and giving organization of scholarships, volunteerism, and community activism. WMA is only as strong as our members and chapters. Together, we can become stronger and keep our legendary history alive and in the minds and hearts of our citizens of today and tomorrow.

Semper Fidelis,

Betty Moseley Brown
WMA President

To read the President's 70th Anniversary message, visit the WMA blog at <http://womenmarines.wordpress.com>

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70 YEARS OF PROUD SERVICE TO COUNTRY AND CORPS

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March 2013

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WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION

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Deadline for materials for next issue:

15 April 2013

Please send all materials for 'Nouncements to the Editor:
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1st VP: Commit Your Bright Ideas to Paper, So Chapters Can Grow



Just as has been true of Conventions in the past, at our 2012 Convention in Philadelphia the thing we needed more of was time! But as we have discovered, most of our members favor shorter...not

longer...conventions.

Since some of the suggestions in the Convention evaluations were to allow more time for chapters to share ideas, it seems like we have an “immovable object” competing with an “implacable heart”...we want to have more time to share, but we want to save members’ time and money by shortening our conventions at the same time. One idea the leadership has come up with is to share each chapter’s “best practices” in both paper and electronic form. This means that over the next 20 months, your 1st Vice President will be collecting your bright ideas: projects your chapters have used to provide

support and comfort to veterans and active duty; ways you have participated in community and patriotic events; methods you have employed to raise money for your philanthropic contributions; and innovative recruiting tools you have used to get (and keep) new WMA members and Loyal Escorts.

I hope that you will be willing to spend the time to commit your bright ideas to paper so that we might provide some projects for chapters looking to grow and expand.

I will keep an open file to collect everything I receive from chapters, and would ask that you include: 1) your ideas, 2) what you needed to carry out your idea, 3) your chapter name, and 4) your honest evaluation of how the event or project worked out. When you send your sub-

missions, either by email or snail mail, please inform your Area Director. My plan is to create a “Chapter Best Practices” pamphlet that can be handed to chapter representatives at the 2014 Convention, or sent electronically to chapters who do not have members in attendance in Kansas City. I hope that you will be willing to spend the time to commit your bright ideas to paper so that we might provide some concrete projects for chapters looking to grow and expand.

Many thanks to all who helped in a short fused effort to collect the needed statistics to file for Combined Federal Campaign status for WMA. Hopefully, our efforts will result in approval starting in 2013.

Semper Fi,

Mitzi Manning
1st Vice President

Moving Forward and Accomplishing Things in the Year Ahead



As we start 2013 let’s all think about how we can help promote WMA by serving our existing membership better, gaining new members, and increasing donations to the General fund to help keep the Organization running.

Every year we all make resolutions to do things in the coming year but many times we don’t follow through with actions to accomplish our resolutions. We need a plan. For example, it’s great to say we want to increase membership by 10 per cent, but what actions are we taking or can we take to make that happen. Area Directors need to come up with ideas for their areas then work with the individual chapters to help accomplish the objective of 10 per cent improvement in membership. That goes for any “reso-

lution” we, as an organization, make. We at the National Board are here to help but we cannot do it alone. We need your help and input. When asked for information or input, let’s make a pact to respond within five days to a week to the

Let’s all stand behind our energetic and enthusiastic President to move WMA forward and accomplish concrete things this year.

requester so they know the request has not fallen into a “dark hole”. The same goes for the Board. If you request information from us we need to be responsive to your needs.

This year we elected a new Board and a new President. We are all excited to

move WMA forward and don’t want to dwell on past issues. Let’s keep our focus in the future not in what happened in the past or continue doing things that may not be in the best interest of the Organization. The Board will be looking at how can we do things better and will make our recommendations public so everyone has an opportunity to contribute ideas on helping us accomplish the overall goals of the Organization. We need everyone’s support to move forward and focus not only on our history, but also improve ways to help our younger Marines, both active duty and former Marines.

Let’s all stand behind our energetic and enthusiastic President to move WMA forward and accomplish concrete things this year.

Semper Fi,

Kathy Sheppard
2nd Vice President

1954



Friends Reunited Nearly 60 Years After Boot Camp

What a great surprise when Cecilia Campos came to our meeting with one of our members. She and I went to boot camp together. We hadn't seen each other in nearly 60 years. She retired as a GySgt. She had lost her boot camp photo. I was pleased to make her copies of mine. She has been to two meetings, but we plan to get together when we can really visit. Thought you might like to see pictures.

Semper Fi,

Sybl Acree

Left: Sybl Acree and Cecilia Campos, March 1954 Boot Camp Platoon 1-A, Parris Island. Right: Sybl Acree and Cecilia Campos, December 2012

2012



Chaplain's Corner

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-4

So many times we feel helpless as we see friends and loved ones face a very

difficult time in their lives or there is a terrible tragedy like the mass shooting of those precious little children right before Christmas. We are so used to "fixing" things that we get bogged down when we encounter something we cannot fix. No matter how difficult or distant a situation is, we can offer our love and prayers. Within hours of the school shootings, we saw spontaneous outpourings of love for

the families of those teachers and children. We heard stories of a teacher using what she thought might be her last words to comfort her students and let them know they were loved. I cannot help but believe that these actions were all inspired by God to remind us that while we see so much evil around us, man is inherently good.

Mary Broussard, Chaplain

Taps

"If the Army and the Navy ever look on Heaven's scenes, they will find the streets are guarded by United States Marines." (Third stanza of the Marines Hymn)

Please take a moment to remember our departed sister Marines who have taken leave of this life to fulfill heaven's ranks. May their souls and those of all our departed members rest in peace.



Life Members

Apel, Margaret A. (McCormack)	OR-1	10/28/12	2140
Brewer, BGen Margaret A.	DC-1	1/2/13	Honorary
Clubb, Bertha L. (Reed)	FL-6	8/31/11	589
Cooper, Elizabeth (Bubb)	GA-1	9/20/12	2954
Deem, Norris (Dolvin)	MAL UT	8/18/12	2550
Halcomb, Martha Marie (Anderson)	FL-2	12/19/12	1614
Harbin, Louise	CA-7	11/21/12	1335
Hay, Audree	MN-1	9/22/12	1677
Johnston, Florence (Lamote)	MA-2	11/29/12	2039
McAtee, Lois "Connie" (Conro)	CA-7	11/2012	1804
Moore, Eva (Brunelle)	MA-2	3/12/11	1310
Phillips, Alice (Flynn)	MAL MI	10/10/12	283
Schueler, Josie (Pracht)	MO-1 & CA-1	11/22/12	207
Smith, Betty (Ewy)	OR-2	10/3/12	823
Spusta, Doris	FL-1	12/2012	536

Term Members

Aoki, Delores	DC-1	8/22/12
Brown, Belinda	PA-2	10/1/12
Fitchett, Marion (Sullivan)	CA-6	1/2/13
Gapp, Florence	OR-1	11/13/12
Kane, Alice (Gavin)	MN-1	9/22/12
Littleton, Gertrude	IN-1	9/24/12
Paulsen, Isabel (Downing)	MA-2	1/4/13
Peterson, Anna (Kendler)	OR-1	5/10/12
Tocco, Julie	CA-8	11/31/12
Triplett, Donna (Morgan)	MAL WV	10/10/12

Membership No.

Bertha Peters Billeb, First Women Marines Sergeant Major

Sergeant Major Bertha L. Peters (Billeb) of Wasco, California, having been recruited by Lieutenant Colonel Lily H. Gridley (who was still in a WAVES uniform) in San Francisco, was enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve on 5 March 1943 and entered training on 19 April 1943 in the second recruit class of WRs at Hunter College in New York. She served on continuous active duty at Headquarters Marine Corps in the Division of Aviation throughout World War II. On 10 November 1948 she was one of the first eight enlisted WRs to be sworn into the regular Marine Corps by General Clifton B. Cates.

In February 1949, she was transferred to Parris Island where she became the Battalion Chief Clerk for the newly organized 3d Recruit Training Battalion. Upon the discharge of MSgt Elsie Miller, the Battalion Sergeant Major, GySgt Peters assumed the duties of Sergeant Major. Subsequently she was assigned as Sergeant Major of the Woman Marines Officer Training Command, Quantico; First Sergeant, Company A, Pearl Har-

bor, and in 1955 once again, as Sergeant Major, Women Recruit Training Battalion.

In 1959 she was selected and assigned to the senior enlisted woman Marine billet, Office of the Director of Woman Marines. She was selected for promotion to master gunnery sergeant in 1961 and redesignated as sergeant major. She became the first Sergeant Major of Women Marines.

After her marriage in 1962 to Gunnery Sergeant William N. Billeb she joined her husband at Quantico and was assigned for the second time as Sergeant Major, Women Officers Training. In 1966 after her husband had been promoted to warrant officer (temporary) she accepted promotion to warrant officer (temporary) and was transferred to her third tour of duty with the Woman Recruit Training Battalion, Parris Island, where she was assigned to the billet of

Battalion adjutant.

In 1970 the Billebs, both commissioned officers, reverted to their permanent ranks. Master Gunnery Sergeant Bertha Billeb was transferred to MCB, Camp Pendleton. She was redesignated to permanent sergeant major in 1972 when all women Marines who held that rank were given permanent warrants.

At this time the Billebs were the only husband-wife sergeant major team in the Marine Corps. In 1973, Sergeant Major Bertha Billeb, being the first woman to complete 30 years' continuous active duty, was retired with honors at MCB, Camp Pendleton.

She requested and was placed on the retired list as a commissioned warrant officer.



New Female Cover on Horizon

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. -- The female dress cover may change soon, more than 11 years after Gen. James T. Conway, the 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps, started an initiative to make the change. For the past few months, female Marines in recruiting units and field bands tested the new proposed female cover. Now that the testing phase has concluded, Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James F. Amos will begin reviewing the results from surveys and data collected during the process.

Female Marines have been the focal point of several recent Corps-wide changes including physical fitness tests with pull-ups, and the initial introduction of females in traditionally all-male ground units.

So far, Marines have responded positively to the proposed cover.

"I like the new cover," said Staff Sgt. Terri L. Kopetzki, a clarinet instrumentalist with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band. "They fit us, and they look better on us."

Kopetzki wears her dress cover frequently for performances and other engagements. Because she spends so much time wearing her cover, she notices subtle differences that might not be as noticeable to other Marines.

"The new cover is comfortable," said Kopeski. She finds it easier to style her hair and place it where she likes it, versus wearing a low bun to accommodate the "V" shape at the bottom of the current "bucket" covers.

After testing the new cover, Kopetzki said it was a good idea to see what it was like wearing both.

"It allows us to see what they both look like on us and what reactions other Marines in the fleet have when they see us in them," she said.

Kopetski, who was recently recognized as the Marine Corps' Staff Non-Commissioned Officer Musician of the Year, said she hopes the new version of the female cover is approved.

By Cpl. Andrea Cleopatra Dickerson



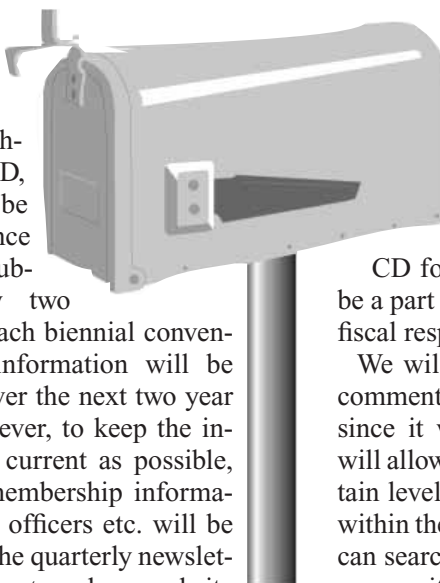
Staff Sgt. Terri L. Kopetzki, a clarinet instrumentalist with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band, spent several months wearing a revised version of the female dress cover, as well as the current male dress cover, as part of an initiative to change the female covers started more than 11 years ago by General James T. Conway, the 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps. (Photo by Cpl. Andrea Cleopatra Dickerson)

2012-2014 Resource Manual and Directory (RM&D) Coming Soon!

The newest version of the RM&D is coming soon and you should see it in your mail boxes by March. The RM&D is defined in Paragraph 2 of the Standing Rules as follows: "A directory of the names and addresses of active members of record as of 1 October shall be published following the biennial convention. The Resource Manual and Directory shall include a list of National Officers; Honorary Members; Appointed Officers; Committee Chairmen and their Committees; Chapter Officers; Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter Officers; a copy of the Articles of Incorporation; Bylaws, Standing Rules; and include the Scholarship Program procedure and application. Names and addresses of the Active members and reinstated members from a previous term shall be printed in each issue of WMA 'Nouncements, except in the issue that coincides with the publication of the biennial directory."

There is a wealth of information contained within the RM&D, but please be aware that since it is only published every two years (after each biennial convention) some information will be out of date over the next two year period. However, to keep the information as current as possible, updates on membership information, national officers etc. will be published in the quarterly newsletter 'Nouncements and our website at www.womenmarines.org.

The default format for the RM&D is now in CD format unless you indicated that you prefer an electronic or hard copy. This will remain the same in fu-



ture publications, since this is a big step to help save on the cost of the publication, which is approximately \$20,000. We appreciate your continued consideration in opting to receive the RM&D in this new

CD format and in doing so, you will be a part of WMA's effort to manage our fiscal responsibilities.

We will be interested in hearing your comments on the new format of the CD since it will have special features that will allow for the ability to conduct a certain level of searches of the information within the publication. For example, you can search by last name, service/maiden name, city and state. Please send any comments to IPP@womenmarines.org. Semper Fidelis,

Rhonda Le Brescu-Amtower
Immediate Past President (IPP)

Native American Women Veterans Make History



NAWW in their jingle dresses during an inauguration pow wow.

Native American women veterans made history in January when the Native American Women Warriors color guard marched in the inaugural parade in Washington, DC. NAWW is recognized as the country's first all-female, all-Native American color guard.

NAWW was founded in 2010 by retired Army Sergeant First Class Mitchelene BigMan, as a non-profit organization that seeks to address the needs of today's modern military women. Arlene Duncan, a Marine Corps veteran, participated in the parade. For more information about NAWW, go to <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/mobile/2013/01/21/native-american-women-warriors-celebrate-inauguration-while-raising-awareness-native>



Sgt. Arlene Duncan, USMC

Wanda Antoine
Editor

Molly Marine Award Recipients

Molly Marine recipients from Series 4000 are PFC Jamie L. James, from St. Marys, Ohio, and PFC Jacquelyn A. Sumrell, from Troy, North Carolina. These Marines received their awards 2 January.



Molly Marine recipients from Series 4002 are PFC Kirstin S. Estep, St. Albans, West Virginia, and PFC Jessica J. Kennedy, from Lompoc, California. They received their awards 16 January.



Second Generation: A Mother's Proud Story

My daughter, Jessica Jean Kennedy, graduated from Marine Corps boot camp on January 18, 2013.

I am a Marine as well and President of WMA CA-11. I am one of the Toys for Tots coordinators for Marine Corps League 1340.

I have served since August 1977. I am on the waiting list pending retirement December 2016. Her dad, Rod Kennedy, is retired from the Navy.

I take great pride to know she will carry on in the Central Coast after I retire and join me in CA-11's quest for women Marines, recruiting for the chapter.

The local recruiter, GySgt Perri, was flown out for her ceremony.

Private First Class Jessica J. Kennedy, completed 13 weeks of intense physical and mental training and concluded with the challenging crucible course. She is an



CA-11 president 1stSgt Soledad Kennedy, and her Molly Marine daughter, PFC Jessica Kennedy, with Marine Corps League members at Parris Island.

honor graduate, a Chesty Puller award recipient, and was voted among her recruit peers to receive the Molly Marine award on 16 January.

Three awards out of four is not a bad

way to start her Marine Corps career!

The base Commanding Officer, Brigadier General Loretta E. Reynolds, presented PFC Kennedy with a challenge coin in recognition for her accomplishments while in recruit training.

PFC Kennedy is a 2006 graduate of Cabrillo High School in Lompoc, California and she is back as a Recruiters Aide "RA" until the end of January. She reported to Military Combat Training (MCT) the first week in February and then to MOS school in March. She has only just begun her adventure in 2013 and we shall see what the future holds.

Oooooorah

Semper Fidelis,

***Soledad Kennedy
President WMA CA-11
1stSgt (Res IRR)***

Our Growing History

Just a quick thank you to all of you that have been sending me notes and cards after my second recent spine surgery. They are a huge help with the recovery process and your efforts are truly appreciated.

-- Nancy

WWI News -- Read All About It

Starting in the late 1960s, WMA member Emma Holmes took on the project of locating and hopefully adding our WWI women Marines to WMA. Locating 130 unverified names, Emma received 77 responses. She developed a newsletter named "*WWI derfuls*" so they could communicate with each other and had quite a few join WMA.

As age took the WWI women from us, Emma saved all her info and eventually sent it to Eileen Scanlon and Sue Sousa for storage and eventually to find it a new home. Eventually, the Holmes Collection was sent to the WOCC for preservation and research. During the "Year of the Woman Marine", USMC HQ project lead Colonel Ruth Broe (WMA President, 1972-1974) requested a review of Marine Corps records for a listing of known WWI women veterans.

Only 158 names were located during this review, including many of the names located by Emma Holmes. In 2011 the Ruth Broe Collection, including this 158 name list, was opened by the WOCC after it was received and accessioned from Sue Sousa and Eileen Scanlon, who had been entrusted by Ruth Broe with her personal papers.

In 2005, WOCC Deputy Curator Sara Phoenix took on the project of continuing the effort in locating all 305 women who served in WWI. Between then and early 2012, she had raised the count to 277 names. (Not all verified and it was felt that married name changes had added some erroneous information and names). At this point curator Nancy Wilt, on a visit to General Salinas, learned of a historian working in another section of HQMC. After contact with the historian, she and a group of other historians took on the project of working our list and assisting us in locating all the names. This group of volunteers, using personal time over the period of a few months, located numerous names

and service numbers, adding the new information to the list of 277 creating a larger list than the known 305 women of WWI. The WOCC then verified and cross checked every name on the list that did not have a service number. After research, these names with no military service number were removed and the final known verified count reflected the 305 documents dating to WWI.

For the first time, all 305 names are known and documented, no longer are these first women to serve as United States Marines lost in time. The WOCC will be sharing this list with History Division, USMC, The National Museum of the Marine Corps and other military and civilian museums and collections. Completing the list of names and service numbers is not the end of our WOCC project; we are continuing to search the departments these women worked in and their actual jobs. The WOCC will also be releasing a group of WWI photos not known to exist prior to the project of locating the 305 women.

On the Road Exhibit

More Than a Footnote: The Women of the United States Marine Corps

In early October, the curator received a request from Schreiner University in Kerrville, Texas, for a month long exhibit to honor America's veterans. The University had an agreement for an all service exhibit in effect when the owner suffered a life changing illness and the exhibit ended up being canceled. The University, responding to a request by the student body, was working to replace the canceled exhibit and had learned of the Women of the Corps Collection from members of the Kerrville Chamber of Commerce.

After reviewing the request and developing the plan and design for such a large facility, the WOCC curator took the request, plans and funding needs to the Women of the Corps Foundation (WCF) for review and funding. The WCF agreed to provide 100 per cent of the cost of the exhibit covering, cost of materials, photo and printing costs, uniform preparation, travel costs, insurance and a temporary staff member to package and load the trucks. In addition, the WCF purchased six new 10ft

black display boards for this exhibit and those in the future.

Marie Vaccaro, daughter of WWII WMA member Catherine Vaccaro (deceased), took a two week vacation from her job in Wyoming to come and assist the curator with construction, development and pack out of the exhibit. Marie bunked out with Ned and Nancy Wilt and averaged work days of 10-12 hours every day she was with us.

While work at the WOCC moved forward, the University Art Department designed our exhibit banner, the President and staff of Schreiner set-up the opening reception and hired a uniformed Kerrville Police Department officer to provide onsite security during the opened hours of the exhibit. The University also opened a guest house on campus to house WMA volunteers and spouses.

The University provided facility workers who assisted with wiring, lighting, storage of all the shipping materials and tools to help us in set-up/breakdown and trucks to move parts of the exhibit as needed.

The University also developed two continuous play videos that ran each day while the exhibit was open. One clip incorporated the White House video on our FET teams and their current activities in Afghanistan; the second clip highlighted all women Marines generations.

WMA 1st Vice President Mitzi Manning contacted former women Marines she knew retired to the Kerrville area and the contacts developed into a team of five volunteers, including one husband. Area 6 Director Maria Crowley contacted Texas chapters for set-up workers and docents to work the exhibit when the WOCC curator needed to be in Colorado preparing for a 26 December spine surgery Texas chapters provided seven workers between set up and docents, plus one husband.

The local Creative Memories manager Penny Deupree, (friend of the Wilts) stepped up to design and set up our locked exhibits of the WM jewelry as well as other pieces of military jewelry and other small items of value.

Our Growing History

This is the largest number of volunteers that the Collection has ever had for an event and a group that will never be forgotten. Thank you, Mitzi and Maria for sharing your knowledge and circle of friends that never cease to amaze.

(None of the Kerrville retired Marines are members of WMA, however, Maria Crowley is working with them and we may soon have a new chapter. This group of volunteers has expressed an interest in working with the WOCC and thought they might want to focus a chapter on it



The Charles Schreiner Mansion

or work with us as members at large.)

The exhibit filled the Charles Schreiner Mansion, property of the University in the heart of downtown Kerrville. Kerrville is a town of 24,000 one hour west of San Antonio and one hour plus from Austin, in the heart of the Texas Hill Country. It is a destination for Texas visitors as well as vacationers from across the country. We also had an entire family from France and two former Royal Marines plus wives, who had served with US Marines in Scotland, visit the exhibit.

Various rooms of the mansion housed different generations of women Marines. The early 1900s decorated office of Captain Schreiner (former Texas Ranger, Civil War veteran and merchant) held WWI as did the foyer. The dining room covered part of WWII as did the back hall (locked display cases), the kitchen (mess duty and cooks of WWII) and the formal parlor that contained the remainder of WWII. The parlor, also the music room of the mansion, held a large display on the famous USMCWR band of WWII, on parade, its music and events. The main floor's ladies' parlor held a coat

exhibit that covered all the generations of women. The large second floor event area covered the 1950s through our women on duty today. Major stairways were decked with a large collection of Marine Corps photos gifted to the WOCC by HQMC and were very well received by guests. The mansion's nursery exhibited the maternity uniforms of the Marines and generated many questions on being a Marine and remaining on active duty with children.

Multiple news articles appeared on the exhibit in the San Antonio papers as well as Kerrville and a number of small communities surrounding Kerrville and San Antonio. Local radio stations in the smaller communities of West Texas did spots announcing the exhibit.

The University President and Regents, the Mayor, city council members, Chamber of Commerce, and the police chief attended the opening reception and tour to support and thank the WOCC for responding to the University's need for a military exhibit. Our San Antonio Marine Team provided a Marine photographer and women recruiters in dress blues to the opening.

On Thursday, 6 December, a party of three young women escorted a 90 year old woman on a walker into the exhibit for a tour. The older woman was a WWII veteran and had served as a Marine from early 1943 until December 1945 and her three escorts were her neighbors, who considered her a very special person.

When they read of the exhibit, they took her out to a nice lunch and then brought her for a tour. The tour really became her walk back in time. Her stories and memories were a special gift for all of us. As they prepared to leave, one of the young women left and returned from the car with a box. Inside were the Marine's

three WWII covers, lovingly maintained in wonderful condition. She said she had outlived her family and friends and wanted the WOCC to make sure she and her time as a Marine would not be forgotten. More to come on this story in the future.

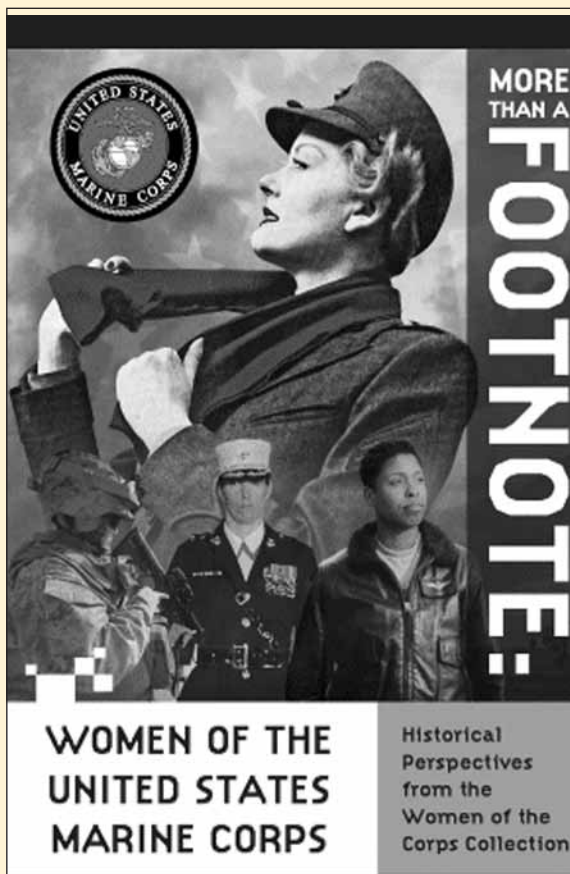
A total of five new collections were presented to the WOCC during the exhibit.

Finally, the end came and the exhibit was packed for shipment. A final

visit was scheduled with the University President, Dr. Tim Summerlin and Provost, Dr. Charlie McCormick. The meeting was held in the research library. Nancy and Ned Wilt attended to represent the WOCC and WMA and they presented a complete set of the three white hard covered books on women Marine history written and edited by WMA member Mary Bacon Hale. The books will become a permanent addition to the University's research library.

Special thanks heartfelt thanks to the Women of the Corps Foundation and its Board of Directors for providing 100 per cent financial support of 2012's funding for the Women of the Corps Foundation.

***Nancy Wilt, Curator, Historian,
Women of the Corps Collection***





Application for membership in Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter

The Auxiliary of the Women Marines Association

Check ☒ applicable boxes: ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Reinstated ☐ Regular ☐ Life (Sponsor must be a WMA Life Member)

Life Membership (*fee prorated by age*)

☐ 40 & under.....\$175.00

☐ 61 to 70\$100.00

Sponsor must be a WMA Life Member

☐ 41 to 45\$145.00

☐ 71 to 80\$75.00

Sponsor's WMA Life Membership # _____

☐ 46 to 60\$125.00

☐ 81 & over\$50.00

LOYAL ESCORTS MUST BE SPONSORED BY A WMA MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

*Make checks payable to **Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter** and mail to:*

David G. Wiszneaukas, Treasurer

Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter • 4716 Plantation View Dr. • Tallahassee, FL 32311

(Please print)

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

Address _____
(Street)

City and State with Zip Code _____
(City) (State) (Zip)

Telephone with area code: (winter) _____ (summer) _____

E-mail address _____ Contact in case of emergency with address and phone _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____
Day / Month / Year

DOB: _____ SSN: _____
(necessary for machine accounting)

Sponsor's Name: _____ Sponsor's Chapter Code: _____
(Last) (First) MI

Recruiting Escort's Name: _____

About Myself / Comments: _____

Enclosed Amount of Dues \$ _____ Do you live with your sponsor? Yes _____ No _____

Dues include 'Nouncements if not already received in household.

2 Years \$25.00

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Loyal Escorts: Our Recruiting Goals for 2013



A Happy 2013 to all Loyal Escorts & Women Marines!

Even with the many obstacles we faced in Philadelphia, we had a very successful support effort during the 2012

WMA Convention. Many thanks go out to all those who worked hard to make it a success.

As it was mentioned in previous articles, we want to strengthen our commitment to assist and support WMA at both the national and chapter level. In order to accomplish this improved support, your Loyal Escorts board approved a resolution to establish a system of Loyal Escorts Area Coordinators (one for each WMA Area) to help provide support to the Area Director and chapters during the period between conventions. We will provide the Area Coordinator with a roster of Loyal Escorts in the area. With that roster, the Area Coordinator can attempt to get volunteers to aid in activities to support WMA.

Interested in being an Area Coordinator? We are looking for Loyal Escorts who are interested in filling these positions. If you are interested, please contact me by e-mail (LE@womenmarines.org) or by phone: (248)-246-0635. The primary goal is to get more members involved and improve the support that

Loyal Escorts provides to WMA, their communities and to build our organization.

Currently, we have three Members who are engaged in the Area Coordinator position. Shaaron Wright: WMA Area 10, Joseph Traumer: WMA Area 3, and myself: WMA Area 4.

David Wiszneaukas, our treasurer reports that financially we are still on the right path. Our merchandise sales last year were \$755.00. Thanks again to all who worked the tables at the convention.

HELP WANTED: AREA COORDINATORS.

Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter are seeking Area Coordinators to help us support the WMA and build our organization. Ideal candidates are enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers. Interested? Call (248) 246-0635 or e-mail LE@womenmarines.org.

Your donation of time certainly pays its dividends to the Loyal Escorts. You will find that our total funds decreased by \$298.78 from 1 Jan 2012. That is in part due to the convention expenses last year.

Looking ahead, I see great things for our organization. As we strive to assist WMA in their goals, we will be growing and fulfilling our goals. Our group may not be huge at this point, but as was seen in Philadelphia, our strength lies in our commitment and dedication.

Recruiting will be on the top of the list. No organization can survive without the influx of new members and ideas. At the next convention, there will be an award for our members who recruit the most new members. In 2012, we added 71 new term members, 7 new life members and 3 term renewals. Let's keep working to increase membership and get the Loyal Escorts some additional visibility. With this solid foundation, our goal for 2013 will be to increase our membership by 10 percent. With help from WMA and with all of us recruiting as well, this should be a very feasible goal.

Our next convention will be in Kansas City in 2014. Once I attend the IBM and see the layout of the hotel, we will have a better idea on what we would like to plan. Conventions are a great time for us to raise funds.

Over the next year we will be looking to hear from all of you with ideas on what you would like to see us participate in. Do you have ideas about new merchandise? New creative ideas to raise funds? Together we will be unstoppable. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

I would be remiss if I didn't take time to thank my board. They have worked hard to bring me up to speed and assist me in the role as your president.

Michael E. Pearce

President

Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter

Chesty, future Marine Corps mascot, sits on the red carpet in front of the Home of the Commandants waiting to meet Bonnie Amos, wife of Gen. James F. Amos, commandant of the Marine Corps during a visit to Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., Feb. 14. Chesty, a 9-week-old pedigree English bulldog is soon to become the future Marine Corps mascot after the completion of obedience and recruit training with a ceremony scheduled for March 29. After completing training, the young puppy will earn the title Marine joining the ranks of his well-known predecessors. (Photo by Sgt. Dengrier M. Baez)



Molly Rises Again in Semper Fidelis Memorial Park



This month WMA was notified by the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation that they are making plans to raise Molly in Semper Fidelis Memorial Park mid 2013.

You could be assured that a resounding *OOHRAH* was heard all around the DC area when our National President, Betty Moseley Brown, got the word that we are now so close to completion on this project. It couldn't be timelier with 2013 being the 70th year of women serving in the Marine Corps continuously.

Molly's prominent spot in Semper Fidelis Memorial Park highlights our long standing history that reaches from "Free a Man to Fight" to fighting alongside our men. She highlights our proud and unique history as Marines. As the thousands of visitors to the MCHC and Memorial Park gaze at her they will see our past and our future. We are still \$45,000 short of meeting the \$250,000 goal. We hope that with this final push and help from all around the globe that we can make Molly rise again at the National Museum of Marines where she will be seen by millions annually.

Molly exemplifies Marines from all

eras and with your help we can make the final strides to seeing her at a new place of residence. Much work needs to be done yet and you can help. In the city of New Orleans, on November 10, 1943, the first United States monument of a woman in service uniform known as Molly Marine was dedicated. Commissioned by a local recruiter, the statue was to help recruit women during World War II.

The original statue is located at the intersection of Canal and Elks Place Streets in New Orleans and is one of three Mollies. The two other replicas are located in Parris Island, SC and Quantico, VA .

Like our women Marines, Molly stands tall; she braves the storms and tribulations as the years march on. She is a steadfast example of being a Marine showing that no matter what she faces, she keeps charging.

Please join WMA, the Young Marines, the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and countless others in this effort. Remember that WMA matches donations made by her members. Send in your donation today.



WMA Molly Rally Point Donation

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Send donation to: WMA Molly Marine Rally Point
c/o Marine Corps Heritage Foundation
3800 Fettler Park Drive, Ste. 104
Dumfries, VA 22025

WMA Launches Pledge Drive: "I Pledge..."

- Give a gift membership to a Marine at least once a month. Yes, the cost is \$40 per membership, but the rewards can be limitless. Cost to me: \$480. Benefit to WMA: priceless. We build our membership, PLUS the outreach and spirit of what WMA is about is immeasurable.
- Through my checking account, we will make an automatic draft that will go to WMA on a monthly basis. This way, no fuss no muss. Plus, everything will be accounted for at tax time. Jeff will do the same for the Loyal Escorts.

If you bank online, you can easily set this up.

Just set up Women Marines Association as a payee. You will still send it to our national address: Women Marines Association, P.O. Box 377, Oaks, PA. 19456-0377. Your account number will be GFD-001943. If you send in a check, please notate this number as well.

Can you imagine, if each member just took the time to donate, the impact it would have on the great works that WMA could do?

\$ Per Month Per Member	# of Months	Member yearly	# of Members Donating	GFD Yearly
10	12	120	1000	120,000
20	12	240	250	60,000
25	12	300	250	75,000
50	12	600	200	120,000
75	12	900	100	90,000
100	12	1200	100	120,000
Totals			1900	585,000

Won't you take the pledge today to add WMA to your charitable contributions?
Just a little from each of us will make a huge impact.

Give what you can, when you can.
Imagine the impact if all of our members just gave a little each year.
So, who will pledge with me to give continuing support to WMA?

Mary Ann Merritt
National Public Relations Officer

Women on front lines?

Of course

■ I was sitting in the cockpit of my AH-1W Super Cobra attack helicopter when my division got a desperate call for help. It was August 2004, and I was a part of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit based in Iraq.



Insurgents were hitting our troops with mortar rounds. The Marine squad was out of ammunition and couldn't shoot back. They had just fought a long and fierce battle, supply reinforcements couldn't reach them and they didn't even have any green smoke to mark their position for us. They needed assistance immediately.

We took out the enemy target with the last remaining missile on our aircraft. Several months later, I was talking to a Marine. When he found out I flew Cobras, he started to recount an experience he had in Iraq in which a Cobra shot a missile and saved his squad. Turned out, it was the same mission; the missile came from my aircraft. He stared at me and said, "Ma'am, you saved my life." Did it matter that the one who fired that missile was a woman, or that she was black and gay? Absolutely not!

Fast forward almost 10 years to 2013, and history has been made for women in the military. The ban on women in military combat has been lifted, allowing women to apply for jobs in front-line positions and elite commando units.

According to statistics from Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation, as of September 2011, there were 214,098 women serving on active duty in the military.

While that might sound like a large number, these women make up only 14.6% of all active-duty service personnel. In the Marine Corps, women

make up just a little more than 6%.

The Pentagon says women have been barred from roughly 237,000 positions, and they will now start looking to qualified women to fill these roles. This is long overdue.

*It's time we give women
the same opportunity to
serve this great country.
We're all in this together.*

The debate the move has raised presents an obvious reality check: Our American community needs to be educated that women are capable of taking on military roles and have done so throughout the nation's history.

Women have already proven we can handle ourselves on the front lines. And in recent times, even with the ban on women in combat in place, women have been POWs. The Lioness Program, the Marine Corps all-female search team, is an example of why we can't accomplish our front line missions without women. The reality of modern warfare is that there are no front lines.

Honestly, I am offended by how many times I hear "women in combat" and "lowering standards" used in the same sentence. True, the average man is physically stronger than the average woman. Standards should not be lowered and women don't want them to be. No one should be in a job where he or she doesn't meet the standards -- not every man, for example is fit to be a Navy SEAL.

The argument that women in combat will have a negative impact on unit cohesion and morale is the same argument that was used to keep blacks and gays out of the military. At what point do we bring a stop

to these ridiculous arguments and address what really matters?

Having more women on the battlefield will improve the military's ability to carry out its mission. During my two tours flying helicopters in Iraq, my unit experienced many dangerous and potentially life-threatening scenarios. The ultimate sacrifice wasn't meted out by gender.

For those who are against women serving on the front line, know this: Opening up combat roles for women is merely formalizing the reality of what was already happening; it's just opening more roles and opportunities. The bottom line is if you can do the job, you should be out there doing it, whether you're a man or a woman.

The military has been a personal journey for me. My grandfather served in World War II and was a Montford Point Marine. My stepdad was a Marine and served three tours in Vietnam, and my father retired as a major from the Army Reserves after 24 years. I love being part of this legacy, and the legacy of service to our great nation. It's time we give women the same opportunity to serve this great country. We're all in this together.

***By Vernice Armour,
Special to CNN
January 30***

Opening up combat roles for women is merely formalizing the reality of what was already happening; it's just opening more roles and opportunities.



Vernice Armour's photo courtesy of www.zerotobreakthrough.com; FET photo by Cpl. Marianne T. Mangrum

Join or Renew Your Membership Today!

WMA NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name:

Current Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Date of Birth:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

SSN:

ALTERNATE ADDRESS INFORMATION

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone:

E-mail:

Reason for Alternate:

Start Date:

Stop Date:

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name of a relative not residing with you:

Address:

Phone:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Relationship:

SPOUSE INFORMATION

Name:

Date of Birth:

E-mail:

Phone:

MILITARY INFORMATION

When Served:

Name (s) Served Under:

Maiden Name:

Plt. and Series:

MOS:

Molly Marine: ☐ Y ☐ N

RMD PREFERENCES

After 2012 the Resource and Member Directory (RMD) will be sent in CD format. If you prefer another format please check below.

☐ Electronic copy

☐ Hard Paper copy

One only

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION ☐ NEW ☐ RENEWAL ☐ REINSTATEMENT

☐ **2 Year Membership \$40**

Life Membership: Pick One

Chapter Name if Known:

☐ Age 30 & Under **\$295** ☐ 31-39 **\$260** ☐ 40-49 **\$210**

Enrolled by/How did you hear about WMA:

☐ 50-59 **\$180** ☐ 60-65 **\$150** ☐ 66 & Older **\$120**

SIGNATURE AND VERIFICATION

By my signature, I verify that all information contained within is correct and that I am eligible to apply having served or honorably serving in the United States Marine Corps.

Signature of applicant:

Date:

Effective July 1, 2010 Revised

Fill in application, print and mail with payment to:
Women Marines Association • P.O. Box 377
Oaks, PA 19456-0377

Wreaths Across America: Remembering is the Mission

I am writing to introduce you to a new fund raising project out of WMA National. The project is called Wreaths Across America (WAA) and it has the following mission: Remember those who gave all for their country, honor all veterans, and teach our youth about the sacrifices our veterans made to ensure their freedom.

As veterans, we can all relate to this mission. One of the ways WAA remembers those who have given their all for our country is to place live wreaths at all national cemeteries in the USA, at 24 US cemeteries overseas, and at all State Capitols across the USA and Puerto Rico.

This project was originally started by Morrill Worcester, owner of Worcester Wreath Company of Harrington, Maine. He won a trip to Washington, D.C. when he was 12 and was so impressed by his visit to Arlington National Cemetery that in 1992, he quietly started sending 5,000 wreaths to Arlington each December to honor our country's veterans.

Morrill donates the wreaths for Arlington; trucking companies donate the trucks to deliver them to Virginia; and people from Maine and Virginia volunteer to place the wreaths each December. In 2005, this project received national recognition when photos of Arlington circulated around the internet and veterans groups all over America and the world wanted to do the same thing for their local national cemeteries. This was the beginning of WAA and it has grown to include wreath placement at over 500 different sites each December. Originally, Morrill chose older sections of Arlington because they had so few visitors. He was particularly touched by the following quote:

"TO BE KILLED IN WAR IS NOT THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN. TO BE LOST IS NOT THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN... TO BE FORGOTTEN IS THE WORST." PIERRE CLAEYSSENS (1909-2003)

Both WAA and WMA are 501(c)(3) organizations which makes all donations tax deductible. Each wreath costs only \$15 and WAA returns \$5 of that cost



back to WMA to fund our ongoing activities such as publication of *Nouncements*, our Matching Funds program and our Emergency Grants program. This project is not intended to compete with individual WMA chapters that already support WAA as a fund raising activity.

If you support WAA through your local chapter, please continue to do so. We will be rotating between three cemeteries with a special connection to Women Marines. In 2013, our wreaths will go to the Quantico National Cemetery in Triangle, Virginia which has more than 29,000 graves; in 2014, our wreaths will go to the Beaufort National Cemetery which has more than 18,000 graves; and in 2015, our wreaths will go to Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, which has more than 300,000 graves. If you would like to get more information about WAA, please visit their web site at www.wreathscrossamerica.org. Please note that WMA cannot accept requests to place wreaths on *specific* graves. The WAA web site speaks about this topic and tells you how to coordinate such requests with the WAA coordinator at the cemetery in question.

If you are wondering how you can help, please consider the following. The

most direct assistance comes from sponsoring one or more wreaths. If you would like to sponsor a wreath, please send checks made out to WAA and mail them to K. Wright, 349 Howard Dr, Santa Clara, CA 95051. Kathy will forward all checks to WAA with the proper group ID and cemetery ID so our wreaths are credited to the correct cemetery and to WMA National. We also hope to have online donation procedures in place. If you can't afford to sponsor a wreath, but would like to help, you may also send checks made out to WAA for any amount and we will put those checks together with others to make the required \$15. Every donation will help to honor our brothers and sisters who gave their all for our country and will be greatly appreciated by WMA as well.

The second form of assistance involves helping WMA to spread the word about this program and to encourage others to contribute. Please share this message with family, friends, church groups, veterans' groups, local businesses, etc. to help us achieve maximum exposure. Again, all checks made out to WAA should be forwarded to K. Wright at the address above. This is a win-win-win project because the deceased veterans are honored with live wreaths placed on their graves, WMA benefits by receiving extra income to help support our charitable efforts, and each contributor benefits by helping to honor our veterans and by getting a tax deduction.

If you have a national cemetery near your home, please consider attending a wreath ceremony. You can find a list of all cemeteries that participate in WAA on their web site.

Even if there isn't a group sponsoring wreaths for your local cemetery, Morrill Worcester provides seven wreaths to each National Cemetery honoring the Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and POW/MIA.

Kathleen Wright

WMA Chapter Clippings

CA-3 Greater San Francisco Bay Area



Back row L-R: Shaaron Wright, Don and Susan Johnston, Barbara Naas. Front row L-R: Lily Brockmeier, Zita Cussary, Sheila Trevail, Kathy Wright

Happy New Year to all from beautiful Northern California! We finished 2012 strongly with celebrations of Halloween at our annual costume party in October, the Marine Corps Birthday in November, supporting a Christmas craft night for patients at the Palo Alto VA Hospital in December, a great CA-3 Christmas Party at Paradise Valley Estates in December, and participating in the Wreaths Across America event at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno, CA.

We welcomed two new members to our chapter: Nancy Zaunbrecher-Payne of Tracy and LaDonna McTiller of Oakland. Both ladies are delightful and we are very happy to have them with us. Sadly, we lost one of our WWII Marines, Marion Fitchett (92), of CA-6 and CA-3 in January and we will miss her greatly. Marion attended the CA-6 Christmas luncheon, but was taken by a sudden illness in late December/early January. She always had the brightest smile and was a joy to know.

We anticipate that 2013 will be another busy year and look forward to our monthly meetings. We send best wishes to all for a wonderful 70th Anniversary of Women in the Marine Corps. How fortunate we are to have so many of the WWII pioneers still with us. They are the treasures of WMA.

Semper Fidelis,

Kathy Wright

CA-5 Orange County California

On Veterans Day, Valorie Dodds Lephart was awarded Mission Viejo's Woman Veteran of the Year. In addition to a proclamation from the city, she received tributes from the U.S. Senate, House of Representatives and State Assembly.

On 21 December, 21 of our members attended the CA-5 Christmas party, and a good time was had by all!

Valorie Lephart

CA-7 Edith Macias Vann So. California

CA-7 ended the year with the loss of two members. Louise Harbin and Lois "Connie" McAtee passed away. We also had our annual Toys-4-Tots donations meeting, with over 25 toys (or financial donations) collected. A number of our members attended various Marine Corps Balls, to include six of us at the Marine Corps Officer's Association ball.



MCOAA Marine Corps Ball L-R Norma Wohlfarth, Deanne Trebbe, Peggy Reiber, Past WMA National Secretary Joan Cordero, Lillian "Lee" Tusa, Pat Halderson and Kathleen Ables.

Our chapter had a very successful second year selling Wreaths Across America with over 100 wreaths sold. We are looking forward to a new year, and hopefully new growth. Our 70th Anniversary luncheon for Marine Corps Women Reserve Anniversary will be held on 13 April 2013. This is later than usual due to construction at the Pacific Views Events center on Camp Pendleton. We look forward to seeing all our friends from the surrounding chapters! We are also excited, as we will once again host the Women Marines Association's table at the Marine Corps West Expo 13-15 February 2013. If you are in the area, please stop by and say hi!

Peggy Rieber

CA-8 Palms to Pines

The year 2012 ended on a sad note with the death of our youngest member, Julie Ann Tocco (at 51). She was one of our most active members and we will miss her.

CA-8 had a busy December. Johnnie Williams, CA-8 VP and Gina Marbury, Loyal Escort, purchased toys with \$250 from CA-8, and \$100 donated by Loyal Escort Bob Ynacay.

With their shopping expertise, they were able to purchase a large amount of toys that Johnnie, Sybl Acree, Ozell Barksdale and Helen Page delivered to Smoky Siket, Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots coordinator.

On 8 December, we had our Christmas party. The date was changed because of the wreath laying ceremony at RNC. It was a conflict with some, but those who did attend had a great time, as it was more social than business.

A highlight was the arrival of member Vivian Pranger from 29 Palms. With her was retired GySgt Cecilia Campos, a graduate of Parris Island's platoon 1-A, 4 March 1954--the same platoon as Sybl Acree. They hadn't seen each other in 59 years. It was fun

catching up, and they plan to get together soon.

On 15 December, CA-8 attended the Wreaths Across America ceremony at RNC. Attending were Sybl Acree, Johnnie Williams, Ozell Barksdale, Helen Page, Gina Marbury and Courtney Page,



Back row L-R: Helen Page, Ozell Barksdale, Mary Eliseo, Sybl Acree, Courtney Page. Front: Johnnie Williams and Gina Marbury.

Gina's daughter. Wreaths were placed on the graves of our last 2 members laid to rest in RNC: Wilma Wilson and Julie Tocco.

Mary Curtain arranged for CA-8 members to attend the taping of The Price is Right on 15 January. It aired Super Bowl week, and was fun.

Juanita Cartwright is home after spending Christmas in the VA hospital in Loma Linda. Sybl Acree and Helen Page visited her on Christmas Day with good cheer and gifts from all of CA-8.

Eddy Stephens had a potluck board meeting at her home on 8 January to plan the coming year. Attending was Eddy Stephens, Sybl Acree, Johnnie Williams, Ozell Barksdale, Mary Eliseo, Helen Page, Mary Curtain with guests Kevin Curtain and Barbara Camp. We not only enjoyed the conversation and the food, but we also got some work done as well.

We wish everyone a healthy and happy 2013. Semper Fi.

Sybl Acree

DC-1 District of Columbia

A healthy *Ooh Rah* from our Nation's Capital DC-1 Chapter! On October 19 – 20th, DC-1 members were active in celebrating the 15th Anniversary of Women in Military Service for America (WIMSA) Memorial. Members participated in the WIMSA black-tie gala event recognizing the contributions of women from all branches of the service. In addition, some DC-1 members and Loyal Escorts completed the 1.5 mile candlelight vigil walk from the Lincoln Memorial to the WIMSA Memorial carrying the DC-1 Women Marines Association banner proudly! On 3 November, DC-1 chapter members and Loyal Escorts brought in the Marine Corps 237th Birthday celebration with the DC-6 Montford Point Marines. This celebration served as a tribute to those Montford Point Marines that have fallen this year and their contributions to the Corps. It was a joy to celebrate the survivors and hear their stories from a video that was playing in the vestibule. The eldest Montford Point Marine present was 96 years old, and had a great amount of spirit as he joked with his family during the ceremony.

On 10 November, DC-1 members sent care packages to the women Marines serving in Afghanistan with the CLB-2, CLR-2, 2nd MLG. On Veterans Day, the Women Veteran Empowerment and Unification Lunch Cruise set sail from National Harbor. The purpose of the cruise was to raise funds and support while bringing awareness of homeless women veterans, with and without children. On 12 November Gaile Lee and Adele Hodges represented DC-1 at the dedication of the statue of LtGen. Lewis Burwell "Chesty" Puller at the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Semper Fidelis Memorial Park, Triangle, VA. The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation dedicated the newly installed statue.

On 18 November, we visited veterans that are hospitalized at Washington DC VA Medical Center to boost morale and provide items donated by civilians from the Department of Homeland Security as a token of "thanks" for their service.

One of our chapter members, Major Anne Woodson (retired) National Life/DC-1 Life Member, contributed \$325.00 to the U. S. Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Project that she received from her cameo sales during the Women Marines



Association Convention. Way to go Anne!

Taps were rendered on 22 August for Delores Aoki who joined the Women Marine Reserves during the 1950s. She was a DC-1 Life/National Life member and her beautiful spirit and active engagement will continue to live on in our chapter. Her Marine Corps uniforms were donated to an Asian-American Military museum in Seattle, WA by her family to acknowledge Asian-American women veterans' faithful service in the Marine Corps. On 29 October, taps were rendered for U. S. Navy Chaplain Bill League, the husband of DC-1 Life/National Life member Mary Sue League. Chaplain Bill League served 22 years in the Navy and will be greatly missed in the WMA DC-1 community.

Annette Taylor

FL-2 Gulf Coast

Happy Birthday, Happy New Year and Happy Anniversary! First the birthday. Several members of the Gulf Coast chapter attended the 237th Marine Corps Birthday celebration sponsored by the Morris F. Dixon Marine Corps League Detachment #054 at the Belleair Country Club. What a wonderful dinner and fun time with making new friends and meeting veteran Marines.

Chapter members gathered in December for our annual Christmas party. This is a favorite social event, not only because we get to see the wonderful decorations at Pinecrest, but we also get to put some finishing touches on one of the chapter's outreach projects. Earlier in the year, chapter members had collected toiletry items for Christmas stockings to give to women veterans at the Bay Pines VA hospital. Also included in the stockings were a pair of flip-flops (some quite fancy!), a WMA bookmark, small note cards and stamped envelopes, and of course a candy cane! The chapter wrote Christmas cards at the party and these along with the Christmas stockings were distributed by Mary Blackmon, chapter VAVS Committee Representative and Maxine Wehry, in conjunction with other veterans groups participating in bringing some Christmas cheer to the veterans at Bay Pines. Thank you Mary and Maxine for representing WMA and FL-2!



L to R: Marilyn Goler, new friend and Mary Blackmon

It was with great sadness that the chapter received the news of the death of Martha Marie Halcomb, WMA and FL-2 life member, in late December 2012. While living in Florida, Marie was an active chapter member and contributed to the missions and goals of WMA by her volunteerism at Bay Pines and participation in the Golden Age Games. Marie had resided at Samaritan Bethany in Rochester, MN for the last several years.



She had suffered a stroke and was unable to speak, but anytime her daughter read her news of WMA and FL-2 events, her eyes lit up in recognition. Ever proud, always a Marine, Semper fi, Marie!

The new year began with the chapter's January meeting. A new member joined, Mary Augustitus. Mary is a WMA life member and currently is serving as the G-1 at MARCENT (Marine Central command) at MacDill AFB. Welcome, Mary.

As 2013 begins, FL-2 looks to reach out to local women Marine veterans through the Women Veterans Program at Bay Pines.

Happy 70th Anniversary to Women Marines past and present – may we all continue our service in our communities and to our country. OOORAH!! And Semper Fi!!

Kathy Potthoff

FL-6 Florida Gators

Wow, that year went by fast. The Florida gators have been very busy this past few months, enjoying the holidays as well as some very cool community service. We started out celebrating a few birthdays: Ty Moulds in October, Eleanor Purser in November and Carol Mayne in January. Happy Birthday ladies. May this next year bring you the best of everything! Our president went to San Francisco to celebrate the USMC Birthday at the Marines Memorial Hotel and while in California visited CA-3 at a luncheon. It was fabulous seeing the gang again.

December was here before we knew it and our Toys for Tots drive was just as awesome as these Marines. Good Job! We gathered at our president's home for the holiday luncheon and ornament exchange. We also sent a Christmas tree and star to LCpl Shelby Myers, daughter of FL-6 member Carol Mayne, who is serving in Afghanistan. Ashlee Bildzukewicz hosted an ornament making day with her home school network (ages from 4-9) and some of our chapter members joined them in sending the ornaments along with goodies to Shelby's unit. It was our hope that their holiday was a bit brighter.

I am hoping the new year will bring all of us health and happiness and I ask that you keep those who are a little under the weather in your thoughts and prayers.

Louise Tamayo

IN-1 Indiana

On November 17th, IN-1 chapter held their meeting at the Armory at Ft Benjamin Harrison in conjunction with the Indiana Military Veterans/Retiree Appreciation Day.

The members received great information there, including briefings and material, plus flu shots were given-and then met for their semi-annual meeting.

The members ended the year with donations to more than 5 organizations/efforts including Wreaths Across America, the United State Marines Youth Foundation, Roubidoux VA Hospital, care packages to Marines in Afghanistan, Memorial brick at the Soldier's and Sailor's Memorial and the Lotus T. Mort Scholarship. The chapter's next meeting will be in April.

Kay Ross



IL-2 Blanche S. Osborne

The one activity the chapter's had since the convention in Philadelphia was our fall luncheon meeting in early November. We were honored to have the new Area 4 Director as our guest and speaker, Ava Maria Knight. She spoke about her 20 years in the Marine Corps and of her work experience since, and now of some of problems National is facing about membership. The chapter is appreciative that Ava Maria took time from working on the election and that her sister who came with her made the more than six hour drive to Chicago. They came Friday night and stayed with Muriel, but had to drive back to Columbus after the luncheon meeting on Saturday.

A third grade class in Patty Bacon Klop's school made Thank You For Your Service cards for our WMA chapter members.

In honor of Veteran's Day, Muriel Underwood was part of a tour group of the Pritzker Military Library, located in a multistory building on Michigan Avenue near the Art Institute. It houses a collection of books and films of American military history, along with gallery exhibits of posters, photographs, medals and uniforms. It is also seeking to record stories from veterans and civilians who were employed in the war industry.

A big 90th birthday party for Genevieve Bowen was held the middle of December and hosted by her daughter, Jennifer Green and many friends. Many more friends came to wish Gene many more years. The party was held in the huge studio of two friends, sculptors whose work is representational and we were able to see several pieces in clay still being worked on. One is a larger than life representation of a male lion that died recently at the Lincoln Park Zoo, which after cast in bronze, will be installed at the main entrance of the zoo. Gene is quite a sculptor herself. A few years back she was doing pieces in stainless steel, one being shown in a Japanese exhibition. Now she is making large hand-built ceramic pots.

Muriel Underwood

KY-1 Flying Colors

President Alison Porter, Mary Broussard, Marjorie Cox and Carolyn Woodson attended a wonderful Veterans Day breakfast and program put on by the students at a local school. Each veteran is given a letter from a student thanking them for their service. We took a basket of letters that were left and gave them to 95 Marine Reservists coming home from Afghanistan later in the month. Marjorie Cox attended her first-ever Marine Corps Birthday Ball. Before the Ball, Mary took some cake to Kathleen Drummond who was still in a rehab facility. Marjorie and Mary brought patriotic paper to the Ball and asked guests to write messages to include in a box being sent to the 2/7 Marines.

The next day was Louisville's Veterans Day Parade. Susan Vogedes drove her truck with Marjorie riding - with Lady Leatherneck emblazoned on the windshield and Mary drove a Toys For Tots van with Carolyn riding. Alison carried the WMA colors. Several of us took our flag and welcomed back WWII vets returning from an Honor Flight to see their Memorial in D.C. The one woman veteran was a Navy Vet that had volunteered for Mary when she worked at the zoo. Tonnie Renfro is a professor at Spencerian College, where Mary gave a Veterans Day speech to the Veterans club. She also organized a toy drive that netted 984 very

nice toys for Toys for Tots. Mary drove the Toys for Tots van again in the Light up Louisville Parade. The day after Thanksgiving, Marjorie, Mary, Susan and Carolyn along with prospects Melanie Owen and Jacque Rector helped collect more than 4,000 toys at a Toys for Tots motorcycle ride.

They were met at the toy warehouse by Kathy Allen and a number of her parishioners and all helped unload the trucks and sort the toys into appropriate age and gender.

Our wonderful WWII veteran, Kathleen Drummond, was finally able to go home after being in and out of hospitals and rehab facilities since August. She might have been down, but she is still full of fun, sharp as a tack and enjoying cards, calls and visits from her WMA and University of Louisville friends.

And then came the real highlight of the Christmas season. On 23 December Susan and Mary were invited to join an anonymous group, many of whom were also veterans to surprise a woman Marine veteran and college student who was struggling after her husband left her with 3 year-old twins and a 9 year old.

Mary and Susan were stunned to find more than 40 cars and a small trailer led by off duty police (also veterans) at the designated "swoop point" and astonished to see what they had collected. Within 20 minutes of arriving at the house, non-perishable food was stacked under the table and halfway to the ceiling on all the surfaces and available space in the kitchen. The living room was left with only a path to get by the piles of gift-wrapped toys and gifts for all of them. They had also collected \$2,000 in donations to help pay her bills. This group of people has been quietly doing this for 15 years. They chose this particular young lady because someone met her and saw that she was working hard to get her education, earning a 4.0 average while struggling to provide for her children. She had a part-time job and one of these generous people is going to surprise her with a better paying job, baby-sitting help and someone else is going to offer a less expensive housing option.

She will never know who they are and was only asked to "pay it forward" when she was able. While we won't tell her who her benefactors were, we are going to contact her again and invite her to bring the children and join us at our February anniversary meeting.

Mary Broussard

LA-1 Molly Marine

We had our first meeting after the Philadelphia conference on 15 September at the Chateau de Notre Dame Nursing Home in New Orleans, LA, while still glowing from the results of the conference!

We decided to take the meeting to our eldest member, Marian Landry (92 years old/WWII veteran). She was thrilled to see the Ruth and Dick Broe Award, certificates and streamers we received! Attendance at this meeting was one of the best ever, with 14 members, two Loyal Escorts and three guests. It was another meeting that was filled with passing exciting scoop, enjoying good company and eating delicious refreshments with scrumptious mimosas!

One of the most exciting, special days we've ever had was on 15 October at the Marine Corps Support Facility when an awards ceremony was held to present Lieutenant General Steven Hummer, Commander, Marine Forces Reserve with the Ruth and Dick Broe Award to adorn the walls of the Headquarters in New Orleans.

During the ceremony, Cpl. Elizabeth Damron, Special Projects Officer, delivered an outstanding speech on the history of our chapter; Melanie Young, President, made a few remarks and presented the plaque; and LtGen. Hummer made a heartfelt acceptance speech. Numerous VIPs, dignitaries, civilians, Marines and sailors will have the opportunity to see this coveted award! The Ruth and Dick Broe Award will be returned to WMA in 2014 in Kansas City. We are proud to say that the permanent plaque that we will be presented in 2014, will be returned to Marine Forces Reserve, where it will be displayed indefinitely!

The Molly Marine Chapter takes pride in giving back to the community! On 7 November, a few members made a trip over to the New Orleans Mission to deliver a Thanksgiving blessing: a donation of \$100 toward food to feed the homeless during the Thanksgiving holiday. David Bottner, the Mission director, took us on a tour of the facility, and its grounds! Members that took part in the delivery of this blessing were GySgt Dalia Robles, SSgt Hideshi Dyer, Kimberly Allen, Angela Merrell and Melanie Young.

Our chapter enjoyed the best Marine Corps birthday celebration ever! On 10 November, several of our members had the honor of participating in Louisiana's 200th Anniversary Bicentennial Military Parade that took place in New Orleans. Military members of every service were represented.

The parade started in the historical French Quarter and ended at the WWII Museum. A reception was held at the Convention Center immediately afterwards. LtGen. Hummer, Commander Marine Forces Reserve, had a cake cutting ceremony during the reception for the hundreds of Marines in attendance and many other service members. This event will be one of the most memorable we have ever participated in. Members in attendance were Jodi Lara, Monica Lewis (LE), GySgt Dalia Robles, Cpl Elizabeth Damron, Vicki Haynes, Angela Merrell, Taneika Key, Marvin Savage (LE) and Melanie Young.

The Marine Corps birthday was a busy day for our chapter! We did not want to forget our elderly chapter members on such a special day. April Bell and Georgia Hildebrandt, visitation committee members, made a visit to the Lambeth House to celebrate the Marine Corps birthday with Frances Hoffmann and other residents. They celebrated with cake, punch and patriotic music. Frances spoke about her entry into the Corps and the places she had served. The next stop was the Chateau de Notre Dame to pick up Marian Landry, our eldest member, and take her to Le Madeleine's French Restaurant for lunch. After lunch, they returned to the Chateau de Notre Dame to enjoy cake and another dose of camaraderie. "Taking Care of Our Own" is what it's all about!

On 17 November, a large number of our members and Loyal Escorts attended the Marine Forces Reserve Marine Corps Birthday Ball at the Hilton Riverside in New Orleans. We had two tables reserved just for us. Prior to dinner, 15 members and 6 Loyal Escorts gathered to take a group photo!

One of the most exciting and fun Christmas parties ever held was on 15 December! We celebrated Christmas at Le Café de Bon Temps in Slidell, Louisiana. What made this party more special was the reunion of two of our eldest members, WWII veterans Marian Landry and Marian Ives. It had been many years since they had seen one another. They are long time Life Members of WMA and each used to belong to the TX-2 Chapter. The reunion was an emotional one that brought tears to many of our eyes. After we dried our tears, the party began!



Marian Ives, Cpl Elizabeth Damron and Marian Landry at LA-1 Christmas party.

We had delicious Cajun cuisine, played Christmas games and had a white elephant gift exchange. We even had a Christmas birthday cake and sang happy birthday to Marian Landry celebrating her 93rd birthday. The camaraderie shared that day is one we will always cherish!

Marian Landry was surprised with another birthday celebration on 22 December, when April Bell and Georgia Hildebrandt joined her at the Chateau de Notre Dame to celebrate with a delicious birthday cake. Marian's daughter, Louise, celebrated with them!

The time of the year to "*laissez les bon temps rouler*" (let the good times roll) has arrived! Mardi Gras season is one of the most exciting times of the year for our chapter. Several members and Loyal Escorts began the season on 5 January 2013 by attending the Krewe of CAMAN (Coast Guard, Army, Marines, Air Force, Navy) Mardi Gras Ball at the Hyatt Hotel in New Orleans. This Krewe is part of the Military Officers Wives Club (MOWC) of New Orleans. We enjoyed meeting the Royal Court, a fabulous dinner, dancing and the cutting of the King Cake to close the evening. This was a VERY good time! Members in attendance were Sheri Hummer, Allison Truelove, Tony Truelove (LE), Patricia Huttinger, Jack Huttinger (LE), Felix Romero (LE), Mary Whittington (LE), Janie Beers (LE), Marvin Savage (LE) and Melanie Young.

Melanie Young

MO-1 St. Louis

Happy New Year to our fellow Marines from MO-1, St. Louis Chapter!

In November 2012, members of our chapter attended several events honoring veterans in the St. Louis area.

Kathy Sutphen was honored at her granddaughter's elementary school along with many other veterans. Hawthorn Elementary greeted every veteran at the door, assembled all of us in a nice big room with coffee, tea and donuts. Then we all were "marched" into the school auditorium and were greeted by all the teachers and children of the school. We were individually introduced, stating our name, branch of service, and years of service, and how we were related to a particular child in the school. They presented a very nice patriotic program showing their appreciation for our service. It was wonderful to be honored by the kids and teachers.

On 10 November, Mary Jantosik, Kathy Sutphen, Ophie Owens and Betty Gonzales participated in a POW/MIA Ceremony at Soldiers Memorial in downtown St. Louis with other members of St. Louis Service Women's Post 404, The American Legion.

Then after the ceremony, we marched in the Veterans Day Parade along with Post 404.

We were impressed with the great turnout in St. Louis for the Veterans Parade. Many were holding thank you signs. It really was great to see the appreciation for our service.

On 8 December, our chapter held our annual Christmas luncheon with the St. Louis WAVES and Coast Guard women veterans. It was held at Pietro's Restaurant in south St. Louis. Our chapter was honored to have Mabel A.R. Otten, Past WMA National Treasurer and 4th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, 1969-1972 join us. She looked wonderful! Everyone was in the holiday spirit and food was great as usual. Thanks to Mary Jantosik and Shirley Walz for organizing our Christmas luncheon. You did a great job, Ladies!

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and safe 2013!

Kathy Sutphen

TN-1 Rocky Top

The Marines of TN-1 finished 2012 with a whirlwind of activities, continuing our high level of community involvement and support of veteran's causes.

In October, a contingent spent a total of 86 hours handing out race packets and tee shirts to the registered runners for the 2012 Marine Corps Mud Run sponsored by the Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment, Marine Corps League. Only one member was brave enough to actually participate in the Mud Run, though! Congrats to Angii and her team for completing the challenging and messy obstacle course!

Once again, the Knoxville Area Stand Down for Homeless Veterans relied on the support of TN-1 to staff an information table and assemble and distribute duffle bags with care and comfort items for the homeless women. Without the support from WMA (led by Barbara Chagnon and Doris Keane), this group would be otherwise overlooked. Several members rode in the Knoxville Veteran's Day parade, chauffeured by Marine Corps League member "Gunny," in his patriotic golf cart. Rumor has it, it was a wild ride! We were all pleased that we were joined by Eileen Neiler and Tommye Kelley, our WWII ladies, for the 237th Marine Corps Birthday Luncheon sponsored by the MCL.

As the oldest Marine present, Tommye was honored with the first piece of cake! For the holiday season, our members were everywhere in the community, ringing bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive, organizing the distribution for the Salvation Army Angel Tree, and answering the call for assistance with Toys for Tots. Jessica, Gail, Eileen, Doris, Barbara, Lindsay, and Angii volunteered their time during the busy holiday season to help ensure a Merry Christmas for many of our East Tennessee neighbors.

We want to welcome Sgt. Maegan Larkins, our newest member of TN-1! Maegan is the Toys for Tots Coordinator for the Knoxville area.

We concluded our business for the year and began planning for a busy 2013 with a final meeting hosted by President Jessica King at her office. Tennessee Water Technology, Inc. was kind enough to allow us to use their facilities for our meeting and to share a bit of holiday cheer! Happy New Year from Rocky Top!

Laura Ward

TX-2 Texas Gulf Coast

Howdy and *Ooh Rah* Marines from TX-2, the Gulf Coast Chapter. The 27th Women Marines Association Professional Development and Leadership Conference and Convention in Philadelphia was a blast for all of us that could attend. The first thing on the agenda for most of us was going to the Tun Tavern Marker of the birthplace of the Marine Corps and getting a picture taken. I know that standing in front of that marker with fellow Marines gave me such a sense of pride, that I felt my chest would explode and I returned almost daily to the marker which was only a short walking distance from the hotel. The convention went off pretty much without a problem, thanks to the officers and DC-1 and others stepping up and taking charge, which left plenty of time for us to go see the sites of Philly from the Liberty Bell to Pat's Cheesesteaks.

The minor fallback for me at the convention was when I fell backwards on the carpet in the Hospitality Suite and dislocated and fractured my wrist in four different places.

We were playing balloon volleyball and a misstep on the carpet was all it took. Polly Harms(WWII) was on my team in prime condition at 91 and commented that they just don't make them like they use to! I had wrist surgery once I got back to Houston and the progress has been great and I'm back to work at Union Pacific Railroad, driving trains after a four month absence. It takes more than a little fall to hold a Marine captive. Thanks everyone for the well wishes and prayers.



TX-2 members at their recent meeting.

TX-2 held its winter meeting and birthday celebration on 10 November at the Bayland Community Center in Houston. This was our Toys for Tots meeting since it would be our last meeting before Christmas, so gifts were gathered from all present for Karen Beatty to donate to the Marines. There were nine members present and two Loyal escorts members. We were also elated to have special guest, Area 6 Director Maria Crowley in attendance. Before the meeting began, we gathered and sang the *Marines Hymn* and practiced our humming abilities for those of us that can't sing. Judy Anderson brought lunch to the meeting. It was a delicious meatloaf with potatoes, salad, cream spinach and johnny cornbread cakes from the Boston Market. We then had a ceremony where we honored our members by the era they served and a cake cutting ceremony where Eleanor Gibbs (WWII era) was the oldest Marine and Marti Raney (Desert Storm era) was the youngest.

Chapter president Judy Anderson called the meeting to order, and Area Director Maria Crowley and Karen Beatty gave an update on the Convention. Plans were made to sell the remaining thermal bags purchased for the PX in Philly by placing an advertisement in *'Nouncements'*. The chapter decided that the drawings, which include a portrait of General Chesty Puller, donated by WWII artist Sgt Marion Harrison would be donated to the Women of the Corps Collection. Plans were made to meet at the VA hospital to decorate a ward for Christmas on 2 December and to go to the VA Cemetery on 3 December to lay wreaths at the graves of our departed chapter members. Director Crowley informed us of the need for assistance at The Women of the Corps exhibit being held in Kerrville, Texas and encouraged us all to try to attend the exhibit while it was in Texas. Lynn Sparks reported on her phone conversation with Marian Ives and her wishes to transfer her membership to the New Orleans Chapter where she is living now with her son's family. Marti Raney and Tracy Morgan reported on their recent visit to New Orleans to check on former TX-2 member Marian Landry. Marian is doing fine and they had a wonderful lunch at Mother's Restaurant in New Orleans which is a must see waterhole full of Marine Corps photos and history.

The meeting was closed and roses were handed out to each member while pictures of the convention and Philadelphia were shared with members not able to attend the convention.

TX-2 wishes everyone a Happy New Year. Go Texans!

Marti Raney

WA-3 North Sound Chapter

The WA-3 Chapter met on 10 November, 2012 in Marysville, WA at the Village Inn Restaurant. Eleven were in attendance, including the new Area 9 Director, Terry Hall and her daughter Kya.

Also attending were three cadets from the MCJROTC program at Snohomish High School.

MCJROTC Cadet Captain Emily Howell spoke briefly about the courses and how students must keep grades up, learn the Marine Corps history and pass the physical training requirements.

Three of our members, Bettie Glasser, Betty Strand and Sue Duncan attended the National Convention in Philadelphia.

Bettie Glasser gave a report on the convention and Betty Strand noted the speeches by Brig. Gen. Lori Reynolds and Lt. Gen. Mills. Women are making a big headway in the Corps.

The chapter is gaining new members, mostly from the closed WA-1 and anxious to keep their membership in an active chapter. Semper Fi,

Louise George

WI-1 Wisconsin Women Marines

The fall meeting of WI-1 was held in Oshkosh and soon after that WI-1 hosted the All Women Veterans luncheon meeting at Hi-Way Harry's in Johnson Creek with a full house. Carolyn Morgan, the Women Veterans Coordinator for WDVA, was our speaker. President Linda Dancker also spoke, as did Cpl. Savage Clark, a U.S. Marine combat veteran who served in Iraq with the Female Engagement Team. The luncheon and camaraderie were a big success.



Sometimes it's the good news that travels slowly and in this case it's our own Lt. Col. Julie Schafer. We learned that she has graduated from War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA with a master's degree in Strategic Studies, having been selected in a competitive board process. She spent 11 months on active duty there while her supportive family, husband Rob and two sons, Andrew and Sean, held the fort at their home in San Antonio for work and school. She has joined 14th Marine Regiment, a reserve artillery regiment headquartered in Ft. Worth, as Regimental Logistics Officer,

a position not normally open to women. Julie was active in WI-1 while living in the Madison area and is a past president of WI-1. We are very proud of her and wish her well.

Then came November and its usual whirlwind of activities. On 8 November Connie Allord was invited to Governor Walker's residence for a special veterans recognition reception, representing the women Marines, the next morning she was in a cake-cutting ceremony at the Madison VA to celebrate the MC Birthday; she was the oldest Marine present.

She was then off to the state capitol for another special veterans ceremony. The next day was the Marine Corps Ball with about 500 attending and Connie was again in the cake-cutting as the oldest Marine.

She was then off to the state capitol for another special veterans ceremony. The next day was the Marine Corps Ball with about 500 attending and Connie was again in the cake-cutting as the oldest Marine. On Veterans Day, Ellen Healey placed a rose during the capitol ceremony for WMA and Marge Marshman gave the invocation.

10 November, the Marine Corps' 237th birthday, was also a busy day in Milwaukee with our WMA chapter in the annual Veterans Day parade. Although the U. S. Coast Guard was this year's honoree, the "Happy Birthday Marines" sign on the sides of Linda Dancker's vehicle drew an amazing response from onlookers. Participating were Jen Clark with her faithful dog, Shiloh, Linda Dancker, Ellen Healey, Linda O'Hara and her Loyal Escort husband, Pat. After the parade, a luncheon was served at the lake-front War Memorial for all. It was a wonderful ending for a day of remembrance and camaraderie.

The Ronald McDonald House benefited from over 17,000 soda pop tabs collected by the chapter and delivered by Linda Dancker and Linda O'Hara to a "Tab Toss Day" in Wauwatosa at their Ronald McDonald House. They reported that two very large dumpsters were filling up fast and would probably be counted by tons instead of tabs. No doubt there would be more than the last year total of \$29,000 for the charity.

The annual Toys for Tots, sponsored by the Marines, was interrupted this year by a monster blizzard. Annette Howards and Connie had their shift cut short by its approach and then snowed in for the duration.

The Marine detachment and the Salvation Army did manage to get the toys distributed but not without challenges - so what's new for some hearty, gung-ho Marines - all in a day's work. In Dane County alone 2,700 families and 8,300 children were the beneficiaries.

Connie Allord

Chapter Tool Kit: Next of Kin Contact Information

There are a lot of concerns that your elected and appointed officers will be addressing in 2013. Several top priority issues ...the Molly Marine rally point at the National Museum of the Marine Corps and the establishment of the compassionate retention category of WMA membership have their own articles in this issue of 'Nouncements.

What I want to address here is an issue that can only be resolved by the actions of chapter officers and Area Directors.

It is a requirement of our SOP that each chapter submit annually a roster of our chapter members to include names, addresses, phone numbers, and next of kin contact information. In the *Women Marines Association How to Book for Chapters and Area Directors*, paragraph 2.20 on page 2-14 you will find a list of reasons why providing next-of-kin information to the chapters is so very important.

It is the responsibility of each chapter to ensure that information is collected and reported annually.

It is the responsibility of each chapter to ensure that information is collected and reported annually.

These reasons all center around deceased members and the actions that WMA takes when a member is reported as deceased. But there is another very important reason why next-of-kin information is a vital part of what our organization should have on file, and it involves being able to keep track of our sister Marines as issues of health and mobility keep them from normal chapter activities.

While obtaining this next-of-kin information for members-at-large remains a National-level responsibility, it is the responsibility of each chapter to ensure that information is collected and reported annually to the National 1st Vice President, the Membership Secretary, and their specific Area Director. The preferred timeframe for the annual submission of chapter rosters is during the first quarter (1 July-30 September). **Chapter Presidents: Put it on your calendar now to have the chapter secretary prepare the annual roster submission in July or August; that will give you approximately five months to update all members' next-of-kin information.**

We are a *sisterhood*, and it is incumbent upon each of us to reach out and keep our sister Marines connected to WMA.

**Well, You Might
Take a**



You Might Take a



**But plan to attend the 28th Biennial
Women Marines Association Convention
& Professional Development Conference**

When: July 24 - Aug 1, 2014

Where: Westin Kansas City at CrownCenter

More Info: Convention@womenmarines.org

Recommended Accommodations:

Westin KC at Crown Center

1 East Pershing Road

Kansas City, MO 64108

Proudly hosted by WMA MO-KAN - 2

We're going to KANSAS CITY!



Do you enjoy writing?

HELP WANTED: TALENTED WRITERS TO HELP WITH PRODUCING 'NOUNCEMENTS.

Did you ever look at an embedded reporter and say, "Shoot, I can do *that*..."? Have you always enjoyed writing or wish you had a way to use your skills?

We are seeking enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers with proven writing and copy editing skills to help us with this magazine. Intermediate to excellent computer skills are a definite plus.

You'll have the opportunity to get to know and work with people throughout the Association.

Interested? Call (228) 243-3845 or e-mail Editor@womenmarines.org.

We are again asking chapters to review what is posted in your respective Merchandise Sales sections for corrections and updates in our ongoing efforts to keep this information current. Please send your updates to:
2VP@womenmarines.org.

Any questions can be directed to KathySheppard, 2nd Vice President at this email.

WMA National Merchandise Sales

Your Purchases Support Our Association!

WMA Patch, small	\$4.00	Denver 2010 Convention Coin	\$12.00
WMA Patch, large	\$4.50	Philadelphia 2012 Convention Coin	\$15.00
WMA Pin, Hat (pin or clutch)	\$3.00	50th Anniversary Medallions	\$5.00
WMA Pin, Life	\$4.00	Woman Marine Matted Quote	\$10.00
WMA Flag	\$182.00	WMA Digital Drawstring Bag	\$10.00
50th Anniversary Medallions	\$5.00	WMA Digital Briefcase Bag	\$25.00
Book, "Above & Beyond: Former Marines Conquer the Civilian World"	\$20.00		
WMA Afghan Throws.	\$45.00		



WMA Cap (3 months delivery time). . . \$40.00

Chapter designation: ____ - ____

Example: CA-1 (4 spaces only except USA-1,2,3.)

Size: (1" above ears - allow for hair style)

Sizes for WMA Caps:

20 1/2 - 20 7/8	XSm	22 3/4 - 23 1/8	L
21 1/4 - 21 5/8	Sm	23 1/2 - 23 7/8	XL
22 - 22 3/8	M	24 1/4 - 24 5/8	XXL

Make All Checks Payable to WMA

Contact: America Zarate Dones,
6506 Carrington Sky Drive, Apollo Beach, FL 33572
Phone: (813) 498-8062
email: America.Dones@gmail.com

Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter Merchandise Sales

- Item:** "I love my Woman Marine" pin ...\$1.00
Item: "I love my Woman Marine" bumper sticker ... \$1.00
Item: Grandma's Loyal Escort
 My Wife's Loyal Escort
 Mom's Loyal Escort... \$1.00
Item: Loyal Escort Hat... \$8.00
Item: Loyal Escort Patch ... \$5.00
Item: Loyal Escort Cup w/lid and straw... \$5.00



Shipping and handling will vary but should range from \$2.00 to \$6.00

Contact: Shaaron Wright
349 Howard Dr.
Santa Clara, CA 95051-5812

WMA Chapter Merchandise Sales

Send chapter ads to Wanda Antoine, 3020 Puffin Circle, Fairfield, CA 94533, Editor@womenmarines.org.
IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: When WMA sales items are no longer available, please notify Wanda 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: Naomi Malone, 218 Sunset Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28546-7045 (910) 545-7154 nmalone@ec.rr.com



WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE SALES

Item: A limited edition booklet of line drawings portraying Women Marines, signed and numbered by the artist, Marion A. Alien, 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" x 7 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: "Parris Island: A Woman's Memoir of Marine Corps Boot Camp"

Signed copy by author Lisa Cordeiro

Cost: \$16.95 (\$3.95 shipping)

Chapter: MA-1

Contact: Lisa Cordeiro, 35 Berkeley St., Watertown, MA 02472

or order online at www.lisacordeiro.com <http://lisacordeiro.com>



Item: "Cooking With Marines", a collection of recipes from Marines

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

Contact: B.J. Huggins, (WMA)

P.O.Box 1821, Pasadena, TX 77501



Cards/Stationery

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, 4525 Cove Circle, Apt. 102, St. Petersburg, FL 33708

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 WMA

Contact: Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056-4011 (760) 724-9861

Candy

Item: WMA & Letting 3" Insignia/Logo

Green, White, Milk Chocolate or Special Order

Cost: Singles\$1.50

Box of 8\$6.50

Box of 15\$13.50

Mints Box of 12\$10.50

Item: WMA Mint 1" round Insignia/Logo

Green, White, Milk Chocolate or Special Order

Singles\$1.50

Box of 12\$10.50

Chapter: CA-11 - Central Coast

Contact: Soledad Kennedy, 4062 Capella Street, Lompoc, CA 93436

Fax/Office: (805) 733-2175 Cell: (805) 588-0650 centralcoastwomenmarines.com

usmcrfemale@yahoo.com

Decals

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, 4525 Cove Circle, Apt. 102, St. Petersburg, FL 33708



Shirts and Sweats

Item: Golf shirt Dark (Hunter) Green with WMA logo (matches green covers) embroidered in white. Available in sizes (S) to (XXL) Red and also Khaki solid polo shirts. WMA notation spelled out under acronym.

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

Make checks payable to: WMA, VA-1

Contact: Dorothy Gordon, 93 High Ridge Dr. Stafford, VA 22554

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 ea ; 2X - \$28 ea.

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

M - XL - \$28 ea

Long sleeved golf shirts: M - XL - \$32 ea.

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

Checks: Old Dominion Chapter, WMA VA-2

Contact: Mickey Jennings, 6486 Lark Way, Mechanicsville, VA 23111

E-mail: mickeyjennings@hotmail.com

Item: White golf shirt with embroidered green WMA logo circled by the phrase, "More Than A Woman A Marine"

Cost: All sizes (S) to (XXXL) \$28.00 (price includes shipping)

Make Checks payable to: WMA, OR-1

Contact: Heidi Tanada, 17103 S.W. Eldorado Dr. Tigard, OR 97224-2075

Item: Light gray t-shirt with small green WMA logo on front and large logo on back; both circled by the phrase, "More Than A Woman A Marine"

Cost: Sizes (M) to (XXXL) \$16.00 (price includes shipping)

Make Checks payable to: WMA, OR-1

Contact: Heidi Tanada, 17103 S.W. Eldorado Dr. Tigard, OR 97224-2075

Item: A dult, Youth & Infant/Toddler Shirts, 3 embroidery options, prices include shipping.

Adult	Ladies Polos (S-XL) \$30.00 (2XL) \$31.00 (3XL) \$32.00 (4XL) \$33.00 (5XL) \$35.00 (6XL) \$36.00	Short Sleeved T-Shirt (S-XL) \$17.00
		(2XL) \$18.00
		(3XL) \$19.00
		(4XL) \$20.00
		(5XL) \$22.00
		(6XL) \$24.00
Youth	Youth Polo (S-XL) \$22.00	Short Sleeved Tee (S-XL) \$15
Infant/Toddler	Long Sleeved T-Shirt (6M-4T) \$16.00	Short Sleeved Tee (6M-4T) \$15.00

Embroidery Options:

Option 1:

Option 2:

Option 3:

Website: <http://home.comcast.net/~or-3/> to see shirt specs, color options and pictures.

Contact: Make checks payable to WMA OR-3 and mail to: Stephanie Wilcox 336 S.71st St, Springfield, OR 97478; call (541) 554-6015 or email or-3@comcast.net for information.

Jewelry

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

Contact: Anne Collins, 4707 Broadway, San Antonio, TX 78209 (210) 829-8522



Item: Charm "Semper Paratus"

Cost: \$15.00

Chapter: Lady Marine Rose (OR-1)

Contact: Cleary Creations, 2225 NE 130th Ave., Portland, OR 97230-1704



Shirts and Sweats

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

Cost: T-Shirts- M, L, XL and XXL @ \$10.00; Sweatshirts - M, L, L @ \$24.00, XXL @ \$25.00 Pay to: WMA PA-2 Liberty Belles (Price includes shipping)

Contact: Kathy Van Gorder, 584 Barrington Rd., Collegeville, PA 19426

WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE SALES

Item: WMA Ring. Jeweler - Jostens

Cost: Lustrium (*non precious white*) \$181.00
 Quesra (*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: Lapel pins, "United States Woman Marine" and WMA, 1 inch in diameter

Cost: \$5.00 each (including shipping and handling)

Chapter: CA-3

Contact: Kathleen Wright, 349 Howard Dr., Santa Clara, CA 95051

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 payable to WMA-Chapter NM1)

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 "WOMEN MARINES ASSOC" with emblem. Includes a green and white "Semper Fi" sticker

Cost: \$9.00 (*postpaid*) **Chapter:** FL-4, Tampa Tarpons

Contact: Laverne H. Myers, 3803 Drexel Avenue, Tampa, FL 33611-1517



Item: WMA "Semper Fi" 2" x 9" green and white bumper sticker (*for anyplace—car, boat, luggage, etc.*)

Cost: \$1.50 ea. for 5 for \$6.95 or 10 for \$11.00 (*postpaid*)

Contact: Laverne H. Myers, 3803 Drexel Avenue, Tampa, FL 33611-1517

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:** EMVSC CA-7 WMA

Contact: Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056-4011 (760) 724-9861

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: Naomi Malone, 218 Sunset Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28546-7045 (910) 545-7154 nmalone@ec.rr.com

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: 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: "Proud To Be A Marine" ribbon magnet, 8"x 3"

Cost: \$6 each (*includes postage*)

Checks: Payable to to EMVSC CA-7 WMA

Contact: Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Drive,
 Oceanside, CA 92056-4011
 (760) 724-9861



Item: Woman Marine cover cross stitch pattern, with backstitch eagle, globe and anchor.

Cost: \$2.50 each (*includes shipping*) **Chapter:** OH-2

Contact: Janice Lascko, 3157 W. 82nd St., Cleveland, OH 44102 or
 janlascko@yahoo.com. Payments can be made through PayPal at
 this same email address.



Item: "Koozie" Bottle or Can size sleeve for sweat absorption, foldable foam, green, with WMA logo in white on one side, other side in white letters: "No Sweat, the WOMEN Marines are on duty" **Cost:** \$4.00 each, or 20 for \$75.00 (*Price includes shipping*)

Contact: Kathy Van Gorder, 584 Barrington Rd., Collegeville, PA 19426
 e-mail: VanGorders2@aol.com Fax: 610-489-4383

Item: Bumper sticker, The Few, The Proud, The Women Marines

Cost: \$1.50 each (*Price includes shipping*) **Chapter:** NM-1 (*checks payable to WMA-Chapter NM1*)

Contact: Phyllis Young, 1070 Stovall Ave., Bosque Farms, NM 87068

Item: EGA Zipper Pull (1 inch EGA, 2 inch total length, EGA Yellow Ribbon Lapel Pin (1 inch length), Marine Mascot Christmas Ornament (red ribbon, 2.5 inches in length), EGA Christmas Ornament (red ribbon, 2.5 inches in length), Red EGA Necklace (chain, 18 inches in length).

Cost: \$6.00. \$5.00, \$8.00, \$8.00 or \$9.00 (*plus \$3.00 USPS shipping per item*)

Chapter: MN-1 Minnesota Leathernecks (*make checks payable to MN-1*)

Contact: Mary McGee, 2652 Marshall St NE #301, Minneapolis, MN 55418
 (612) 788-1216

Item: "Woman Marine" Ribbon Magnet, 8" x 4"

Cost: \$7.00 (*includes shipping & handling*)

Chapter: OH-2 Chesty Puller

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



Item: This item has been officially licensed by the US Marine Corps.

Item: Ornament "The Fewer" Size 2 3/8" x 3 1/8" Limited 3-D,

only 300 minted, 24 Karat Gold on Brass

Cost: \$29.75 (*Includes Shipping*).

Portion of proceeds go to "Paws and Strips".

Cost: 24 Karat Gold on Brass \$29.75 (*includes shipping*)

Portion of proceeds go to "Paws and Stripes".

Make Money Order or Cashier Check to: Katherine M Lorenz Townsend

Chapter: TX-1 "The Lone Star State"

Contact: Katherine M Lorenz Townsend and mail to: 4025 Tortoise Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76135 Orders can now be placed on line using a credit card at:

www.womenmarineskeepsake.com



Item: Red "Women" Marine Apron and hotpad and oven mitt combo

Cost: \$29.95 (*Includes Shipping*)

Cost: Make Money Order or Cashier Check out to:

Katherine M Lorenz Townsend 4025 Tortoise Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76135



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 merchandise advertised on these pages must go to a chapter in order to be listed here.



A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

On behalf of all Marines, Bonnie and I send heartfelt greetings to the Women Marines Association as you mark the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve. This year's anniversary holds great significance, not only because of the milestone anniversary, but also in light of the recent passing of Brigadier General Margaret Brewer.

Brigadier General Brewer earned a commission in the Marine Corps in 1952. Like Lucy Brewer, Opha May Johnson, and all of the female Marines who preceded her, Brigadier General Brewer would change the Marine Corps for the better through her service. When she became the first female general officer in the Marine Corps in 1978, she opened another door for women Marines and started our Corps on the path to full integration of women in our ranks. Brigadier General Brewer truly embodied the courage, determination, and dedication that are the legacy of all Marines. Today, women Marines continue to answer our Nation's call and distinguish themselves throughout the world in combat and in garrison. As we commemorate 70 years of exceptional service and honor the numerous accomplishments of women Marines past and present, know that all Marines serving around the globe today are deeply proud of the legacy female Marines have forged.

Know that as you gather for this anniversary, your continued commitment to the Marine Corps and to your brothers- and sisters-in-arms upholds the highest traditions and ethos of our Corps. All who wear the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor sincerely appreciate your support of our veterans and our Marines serving at home and in the fight. Thank you for your dedicated service and fidelity. May you have a very memorable and enjoyable anniversary!

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James F. Amos", written over a circular stamp.

JAMES F. AMOS
General, U.S. Marine Corps

I applaud each of you for being a United States Marine... I am honored to serve as your Commandant!



Address Service Requested
Women Marines Association
P.O. Box 377
Oaks, PA 19456-0377

2013 Major Megan McClung Award Winner Announced

Gunnery Sergeant Tawanda Hanible is the senior enlisted winner of the 2013 Major Megan McClung Leadership Award. Gysgt Hanible is Operations Chief, Office of Diversity, Marine Corps Recruiting Command at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia and a member of WMA's VA-1 chapter.

In her nomination write-up, Officer in Charge, Major Frank Moore wrote: "Gunnery Sergeant Hanible has distinguished herself with exceptionally superior service in the Marine Corps and within her community. During her tenure in the Marine Corps, she has displayed great dedication and leadership to her Marines and community. Her willingness to volunteer countless off-duty hours bettered the surrounding communities and will have a lasting impact on the various duty locations in which she has been assigned. Gunnery Sergeant



GySgt Tawanda Hanible.

Photo Courtesy Lady Redd Creations ©2012 All Rights Reserved

Hanible has dedicated countless hours to her community through her work at the Brother Beeno's shelter for the homeless in Oceanside, CA; Alternative for Girls in Detroit, MI; Rappahannock Big Brother Big Sister foundation in Fredericksburg, VA; Action in Community through Service (ACTS) in Dumfries, VA; ARMS Outstretched Ministries in Stafford, VA; and Stand Up for Kids in Washington, DC. Gunnery Sergeant Hanible has also started her own

non-profit organization, Operation Heroes Connect, a mentorship program for at risk youth."

Gunnery Sergeant Hanible was recently recognized for her accomplishments in an article by Newsweek magazine. In November 2012, she was asked to speak in Washington, DC where Newsweek hosted the "Urge to Serve" panel, spotlighting servicemen and women who were doing extraordinary things in their communities.

Gunnery Sergeant Hanible's awards include: The Navy and Marine Achievement Medal with two gold stars, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, and Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

Maj. Frank Moore



Hanible with children in Cleveland during Marine Week in 2012.



Operation Heroes Connect mentors and mentees.