



Spring 2009 Serving our members since 1969 Vol. 34 No. 2

<u>Spring 2009</u>

Yes, the spring issue has FINAL-LY arrived! But don't look now...the summer issue may be in your mailbox by the time you finish reading this one.

By way of a reminder, items you read in this issue are going to be a bit on the old side. If your Chapter Clipping is missing or the news is stale, the summer issue will catch you up, including convention information.

Before I explain, I'd like to thank the board and the membership for not pressing me on this issue. This has been a trying time for me, and I appreciate the "space" you've given me. And I'd like to request that you indulge me a little longer.

I am the only child of a mother who was an only child, and a father with one sibling. My family is very small (we had a reunion in a minivan), and within six months of each other I lost my mother and my Marine. My father. My daddy. In his eyes, the sun rose and set on me. I was "Daddy's Little Girl", and when I left for boot camp, his voice cracked. It was the first time I ever heard him cry. The last time was in May when he left my house in Oklahoma to drive back to Pennsylvania. Two weeks later, he was gone.

Mom had been ill for several years, so her passing was not a surprise. And the reality that spouses tend to follow one another when they've been together as long as my parents were was something I had acknowledged. But my dad...he was the more social of the two, and we all thought he'd work through the loss. He loved being out with people and they loved him.

We were supposed to get through her passing together. But he just couldn't.

Needless to say, his passing has been hard. I've already been through their 60th anniversary and Father's Day. His 81st birthday would have been in a few



Me and my dad Frank circa 1978.

days. I'll get through that too like we did Mom's birthday and Mother's Day. It was a lot easier with him there.

But November 10th is another thing. That was our day. I would call him on the phone early in the morning and tell him to get his lazy Marine butt out of bed, or something along those lines. One year he answered the phone and all he heard was "The Marines' Hymn". Mom would just shake her head.

So this is why your newsletter is so late. Thank you for your patience and for indulging me one more time. *Nouncements* will resume its normal schedule with the fall issue.

I would like to thank the board for their incredible patience and understanding during this time, those members who sent condolences and to Kay Croll for attending Dad's funeral and serving as a pallbearer.

And to my Loyal Escort for the past 55 years, Semper Fidelis, Daddy.

Sondra Metzger

Wired <u>Women Marines!</u>

Truer words were never spoken! We are definitely wired now.

Our website, www.womenmarines. org, has come through the re-design process looking better than ever and getting us more attention (and new members!) every day. Check it out! More animation, more photos, more information, a Marine news feed and a calendar of chapter upcoming events!

You can also find WMA on Facebook (784 members), and can follow us on Twitter (http://twitter.com/ WomenMarines, 1,175 followers). And, as always, we still have our listserv through Yahoo where we send need-to-know info to your email (572 members).

Something more recent is our presence on YouTube.com (http://www. youtube.com/user/WomenMarines#p/ u/11/3_rziJCzNCQ). The most recent addition is a video that was filmed at the 2009 Interim Board Meeting in Kansas City, MO, featuring Carol Mutter describing the importance of the Women Marines Association and why she's an active member (and Past National President!). While you're there, do a search on "women marines". I think you'll find some interesting videos.

Lots of opportunities to join in if you have a computer!

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Women Marines Association

66 YEARS OF PROUD SERVICE TO COUNTRY AND CORPS

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WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION

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Deadline for materials for next issue: 20 October 2009

Please send all materials for 'Nouncements to the Editor:

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President's Message

Well spring has sprung and I am ready to get out and smell the roses. What better way to do that than by achieving one of my personal goals as president, which is to visit with as many WMA members as possible. I began my journey this past February as I attended three of our 66th Anniversary celebrations across the country. On 7 February I attended the celebration with DC-1 and VA-1 members at Ft Myers in Arlington where the guest speaker was Marine Colonel Gail Jennings, who also joined WMA as a life member right there at the luncheon. OOHRAH!

The next weekend, 14 and 15 February, I had the distinct privilege to represent WMA National in southern California at the anniversary celebrations with the CA-5 and CA-7 chapters. It was like going back home in visiting with CA-5, since it was there that I first joined WMA back in 1989 as a life member of both National and the chapter. The CA-7 chapter's theme was "Unique Beginnings, Shared Journeys, Together Today" and they had the honor of having BGen Angela Salinas as their guest speaker. She spoke of the importance to recognize the contributions of those women who have come before us, because if not for them we would not have had the same opportunities presented to us in our time in the Corps.

Speaking of opportunities, while in San Diego I attended a recruit graduation and although there were no female recruits out on the parade deck, I could not help but notice that there were three female members of the Marine Corps Band, a female in the color guard, the Reviewing Officer was SgtMaj Barbara Titus-Tention and last but not least, the Commanding General of Marine Corps Recruit Depot was BGen Salinas. And by the way, both the Sergeant Major and the General are life members of WMA.

Please keep me informed on your future activities and I will do my best to make it out to your area.

My next spring fling will be to attend the Marine South Military Exposition (Expo) at Camp Lejeune where the Women of the Corps History Preservation Project's traveling display will be on exhibit. NC-1 Chapter President Joan Cordero, along with Area 3 Director Linda Wolford will help provide support in staffing the display. On 2 May, I will attend the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation's Annual Awards Banquet at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, where the Julia Hamblet Award will be presented to our own Sue Sousa, who has been recognized this year for having done the most to further the recognition of the history of women who have earned the title Marine. Congratulations Sue!

I am always looking for opportunities to travel to our many chapters across the country to not only promote the proud legacy of those women who have served, but to halp build the brid

help build the bridges for those to come. So, please keep me informed on your future activities, and I will do my best to make it out to your area. I already have on my calendar to attend the Area 4's Conference that they are planning later this fall in Michigan. I will also be attending the National Board of Directors Interim Board Meeting (IBM) that will be held in Kansas City, MO, the weekend of 10 and 11 October. Note that this is a correction to what is printed in the new Resource Manual & Directory on page 17, "WMA Calendar of Events". All WMA members are invited to attend the IBM, or you can pass along your ideas and suggestions to your chapter presidents, and or your area directors, so that they can ensure your voices are heard.

Enjoy your spring and let's all get out to support WMA in our local areas.

Semper Fidelis, Rhonda LeBrescu Amtower

1st VP Message: Let's Keep Our Chapters Strong



As we welcome the arrival of spring, it is also a reminder of the busy schedules our WMA members have during this season. We have 78 chapters in WMA based on our shared history of Marine Corps service. As much as we have in common.

each chapter also has a unique personality. Often it is based on geography, but it could be a chapter purpose, or goals of the members. With the current economic challenges, many chapters are finding ways to support their communities. FL-4, Tampa Tarpons, is joining other veteran's organizations in hosting a Job Fair. The LA-1 chapter, Molly Marine, works together in a food bank.

Every year, at this time, chapters are asked to provide a representative to participate in the MCJROTC Recognition and Awards programs. WMA provides an award to each school MCJROTC program for the Outstanding Female MCJROTC Cadet. The schools will contact the chapters or Area Director to provide a WMA representative to present the award. It is one award in the many that are presented during the program, but I encourage each chapter to have a WMA member make the presentation. These awards recognize the hard work of the young cadets; in many cases their lives are transformed by this program. Take the opportunity and be a part of it. Meet their parents and find out why MCJROTC is such a success. Have your photo taken with the Award recipient, the Marine Instructor, and family. Share in the recognition this hard working cadet has earned; be sure to get her name and send the photo to Sondra Metzger for 'Nouncements.

As a veteran's organization, most WMA chapters will participate in Memorial Day

programs. It may be only one or two members, but WMA chapters will be represented at National Cemeteries across the land, as we join other veterans and patriotic citizens in honoring those who have served our country. It is also a time, when we remember our WMA members who have gone to their final duty station.

To all of our chapters and members, who give of their time, to represent WMA, we thank you for putting into action the "Purposes of WMA". Your service in our communities was the goal of this organization. Chapter activities can also be fun like the TX-1 Lone Star Chapter will have at the Blue Bonnet MCL Chili Cook-off in late April. Or, a reminder of days gone by, such as the OH-2 Chesty Puller Chapter Boot Camp Re-Do.

Let's keep our chapters strong. Semper Fidelis!

Judy Anderson

Sousa recipient of 2009 Hamblet Award

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Sue Sousa has been selected as the recipient of the 2009 Julia E. Hamblet Award that was presented at the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) Annual Awards Banquet on May 2, 2009

at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico. The Colonel Julia E. Hamblet Award is named for the longest serving Director of Women Marines. The \$500 award is funded by the Lotus T. Mort Fund which is administered by the MCHF and judged by the Women Marines Association (WMA). It is presented to the person who has done the most to further the

recognition of the history of women who have earned the title Marine.

Sue's nomination was based upon her volunteer effort, outstanding leadership and long term commitment in fulfilling WMA's number one Purpose, "To preserve and promote the history and traditions of women in the Marine Corps from

WWI to the present." I

would like to thank Sue for all her years of dedicated service and support to WMA including serving as our 6th National President from 1974-1976 and as the Convention Coordinator for the 2000 WMA Convention in Washington, DC. Congratulations on being the 4th recipient of this prestigious award joining an elite group of women including Brigadier General Margaret Brewer USMC (Ret), individuals who have contributed significantly to the history and legacy of the Marine Corps. Featured guests at the Awards Banquet included General James Jones Jr. USMC (Ret), National Security Advisor to the President of the United



Sue Sousa with Nancy Wilt after receiving her award.

Eleanor Wilson and Mary Bacon Hale.

The MCHF Annual Awards Dinner was celebrating a "History of Excellence" and was dedicated to honoring very deserving States, and General James Conway, Commandant of the Marine Corps. WMA members in attendance included National President Rhonda Amtower, PNP Lou Teixiera, PNP and award recipient Sue Sousa, National Historian Nancy Wilt, DC-1 Chapter President Betty Moseley Brown, Eileen Scanlon, Mitzi Manning, Leila Jackson, Lynn Giaudrone, Woodson, Ann Ann Crittendon, Sally Pritchard along with special guests Carol Hedleston and Jan and Bob Raven (Sue Sousa's niece and good friends respectively).

Special Note: Sue Sousa donated the \$500 she was awarded to the Women of the Corps History Preservation Project. A very special thanks to Sue for her continued support

• to WMA and to the history of all women who have served as United States Marines.

Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower

Changes of Note

There are changes you need to be aware of listed in this issue.

First, before you send that email to your area director or a national officer, check Page 2. All elected officers (and some appointed/committee chairs) have new email addresses. Instead of using personal email addresses, all officers on the National Board have an address through our website. It means they have one more email address to keep track of, but it also means we don't have to change the address when the officer changes. Consistency is a wonderful thing.

Email addresses that won't be on Page 2 are:

- MFG@womenmarines.org Matching Funds and Grants
- VAVS@womenmarines.org Kay Croll
- info@womenmarines.org Karen Kelly
- scholarship@womenmarines.org Luann Weeks
- · convention@womenmarines.org CO-1 Paula Sarlls

Ernestine Stoll resigned as Area 1 Director, and Dee Garcia volunteered to take her place, as did Debra Drummond when Yinka Perry resigned as Membership Secretary. Bios for both are in this issue.

Because of a change in administrative contractors, WMA has a new address: Women Marines Association, P.O. Box 377, Oaks, PA 19456-0377.

Our presence on the Internet has been spit shined to an inspection oxford shine. If you have a computer, take a moment to check out our re-designed website at www.womenmarines. org. It's pretty snazzy! Even though it was an Electronic Communication Committee project, the credit really goes to Mary Ann Merritt. She put in a lot of time, energy and frustration(!) to get the website where it is today.

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Maj Grieves, Sgt Sherman and Maj Marino on the day of their flight. Photo taken by LtCol James P Edmunds.

President Obama departing Marine One with the crew behind him. Photo courtesy of Associated Press.

Marine One

History was made 16 July when Marine One, the helicopter that takes the President of the United States on short trips, touched down on the White House lawn to pick up President Obama.

For the first time, the entire crew was comprised of female Marines.

The pilot, Maj Jennifer Grieves, was serving her last day in a rotation that made her the first female to pilot Marine One. The all-female crew was done to honor her achievement.

Maj Jennifer Marino, White House Aircraft commander, was designated as the copilot at Maj Grieves' request; Sgt Rachael Sherman rounded out the crew as crew chief.

Maj Grieves reported for duty to HMX-1 in October 2005. She is the second female pilot to ever receive orders to the squadron and is the first female pilot ever to be designated a Marine One helicopter aircraft commander, receiving that designation in May 2008. Since then she has flown former President Bush and President Obama on numerous occasions. Maj Grieves is from Glendale, AZ. Her next tour of duty is at the Command and Staff College at Quantico.

Maj Marino reported to HMX-1 in July 2007. She was the third female pilot to receive orders to the squadron. A native of Palisade, CO, she was designated a White House Aircraft Commander in February 2009 and has another two years remaining in the squadron.

Sgt Rachael Sherman is a native of Traverse City, MI. She reported for duty in October 2005 and was designated a Marine One Crew Chief in July 2009. Sgt Sherman is scheduled to check-out in July 2010.

On this trip, President Obama flew to New Jersey to campaign with Democratic Gov. Jon Corzine, and New York City to address the 100th anniversary convention of the NAACP.

A comment made by CNN sums up the moment: "Maj Grieves, the woman who shattered Marine One's glass rotors."

Information obtained via the Internet from Headquarters Marine Corps, The White House and the Quantico Sentry



Maj Grieves in the pilot seat. Photo courtesy of Getty Images.

<u>Sighting in</u>

Cpl Susy H. Aguilar, machine gunner, Transportation Support Company, Combat Logistics Battalion 7, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), sights in and prepares her .50-caliber machine gun for a test fire at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, April 21. Aguilar extended her contract to the Marine Corps to deploy as a machine gunner. U.S. Marine Corps photo by LCPL Melissa A. Latty.



<u>Goodbye</u>

Another issue and more goodbyes. I did not have the honor of knowing either one of these Marines, but from what I've heard over the years, they were not only outstanding Marines but also outstanding people. We honor Col Hilgart for her contribution to our history, and LtCol Mayer for mentoring and setting the example for so many women Marines.

COL VALERIA HILGART, USMC (RET)

Col Valeria Hilgart, Grafton, WI, reported to her final duty station on 26 February at the young age of 84.

Col Hilgart began her service in the Marine Corps in 1949 and continued to serve until 1985. She actually retired in 1981 after 30 years of commissioned service, but was called back to duty in January 1982 to negotiate a consolidated contract between 22 Marine bases and the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE). By December of 1982 the contract was completed and she was put back on the retired list, officially retiring in 1985.

Col Hilgart almost didn't begin her Marine Corps career. The day she was to ship out to Parris Island, she only weighed 92 lbs, which wasn't enough. It took a waiver of 15 lbs. from HQMC for her to go. She was part of the third class of women recruits to go through Parris Island. After completing six weeks of basic training

LTCOL SHELLEY B MAYER, USMC (RET)

LtCol Shelley Mayer was killed in an accident while riding her motorcycle on 18 April in Vista, CA. She was 59 years old. LtCol Mayer was a careful rider, wearing all the gear she should, including a helmet. She was preparing for her second Run for the Wall cross-country motorcycle ride, with veterans departing from Rancho Cucamonga and ending at the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C., when the accident happened. She was on her Bergman motorcycle and was not at fault.

LtCol Mayer served as both a company and battalion commander. She was one of the first women to serve in Beirut, Lebanon, and was also the first female Marine company officer at the U.S. Naval Academy.

In 1986, she was assigned to attend the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., and was awarded a master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. Mayer was one of the rare individuals, male or female, recommended for early promotion not once, but three times.

and personnel administration school (no, that's not a typo), she headed to HQMC where she worked as a clerk in the records service section and later in the decorations and medals department. In 1951, she attended Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia, and then basic school.

From that time on, her tours of duty took her to Camp Pendleton; Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, as the Commanding Officer of the WM Company; 6th Marine Corps Reserve District at HQMC; El Toro as the CO of the Women Marine Detach-

ment; back to Parris Island as executive officer of the recruit training battalion; and Quantico as the CO of the Women's Officers' School in 1967. There she created and taught a women officers' commanding leadership course. More tours followed to Okinawa, Camp Lejeune and Albany, GA.

When she was promoted to colonel in 1970, she was one of only six female colonels in the Marine Corps. In 1979, she became the first woman Marine to as-



Col Hilgart, circa 1980.

sume the duty as Chief of Staff of a major command (Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, GA).

Retiring in Jacksonville, NC, Col Hilgart gained a reputation of being a generous hostess to the many family and friends who visited her. She was very involved in her church, played mah-jongg every week and made several trips to Ireland. When she moved back to Wisconsin in 2004, she continued volunteering her time. Along with being a life member of WMA and WI-1. she also belonged to the

Rose- Harms American Legion Post and their auxiliary unit. Her sister, Marceline Paulin, is also a member of WMA.

Those who served with her called her a "Marine's Marine...one of the finest".

Col Hilgart was buried on 5 March in St Joseph's Catholic Church Cemetery, Grafton, with full military honors.

Semper Fidelis, Col Hilgart.



Shelley rode this trike from Los Angeles to Washington, DC for the "Rolling Thunder" memorial ride for Vietnam Veterans and POW/MIA's.

LtCol Mayer retired from the Marines in 1991 after 21 years of active duty and moved to Oceanside. She then joined the Los Angeles Police Department, where she became a level three police officer, patrolling the high profile area of West Hollywood. She attained the rank of Corporal.

Mayer was one of the rare individuals, male or female, recommended for early promotion not once, but three times.

Following her time with the LAPD, she pursued her concern for veterans and service members everywhere by joining the Patriot Guard. She and her fellow motorcyclists escorted and accompanied returning veterans who died in service to their country. She took great pride in the informal group of veterans who escort the bodies of fallen soldiers to the mortuary, church or funeral home.

She was passionate in everything she did from the Marine Corps to golfing (with a very low handicap) to her Harley Davidson.

It has been said that Shelley Mayer was a woman who never ceased to amaze the people around her, not only breaking new ground, but excelling at every turn. Family and friends describe her as an extremely gregarious, loving woman who was fiercely loyal. Some of the entries in her guestbook reflect that:

"Shelley Mayer was an inspiration and the epitome of what a Marine should be. She was my role model for what a Woman Marine Officer should be."

"LtCol Mayer was an inspiration to everyone that knew her. She was the epitome of a Marine leader and she brought out the best in everyone. She was the Marine that we all wanted to emulate."

"The Colonel was the epitome of Marines. Just an awesome leader. Her caring and balanced outlook on all things will continue to guide us."

"Shelley set the standard we all strived to emulate. Conscientious, patriotic, animated, fearless, adventurous and yet so giving and loving."

"Her tough but fair attitude combined with her leadership, professionalism, and sincere empathy quickly won us over and made her a model to emulate during my 21 year career in the Navy."

LtCol Shelley Mayer will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery, where her Marine father was laid to rest in 2008.

Semper Fidelis, LtCol Mayer.

Taps

LIFE MEMBERS:

BURKE, VIRLA, Died March 09, 2009 #351 CA CAVETT, DORCAS, Died Sept. 08, 2007 #2107 NE COOK, MURIEL, Died Oct. 05, 2005 #1072 CA GALLAGHER, NORMA JEANNE, Died Jan. 2009 Life Member #1511 CA HILGART, VALERIA, Died Feb. 26, 2009 #670 WI KENYON, MARYELLEN, Died March 10, 2009 #282 TX LEACH, FLORENCE, Died April 03, 2009 #878 CA MCLAUGHLIN, ELIZABETH, #345 NJ MORRISON, ROSEMARY, Died Feb. 22, 2009 #657 NV NOGGLE, GLENDA, Died March 09, 2009 Life Member #1930 MO O'CONNOR, MARGARET, Died 2007 #1211 CA REEVES, KAY, Died Nov. 22, 2008 #1205 CA

TERM MEMBERS:

BANKS GEORGINA, Died March 02, 2009 WI MESINOFF, DAPHNE, Died March 11, 2009 NJ NOLIN, VELDA, Died Dec. 12, 2008 CA

Chapter Tool Kit

As we wrap up the first quarter of the year, it is an opportunity to take inventory of chapter activities for the quarter. These activities include the WMA National Treasurer, WMA Business Administrator, Area Directors and Chapter officers. With the addition of the E-Postcard, there has been some confusion about the need to provide the WMA Group Exemption Inclusion; it DOES need to be done by ALL chapters. Most of the chapters quickly provide this information. Please help your hard working WMA officers with a fast turn around.

First, each chapter needs to file the IRS Form 990 N (E-Postcard) if they have annual revenues of less than \$25,000.00; any chapter with annual revenues of \$25,000.00 or more must file an IRS form 990 or 990EZ. WMA Treasurer will advise. Any qualifying chapter not filing the IRS Form 990 N (E-Postcard) should coordinate with the WMA Administrative Services to get the post card filed.

The WMA Treasurer and Area Directors will coordinate the WMA Group Exemptions. The Area Director will be responsible for distributing the Annual Authorization Form for Group Exemption Inclusion. The AD will send the 3 copies of the form and a letter to every chapter Treasurer. The form is to verify the chapter information, chapter Treasurer, and the chapter EIN. Chapter Treasurers should keep a copy of this form. They should return the forms with any corrections to the Area Director. The AD will keep a duplicate copy for each chapter for her records. All original forms should be returned to the WMA National Treasurer by the AD.

If any chapter officers change at any time, please advise the AD with the contact information. The AD will then provide that information to the Membership Secretary and the WMA Administrative Support.

Finally, I would like to recognize all of the chapter and Area Directors who are preparing newsletters. It should be a goal to keep all of the members informed about the chapter and area activities. With all of the events happening in the Marine and Veteran community it is difficult to keep up with all of the news. I encourage all of you to make sure your members and chapters are informed. Please, be sure to add me to any newsletters and please add the Area Director to any chapter newsletter. Thanks for your assistance.

Judy Anderson

Introducing...



Debra Drummond

Membership Secretary: Debra Drummond is an associate broker with RE/MAX in Plymouth, MI. Born and raised in North Dakota, she first joined the Army Reserve Evac Hospital unit and served nearly 20 months rising to Specialist 4 before enlisting for active duty with the Marine Corps in 1976.

After boot camp, Debra attended Military Police school at Ft. McClellan, AL and was assigned to the Provost Marshall's Office at Camp Pendleton. Debra was one of the original team members who

started the Military Police Community Relations Program. She conducted Bicycle Safety seminars, gave "Stranger Danger" presentations, and visited base schools as 'Officer Friendly'. Debra was honorably discharged from active duty with the rank of sergeant after four years.

While completing her Associate's Degree, Debra joined the Air Force Reserve at Norton AFB loading C-130 cargo planes. Debra enjoyed her two years of Air Force service, but left to marry and raise a family. Debra and her family relocated from California to Michigan in 2000 where she joined MI-2 Motor City Chapter in June of 2007. Debra and her husband Dan live in Livonia and just celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Their daughter Daisy lives nearby with her partner Nicki, two grand-dogs and a grandkitty.

With a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from California State University, Fullerton and corporate experience working with some of the largest corporations such as Rockwell International, SAIC, and Hewlett-Packard, Debra has solid business experience as well as an innate curiosity to learn the latest and greatest tech tool. She implemented WMA's internet presence on Facebook and is WMA's resident "tweep" on Twitter. Her duties with WMA also include answering email that comes in to the WMA general mailbox.

Besides being an active realtor and an independent consultant for Rodan Fields Dermatologist, Debra is also the adjutant for the Northwest Detachment 16, MCL, and a marketing trustee on the Southeast Michigan Veterans Stand Down Board of Directors. Her motto is "Dedicated to a lifetime of service...to my Clients, Community, Corps, and Country!"

Welcome aboard, Debra! And since location is everything, her information can also be found on Page 2 of this issue.

Area 1 Director: Dolores (Dee) Garcia was born on 6 February 1959 in Lajunta, CO. She was the oldest of seven siblings, and was raised in Buffalo, NY. After graduating high school from Mount Mercy Academy, Dee attended Buffalo State University and Villa Maria College, majoring in Art and Design.

After graduating from boot camp in February 1984, Dee went to Motor Transport School at Camp Geiger in April 1984, and was assigned to the 9th Motor Transport, 2nd FSSG, and Base Motor Transport, Camp Butler, Okinawa, Japan as a dispatcher. She was



Dolores (Dee) Garcia

meritoriously promoted to Corporal and received Meritorious Masts for NCO of the Month and NCO of the Quarter. This was only the beginning of a long "adventure" that some of us call a "career", which included more tours in Okinawa, also at Camp Lejeune and Quantico. After graduating from recruiter school at San Diego, Dee served as a recruiter in several east coast cities.

During her time in the Corps, now retired GySgt Garcia racked up several meritorious promotions, four Certificate of Commendations, three Meritorious Masts, six Letters of Appreciation, two Navy & Marine Corps Commendation medals and four Navy Achievement medals. That's right...FOUR. All that along with National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with three bronze stars, Marine Corps Recruiting Ribbon with bronze star and Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal with silver star.

Dee currently works for the Vietnam Veterans of America in downtown Buffalo, NY as the Chief Service Officer. She is also accredited as a Service Officer for United Spinal. Her memberships include the Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 77; Marine Corps Association; Women Marines Association; Veterans of Modern Welfare; and Life Member for the Disabled American Veterans.

Welcome aboard, Dee! Look for her contact information on Page 2 of this issue.



Veterans Affairs Volunteer Service (VAVS) Primary Representative: Kay Croll's home was in Houston when she joined the Marine Corps to see the world. She attended OCS at Quantico in the summer of 1961, and served on activity duty from 1962 to 1969. Her tours of duty were Quantico, Camp Lejeune (1962-1965), Quantico (1965-1968) and HQMC (1968-1969). She was married in 1966 at the

air station chapel. Two years after her discharge, her husband Bob was transferred to Quantico where they lived until his retirement in 1974. They then moved to West Chester, PA where they live now. They have two children, a son living in San Diego, and a daughter who lives in Springfield, VA with her husband and two children. They were both born in Bethesda Naval Hospital while her husband was stationed at HQMC.

Kay was a WMA member-at-large for many years until she joined the Liberty Belles, PA-2 and helped write their by-laws. She has been active with the Marine Corps League at all levels, and is currently National Credential Chairman, and a member of Chester County Detachment. She has been helping the Department of PA, MCL and MCL National VAVS Chair Pat Cody with their paperwork for several years so she was familiar with the VAVS programs.

Her goal for this program is to improve our participation both as volunteers at the VA Hospitals, and as members of the VAVS committees at each hospital where we have volunteers. For those of you who volunteer at local or state veterans facilities, we want to know about your service also. Please report your hours on the quarterly and annual form found on the WMA website.

What's New in History

In the last issue of '*Nouncements* I asked for info on a number of women who were commissioned into the Corps before the 13 February news announcement. WOW, what a response we had. Beatrice (BEA) Lillico Sheptard of NC -2 called and told a fascinating story.

Beatrice and WWI Marine Helen O'Neill in 1942 were both secretary/administrators in the office of Secretary of the Navy Knox working with John O'Neill (individual responsible for battleship production). Mr O'Neill was a dollar a year man. Retired as CEO of Bethlehem Steel, Mr. O'Neill helped the war effort by getting ship production accomplished and received \$1.00 per year for his service.

In January 1943 Helen O'Neill received a call from the Marine Corps asking if she'd accept a commission and serve as deputy to the future director of the USMCWR. Helen didn't hesitate and joined immediately. It wasn't long before Helen called Bea and Bea was off to boot camp. Upon Bea's graduation she reported back to DC to the office of the Director, then Major Streeter. Bea has vivid memories of being interviewed on her experience at boot camp by then Captain O'Neill when she reported into Headquarters after mess duty at Henderson Hall. Bea was asked to take a temporary assignment with the DC recruiters and stayed with them six months making sergeant for her efforts. Bea then returned to Colonel Streeter's office. A busy and fascinating section to work in at Headquarters Marine Corps.

In early 1945 talk of dissolving the USMCWR at the end of the war led to lots of discussion as to when the Director's office would close and Col Streeter would leave active duty. Bea was asked by then Major O'Neill if she had an office she might like to join. Bea indicated Public Affairs and the transfer was underway.

When Bea reported to her new assignment, she worked with Captain Louise Stewart, another of our missing originals. Louise Stewart was asked to join the USMCWR in January 1943 because of her news/press background. A natural beauty, she appeared on multiple magazine covers and in many press stories in addition to getting out the word on recruiting and the new WRs.

So from one phone call we learned more about two original early WWII Marines.

Also learned from the call is that:

- Helen O'Neill was indeed a PFC in WWI and one of the first women civil servants in our government at the end of WWI. She never married and lived with a "spinster" sister in either Alexandria or Arlington, VA.

-Louise Stewart left the Marine Corps as a Captain; she ended up an editor for Variety Magazine in NY City and had red hair. Please send more information on our Originals from WWII.

While speaking with WMA's Ernestine Stowell during a phone conversation about Bea's story and the \$1.00 a year men who worked for our government, it turned out Ernestine knew all about them since her father was one of them.

One thing about our history is that it never stops growing. Two more collections have arrived and are waiting processing into the collection.

The Historian (me) took three weeks off in March-April for a Texas trip for some family time and some WMA history business as well.

I attended the West Texas Wounded Warrior Dinner in Kerrville and had a great time with five of the seven attending wounded warriors sitting at our table. I met many of the Purple Heart Society and they presented our collection with their official dress tie to honor our women wounded in the War on Terror. An exciting evening that raised funds for programs and items needed by our Wounded Warriors.

I was then joined by Sara Phoenix, deputy historian, for a week. She and I made a visit to the National

Museum of the Pacific War. It is a fantastic museum that covers all services and their efforts in WWII in

the Pacific. Our main purpose was to meet with the new director of the museum, former Commandant

Michael Hagee. The general was very gracious in meeting with us and in hoping that our collection and their museum can work together on some upcoming displays. We then spent a few hours with the curators

and event planners of the museum for a most successful visit. The museum is located in Fredricksburg

and is well worth seeing. It is a growing museum and as such offers new adventures with each visit.

General Hagee is a native son of Fredricksburg and the community is thrilled to have him back.

I am currently working with a Marine unit at Lejeune that would like to do a Headquarters Lobby on

the Women of the Corps and their history on the base. I'll keep you posted.

I will be in Washington DC-Quantico the weekend of 2-3 May for the Marine Corps Heritage

Foundation Dinner and the presentation of the 2009 Hamblet Award to Theresa "Sue" Sousa.

Congratulations, Sue.

Nancy Wilt WMA Historian Chair of the History Committee



A Chance to Own WMA and Marine History

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"Women Marines Association" Vol.1, "A Pictorial History, "Women Marines Association", Vol. 2 and "Women Marines Association", Vol. 3 represent a walk through our illustrious history.

Women Marines bring this history to life with their uniquely individual recollections of our Corps. Stories of events, assignments, and friends are all shared so we can better appreciate our "roots".

Mary Bacon Hale did a superb job in getting our history in a format that can be handed down thru the generations. We all owe Mary a debt of gratitude for her selfless work on this project. It is a must have for all women Marines and is a great gift idea.

A limited number of 3-volume sets are now available for purchase from WMA National Merchandise Sales. Order soon so you too can read about, The Fewer, The Prouder, The Women Marines!! When they are gone, they are gone forever. Get your complete set here.

A complete set of 3 volumes are offered at just \$40.00 plus \$10.00 shipping and handling. Please send your \$50.00 check made out to: WMA, c/o America Dones, Nat'l Sales Chairperson, 6506 Carrington Sky Drive, Apollo Beach, Florida 33572.

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Guide Dogs of the Desert

In April, WMA Life Member Ruth Shumaker of AZ-2, Saguaro Chapter graduated from the Guide Dogs of the Desert with her new "friend" Pearl, a beautiful yellow Lab. Ruth's eyesight has been failing for many years and is now to the point she is in need of fourlegged, furry help.

The school is located in Whitewater, CA just outside of Palm Springs. It is a 501 (c) 3 organization supported primarily by donations. Ruth's dog was donated by the Survivors of Pearl Harbor and members of the crew of the USS Pearl Harbor. The dog was raised by a wonderful family from Running Springs, CA. The ceremony graduated seven veterans and was the first such class to do so.

I wasn't sure June Dempsey and I could attend so I contacted Denne Howard. She gathered members of CA-29 Palms to show support for Ruth. We made it after all, as did the following from CA 29: Elaine Bowden, Dorothee Irwin, Holly Siva, and Denne.

The web site for the school is www.GuideDogsoftheDesert.org. *Jeanne Botwright*

Membership Update

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Missing In Action Missing In Action Missing In Action

The members listed below seem to be missing! Their WMA mail is being returned to us without a forwarding address. If you see anyone you know, please tell them we're looking for them or tell us where they are by sending mail to our PO Box or email to: **WMA-admin@abmservices.com**. Please include their address if possible.

Last Name	First Name	<u>e, M.I.</u>	Last Name	First Name	<u>, M.I.</u>	Last Name First	t Name, M.I.	
ALBRECHT	VIRGINIA	E	CUMMINGS	EILEEN	М	HARTMAN	BERNICE L	
ALDRICH	PEARL		CURTIS	MARJORIE		HEALY	EILEEN V	
ALLEN	CAROLYN		DANIELS	DORIS	A	HEINEN	STARRLEEN	J
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BRODERSEN	HEATHER	JO	GROSS	MARY	E	LUCERO	BARBARA	
BROSHOT	MADELINE	E	GULKO	ANNA		LUCID	EVA D	
BROWN	JULIE	A	GUNN	PRISCILLA	Α	MAENNER	CHARLOTTE	Е
BROWN	LORETTA	J	HAGER	KYNA	Ν	MANN	LOLA G	
BROWN	SKEETER	JO	HALLA	VIRGINIA	E	MARTINEAU	DIANE L	
BUTLER	TERESA	L	HALLADAY	FLORENCE	EVELYN	MATTHEWS	RENEE L	
BUZAN	PAULINE	S	HAMILTON	EVELYN	В	MCBIRNEY	HELEN S	
CAMPBELL	MARY	E	HAMMOCK	JOSEPHINE	D	MCGILLICUDDY	SHEELA	
CARPENTER	ELEANOR	F	HANSEN	CARYL	J	MCNEIL	SUSAN C	
CRIPANUK	JANET	MARIA	HARKABUS	ADALINE	R	MEACHEM	MILDREDR	
CUFFMAN	MERRILLYNN	R	HARRIS	JUNE	В	MENDOZA	KATHLEEN M	

Missing In Action Missing In Action Missing In Action Missing In Action

Last Name	First Nam	<u>ne, M.I.</u>		Last Name	First Name	<u>e, M.I.</u>	Last Name	First Name	e, M.I.
MERRITT	ELLIE	LENORA		PRENTICE	CATHERINE	Н	SMITH	MARJORY	А
MILLS	MYRTLE	В		REESE	MARGARET	Μ	SMITH	VENETTE	Μ
MITCHELL	Mary (Mauf	REEN)	E	REICHERT	JACQUELINE	G	SPRAGUE	GERTRUDE	
MOBLEY	BRENDA	В		REYES	BRENDA	E	SWEENEY	STELLA	
MULCAHY	PATRICIA	А		REYES	ROSANNA		SWIFT	STEPHANIE	JUNETTE
NAUGLE	CHRISTINE	J		RIEBE	LELA	A	TIPPETT	ELLEN	"TRISH"
NEIL	MARIETTA	R		ROBB	JERRY	L	TOSDAL	JEAN	J
NOTHELFER	JENIFER	E		RONCK	JOY	V	VARNER	SHEILA	Μ
O'NEIL	LYNN	Μ		ROONEY	EILEEN		WACLAWSKI	ESTHER	D
OVERLAND	MADELINE	F		ROTH	MARGARET	F	WARNER	MURIEL	
PATINO	MESSALINA	L		SAMPSEL	LAURA	J	WATSON	LEAH	В
PELTIER	BARBARA	А		SCHEETZ	LORRAINE	A	WEBER	NORA	А
PELTOSALO	LAVINIA	L		SEIBEL	NINA	E	WELLS	DORIS	R
PENDERGAST	MARIA	С		SEIBERT	MARION	0	WERNER	MARGUERITE	A
PEOPLES	LAURA	J		SEWELL	BETTY	R	WESLEY-WALKER	ALVINICE	
PESONEN	LONE	Μ		SEYMOUR	BETTY	1	WESTON	PENNY	Н
PETERSON	AGNES	Т		SHEEHAN	CATHERINE	R	WHEELER	DOROTHY	L
PETERSON	RACHAEL	NADINE		SIMPSON	ANNE	В	WHITE	MAGGIE	MAE
PFISTER	JESSICA	Μ		SIMPSON	MARGARET	Μ	WILSON	ELLEN	FRANCELLA
PHILLIPS	MISTY	D		SMITH	ALYCE	Μ	WOOD	NANCY	R
POWELL	LOVEY	G		SMITH	GRACE	G	WOOLGER	LAURA	Н
POWERS	VICKI	J		SMITH	LU	V	WRIGHT	KELLEY	А
PRENTICE	CATHERINE	Н							

Resource Manual and Directory Corrections

Page 14, 2nd paragraph, the phone number should be 888-525-1943.

Page 17, Capital Fund Review Board, add Lucille "Lou" Teixeira as a member. Thank you, Lou, for volunteering to serve on this board.

Page 17, Calendar of Events - WMA Interim Board Meeting is in Kansas City, MO

Molly Marine Award Recipients

25 March, Oscar Company: Pvt Megan Kusche, Plt 4008, of Oak Ridge, NC (right); PFC Isabel Martinez, Plt 4009, of Fresno, CA (left)



May 20, Oscar Company: Pvt America Medina, Plt 4014, of Norfolk, VA (left); PFC Rina Valientebarrientos, Plt 4015, of Lawndale, CA (right)



Molly Marine Award Recipients



June 3, Papa Company: PFC Amber Fenton, Plt 4016 of Beaufort, SC; PFC Catriona Patterson, Plt 4017, of Springfield, OR



June 17: Pvt Tana Hamm, Plt 4018, of Crossett, AZ; PFC Latrina Phillips, Plt 4019, of Houston, TX

WMA Bulletin Board

In Marine Corps basic training, I soon learned that everything we recruits used actually belonged to our drill instructor. For instance, she referred to the stuff in our footlockers as "my trash," and to the racks we slept in as "my racks." One time when we were all whispering in the bathroom while making "head calls," our drill instructor must have overheard us. To our surprise, she suddenly yelled, "Why do I hear voices in my head?!"

-- Kathy Vandenbrink ★★★

Past National President Carol Mutter was nominated to receive the Service to Country Award by the Indiana Women's History Association. Factors that were considered for her nomination were:

The Nominee has made an important and noticeable contribution to her community, state or industry by: making such a contribution under challenging circumstances; setting an example for other Hoosier women and families to affect change for the better; and leading the way to making Indiana a better place in which to live, work, and raise a family by removing social/economic/equality barriers.

Congratulations Carol!

Our own Tanya Queiro (NC-1) was selected as the Military Spouse of the Year by Military Spouse Magazine.

Tanya is a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) New Leader Program graduate, an active Civilian Career Leadership Development participant and mentor, American Military University Career

Mentor and Operation Noble Heart volunteer. She has also volunteered as a Lifestyle Insight, Networking, Knowledge, and Skills (LINKS) mentor, Onslow County Women's Shelter Victim Ad-

vocate and Key Volunteer.

As a life-time member of the Womens Marine Association, Tanya is dedicated to cementing the bond and camaraderie shared by those who have gone through the training to become a U.S. Marine.

Tanya Queiro, Miltary Spouse of the Year, with husband Jose.

Additionally, Tanya is currently pursuing a doctorate degree in organization and management, has received numerous professional awards, and has been a distinguished speaker for several organizations

and agencies.

Tanya served as an active duty Marine for more than 12 years and she effectively planned and executed a myriad of mission sets ranging from deployments, raising three children and obtaining her bachelor's and master's degrees. It was during her active duty tenure that Tanya

met and married her husband, Jose. Congratulations Tanya!

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To the Loyal Escorts

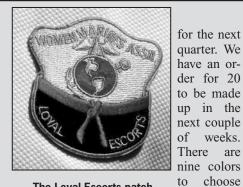


Fellow Escorts,

About our request for the 501(c)(3): the IRS has responded to let us know they are in possession of our paperwork and will get back to us. It takes about three or four months to process. Then they will inform

us of their decision.

For some time now people have been asking why we do not have a Loyal Escort shirt. We do have the patch available in the merchandise section located in the last pages of this issue. Now we are developing a polo shirt with the Loyal Escort logo embroidered on it. Ordering will be done by mail to a specific business here in California. To start, I will take care of the ordering



The Loyal Escorts patch.

estimate with postage going up in May, it will take about \$4 to mail back to you. The shirt with the embroidery will be about \$27.00. If you have any questions, call or email me.

from.

We

When Jeanne Cantrell resigned as Loyal Escort Treasurer/Secretary she sent me 84 lbs of Loyal Escort archives from 1972 to present. It took me and my helper about three months to organize and shorten up the information and re-box it for storage. As a result of this reorganization I have called quite a few of you trying to get more information. It was a pleasure to talk with as many of you as I did.

I think we are really up to date on a number of individual tasks. If you have any questions or something I can help you with, please don't hesitate to contact me.

OORAH!

Ken Cross

A POSTSCRIPT: 501(C) (3) STATUS

P.S.: This was written before official word came in... I am extremely pleased to tell all of you that we the Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter, as of 9 July 2009, are officially a 501(c) (3) organization according to the Internal Revenue Code. Effective Date of Exemption is 14 January 2009! More on this in the summer issue.

Ken

Application for membership in Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter

THE AUXILIARY OF THE WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION

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

Make checks payab C Loyal Escorts of th	□ 41 to 45\$ □ 46 to 60\$ BE SPONSORED BY A Wi ble to Loyal Escorts of th Charles Ables, Secretary an	MA MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING The Green Garter and mail to:	
(Please Print) Name			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle Initial)	
Address			
	(Street)		
City and State with Zip Code			
Telephone with area code: (winter)		(summer)	
E-mail address	_ Contact in case of eme	rgency with address and phone	
Address:		Phone:	
(Street)	(City)	(State)	
DOB:	S:	SN:	
Day/Month/Year		(necessary for machine accounting)	
Sponsor's Name:		Sponsor's Chapter Code:	
(Last)		MI	
Enclosed Amount of Dues \$ Dues include 'Nouncements if not already □ 2 Years\$25.00		n your sponsor? Yes No	
Signature:		Date:	
Nouncements	16	Vol.	2 • 200

2010 - A Walk Through Time

CO-1 has been busy planning your 2010 convention and making headway on your behalf. The hotel is secured and you may begin making reservations as of today at the Grand Hyatt in Denver 303-295-1234. If you require a handicapped room or an executive suite, you must call me once the reservation has been made. I will personally be allocating those rooms and they are all assigned to the convention committee. Call me at 303-766-9023 after you've reserved a regular rate room with the hotel. If you want a handicapped or executive suite you *MUST* register early.

Registration for the convention itself will begin with the fall issue of *Nouncements*. We have some *very* exciting events planned including:

- Tun Tavern for drinks in the hotel;
- The "Mile High Market" for chapters to sell their wares;
- Workshops, including **"Personal Success"** by Capt Vernice Armour, USMC, and others that the USMC will help us develop;
- A **hospitality suite** like none other decorated by the Rocky Mountain USO at DIA (*including a night of comedy, one of dancing, and one of music*);
- **First timers meeting** hosted by active duty women and coordinated by SgtMaj Barbara Titus, USMC (Ret), and Tanya Queiro from Camp Lejeune;
- The Awards Banquet will be a high tea that will include a hat contest (so ladies, pull out those old hats and let's see what you can do with them!); and
- We'll also have the largest history exhibit ever that will be open to the public (we're all working very hard on that, too).

LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE IDEAS OR WANT TO HELP IN SOME WAY!

For **door prizes** that chapters normally send in, we are changing the format. In light of the financial times, and other factors, we are asking chapters to send a cash donation of at least \$10 and more if you can afford it. This will help members defray the cost of the convention and will make it easy to carry the prizes back with you. It will also give members money to spend at the Mile High Market! What we would like you to do is use a home made or fancy envelope with something of yourselves on it. It'll be fun to see what you develop for this project.

We will be working with the Quilts of Valor Foundation to perhaps have a quilt present that we will all sign for the Wounded Warriors as part of the convention, too.

WMA began in Denver and we are working very diligently to make this Golden Anniversary of WMA an event to remember. We hope you will each be planning to attend this very special **Convention and Professional Development Seminar**.

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Paula Sarlls, Convention Coordinating Chair Immediate Past President President, CO-1 Email: paulasarlls@comcast.net

Chapter Clippings

CA-4 North Central California

Greetings from CA-4!

"Taps" sounded in November for Mable Bole, one of our most loyal Marines. She is buried in the veterans' cemetery in Dixon. She was a charter member of CA-4 and also was our chapter president from 1976-1978. We miss her dearly.

Since August of 2008, our group has not been very active. One of our major events in December was our Christmas party. It was a huge success with about seventeen people in attendance. Unfortunately, we have been plagued with a great deal of health issues. Our vice president, Jeanne Bartelt, is down and out with a broken shoulder. Our treasurer, Delphine Baeta, has been in and out of the VA Hospital at Mather Field. I myself have Parkinson's and it is slowly advancing. In fact, because of these problems, we have thought about becoming inactive. However, we will plan at least two events a year to maintain communication with our members to keep them updated.

We may have a small group of members, but we are committed to always being loyal and true Marines. Although we have indicated that our group could be considered inactive, we are still focusing on trying to attract new members into CA-4. Where are you?

Lois Wilson (Editor's note: Since this was submitted, CA-4 has surrendered their charter and Delphine Baeta passed away.)



This has been a very sad time for us in CA-8. Our vice president Edith Ynacay passed away 11 April after a somewhat lengthy illness. Many may remember her from past national conventions where she and husband Bob were attendees, the most recent being Houston. Edith and I were friends and served together at Camp Smith Hawaii when we were both fresh faced kids. Edith held a number of offices in CA-8 and was editor of the CA-8 newsletter. She loved the conventions and was talking about Denver. She will be missed. Our chapter will send \$50 to National in her honor.

We also lost another WWII member, Kathryn Walseth, who joined CA-8 in 1991 and served as vice president of the chapter in the past. She was buried with full honors at the Riverside National Cemetery. A \$50 donation was sent to National in her honor as well.



Johnetta Williams cuts the anniversary cake.

CA-8 is happy to be meeting again at what used to be Millie's Restaurant in Moreno Valley; it is now Brandon's Diner. It is centrally located as we have members from Palm Springs, Sun City, Ontario, Riverside and Phelan so it's good to be back.

Attending our February meeting were 14 members including our newest, Johnetta Williams, whom we would like to welcome aboard, three Loyal Escorts and four guests. Our special guest was Area 10 Director Lillian Cross and her brother Dennis Kovatz. Lillian brought all three volumes of the Women Marines Association books which created a lot of excitement. In fact, Lillian had to postpone the rest of her brief because the chapter was so focused on the books. She asked our members to sign her book if they were in it.

Rosemary, our president, brought in a cake celebrating our 66th anniversary. It depicted a woman Marine and was not only beautiful, but exceptionally good. Johnetta Williams had the honor of cutting the cake.

We ended the meeting with a silent auction. A number of WM knickknacks were donated by the late Jane Wallis via Lou Teixeira. As you know, Lou has moved to Springfield, VA. We miss her and hope she will still visit.

Semper Fidelis.

Sybl Acree



Way back last October, CA-15 members Nonie Lann and Joan Vitale had the honor of meeting Wilma L. Vaught, Brigadier General, USAF, Retired.



Nonie and Joan with BGen Vaught.

General Vaught was the main speaker at a DAR tea honoring all women veterans. Her talk was a stimulating presentation of the past, present and future of women in the service of our country. She told us she brought a supply of CD's titled "Called to Serve - A History of America's Military Women." We bought one to share with our members and found it very well done.

The tea was held at the Veterans Hospital in Sepulveda where CA-15 continues to provide useful gifts to hospitalized veterans.

Joan Vitale





ly met at member Sherri Bevan's home in Yucca Valley, welcoming special guests SgtMaj Susan Bellis, first female SgtMaj of the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat

CA-29 recent-

The chapter with SgtMaj Bellis.

Center, and Area Director 10 Lillian Cross. In addition, we were very pleased to welcome our very first Loyal Escort Isaiah Harrison who at the age of 7, we believe may be the youngest Loyal Escort in WMA.

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This desert chapter has had a very busy spring schedule with members participating at the graduation ceremony of the Guide Dogs of the Desert graduation in Palm Springs in which seven veterans (to include former WWII and retired MSgt Ruth Schumaker) received their guide dogs.

Isaiah Harrison

the outstanding female cadet with a \$100 savings bond.

Denne Howard represented the group at the Marine Corps JROTC awards ceremony where she presented

The chapter will be represented by Dorothy Angil and Elaine Bowden at the Memorial Day ceremony, laying a wreath in honor of all women Marines who have died in the service of their country.

Elaine Bowden



A few of us met at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant at Brandon on 14 February for our 66th anniversary.

To keep in touch with all members, we will continue our quarterly newsletter "TAMPA TATTLER".

Donations of clothes and miscellaneous items are made to our Project "The Spring" (for abused women & children) as often as collected.

Laverne Myers



The Molly Marine Chapter had yet another busy quarter, filled with fun and camaraderie. On 30 January, the Marine Support Group of Greater New Orleans Inc. had their first luncheon/meeting of the year. The turnout was grand! The Marine Forces Reserve Chief of Staff, Col James D. Turlip, made remarks regarding the state of the Marine Corps Reserve and upcoming BRAC of the Mobilization Command in Kansas City. Tulane University MCROTC cadets, city officials, retirees and Molly Marine Chapter LA-1 members attended the luncheon. Chapter members in attendance were Frances Hoffmann, Georgia Hildebrandt, Mary Draughn and Melanie Young.

The Chapter had a wonderful celebration on 11 February. We celebrated the 66th Anniversary of Women Marines in the Theater at Marine Forces Reserve in New Orleans at the Naval Support Activity. The event was a huge success with numerous attendees. We had several distinguished guests and visitors. Guest speakers for the celebration were LtGen Jack Bergman, Commander, Marine Forces Reserve; Amber Burch representing Sen David Vitter with a DVD greeting from the Senator; Frances Hoffmann, chapter member and WWII veteran and GySgt Juanshawnta Johnson, active duty. A reception immediately followed the celebration.

New Orleans is known for holding festive and exciting Mardi Gras events each year! On 19 February we had the pleasure of rolling with the Krewe of Muses Mardi Gras Parade in New Orleans. Members that rolled with the Krewe are in the photograph, starting with back row: CWO3 Allison Truelove, Melanie Young, CWO3 Pamela Cleary, Sgt Gwen Sorrell, Sgt Nichole Phares, Cpl Corina Quesada, April Bell, Capt Ann Bernard, MGySgt Delores Romero, Capt Jennifer Fredericksen, W1 Jamila Moore, CW05 Patricia Huttinger, Angela Merrell, SSgt Julia Edwards, Cpl Jessica Johnson and Mary Draughn.



following day, several members rolled with the Krewe of Selene Mardi Gras Parade in Slidell. Members that rolled with the Krewe of Selene were Georgia Hildebrandt, Linda Dixon, April Bell, Sgt Nichole Phares, Sgt Gwen Sorrell, Mary Draughn and Melanie Young.

Meetings are now held on odd numbered months. We had our March meeting on 14 March at Ryan's Restaurant in Slidell hosted by Mary Draughn. Angela Merrell, vice president, presided over the meeting. The turnout was great! Two new members were in attendance and one visitor from Mississippi. Numerous new projects were discussed, with the focus being on community service and volunteerism.

The Marine Support Group of Greater New Orleans Inc. kicked off another luncheon on 27 March at Zea's Restaurant in New Orleans. Guest speakers for the event were MajGen Mize, Col Neeley and Col Ebbert. All members in attendance enjoyed the delicious food, guest speakers and the camaraderie. Chapter members that attended this fine luncheon were Sgt Nichole Phares, Cpl Jonsheique Vaughn, LCpl Mary Staes and Melanie Young.

We wrapped up this quarter with the Crescent City Classic, a 10K run/walk on 11 April in New Orleans. Several chapter members participated: Angela Merrell, CWO2 Allison Truelove, Linda Dixon, GySgt Benisa Lucas and Cpl Jonsheique Vaughn.

Melanie L. Young

MN-1 Minnesota Leathernecks



Liz Whitbeck, Mary McGee, Carol Isnardi, Dianne Cupples and Gayle Herseth at our Anniversary Luncheon held at The Club at Ft Snelling in Minneapolis. In spite of the snow, we had over 25 in attendance and had a great time at our anniversary luncheon.

We continue to hold meetings every other month and also try to show up at various special events - a few just had dinner with the Commanding General of the 1st Marine Division, and there will be a Memorial Day Parade at Ft Snelling, to name just a few. We still talk about the Houston Convention and the

the Houston Convention and the wonderful time we all had in spite of a few down days of not feeling very well.

Our Chapter remains determined to bring in new members and always remember those we don't hear from as often as we'd like.

WMA NC-1 Tarheel



After many years of dedicated service to the Marine Corps, women Marines, past and present, were recently honored with a North Carolina Highway Historical Marker. To commemorate its significance, the Tarheel Chapter organized a dedication ceremony on 13 February at the Camp Lejeune Staff NCO Club. Attributed directly to the tenacity and efforts of the late Mary Sabourin (former chapter president) and historian Lynn Kimball, the North Carolina Office of Archives and History approved the marker in late 2008. The marker

not only gives women Marines recognition of their achievements during WWII, but is a venue for education on how women began their role and journey in the Corps so many years ago.

Local members also recently hosted a Sexual Assault PME for active duty members and look forward to participating in local Women's History Month observances in March, as well as the Azalea Festival and Marine Expo in April. Check our new website for upcoming events: http://wmancchapter1.weebly. com.

Tanya Queiro

OK-2 Heartland

Golly! Where does the time go! It seems like I just finished Chapter Clippings for the winter issue and here it is, time for the next episode!

The tornado outbreak that hit on 10 February barely missed Pam Bloustine's home in far north Edmond, hitting the Oak Tree addition just across the street where several large homes were badly damaged and the well known Oak Tree Golf and Country Club sustained a few bruises. None of our members were impacted by the wild fires that hit Oklahoma on 19 April.

We held our February anniversary gala on 15 February at Brenda Blair's home, and Joan Willauer brought new member Lynn Rosner to the meeting. Welcome, Lynn! Our secretaryelect, Jenny Storm, was on duty with her unit in Hawaii and was obviously unable to attend. We installed our new officers with the usual pomp and ceremony conducted by Loyal Escort Clara Mark, followed by a moving memorial service under the direction of Pam Bloustine where we remembered all chapter members who have passed away in the history of our chapter.



Those present were (back row, l-r) Lynn Rosner, Brenda Blair, Betty Raines, Pat Goss, Dorothy Rimbold; (seated L-R) Brenda Sutton, Pam Bloustine and Joan Willauer. Pat's daughter Kim, Brenda Sutton's husband, Phil and Joan's son, Ed also joined us for the festivities. Yours truly was honored by the chapter by being the recipient of the Heartland Chapter Service Award. This award was established by our chapter in 1997, and is presented every two years when there is a worthy recipient.

The weather, work and other schedules hampered our activities during much of the time, but we did manage to pull off a fund raiser for the upcoming Oklahoma Women Veterans Recognition Day event along with our sisters from the Oklahoma Women's Veteran Organization (WVO). The first annual (maybe) St. Patrick's Day Party featuring a special Irish Buffet was held on 14 March at the Del City American Legion Post. There was plenty of corned beef and cabbage, with the cooking supervised by our resident chef, Brenda Blair, and plenty of side dishes and desserts all prepared by the members of WMA and WVO. Everyone had a grand time cooking, decorating, setting up, and of course, eating and visiting.

On 19 March Betty Raines and I attended the funeral of Carl Shank, husband of our first president, Lucy Shank. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Lucy.

That's about it for this issue, or at least all I can remember! So 'til next time, Semper Fidelis, y'all.

Dorothy Rimbold

OR-3 Eager Beavers

Greetings from the Pacific Northwest...

I suppose I should start off by sharing some really neat news that came to us during our January chapter meeting. Seems that last November, when our chapter took part in the Veterans Day parade in Springfield, OR-3 took home the Mayor's Trophy for Best Parade entry. This is the second time our chapter has been recognized by the parade committee as "Best in Show"!! We were awarded a rather neat looking medal which Deb Barker is mounting in a shadow box to become part of our chapter history collection. You don't know what you're missing until you've sat in the cold, pouring rain for a couple of hours during an Oregon parade. My hat is off to all our members who year after year step up and endure the elements. OORAH!!

In February, eleven chapter members, Loyal Escorts, and spouses fell in on a Sunday morning, and in a van provided by Deb Barker and her hubby Mike, motored our way north to share in the Women Marines Reserve Anniversary luncheon hosted by the Lady Marine Rose Chapter. We were blessed with nice sunny weather and everyone enjoyed the day.

After having been SNOWED out of our annual spring luncheon last year, this March we tried it again...and with success!! We welcomed other women Marines from Portland and Seattle for our day's festivities. Departing from our traditional catered lunch, several of our gals cooked up their favorite soups for everyone. Accompanied by salad and good rolls, the meal seemed to meet the challenge of the cold day for all. And when dessert time came...need I say more? We finished up the day with lively bidding during our auction and many taking home raffle prizes including one of the new WMA throws and a copy of the book "Band of Sisters".

Looking to the future, our chapter plans to take part in the Rhododendron Festival Parade held in Florence, on the Oregon coast, in mid-May.

OR-3 has welcomed a couple of new members recently, Jeanette Borge and Audie Pyatt. Deb Newman, who moved away, has returned...said she really missed us...and we're pleased to have all three in our chapter!!

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The summer looks promising. Check back with us next issue and we'll share what we've been up to with you all. Until then, enjoy the spring flowers and warm weather!! Semper Fidelis. Karen L. Reeves





Marines with Together We Served take on the 5K.

SC-1 celebrated the 66th anniversary on 14 February by hosting our annual Molly 5K Run/Walk and anniversary dinner. Hats off to all the members of the chapter for putting on a wonderful weekend. You all worked so hard and it was all worth it!! This was our fourth Molly Run/Walk and the biggest ever!!

We had 152 registered runners and walkers. Along with our local participants we had the "Together We Served" group with over 50 race participants and also a working party of about 20 more helping out however the chapter needed them. We also had the Depot Commanding General, BrigGen Laster, his wife Roma and their daughter Gracie take part in the weekend events.



Linda Priest presenting Sara Phoenix with the statue.

a Molly statue designed by SgtMaj Dave Robles. We want to thank Col. Phoenix for taking part in our 5K and being our guest speaker. We also want to say thank you to all those who participated in the Molly 5K and all the members of TWS for traveling from so far around the country to be a part of our anniversary celebration. It was our honor to have met everyone and spend a wonderful weekend with you. We hope everyone will come back for the 2010 Molly 5K. Race standings and pictures of the celebration are on the chapter website at www.wmabeaufort.com. Semper Fidelis.

Brenda Moore

sented Col Phoenix with

That evening we host-

TX-1 Lone Star State

Time flies when you're having fun, and the ladies of TX-1 must have been having a lot as it's already April!

In February, TX-1 held chapter elections. Melody Bronson was elected president; Maureen Moehle, vice-president; Katherine Lorenz-Townsend, treasurer; and Anne Kowalski, secretary. During a special luncheon meeting in March, Judy Anderson, National First Vice-President, came up to North Texas from Houston and conducted an imaginative and memorable chapter officer installation ceremony. Judy came as a guest of Maria Crowley, and did her part for our recruiting effort by becoming a member of our chapter in addition to her primary chapter!

All of us are indebted to Maureen Moehle, our immediate past president, and to Joan Wright, who served as our immediate past secretary/treasurer. Due to dwindling chapter membership, they held these posts for the past several years. Maureen and Joan certainly set the bar for service to our chapter, and left us with some big boots to fill (figuratively speaking!).

Currently, chapter members are planning on taking part (for the first time) in the 2d Annual Interservice Chili Cook-off hosted by the Bluebonnet Detachment of the Marine Corps League in Fort Worth. We'll have a report of the 25 April event for the next issue of 'Nouncements. While we hope to turn some heads with our chili, our bigger focus will be on recruiting. We've come a long way in the past year, but as far as chapter membership goes, we'd like to epitomize the saying "everything's bigger in Texas!" Semper Fidelis!

Anne Kowalski



Wow! Things are finally starting to get back to normal here in Houston. The convention was a blast and now we have to come back down to earth and settle.

We celebrated the anniversary luncheon at the Junior League. The Junior League was a real elegant setting for such an important event in TX-2 history. June Harris told the story of how she was asked to organize the TX-2 chapter back in 1972. She was the first chapter president when we held the 1974 convention in Galveston. There were five general officers present and the WMA members rode in Amtrac's down Seawall Boulevard for the parade, behind a Marine Corps band.

It was only fitting that during the cake cutting part of our 2009 celebration that June turned out to be a year older than everyone else, not the oldest in her words. She and our new member Chantel Batts, who turned out to be the youngest, cut a beautiful and delicious Brownie Chocolate Mousse with Chocolate Ganasch cake brought by Betty Huggins.

After the cake cutting, we all had brought pictures of our active duty time to be displayed and to aid in the war story hour. It didn't matter if you were WWII or Iraq, the stories had a common link and there was no time line. We all got up to make pledges to what we thought we could do to help out our chapter and the WMA as a whole in the coming year. We closed the meeting with photos and laughter.

Congrats to Karen Beatty who is going to be a first time grandmother. There's another Longhorn in the making!

Marti Raney



Wisconsin may be just coming out of hibernation and seeing the re-birth of our land which includes WMA, but in March the Board of Directors met at President Julie Schaffer's home for a brainstorming session to find ways to better serve our membership. This being a not-so-small state, a visual map was designed to see just where our concentrations were, where we could hold meetings and keep in better touch with members. We hope it works but members, far and near, must remember to also keep in touch by whatever means they have. We are still sisters and your input is valuable.

Once again spring took its toll on members. We have now lost Georgina Banks, a WWII Marine from Berlin, and Col Valeria Hilgart, who served 34 years in the Marine Corps. Four WWII members from the Madison area traveled to Grafton for an evening visitation and Pass in Review, followed by a Mass of Christian burial at St. Joseph's Church. Mibs Ewald kindly drove the considerable distance with Annette Howards, Dee Fix and Connie Allord accompanying her. There they met up with Ruth Holman of Menomonee Falls. Val was the sister of one of our past presidents, Marceline Paulin, also of Grafton. Although the distance prevented most members from being present at the formal burial the next morning, it was reported that HQMC sent a detachment of Marines to participate in and pay respect and honors to one of their own, doing it as only Marines can. We have also learned that Rosemarie Barbera suffered a devastating stroke and could use the thoughts and prayers of all of us. She is our immediate past chapter treasurer.

During the winter months our members have worked with various other veterans' organizations, are making plans for Memorial Day, fund raisers, summer activities and of course our upcoming spring meeting in Fond du Lac on 2 May.

Until we meet again...Semper Fidelis.

Connie Allord

<u>Two Notes from Gen Vaught</u>

July 2009

Dear Friend of the Women's Memorial,

In late May 2009, two of our long time Charter Members and supporters initiated a special fundraising outreach to help the Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation meet its critical financial needs. The Foundation, overseer of the Women's Memorial, America's only major national memorial telling the story of women's service to the nation, has been struggling to keep the Memorial doors open; and for several months, has literally been operating on a payday to payday basis, deferring payments of several service providers.

These two women were stunned at the news and shocked that the Memorial might actually close. One women wrote a check for \$1,000 on the spot and both set out with the goal of finding a total of 500 like- minded individuals who believed this symbol of women's military history and service here in the nation's capital was too precious and too important on so many levels to just slip away. With very minimal publicity, we are already seeing the results of their efforts as more individuals are stepping forward to ensure that the Women's Memorial is as enduring as the contributions made by those it honors.

Now, we are appealing to you to be a part of this remarkable nucleus of Memorial guardians. We are asking you to join today what we've named the "Circle of 500." Your extraordinary gesture of generosity and commitment to the future will be acknowledged at the Memorial in a highly visible way and you will be listed as a "Circle of 500 Guardian" for all time. An example of one "Circle of 500 Guardian" is a woman veteran organization that immediately took up the cause as one of its special projects, collecting

donations from its members. Another is a Memorial member who asked family members and friends to help keep the Memorial doors open by sponsoring her effort to become a "Circle of 500 Guardian," much like sponsors for a walkathon participant. It's inspiring to learn of the individual and collective commitment to the Memorial, its mission and its future. Please help the Foundation during this very critical time.

Brig. Gen. Wilma L. Vaught, USAF (Ret.) President, Women's Memorial Foundation

FROM THE DESK OF BRIG. GEN. VAUGHT

Thanks to so many of you who have responded to the most recent edition of the e-Register and the "Circle of 500" contribution opportunity. Your concern for and commitment to your memorial is awesome. The calls and emails started coming in almost immediately following the e-Register's release. Thank you, thank you for your support.

In addition to the response from so many of you, we've gotten some positive feedback from some of the other avenues we have pursued. Most significant, is the possibility that we may be included in the 2010 Appropriations Bill. The members of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues have been particularly supportive of our efforts to keep the doors open. We aren't out of the woods yet but it is a personal incentive for me to know that so many of you are with us in this effort.

We appreciate the initiative by so many of you to alert your friends and colleagues of the Foundation's financial situation. I know many of you were alarmed by the news. I want you to know that closing the doors is the very last option that is my personal promise to all of you. I also feel it is important to set the record straight regarding federal funds. We have received federal funding in the past: first, when we were building the Memorial, to restore the existing historical structures; and later, thanks to the late Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald, in the form of grants. But, indeed, the vast majority of support to build and now operate and maintain the Memorial has come from the very women the memorial represents, as well as their family and friends.

Thank you, again, for your help. I will keep you informed of any funding break-throughs. We look forward to welcoming more of our members and friends to the "Circle of 500" and to your continued help and support as we work our way through these financial difficulties. Sincerely,

(Signed)

Brig. Gen. Wilma L. Vaught, USAF (Ret.) President, Women's Memorial Foundation

The Complaint

Question of the day for Luke Air Force Base: Whom do we thank for the morning air show? Last Wednesday, at precisely 9:11 A.M, a tight formation of four F-16 jets made a low pass over Arrowhead Mall, continuing west over Bell Road at approximately 500 feet. Imagine our good fortune! Do the Tom Cruise-wannabes feel we need this wakeup call, or were they trying to impress the cashiers at Mervyns early bird special?

Any response would be appreciated. **The response:**

Regarding 'A wake-up call from Luke's jets' on June 15, at precisely 9:12 a.m., a perfectly timed four-ship fly by of F-16s from the 63rd Fighter Squadron at Luke Air Force Base flew over the grave of Capt. Jeremy Fresques. Capt Fresques was an Air Force officer who was previously stationed at Luke Air Force Base and was killed in Iraq on May 30, Memorial Day.

At 9 a. m. on June 15, his family and friends gathered at Sunland Memorial Park in Sun City to mourn the loss of a husband, son and friend. Based on the letter writer's recount of the fly by, and because of the jet noise, I'm sure you didn't hear the 21-gun salute, the playing of "Taps", or my words to the widow and parents of Capt. Fresques as I gave them their son's flag on behalf of the President of the United States and all those veterans and servicemen and women who understand the sacrifices they have endured.



A four-ship fly by is a display of respect the Air Force gives to those who give their lives in defense of freedom. We are professional aviators and take our jobs seriously, and on June 15 what the letter writer witnessed was four officers lining up to pay their ultimate respects.

The letter writer asks, 'Whom do we thank for the morning air show? The 56th Fighter Wing will make the call for you, and forward your thanks to the widow and parents of Capt Fresques, and thank them for you, for it was in their honor that my pilots flew the most honorable formation of their lives.

Lt. Col. Grant L. Rosensteel, Jr.

It may be Air Force, but that deserves an "oo-rah".



<u>Gallery</u>

Marines of the 9th Marine Corps District are seen in this recreation of a World War II era recruiting poster directed toward the recruitment of women. Photo by SSgt Brandon Swenson.



LCpI Holly M. Burd, a Lioness with Combat Logistics Battalion 7, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, greets a local Iraqi woman outside of the City of Rutbah Hospital during a civil affairs mission, June 3. Burd, who is also an Arabic linguist, was tasked to help the Civil Affairs Group, Regimental Combat Team 8, 2nd Marine Division gather information about the local economy using surveys and other methods of communicating. Photo by LCpl Melissa A. Latty.

A Side Trip to Castle Rock

We had an awesome time in Castle Rock, CO. Helen Page, a Loyal Escort life member, and I were on our way to summer in Maine when we heard about the Women Marine museum/exhibit from Lou Teixeira and Eddie Stephens and decided to detour to Castle Rock. This was the best part of our trip.

Nancy Wilt and Paula Sarlls were kind enough to give us a tour of what has been sent to the museum, which will one day be built. I was amazed at all the memorabilia sent, not only by former WMs, but by family and friends of those who have passed on.

Two students were working as archive interns, inventorying and cataloging each item sent in. Angeline Allen, public history major from Ft. Collins and Alex Crane, history and secondary education from Castle Rock. They were kind enough to watch our dog and cat that were making the trip with us while we went

to lunch. Colorado State University has been a big help with interns.

Nancy and Paula were most gracious. They took us to lunch. We spent two hours reminiscing about the women Marines past and present. We spent several hours at the storage facility. It was wonderful to see the collections from people I served with or knew. Helen Hannah Campbell donated many items as did family of my friend Jane Wallis and many others. Nancy even has some photos of WWI women Marines.

Nancy explained that when you donate something it's inventoried, cataloged in the computer, and then placed in air tight containers to protect them from mildew and the elements. The containers are marked with the person's name and stored. Items that need special cleaning are separated and the cleaning is done

by a special process that protects the materials.

Like us, the years have taken their toll on some items. Nancy has a whole corps of people to clean, mend, repair and preserve all items. Any item you have you think no one wants, send it to Nancy. She wants it.

She has a special cleaner that is run by a Vietnamese family that was rescued by the Marines and has a special place in their hearts for Marines. They go all out to clean and preserve any item Nancy brings in from uniforms to peanut suits.

These ladies have done so much with so little. They need financial help. Most chapters are looking for worthwhile causes to give to, and what is more worthwhile than to help build a place to preserve our place in history. Remember "The Past Is Our Heritage - The Future Is Our Challenge - Now is Our Responsibility."

I should have written this sooner but I loved Maine so much I stayed almost a year. Semper Fidelis.

Sybl Acree

Ruptured Ducks

The International Women's Veterans Golf Association (IWV-GA), alias the "Ruptured Ducks", recently held their 34th annual golf tournament 21 - 24 June at the World Golf Village, St. Augustine, FL. A total of 92 players (Ducks and guests) of which nine were Marines (see photo) were present. A great time was had by all. The final banquet was held in the Hall of Fame Museum and it was awesome. We had lots of time to explore and see the trophies and displays, including the golf clubs of Patty Berg.

Congratulations to our winners in their respective flights, low gross to Jeanne Botwright and Doris Denton. For the most birdies in two days (four), Diane Davis received a large stuffed duck - the "Biggest Birdie".

This year three Ducks were recognized in the newly established "Duckie Hall of Fame" for their actions that show their caring devotion to the organization. Mary Edmonds was recognized for her unselfish time given after our tournament at Hilton Head, SC in 2005. Unfortunately two of our Ducks from California became seriously ill with pneumonia and had to endure hospitalization and rehab. For the next two months Mary called or visited daily - taking care of their personal belongings and needs. When one was well enough to travel Mary helped with tickets and drove her to the airport in Savannah. Arrangements were being made for SgtMaj Betty Noble to return to Alpine, CA by air ambulance. As we know, this was not to be as Betty peacefully and quietly slipped away on 25 May 2005.



Ducks (I-r) Diane Davis, Mary Edmonds, Karen Kelly, Doris Denton, Pris Stewart, June Dempsey, Carolyn Hogan, Kathy Kincaid, Jeanne Botwright (seated).

Congratulations to Mary for your diligence in showing that Marines take care of their own (and others) in the attention and concern you displayed for these two special Ducks in need.

Mark your calendar for 19 - 22 September 2010 Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX. Membership is \$25 a year, remit to Pris Stewart, 11 Tuscarora Ave, Beaufort, SC 29902.

Hope to see you there.

Karen Kelly

Ohio Women Veterans Conference 2009

Ohio women veterans gathered at their third conference and had close to 700 veterans from all services. The conference was held at the Aladdin Shrine Center in Columbus.

Opening remarks were given by Director Bill Hartnett, Ohio Department of Veterans Services followed by a welcome from Governor Ted Strickland.

Morning speakers were Clary Garabis, RN, MSN, Columbus VA Medical Center and Kathleen Chard, PhD, Director PTSD & Anxiety Disorders Div., Cincinnati VA Medical Ctr.

Afternoon speakers were Vernice Armour, United States Marine Corps, and Dr. Betty Moseley Brown, Associate Director, Center for Women Veterans, Department of Veteran Affairs, Washington, D.C.

The Ohio Department of Veterans Services Advisory Committee on Women Veterans had a number of Women Marines on the committee. Chair Rebecca Lee, Vice Chair Elva Pounders, Parliamentarian Ellen Leidy, and Chaplain Artis Howell.

Two of our speakers were women Marines. Vernice Armour had the audience in her hands and gave a presentation we will never forget. Dr. Betty Mosely Brown gave an outstanding presentation on the VA and what is being done for our women veterans. We had women meeting for the first time in 50 years. Janet Kemmerer met two women she was stationed with in Hawaii in 1960. Vernice Armour met a friend from the Army she lost contact with many years ago.

SSgt Diana Durden helped out with the book sales while Vernice did book signing and photos.

Loyal Escort Director, Tabitha Cunningham, and several other Escorts were present along with WMA Chaplain Betty Jean Cannon who came in from Michigan.

Elva Pounders



<u>Sharing...</u>

2dLt Johanna Shaffer shares a cookie and a smile with an Afghan child while under the watchful security of Marines assigned to 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, during her all-female team's first mission in Farah province, Feb. 9, 2009. U.S. Marine Corps photo by LCpl Monty Burton.

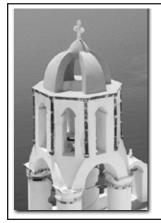
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Gail Horn NC-1 member, Area 3 Director Linda Wolford, NC-1 President Joan Cordero and Rhonda Amtower at the Marine Expo South held at Camp Lejeune earlier this year.



Here's Rhonda recruiting a REAL amphibious Marine. And here I thought it was the new Sgt-at-Arms for the board meetings! And yes people, it's a live 'gator.



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with chapt. designation and name)	
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Conquer the Civilian World"	
(shipping & handling included)	\$30.00
WMA insulated travel mugs	
(red w/ USMC emblem on both sides)	\$8.00
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(green with WMA patch on one side an	nd
the USMC emblem on the other side)	\$8.00
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Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter Merchandise

Item: USMC ribbon magnet, yellow and red ... \$3.00

Item: Marine Corps emblem antenna toppers, black or silver & gold (*please specify*) \$5.00

Item: Streamer holder for Chapter Flag ... \$7.00

- Item: Loyal Escort ball caps ... \$8.00
- Item: Loyal Escort Patch ... \$5.00
- Item: "I love my Woman Marine" small bumper sticker ... \$2.00
- Item: "I love my Woman Marine" round magnet ...\$3.00

Item: "I love my Woman Marine" round button ...\$2.00 Shipping and handling will vary but should range from \$2.00 to \$6.00

Contact: Tabitha Cunningham, 2393 Hillstock Ave., Akron, OH 44312, 330-784-4648 • tlcmenagerie@hotmail.com.



Women Marines Association Merchandise Sales

Chapter Merchandise Sales

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



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, 13662 87th Avenue, Seminole, FL 33776

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- Item: WMA Postcard $5^{1/2}$ " x $4^{1/4}$ " Wide green stripe top & left margins. WMA logo in upper left corner
- **Cost:** 10 for \$1.60; 15 for \$2.10; 20 for \$2.60 (prices include P&H) **Checks:** CA-7, WMA Chapter: EMVSC (CA-7)
- Contact: Shannon Cross, 516 Pusan Dr., Oceanside, CA 92058

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, 13662 87th Avenue, Seminole, FL 33776



- 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

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- 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

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Item: "I'm The Marine In This Family" Black Polo Shirts.

Cost: \$20 plus \$5 postage. Size: S-3XL

Chapter: OH-2 Chesty Puller

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

\$

- Item: Forest Green Sweatshirts, t-shirts, short sleeved golf shirts, long sleeved golf shirts and low profile cap. All shirts are embroidered with WMA on the left side and Women Marines Association underneath. Embroidery is in white; low profile cap has WMA embroidered in white.
- Cost: All prices include shipping and handling per item. Sweatshirts: M- XL - \$26 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

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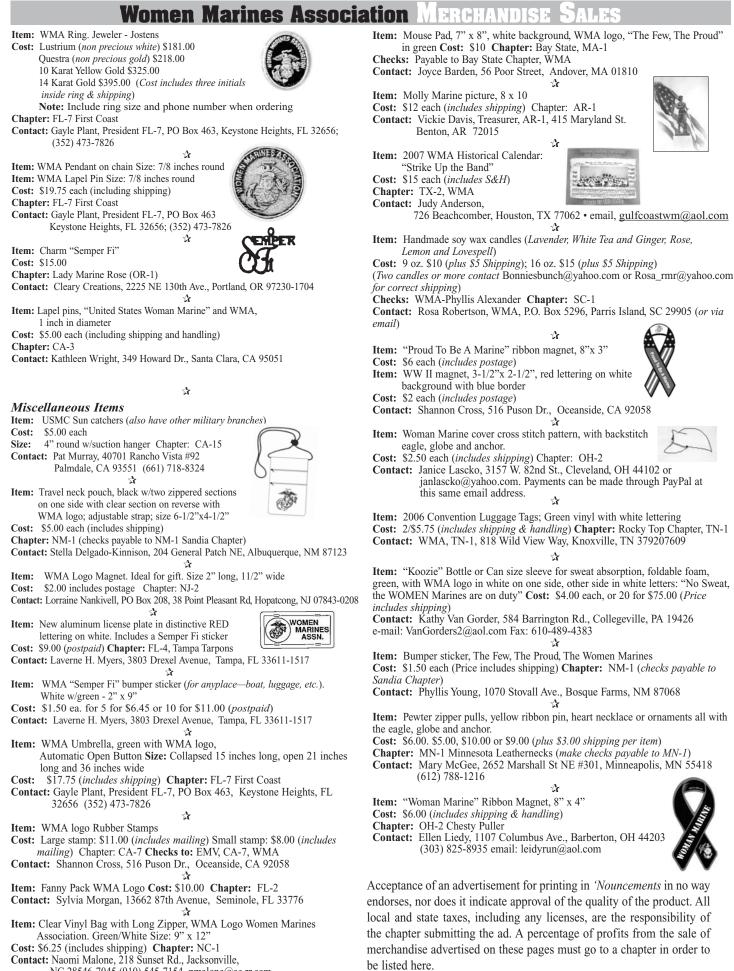
Item: Dark Green Windbreaker Jacket with WMA logo on front left side. Sizes: S- XL (Sizes run larger than usual)
Cost: \$34.00 Includes postage and handling.
Checks: EMVSC, CA-&, WMA
Contact: Charline Itchkawich, 536 Mimosa Ave., Vista, CA 92081-9117

Jewelry

Item: WMA Bolo w/ WMA Logo and cord in gold finish (also available bolo with USMC Emblem only). Cost: \$20.00 (includes shipping) Chapter: Make checks payable to TX-3, WMA Contact: Anne M. Collins, 4707 Broadway, San Antonio, TX 78209 (210) 829-8522

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 M. Collins, 4707 Broadway, San Antonio, TX 78209 (210) 829-8522





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

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