



*The Westin Crown Center*

Photo Courtesy of the Kansas City Convention & Visitors Association

## WMA Convention Issue - Kansas City

We are only a couple of months away from the 28th Biennial Convention and Professional Development Conference in Kansas City. Registration forms are on pages 6 and 7, so register now!

You don't want to miss the opening banquet, where the guest of honor will be the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James Amos, nor do you want to miss our closing banquet, where Brigadier General Lori Reynolds will speak. Unwind after a long day of workshops and meetings in the Loyal Escorts' hospitality suite, and venture out of the hotel and see what Kansas City has to offer. See you all in July!

*Wanda Antoine*

### **National Election Ballot Coming Soon!**

This year is the first in several that we have had the necessity to publish a National Election Ballot. The ballot will include the multiple nominations for 5 elected positions including Membership Secretary, Area Director for Areas 2, 4, 5 and 10. We also have two bids for the 2018 Convention to include Detroit, Michigan and Washington, DC. The ballot will be in your mailboxes soon so please be sure to vote for both the elected offices and for the 2018 Convention site. *Let your voices be heard and show your support for WMA.*

## We're Ready for the WMA Convention in Kansas City!

Happy spring, Marines. I hope the weather where you are is as beautiful as it is here in south Texas, and I hope the weather will be beautiful in Kansas City in July! Yes, the 28th Biennial Convention and Professional Development Conference is in July this year, so if you have not registered, do it now! Oh, and we will be in Kansas City, Missouri, so please make sure you book your tickets for the correct state.

This issue has everything you need to know about convention. Flip through so you can plan ahead for transportation to and from the airport, shipping items to the hotel, and activities outside

the hotel. There will be lots of fun stuff going on, but remember that we will be there to take care of the business of the Women Marines Association. We will be voting on proposed amendments to WMA standing rules and proposed amendments to WMA bylaws. Make sure you take this copy of *'Nouncements* with you to Kansas City as a reference during the business meetings.

As a member of CA-3, it saddens me to report the passing of Loyal Escort Director Shaaron Wright. I met Shaaron at the Denver Convention and she made me feel welcome to CA-3 before my husband and I arrived in northern Cali-

fornia in 2010. She even persuaded my husband to join the Loyal Escorts when I could not! She hosted my baby shower last year, and my little Isabel is still playing with some of those toys from Aunt Shaaron. Shaaron made beautiful floral arrangements and I have a few of those in my home as well. Wherever I look, I am reminded of someone who loved the Marine Corps, loved WMA and did everything she could to support us. She was truly the definition of *Semper Fidelis*. I sure will miss her.

**Wanda Antoine**

*Editor, 'Nouncements*

## In This Issue of *'Nouncements*:

### Convention, Convention, Convention!

What you'll need to know about our July, 2014 Convention is presented here, as well as reports from Area Directors, National Officers and our Committee Reports informing us, plus a look at some proposed bylaw amendments for your consideration.

## 20 News from Our Chapters



*LA-1 members gather for the Krewe of Muses Mardi Gras parade.*

# President's Message: Keep Up the Great Work, Marines!

OOHRAH!

Thank you, Sister Marines for once again answering the call of duty. You'll be receiving your ballots soon (because of the great response to serve as a WMA National Officer). I would also like to thank MI-2 and DC-1/VA-1 for submitting bids to host our 2018 convention. Your vote counts... so, please review the information carefully and mail in your ballots. Every day I hear of wonderful outreach, community service, mentorship and volunteerism you and your Chapters are doing to promote our Marines and their families. Keep up the great work.

In March, I was honored to share the stage with Brigadier General Lori Reynolds at the Celebration of Life in Gary, IN. This event celebrates the life of Sergeant Jeannette L. Winters who died with other Marines on January 9, 2002, as a result of the crash of a KC-130/R aircraft in Pakistan. While she may be remembered as the first female casualty of Operation Enduring Freedom, she was a daughter, friend, and Sister Marine.



The Women Marines Association, Montford Point Marines, Marine Corps League, the state of Indiana, and many other groups came to celebrate Sergeant Winters' life. Thanks to Mr. Robert M.

Farmer of Webb House, Inc. who hosts this annual event and continues to work so that no Veteran is left in the cold. Super Job!

As your President, I rejoice and applaud our good news and am saddened when one of our Sisters is ill and soon will join the Divine Commandant...we are family. This is also true of those who support our Association as Loyal Escorts. We have many unsung SHE-roes (and HE-roes) who work tirelessly for WMA. If you've never heard it before, let me say THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO! One such ray of light is dimming, but, WMA owes a great debt of thanks for the joy, smiles and many hugs she has given to us all at our Conventions, Chapter meetings and at the many bedsides where SHE stood watch. Thank you Shaaron Wright for giving hope to so many within WMA and beyond our Association (I've personally seen your magic where no one is a stranger to you). We love you, our devoted Loyal Escort.

In closing, from sea to shining sea, you continue to amaze me. Thank you

to NC-1's Shirley Jones, Gail Horn and Linda Lacy for the spectacular celebration of our Women Marines Anniversary. The wonderful active duty Marines



**Shaaron Wright and best friend.**

present made me ready to stand on the yellow footprints again. A special OOHRAH to one of our new Chapters NC-3 who held their installation at the beautiful home of a WMA member in Pittsboro, NC. I hope they weren't too surprised when I attended their installation and Chapter Meeting, KUDOS to Chapter President Tracy Crow and her officers on paving the way forward for women Marines in their community. Area Director Barbara Chagnon is on a roll with new Chapters. Keep up the great work.

Enjoy spring, Marines...see you in Kansas City (if not before)...Semper Fidelis,

**Betty Moseley Brown**  
**National President**

*(Our Loyal Escort Shaaron Wright, passed away on Easter Sunday, April 20. She was called by the Divine Commandant to support our heavenly Marines).*

## A REMINDER: Kansas City 2014 - Hotel Room Rate Increase

Effective 1 October 2013 the new per diem rate for Kansas City, MO as confirmed by GSA has increased 1.9%. As directed by our contract with the Westin Crown Center, WMA's group rate for our 2014 Convention will increase to **\$106** plus taxes per night vice \$99. We regret this increase but please note it is the government per diem rate. The Westin Crown Center is a 5-star hotel and this is by far the best rate available. The rate still applies for up to four to a room.

## Cash Door Prizes to Continue for 2014 Convention

Envelopes should name the donating chapter and reflect the 2014 convention theme of "City of Fountains".

Each WMA chapter is asked to contribute at least \$25.00 and an envelope to continue the success of the cash door prizes. If your chapter is able to donate more money and envelopes, thanks!

Monetary contributions from Members-at-Large and Loyal Escorts are also welcomed along with your *creatively designed envelopes*. A special gift will again be awarded to the chapter or individual whose envelope is judged as "The Best Envelope."

The success of the cash door prizes is obviously dependent on the amount of contributions. Cash door prizes will be given

at every event on the convention schedule and with sufficient contributions, multiple cash door prizes will be given at each event.

Help to make the cash door prizes another fun and rewarding part of the 2014 Convention! Send your envelopes and checks to: Allison Stein (Secretary, Molly Marine Chapter LA-1)

"Door Prizes"

2201 Manhattan Blvd, Apt W271  
Harvey, LA 70058

If you have any questions, please contact Allison Stein at [hopetrulove@msn.com](mailto:hopenetlove@msn.com) or phone (205)487-9277.

Deadline is **July 1st, 2014.**

# WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION

71 YEARS OF PROUD SERVICE TO COUNTRY AND CORPS

May 2014

## National Officers

### President

Betty Moseley-Brown  
85 Monte Carlo Way  
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### Immediate Past President

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## WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION

WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS (USPS 371410) is published quarterly by the Women Marines Association. Periodical postage paid at San Antonio, TX and additional mailing offices. Membership eligibility: Women who have served honorably or are now serving in the Marine Corps or Marine Corps Reserve are eligible for membership in the Women Marines Association. Dues are \$40 for two years. **POSTMASTER:** Send address change to WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS, Women Marines Association, P.O. Box 377, Oaks, PA, 19456-0377. This material is intended for the sole and express use by the Women Marines Association (WMA) and is not to be distributed or used in any fashion not in accordance with WMA guidelines. Any use or distribution outside of WMA is strictly prohibited.

### Deadline for materials for next issue:

**15 August 2014**

Please send all materials for 'Nouncements to the Editor:

117 Silent Country  
Cibola, TX 78108  
(228) 243-3845 Editor@womenmarines.org.

# Recognition & Awards: Got Competition?

So, you think you're good...

You think you've got what it takes. Well then, PROVE IT and enter something for the Recognition & Awards competition! You might just take home a streamer for your chapter colors, or a perpetual plaque! Or even yet, the Ruth & Dick Broe Award, the highest award given to a chapter. It comes with a streamer, a perpetual plaque, and association-wide admiration for being the best of the best.

The entry form and the rules have been published in the past two issues of *'Nouncements*, so you know what you have to do. There are two separate deadlines you need to mark on your calendars:

- **June 1st** – the mail out deadline for all newsletter, history book, and chapter achievement submissions. Anything with a postmark after June 1 will *not* be considered for an award (unless the whole country is completely covered by five feet of snow).
- **June 30th** – the deadline to recruit as many members into WMA and the Loyal Escorts as you can to qualify for recruiting awards. Make sure your name appears on the applications ("enrolled by" on the WMA form, "sponsor" on the LE form).

For those who received a perpetual plaque, you also have a deadline:

- **June 30th** – date perpetual plaques must be returned. Do NOT wait until the convention to return them.



Please return them to the same address as submissions. [CA-7 gets a big gold star for returning theirs already! Thank you!]

So, let's go, chapters! Fill my house with boxes of submissions! Line up those new members! The clock is a-tickin'!

For those who think they can't... you CAN. With all the material available for scrapbooking, it should be easy and fun to put together a history or chapter achievement book. Newsletter editors, you don't have to get slick and professional like *'Nouncements*! There's a lot to be said for "home grown" style. *Scuttlebutt* wasn't slick or professional, but it worked (for our younger members, *Scuttlebutt* was the first WMA newsletter).

Ok. You've worn me out. Let's just gear up for a very competitive R&A this year! You never know how good you are until you try. If you don't submit something, I'm going to come back at you with more clichés like that! So let's get creating and competing, Marine style!! OOO-RAH

*Sondra Metzger*

Past winners include DC-1's Lelia Jackson, here accepting the award for best chapter website (above), and (left) Pam Bloustine accepting the award for best chapter newsletter on behalf of OK-2.

## Deadline Reminder: ALL Award Entries MUST be postmarked on or before June 1, 2014

Mail all entries with completed Official Entry Form (see last issue) to:

**Sondra Metzger**  
**Recognition & Awards**  
**3805 NE 141 Circle**  
**Edmond, OK 73013-7221**

Enclose a self-addressed stamped postcard to be returned as a receipt.

For questions regarding awards, please contact Sondra Metzger at [RA-Submissions@outlook.com](mailto:RA-Submissions@outlook.com)



# Women Marines Association

## 28<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention and Professional Development Conference

### Schedule of Events

#### July 24 – July 29, 2014

#### Thursday July 24, 2014

1200-1700 WWI Museum Open  
 1500-1800 Registration  
 1900-2100 Semper Sisters: Honoring our Legends –  
 No Host Reception *Century Ballroom A*

#### Friday July 25, 2014

0800-1700 Registration  
 0800-1200 WMA 2012-2014 Board Meeting *Shawnee*  
 0830-1200 Loyal Escorts 2012-2014 Board Meeting *Penn Valley*  
 1000-1200 PX Setup *Liberty Room*  
 1000-1700 WWI Museum Open  
 1230-1300 Active Duty Orientation\* *Shawnee*  
 1300-1600 PX Grand Opening *Liberty Room*  
 1330-1530 First Timers Meeting\* *Shawnee*  
 1500-1600 Flag Ceremony Rehearsal *Century Ballroom A/B*  
 1530-1600 First Timers Photo\* *Garden Terrace*  
 1730-1830 No Host Reception *Century Foyer*  
 1830-2130 Opening Banquet *Century Ballroom A/B*

#### Saturday July 26, 2014

0800-1700 Registration  
 0830-1030 WMA Business Meeting #1\* *Century Ballroom A/B*  
 0830-1030 Loyal Escorts Business Meeting #1 *Mission*  
 1200-1430 Recognition and Awards Luncheon\* *Century A/B*  
 1500-1600 WS #1: Women Marine History\* *Shawnee/Mission*  
 1630-1730 WS #2: "The SEMPER Strategy for Optimal Wellness:  
 The 7 Traits to Cultivate Sustainable Health, Happiness, and  
 Resilience" – Sara Plummer\* *Shawnee/Mission*  
 1700-1800 PX Opens *Liberty Room*  
 1800-1930 BBQ-Memorial Park: Hosted by MO Korean  
 War Veterans Memorial *Washington Park*  
 1900-2300 Loyal Escorts Hospitality *Century B*

#### Sunday July 27, 2014

0700-0830 3rd Biennial Fun Run/Walk  
 0800-1600 Registration  
 1000-1200 1st VP/AD's/Chapter Pres+ *Shawnee/Mission*  
 1000-1200 PX Opens *Liberty Room*  
 1230-1400 WMA Memorial Service\* *Century Ballroom A/B*  
 1430-1630 WMA Business Meeting #2\* *Century Ballroom A/B*  
 1430-1630 Loyal Escorts Business Meeting #2 *Shawnee/Mission*  
 1700-1800 "Fireside Chat: Leadership/Mentor Panel"\*  
*Shawnee/Mission*  
 1900-2200 Loyal Escorts Hospitality Restaurant-"Streetcar Named  
*Desire"*

#### Monday July 28, 2014

0800-1600 Registration  
 0900-1000 WS #3: "Zero to Breakthrough: Who Needs A Runway?  
 Take Off From Where You ARE!" – Vernice 'FlyGirl' Armour\*  
*Shawnee/Mission*  
 1100-1200 2014-2016 BOD Photo *Garden Terrace*  
 1200-1400 Installation Luncheon *Century Ballroom A/B*  
 1430-1630 Individual/Group Photos (see photo schedule) *Garden  
 Terrace*  
 1430-1600 Loyal Escorts 2014-2016 Board Meeting *Penn Valley*  
 1730-1830 No Host Reception *Century Foyer*  
 1830-2130 Closing Banquet *Century Ballroom A/B*

#### Tuesday July 29, 2014

0800-1200 WMA 2014-2016 Board Meeting *Shawnee*

#### \* Mandatory Events/Workshops (WS) for Active Duty:

- Active Duty Orientation \*
- First Timers Meeting\*
- Recognition and Awards\*
- Workshops 1-3\*
- WMA Business Meetings 1 & 2\*
- WMA Memorial Service\*

+ Denotes mandatory for Area Directors and Chapter Presidents

\*Denotes mandatory for Active Duty

BALLROOM AREA



# Convention Host Hotel Information and Services

The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center is encompassed by Hallmark's Crown Center, which offers 85 acres of shops, restaurants, and attractions.

The Westin Crown Center

1 East Pershing Road,

Kansas City, MO 64100

Telephone: (800) 937-8461

WMA Room Rate is \$106 per night plus tax. Cut-off date for reserving your room at the special rate is 5:00 PM central time on July 7, 2014. Room rate is available three days prior and three days after.

An early departure fee of \$75 will apply if a guest checks out prior to their check-out date that will be confirmed at check-in. This does not apply to any guest who might be called to active duty during the event dates.

You can make your reservations at <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/WMAC2014>

## Kansas City Hotel Information

Check-in: 3:00 p.m.

Checkout: 12:00 p.m.

### Internet Options:

- Complimentary wireless Internet in lobby and public areas
- Guestroom Internet available for \$9.95 per 24 hours.
- Premium Guestroom Internet available for \$19.95 per 24 hours: Maximize your connectivity to YouTube, Skype and other 2.0 sites. Reliably reach family and friends and business contacts through your favorite video chat service.

### Parking Options:

- Self-Parking: \$16.00 per day

- Valet Parking: \$21.00 per day; Parking charged to guest room.

### Airport: (MCI)

Kansas City International Airport

Super Shuttle from the Airport

\$18.00 one-way or \$36 roundtrip.

Telephone: 800-258-3826

Book online at:

<https://m.supershuttle.com>

### Mobility Products/Scooter Rental:

Contact Chuck's Mobility

Call 913-859-0290 or toll free at 877-788-5275 for all your mobility scooter needs in the Kansas City area or at 816-525-2205 for Missouri area.

Free delivery and Pickup from Hotel and/or Airport.

Email: [info@chucksmobility.com](mailto:info@chucksmobility.com)

## Shipping Instructions: Getting Items to the Hotel

**The Hotel does NOT have storage space for crates, pallets or large shipments.** The Hotel is not responsible for any loss or damage to materials sent to the Hotel prior to the convention. A receiving, handling and delivery fee will be applied to each package received according to the following scale:

0 – 5 lbs.	\$5.00 each
6 lbs.to 20 lbs:	\$10.00 each
21 lbs. to 50 lbs:	\$15.00 each
Over 50 lbs.	\$ 25.00 each

Packages will not be accepted prior to 23 July 2014. Packages will be delivered to the appropriate guest room upon request.

Upon delivery you will be required to annotate the correct billing preference for each package received (*i.e. which guest's room will be charged the handling fee*).

Address for the Hotel is:

**The Westin Crown Center  
c/o WMA 2014 Convention  
One East Pershing Road  
Kansas City, MO 64108**

## World War I Museum

The National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial is the only American museum solely dedicated to examining the personal experiences of a war whose impact still echoes in the world today. The National World War I Museum holds the most diverse collection of World War I objects and documents in the world and is the second-oldest public museum dedicated to preserving the objects, history and experiences of the war. The Museum takes visitors on an epic journey through a transformative period and shares deeply personal stories of courage, honor, patriotism and sacrifice.

Designated by Congress as America's official World War I Museum and located in downtown Kansas City, MO, the National World War I Museum inspires thought, dialogue, and learning to make the experiences of the Great War era meaningful and relevant for present and future generations. To learn more, visit [www.theworldwar.org](http://www.theworldwar.org).

### Kansas City Metropolitan Area Scooter Rental

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KANSAS CITY  
MISSOURI

CITY OF FOUNTAINS

Women Marines Association \* 2014

## Convention Registration Form

### 28<sup>th</sup> Biennial Women Marines Association Convention and Professional Development Conference July 25-28, 2014

You can register online at [www.womenmarines.org](http://www.womenmarines.org)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> WWII  | <input type="checkbox"/> National Officer/Director               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Korea   | <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter Officer                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam   | <input type="checkbox"/> VA Volunteer                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NATO  | <input type="checkbox"/> Purple Heart Recipient                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Desert Storm  | <input type="checkbox"/> FET/Lioness                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OEF/OIF   | <input type="checkbox"/> past National President                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peace Time  | <input type="checkbox"/> Attending my 1 <sup>st</sup> Convention |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hunter College Marine   | <input type="checkbox"/> Need to schedule my oral history        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camp Lejeune Boot Camp  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobility impaired                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Molly Marine  |  |
| I would like to volunteer during convention <input type="checkbox"/> WMA <input type="checkbox"/> Loyal Escort |  |

#### Late Fee of \$10 will be charged after June 01, 2014

A fee of \$10 will be charged for cancellations after 15 June 2014. Refunds will be mailed after the convention.  
NO REFUNDS on meals and/or registration after July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Service Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name to be printed on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Chapter & Name \_\_\_\_\_

Loyal Escort(s) Name on Badge \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Member Guests - Name on Badge \_\_\_\_\_

#### Meal Registration

**ONLY** current WMA Members and Loyal Escort members may take Package A or Option B:

Everyone pays the Registration Fee of \$50. Exception LE's pay \$45.

Date	Event	Package A All Meals	Option B Individual Choice	Non-Member Meals	TOTALS
July 25	Opening Banquet	Included	@\$53.00	@\$56.00	\$ _____
July 26	Recognition and Awards	Included	@\$41.00	@\$44.00	\$ _____
July 28	Installation Luncheon	Included	@\$35.00	@\$38.00	\$ _____
July 28	Closing Banquet	Included	@\$80.00	@\$83.00	\$ _____
<b>Total Cost</b>		<b>\$205.00</b>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Please specify if you have special dietary or other needs:

Package A	@ \$205.00	\$ _____
Option B	<b>Sub-total</b>	\$ _____
Non-Member Meals	@ <b>Sub-total</b>	\$ _____
WMA Registration Fee	@\$50.00	\$ _____
WMA Late Fee after 6/1/2014	<b>\$10.00</b>	\$ _____
LE Registration Fee	@\$45.00	\$ _____
LE Late Fee after 6/1/2014	<b>\$10.00</b>	\$ _____
<b>Total Enclosed</b>		\$ _____

**The Westin Crown Center**  
1 East Pershing Road  
Kansas City, MO 64100  
[www.Westin.com/KansasCity](http://www.Westin.com/KansasCity)

Make your hotel reservation online at <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/WMAC2014>  
OR by calling the hotel directly at (800) 937-8461. **WMA room block cut-off date is July 7, 2014.**  
Identify handicap room needs when you book your reservations.  
Tell them you are with WMA for the preferred room rates of \$106 plus taxes.

I am unable to attend, but wish to purchase a convention program at \$10 each, payable to 'Women Marines Association 2014 Convention' or 'WMA 2014 Convention'.

Mail Completed form with payment made payable to 'Women Marines Association 2014 Convention' or 'WMA 2014 Convention': Women Marines Association 2014 Convention, Attn: Registration, PO Box 1487, Belton, MO 64012

Rev 9/6/2013

To be completed by Registration Chair: Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Registration Acknowledgement Sent On \_\_\_\_\_

Please use this form if you are **ON ORDERS** only

## Convention Registration Form



KANSAS CITY  
MISSOURI

CITY OF FOUNTAINS

Women Marines Association \* 2014

### 28th Biennial Women Marines Association Convention and Professional Development Conference July 25-28, 2014

You can register online at [www.womenmarines.org](http://www.womenmarines.org)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Molly Marine                                | <input type="checkbox"/> National Officer/Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peacetime                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter Officer           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NATO  | <input type="checkbox"/> VA Volunteer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Desert Storm                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Purple Heart Recipient    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OEF/OIF                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> FET/Lioness               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending my 1st Convention                 | <input type="checkbox"/> HQMC Funded TAD Orders    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Need to schedule my oral history            | <input type="checkbox"/> Command Funded TAD Orders |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mobility impaired                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive TAD Orders     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WMA Member                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Leave Status              |
| I would like to volunteer during convention <input type="checkbox"/> |  |

### WMA Conference Fee Schedule for Marines On Orders

Rank/Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Service Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MOS \_\_\_\_\_  
Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Name to be printed on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_ Current WMA Member: Yes / No  
Duty Station \_\_\_\_\_ Military Email \_\_\_\_\_

### WMA "On Orders" Conference Fees Plan C "On Orders"

<b>Plan C</b>	<b>All Inclusive</b>
July 25 Opening Banquet	Included
July 26 Recognition and Awards	Included
July 28 Installation Luncheon	Included
July 28 Closing Banquet	Included
<b>Total Cost of Events</b>	<b>\$205.00</b>

WMA Registration Fee	\$ 50.00
Event Total	<u>\$205.00</u>
<b>Total Conference Fee</b>	<b>\$255.00</b>

Please specify if you have special dietary or other needs:

The Westin Crown Center  
1 East Pershing Road  
Kansas City, MO 64108  
[www.Westin.com/KansasCity](http://www.Westin.com/KansasCity)

**Make your hotel reservation online at <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/WMAC2014>**  
**OR by calling the hotel directly at (800) 937-8461.**  
**WMA room block cut-off date is July 7, 2014.**  
**Tell them you are with WMA for the preferred room rates of \$106 plus taxes.**

\_\_\_ I am unable to attend, but wish to purchase a convention program at \$10 each, payable to 'Women Marines Association 2014 Convention' or 'WMA 2014 Convention'.

**Mail Completed form with payment to 'Women Marines Association 2014 Convention' or WMA 2014 Convention' to:** Women Marines Association 2014 Convention, Attn: Registration, PO Box 1487, Belton, MO 64012

To be completed by Registration Chair: Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Registration Acknowledgement Sent On \_\_\_\_\_

# WMA Area Director Reports

## Area 1

This past year the main focus for Area 1 has been the strengthening of area membership with specific focus on the retention and growth of our chapters. Although many recruitment options have been pursued by chapters in the past, the current use of the WMA facebook page to connect with possible new members has been very encouraging. I feel that although the progress of growth for our area is at present slow, the potential for increased membership among both chapters and Members-At-Large is promising.

Throughout the year I have forwarded all updated rosters and pertinent correspondence to chapters.

Reports, budgets, and expenses for reimbursements were submitted by me to National as required. I voted on all ballots presented.

E-mail inquiries sent to me were answered in a timely manner. These included, but were not limited to, requests for speaking engagements, information on starting new chapters, points of contact for veterans' events, and the forwarding of e-mails to other WMA officers when necessary.

Deceased member reports were completed and mailed to National. E-mail notice of deceased members were also forwarded to the membership secretary.

Requests for MCJROTC Award presenters were mailed out and followed up with phone calls.

I was able to attend most of the training conference calls.

*Corrina Martell, Area 1 Director*



never more than a call or email away, so it was easier for me to pick up where she had left off after she began her next phase of life in South Carolina.

Additionally, the wonderfully responsive WMA senior board members have helped tremendously as I began undertaking this new challenge.

In an attempt to get up to speed quickly, I have spent the majority of the last two years learning about what it takes to succeed in this capacity in the long-term. This entails, attending as many WMA National Board Monthly meeting / training calls as possible, conducting outreach efforts to better understand the needs of the chapters, their leaders, the members-at-large, and what issues are being faced in each regional area, as well as supporting the MC JROTC programs in each of the aforementioned states. Not only does WMA send a certificate, ribbon, and corresponding letter of commendation to each cadet as they are being honored at their Outstanding Cadet Award Ceremony, Area 2 sends each one a special WMA challenge coin along with a personalized note, letting them know that they have the support of the organization behind them. We are wishing these young women success as they continue on with their programs or graduate and enter their first steps of their military careers. We hope that they return to help WMA grow and thrive for many years into the future.

In addition to the regular duties outlined above, I also focus on the growth and vitality of Area 2. Like many, ours runs the full gamut, where some chapters continue to grow and be strong model organizations nationally (DC-1, VA-1, PA-2), those that consistently maintain their member base and their focus (PA-1, PA-3), and those that are facing declining memberships, aging populations and geographic distance barriers which disable them from thriving (VA-2, WV-1). Lastly, there are those states that once had thriving chapters, which need to be reformed and grown slowly over time (DE, MD-1, NJ, and VA-3).

I hope to serve you for many years into the future, working to grow, revitalize, and maintain the Area 2 chapters.

*Rhonda Farrell, Area 2 Director*



## Area 2

As the new Area 2 Director for the DC-1, PA-1, PA-2, PA-3, VA-1, VA-2, and WV-1 chapters, as well as Africa, I had very large shoes to fill after Mitzi Manning

was promoted to the position of 1st VP on the WMA National Board in 2012. Luckily she left me wonderfully organized files, shared information, and was

## Area 3

In August 2012, I attended the Board of Directors meeting on Philadelphia. In September 2012, participated with TN-1 in Operation Stand Down for homeless veterans, accepted an appointment to the executive board of Knoxville OSD, and assisted with

registration and packet pick-up for the local Marine Corps League Mud Run.

I also started the Area Three Facebook page (with the assistance of the WMA public relations officer) and investigated interest in an Area Three regional conference in Winter Haven, Florida.

In November 2012, Joined TN-1 in celebration of the USMC Birthday in Knoxville, Tennessee.

In December, I worked with -1 on various community projects, such as Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign, Angel Tree Warehouse, local food pantry drive and many hours at the USMC Reserve Toys-For-Tots warehouse.

In February 2013, I attended the NC-1 Women Marines Anniversary celebration in Jacksonville, North Carolina. In March 2013, I attended the 70th Anniversary Celebration, banquet and recruit training graduation at Parris Island, South Carolina. I met with members of SC-1 and the FL-11 president for breakfast the following morning. Also in March, I received information for the 53 MCJROTC schools in Area Three. I mailed 55 letters to SMIs, and 55 letters and 39 emails to WMA members to secure presenters for this program. I secured 28 WMA presenters, of which 21 were Members-at-Large. I created and mailed 28 Certificates of Appreciation to each presenter.

Between October 2013 and March 2014, I prepared and mailed start-up packets as per requests to Memphis, TN; Birmingham, AL; Charleston, SC; Winter Haven, FL; and while on vacation, I personally delivered one to a very enthusiastic member in San Juan, Puerto Rico. To date, two chapters have been re-established: NC-2 at New Bern, NC and GA-1 in the Atlanta area.



### **Area 3 (Continued)**

New chapters are FL-11 in Pensacola, SC-2 Charleston, SC and I installed officers at NC-3 in central NC on March 15, 2014.

I attended the Interim Board of Directors Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri in October 2013. In November, I attended the Marine Corps Birthday celebrations of TN-1 and GA-1.

In January 2014, I mailed 58 letters to Senior Military Instructors and at the schools within Area 3 that participate in the MCJROTC Program. In February, I sent out letters and EIN forms to 12 chapters within Area 3. All but 2 chapters have responded. In February and March, I researched for location of WMA members and mailed 58 letters and numerous emails to secure presenters for the Area 3 MCJROTC Award Ceremony at the schools in the area.

In March I attended the Women Marine Anniversary celebrations in North Carolina with NC-1, NC-2 and NC-3 and Int-1, Women of War Chapter. I also installed the first officers of NC-3, Semper Fi Chapter.

I continue to update and maintain the Area 3 Facebook page; search the WMA Facebook page for new potential members in Area 3; send copies of quarterly rosters to the chapters in my area; and follow through on telephone calls that come into the WMA 888 hot line. I have voted on all ballots that come from WMA National and have participated in monthly telephone training sessions when I was available.

I have responded to all inquiries received via the WMA AD3 email, via telephone or letter or have forwarded the inquiry to the appropriate person. I have sent out letters and emails to delinquent members in my area and/or notified chapter officers of such, asking them to contact the member to resolve the problem.

**Barbara Chagnon, Area 3 Director**



### **Area 4**

Since I took over Area 4 Director this past fall, I have sent information to the chapters in my area that was forwarded to me from National, including:

- 1.) New Members that are

in their area.

- 2.) Requests for EIN Numbers. I have also sent letters out to each of my chapters to get members to go to high schools in their area to present the MCJROTC awards.

My husband Don, a Loyal Escort, and I went to our grandchild's school to talk during Veterans Day ceremonies. I also attended AZ-1's Women Marines anniversary luncheon.

**Betty Cannon, Area 4 Director**

### **Area 5**

During the past year, I have been available to the chapter officers, members and Members-At-Large (MALs) via email, telephone and postal mail.

I attended the National Interim Board Meeting in October 2013, as well as the monthly teleconference trainings.

I also attended an American Legion Town Hall Panel for Veterans with Congressman Emmanuel Cleaver and Secretary Kathleen Sebelius.

There have been quite some positive conversations among my chapter members which I have totally enjoyed and will always hold close to my heart; "Thank you, Ladies". I work to ensure our membership rosters are up to date as best as possible, contacting members to renew their memberships and encouraging Members-At-Large to join chapters, if in close proximity. I also ensure our chapters are in compliance with National regulations.

Daily, I monitor the eList, Facebook, Yahooogroups and receive womenmarine.org email. In addition to my Area 5 Director duties this past year, an additional duty has been a member of the Convention Coordinating Committee, and we, along with National's guidance, have been working to present a 'professional and rewarding experience'.

I enjoy my role in mentoring youth in my local school district and will continue to volunteer. I am a member of the city's Parks and Recreation Board, specifically the Building and Grounds Committee and the Recreations committee, overseeing the greenery and parks in our city and the youths' sports programs.

**Deniese Elosh, Area 5 Director**



### **Area 6 Director**

**Maria Elena Crowley**

Maria is currently mending from surgery for first one broken leg and then a second broken leg.

Her first injury was suffered "in the line of duty", as she was on her way to install officers at the Molly Marine Chapter in New Orleans. Writing this for her is simple: Maria continues to do the outstanding job she has always done, staying in close contact with all her chapters and making time to visit each of them at least once during the year.

She also found time to travel to San Antonio to help Major General Angela Salinas celebrate her retirement from the Corps.

Through her efforts, Texas-6 in the New Braunfels area is on the verge of receiving approval as a new chapter.

In addition to her duties as an Area Director, Maria chaired the very important 2012 Convention Audit Committee.

I know all of us wish Maria a very speedy recovery and successful rehab period.

I know Maria would love to hear from her friends in WMA as she goes through this slow and painful process. Her home address is: 1232 E. CR 2302 Riviera, TX 78379.

**Author: Mitzi Manning**

### **Area 7**

Area 7 Director, Doris Bell attended the Interim Board Meeting in Kansas City, October 2013. Her report was not available at press time.

## **Returning in Our Next Issue:**

Our regular features (such as Chapter Tool Kit, our Merchandise pages and Molly Marine Award recipients) will return in our next issue. We have excluded them in order to devote this issue of 'Nouncements to Area Directors' and National Officers' and Committee reports, and proposed Bylaw Amendments relating to our upcoming convention in Kansas City, Missouri, July 25 -28.

If you have not yet registered, forms are on page 6, or (if you are on orders) page 7.



## WMA Area Director Reports *(Continued)*

### Area 8

As the director for Area 8 (Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and Utah), I have communicated regularly telephonically and via email with our national officers on national and local WMA issues. I've participated in monthly National Board meetings and training, and in October, traveled to Kansas City for the Interim Board Meeting with other national officers.



I found the experience rewarding and motivating.

My best wishes and full support go to the incoming Director of Area 8.

**Lynn Martin, Area 8 Director**

### Area 9

As the Area 9 Director to Chapters in this area, including, Northsound, Chapter; WA-3. Oregon Capital; OR-4, Eager Beavers, OR-3 and Southern Oregon – OR-2.



I have spent a great deal of time this past year using various methods of to attract members to join chapters or start new chapters. I created a Facebook page and manage the Facebook page for Area-9. I also share all the information about chapter meetings and happenings on that Facebook page.

I have invited chapter officers to join social media as a way of getting back in touch with Marines they may have served with, stay connected with each other or to recruit more members to their current chapter membership.

I have attended half of the monthly National Board meetings via phone conference.

Specific projects have included: 1) contacting each chapter president to ensure completion of the chapter informa-

tion surveys and submitting them to the Mitzi Manning. 2.) I have represented WMA at two Washington State veteran events as well as 2 Hire-America's Heroes Events here in Seattle. 3) I have attended several chapter meetings and met to consult with the chapter president in Oregon to participate in planning conversations.

I am actively in process of starting a new chapter and have several new potential members.

We are still in the planning stages, but our chapter will be in the South Seattle area, once we finally launch it.

**Terry Hall, Area 9 Director**

### Area 10

This past year as Area Director, I've passed along National information from the Membership Secretary and the 1st Vice President



to the chapters, as well as forwarding the financial reports. I've given advice to struggling chapters, helped interpret SOPs and the "How To Book", and given information and advice to a few different ladies who are thinking about starting new chapters of WMA. I have also served as the chapter president for CA-2, San Diego County.

**Kara Harris, Area 10 Director**

## Scrapbooking Class Offered at Convention

Do you want to learn to make your own cards?

Want to pass some time away working on a scrapbook project? We are offering a small class for those who would like to learn some scrapbooking techniques, make a project, and have some fun.

MO-KAN 02 Chapter member, Celia Grayless, will be offering up her skills to teach anyone who would like to learn. Hours will be posted in the Registration Area of the hotel. So be on the lookout for the WHERE and WHEN.

There will be some supplies available but they will be limited. A Circuit © Personal Electronic Cutter machine and Stampin Up! Big shot will be available to use.

For a nominal fee you can pre-order a Stampin' Up Kit or bring your own supplies.



Please contact Celia Grayless at [Grayless\\_galahs@yahoo.com](mailto:Grayless_galahs@yahoo.com) for more information and to pre-order your Kit. She would like to know how many she needs to order before the convention. On Its Way Simply Sent 131373 kits. Price: \$14.00 (this includes tax & shipping) to include paper and accessories for 8 cards. Coordinates with Thanks & Hello Stamp. However, you can use any stamps you want.

Kit includes:

- 8 4¼"x 5½" cards with awesome glossy stripes on the front
- 8 Kraft envelopes
- 8 Sheets of cardstock stickers

• 8 Arrow Cute Clips

• 20 Stampin' Dimensionals

**Register today!**

# Reports of WMA National Officers

## President's Report

### Highlights from July 2013 – July 2014

Being “your” WMA National President continues to be an honor, and an opportunity for even greater things to come.

Since becoming President in 2012, we've said farewell to many of our Sister Marines. Their memories will never fade...as long as we wear the eagle, globe and anchor. I dedicate this annual report in their memory.

I have tried to find additional ways to communicate with our members (and even recently joined you on Facebook). In previous *'Nouncements*, you've seen that I've been on the go looking for you, my Sister Marines across the nation. I've driven (and flown) thousands of miles to share an OOHRAH from San Diego, Oceanside, San Jose, Pittsboro, New River, Indianapolis, Columbus, Gary (and countless other cities) on the road to Kansas City.

Our convention theme is “Experience Our Legacy in the City of Fountains” and we'll be celebrating our living legends from the WWII, Korea and Vietnam eras the evening before our Opening Banquet. I hope you can join us as we sing the “*March of the Women Marines*” in Kansas City.

In October 2013, many of the Board of Directors (BOD) and committee representatives met in Kansas City for our Interim Board Meeting (IBM). It was a chance for us to walk the halls of our convention site and make final preparations with the Convention Coordinating Committee (CCC). Super Job, 2014 CCC!

As for your Board of Directors, we have continued with the monthly training teleconferences and have covered topics such as: reviewing/revising our SOP under the facilitation of our new SOP Review Committee (many thanks to Rhonda Amtower and her tireless Committee), National HQ/Property Control, processed information for new chapters, submitted our mid-year budget review, received training on the filing of Chapter 990s, received Google training from our President, Loyal Es-

corts and an update on our web/social media impact from our awesome Public Relations Officer (PRO) Mary Ann Merritt...and much, much more. What was exciting is that the Board took a photo at IBM in Kansas City stating that we needed you, and once again, my Sister Marines, you have stepped up to our challenge.

We'll be conducting a mail ballot because we have multiple positions that require your vote as well as two WMA chapters who have submitted 2018 convention bids...OOHRAH!

Our Women Marines Association (WMA) is growing leaps and bounds and we have a great opportunity to strategically plan for our future. With this in mind, I have created an ad hoc Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC) to define and address key topics that will ensure WMA remains a viable organization in the future and addresses critical cross-cutting areas that will contribute to achieving this goal. I've asked Kathy Sheppard (2VP) to serve as Chair of the SAC. SAC members include a diverse and wonderful group of Sister Marines (from all ranks and locations) to once again serve. We'll be hearing an update on the SAC at convention.

Finally, we must not rest on our laurels... it has been said by many, “To whom much is given, much is required”...we must continue to serve... as Marines, for Marines. Remember, we are women by gender and Marines for life!

Semper Fidelis,

**Betty Moseley Brown**  
**President**

**Women Marines Association**

### Immediate Past President

The duties I performed as the Immediate Past President (IPP) include: advised National President as needed; coordinated the publication of the 2012-2014 RMD and introduced the new CD format; coordinated the publication of the 2014 National Election Ballot; voted on all Ballots as a member of the National Board of Directors; provided budgetary input as required;

served as Responsible Officer for the administrative oversight of the WMA Standing Operating Procedures (SOP) changes by coordinating the administrative preparation of SOP changes and submitted them for review and approval at the 2013 IBM and during monthly Training Conference calls.

Additional responsibilities included: coordinated the development of the new Convention Oversight Committee (COC). This new Committee will help provide assistance to the National President and the Convention Arrangements/Coordinating Committees for the conduct of our WMA Biennial Convention and Professional Development Conferences.

Specifically I attended an onsite 2014 Convention Coordinating Committee (CCC) meeting in Kansas City in June of 2013 and continue to act as a direct liaison with the CCC as requested by the National President.

I also began the planning process with the 2016 Convention Arrangements Committee (CAC) to assist in the negotiation of the convention hotel contract in Portland, Oregon.

**Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower**  
**Immediate Past President**

### 1st Vice President's Report

As the direct representative to the WMA Areas and Chapters, I have spent the majority of my time this past year using various methods...telephone, email, social media, and snail mail... to be as accessible as possible to area directors and chapter officers in need of information, advice, and (when needed) cheerleading. I have attended all but one of the monthly National Board meetings, which have been held electronically on a regular basis. Specific projects have included: 1) preparing and distributing chapter information surveys, collecting the information, and reporting chapter survey results to the National Board.; 2) collecting data and submitting mid-year and two year budget drafts; 3) finding 3 volunteers to replace National officers who were not able to finish their terms of office; 4) preparing and presenting at a National

## Reports of National Officers

Board training session “Finance 101 for Board Members”; 5) representing WMA when possible at patriotic/veteran events to include Branson, Missouri’s “Veterans Week” and the Raleigh, NC “Soul Repair” Conference on veterans suffering from moral injury after serving in combat; 6) with the 2 Vice President, assisting the IPP with preparation/editing of proposed SOP changes; being in contact with committee chairs in areas for which I am responsible; and 8) performing other duties as requested by our National President.

One of the newer aspects of my job has been to daily check the WMA web site and WMA and Area Facebook pages to connect with potential new members.

From my perspective, this Public Relations Officer-led project has been one of our most successful this year. Although we were forced to disband 2 chapters this year at the chapters’ own request, I am pleased with the establishment of two new and one reinstated chapters in Area 3: NC-3 “Semper Fi”, SC-2 “True Grits”, and NC-2 “Wings”.

**Mitzi Manning**  
*1st Vice President*

### 2nd Vice President

As 2nd Vice President, I attended WMA Interim Board Meeting (IBM) in Kansas City the site of our 2014 Convention. During the IBM Action items were reviewed and updated, SOP changes were reviewed and voted on and general business of WMA Organization was conducted. I participated in the Mid-year review of the budget and reported the results to the committees that reports to the 2nd Vice President. Throughout the year assisted the National President on various projects as needed. In June 2013 WMA reached the first year of ownership of the Women of the Corps Collection (WOCC). As required by the Memorandum of Agreement with the Women of the Corps Foundation (MOU), reviewed the document to see what changes may be needed. Commencing in January 2014 commenced the Nomination process for the 2014-2016 election of the Board of the Directors. Received nominations for elections as well as bids for the 2018 Convention site. Assisted Com-

mittees reporting to 2nd Vice President and the National President as needed.

**Kathy Sheppard**  
*2nd Vice President*

### 3rd Vice President

My main duty as 3RD VP is to oversee the expenses that have been budgeted for the FY. I receive, audit and authorize payment of all invoices and requests for reimbursements that are sent to me. Before I authorize any payments I check all invoices and requests for reimbursements for legitimacy, accuracy and those monies were budgeted for those claims. For fiscal year 2013-2014 a total of \$202,315.00 has been budgeted for expenses that I monitor and process for payment. As of 02/28/2014 I have processed invoices and requests for reimbursements totaling \$145,048. As of 02/28/2014 we have \$57,266.23 left in our budget for expenses.

**Betty Cook**  
*3rd Vice President*

### National Secretary

Special Events, Award Presentations, and Speeches

- Aug 31-Sept 3, 2012 Attended and was installed at Convention in Philadelphia.
- May 2013 presented JROTC Award at John C. Fremont in Los Angeles, CA.
- May 2013 presented JROTC Award at Orange High School in Orange, CA.
- May 2013 arranged for Genevieve Brown to be the Guest Speaker at Memorial Day Event in Fountain Valley, CA.

#### Visits to/Interactions with Chapters

- All Membership Card updates are sent to Chapter Officers
  - Encourage Chapters to connect with MALs as MALs renew memberships
- #### Communications
- Quarterly Rosters sent to all ADs
  - Membership Card updates sent to ADs
  - Inform Chaplain of any Illnesses of members or their families
  - Inform Chaplain, ADs and Chapters of any Deaths
  - Interpret CR Rules to ADs & Chapters
  - Answer membership queries
  - Called Members in Distress
  - Called Members to resolve new/renewal membership issues
  - Called Members to resolve issues con-

cerning contact info  
Projects and/or Challenges with Suggestions

- Challenge – CA-5....prevent disbanding
- Improve National communications between the ADs & Chapters
- Identify/Map meeting locations of all Chapters to assist placement of MALs w/Chapters
- Handed out WMA applications at Veteran & Civic Events

**Bess Gamble-Williams**  
*Secretary*

### Treasurer’s Report, FY 2013-2014

At the close the 3rd quarter of the 2013-14 fiscal year, the unaudited WMA balance sheet shows assets of \$2.37 million, equal to the sum of capital and liabilities. At the very start of this fiscal year, WMA was privileged to disperse more than \$60,000 in scholarships to deserving students.

This is the most that has been awarded in several years. In addition, WMA has already received more in general fund donations than was expected for the entire year (close to \$17,000 vs. a budgeted \$12,000).

Also new this year, WMA was notified that we are one of the beneficiaries of the estate of Ms. Delores Herrero. This and any future funds received from Ms. Herrero’s estate will be held in the Capital Fund.

During my tenure as treasurer (September 2012 to present), WMA has experienced relative stability in financial management.

With contractor assistance, I received, accounted for and reported all WMA income; paid all WMA bills as authorized by the by-laws, standing rules and third vice president; produced and sent membership cards; provided names of new life members for permanent cards; provided periodic reports of WMA financial condition; in accordance with WMA SOP advised WMA chapters of requirements for requesting group exemptions as “recognized subordinates” by the Internal Revenue Service and prepared prescribed annual listings of recognized subordinates; and acknowledged donations to WMA.

## Reports of National Officers

### WMA Balance Sheet March 2014

#### ASSETS

Cash		
Hilliard Lyons GF Checking	\$	3,177.61
NFCU Checking		282.75
Funds Pending Deposit		38,539.97
Total Cash		42,000.33
Investments		
Capital Fund Investments		756,376.98
Memorial Scholarship Fund		1,692,556.84
Memorial Scholarship (NFCU)		7,667.83
Total Investments		2,456,601.65
Other Current Assets		
Merchandise Inventory		444.50
Postage Deposit Account		1,200.00
Convention Deposits Receivable		5,000.00
Total Other Current Assets		6,644.50
Property and Equipment		
Total Property and Equipment		0.00
Other Assets		
HL CF Overstatement		(12,352.18)
HL MSF Overstatement		(128,952.80)
Web Site Costs		6,885.00
Amortization of Web Site Costs		(5,508.00)
Total Other Assets		(139,927.98)
Total Assets	\$	2,365,318.50
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL		
Current Liabilities		
Total Current Liabilities		0.00
Long-Term Liabilities		
Total Long-Term Liabilities		0.00
Total Liabilities		0.00
Capital		
General Fund Net Assets	\$	8,049.12
Capital Fund Net Assets		784,779.51
Memorial Scholarship Net Assets		1,345,812.01
Fallen Warrior Sch. Net Assets		25,878.78
McClung Scholarship Net Assets		14,919.47
Ditmore Scholarship Net Assets		112,091.06
Gridley Scholarship Net Assets		73,788.55
Unallocated Surplus (Deficit)		0.00
Net Equity		2,365,318.50
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$	2,365,318.50

This was the fourth tax year utilizing the revised SOP Letters which allow chapters to provide the data for National to file their IRS form on their behalf.

This has been the best year yet in terms of the number of forms that were returned to National.

As of now, all chapters are in good standing with the IRS in terms of their subordinate organization and tax exempt status.

Treasurer's Way Ahead: Going forward, I shall continually review my duties as treasurer to determine if there is room for improvement and will remain informed of treasurer issues as they arise.

Please let me know if there is any way that I can better serve you. It is an honor to serve you as treasurer.

**Patricia J. Lewis**  
**Treasurer**

#### Chaplain's Report

Death notifications were received for 213 members in the period from the 2012 Memorial service through March 2014.

Approximately 130 condolence letters were sent to next of kin identified by a chapter or on file in national database. When an obituary was provided, condolences were also offered on line.

Less than 10 death notices were received on the form provided to chapters in the "How To" book. Most are received via email messages from Chapters, Area Directors, Membership Secretary and the national database contractor.

Special sympathy, Get Well and Encouragement cards and notes requested by Area Directors or National officers were sent by Chaplain.

Reports of deceased members are prepared quarterly by the national database contractor and reconciled by the Chaplain. TAPS columns and Chaplain's remarks were submitted for each issue of 'Nouncements.

The Chaplain coordinated a joint visitation service with Louisville WMA KY-1 members and MCL Detachment to honor WWII veteran and WMA lifetime member Kathleen Drummond. Chaplain officiated at her internment in Melrose, Illinois.

A proposed budget was submitted and recommendations were made for SOP changes related to Chaplain's office that would reduce future budget needs.

**Submitted by Mary Broussard**  
**Chaplain**

# WMA Committee Reports

## Public Relations Officer/Electronic Communication Report 2012 -2014

Since last convention in 2012 the focus has been on recruitment and retention. Networking through social media we connect with Marines of all ages to promote WMA and her purposes. This is done via Twitter, Facebook and the WMA Blog. Work to connect new members with chapters. Work with chapters to promote them and recruit new members. Worked to connect Marines on FB to start new chapters.

Keeping the WMA website, Facebook and Blog updated on a regular basis with the new Molly Marines, interesting stories and updates of historical significance.

The main focus in all positions is to provide continuous information that will encourage growth and retention in our membership as well as provide education of all eras of Marines.

New this term is the creation of the WMA weekly e-newspaper. The Women of the Corps paper incorporates all stories from the WMA blog, twitter posts, posts from US Marines, DVIDS and various women Marine postings.

Currently the focus is on promoting and making the 2014 Convention a great success.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Ann Merritt*

*WMA National PRO, WebAdmin,  
Electronic Committee Chair*

## Scholarship Committee

This year the scholarship committee received 43 application packages by the 31 Jan 2013. The applications were reviewed by the selection board on Mar 9, 2013 and found that 3 applications did not meet the GPA requirements and 8 were incomplete which required additional information then the remaining applications were put in order of possible selection.

On 24 Apr 13 – the committee received scholarship numbers from Treasurer and based on that info, awarded 29 WMA scholarships, and 1 selectee for LEGGS, OR 1 and FL 3 scholarships.

Between 27 Apr, 2013 and 3 May 2013 letters of selection/non-selection were e-mailed to applicants. On May 13, 2013 notifications were sent to Loyal Escorts, OR 1, and FL 3 of selectees for their respective

scholarships.

On 21 Jun 13 the Editor of *'Nouncements* was notified of selectee's names and sent photographs for publication.

Throughout the year I monitored the WMA Web Site and responded to questions posted on the Web Site. One selectee requested a 1 year delay of her scholarship. Upon consulting with the Treasurer, it was decided that this was not possible, so two Sopcak winners' scholarships were each increased to \$3000.00. A total of 11 Sopcak winners were awarded scholarships totaling \$3000 each. One \$3000.00 Ditmore Scholarship was awarded

Board will not be held until April 2014 after it is determined the number of scholarships that can be awarded for 2014.

*Dorothy Stover-Kendrick*

## WMA Ways & Means Committee Report, March 2014

The Ways & Means Committee continues to pursue donations and other methods of funding for WMA. We have received several bequests in the last few years which have helped a great deal. Corporate donations are harder and harder to get unless you know someone! (If you do, please contact Carol Mutter!) We are trying to apply for grants – a very time-consuming process that has not born fruit yet, but we're still in the running for two.

The Wreaths Across America and I Pledge efforts have been successful and we are very grateful to all the donors, as well as those of you who send money back in the envelopes we periodically provide with your newsletter and the RM&D. Your donations "In Honor of" and "In Memory of" also help WMA, while recognizing the one you wish to honor/remember. Remember, those donations get the same recognition whether they go to the General Fund or the Memorial Scholarship Fund. Our MSF now has over \$1.5M, so we're able to give a good number of scholarships every year; our current needs are in the General Fund. We're working on a golf tournament and a job fair to both raise money and have fun/help veterans, but these will not be held in conjunction with the Convention and Professional Development seminar in Kansas City as originally intended. We sold a few ads in the Resource Manual and Directory

for the first time and heard no complaints, so we'll likely expand this effort to help pay for the high cost of printing and distributing that very valuable resource.

Any and all ideas are welcome. We'll have an ad hoc meeting during the Convention and Professional Development Seminar for those who are interested in contributing ideas and efforts to help WMA to raise the funds we need to continue our very valuable programs.

*Carol A. Mutter*

## National Headquarters and Headquarters Property Control

As of this writing the status of the National Headquarters located at Camp Pendleton is uncertain re: location on Camp Pendleton. New regulations imposed by the base may preclude this location and may require the relocation of all National Headquarters files and items to another space off the base. We will have more information by convention time.

For calendar year 2012 Headquarters mailed 240 *'Nouncements* and 201 RM&Ds. For calendar year 2013 Headquarters mailed 293 *'Nouncements* and 174 RM&Ds. This was for new joins and re-joins. Either a Welcome Aboard or Welcome Back letter went with each *'Nouncements*. WMA also instituted the RM&D on CD format. By December 139 of these were sent: of this number 34 were sent individually.

In January 2014 the post office increased postage by a significant amount. *'Nouncements* went from \$1.52 each to \$1.61 each. RM&Ds increased from \$2.53 each to \$2.69 each. The CD RM&D comes in a light cardboard envelope that has a first class permit stamp printed on it. Those can be mailed individually at a cost I don't know. The bill for these goes directly to WMA National. However, I have been mailing them with the *'Nouncements* envelope (keep it all one package) for a 10 cent increase per envelope. I think this is cheaper than mailing it separately.

We are OK in our printed supplies (applications, postcards, business cards). These will last us through this calendar year. We will need to consider reprinting by the end of the year and into 2015.

*Lillian Cross*

# Committee Reports

## National VAVS Representative 2014 Report

One of my main duties is to represent WMA at the VAVS National Advisory Committee Meeting in Cary, NC., April 23-25, 2014. The attendees represent all the Voluntary Service Organizations accredited to the VA along with VAVS staff from across the U.S. WMA is presently an Honorary member because we do not have volunteers on the Advisory Committees at at least 15 hospitals.

Workshops on the new and innovative programs at different VA Hospitals are held. Changes to the VAVS Handook and rules are presented. The meeting is open to anyone who wishes to attend so I urge all our volunteers to attend if they get an opportunity. My report on the NAC meeting to the Board highlights the important information disseminated there.

I have made several renewals of current representatives to local committees as needed.

I spoke to one VA MC VAVS chief in Michigan, after the activities of MA-1 did not appear on the Annual Cumulative Hours Report that I receive. In that case, their visits were after normal hours, and the hand written time/activity sheets did not get forwarded from where they had their activity to the VAVS office at their center so they received no credit. To increase our reported participation, every chapter needs to have their occasional volunteer hours reported when they have a special event. Check with the VAVS after an event to ensure your hours are recorded, if you do not enter them into the computer yourselves. I conducted a VAVS training session on the President's/BOD/Area Chair monthly conference call in July 2013.

As the local WMA Representative at Coatesville, PA VAMC, I attended all four of the Quarterly VAVS Committee meetings. I am currently a regularly scheduled volunteer with 2 weekly assignments: 3 hours a week in the library, and 4 hours a week at the Employment Development Computer room. I will be attending the Annual Volunteer luncheon, April 12, 2014. I attended the local Women Veteran's Luncheon November 4, 2013. I also have occasional volunteer hours with the MCL, as part of the Veterans Day Parade Color Guard, the Annual MCL picnic in September, and at occasional Bingo Parties.

As last Convention's Registration Chair, I am a resource person for registration at the 2014 Convention and have been responding to questions regarding the process.

I respond to the WMA email address vavs@womenmarines.org. Anyone can contact me there if you have a question or concern. I currently have no assistant. Anyone who would like to learn more about the program, is a registered volunteer, and would like to be my backup, can contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Kay M. Croll**

**WMA National VAVS Representative**

## MCJROTC Program Manager 2013-2014

In October 2013 I assumed the position of MCJROTC Program Manager.

I mailed 258 packages to schools participating in the program. Packages included: Presentation Folder, Award Certificate, Ribbon and questionnaire to the SMI for name of Outstanding Cadet, time and date of ceremony and name of the presenter.

E-mailed a list of schools in her area to each AD with a sample letter that she can use to request presenters from their area.

I ordered, ribbons and bars from Vanguard and folders from PIP Printing. Most schools start their award ceremonies in March through June so I have not had many responses from them as of this date.

Respectfully submitted,

**Barbara Chagnon**

## National Merchandise Sales Report

As the WMA member directly in charge of National Merchandise, I have communicated with members regarding their questions about merchandise and how to make orders. I have taken surveys about what products they would like to see for purchase. Sales normally decline after convention only making about \$250, but cap orders have started to pick up in the last two months.

We have sold out of WMA Life Pins and have asked another WMA member with graphic design skills to develop some new designs. The previous vendor went out of business. The idea of a new design came about from many members being less than happy with their current Life pin. Once some sample designs have been created we can decide which pin to go with and will vet to different vendors for the best price.

I have also met with Kathy Sheppard in order to set up a meeting with a vendor in Tampa for some silk screening and embroidery designs. I have also contacted Tervis Company regarding what kind of discounts could be offered with their products. The last mugs that were put into inventory were of very poor quality and have been unable to sell them all.

Kathy suggested we try Tervis since their products come with a life-time guarantee. I am currently waiting for their offer. With the assistance of Mary Anne Merritt and Kathy, we have posted the merchandise pictures on the WMA Facebook page for added exposure to the merchandise. The sales orders and inquiries have been starting to hit the sales gmail account. I have also researched setting up PayPal services for non-profit organization. A complete proposal for setting up this alternate payment plan will be coming soon.

I have not been able to attend chapter meetings as reserve drill or medical program at school have me pretty tied up, but I did provide Kathy with merchandise to sell at the anniversary celebration. I invited the Marines at 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion and one Marine is interested in joining the chapter.

Semper Fi,

**America Dones**

## Molly Marine Liaison Report

The Molly Marine Presentation to Fourth Recruit Training Battalion recipients has continued to occur on training day 68 on the training schedule at the Molly Marine statue, weather permitting. The Battalion Executive Officer is my point of contact and promptly notifies me via e-mail the week prior to graduation of the recipient names in the Molly Marine Information Sheets as well as essays written by each recipient. I supply Fourth Battalion S-1 with WMA folders and certificates and S-1 continues to fill in the certificate information.

The day of the presentation each recipient receives a special challenge coin from WMA along with the WMA folder (certificate, History of the Molly Marine Statue, History of WMA, WMA application, WMA bookmark, postcard, and business card). Photos of each presentation are taken by the Molly Marine Liaison and forwarded to National. Fourth Battalion continues their tradition of having each recipient write an essay about her reflections on

## **Committee Reports**

Molly Marine. These essays, photos, and names with homes of record are forwarded to National.

Following the presentation, I print the photographs, enclose them in a separate congratulatory note, and then deliver along with a gift-wrapped framed photo of the Molly Statue (from SC-1) to the recipients at Fourth Battalion so each Recipient will have a memory of her special award before graduation and departure from Parris Island—basically an invitation for future membership in WMA. Fourth Battalion has been most gracious about this prestigious award and certainly very accommodating to WMA.

*Linda Priest*

### **HQMC Liaison Report**

Over the course of the last year, the HQMC Liaison Officer (LNO) has contacted and delivered on letters from the Commandant of the Marine Corps and Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps for the Women Marines Anniversary in February 2013. Also, contacted Commandants Staff Group to begin development of the Welcome Letters from the CMC and SMMC for the WMA Convention in Kansas City for 2014.

The HQMC LNO was not involved in the development of the MARADMIN that is developed through MPE.

*Ann Crittendon*

### **History Committee/ WOCC Report**

The past year has been a busy time in the area of our history. The chair of the history Committee co-hatted as the curator/historian of the Women Of the Corps Collection (WOCC), has written articles that have appeared in every issue of WMA's *'Nouncements'*.

A new article of "DID YOU KNOW" on little-known, yet interesting, facts on women Marines have been told. Multiple thank you notes and phone calls have been received about this column concept as well as stories other members would like to see told in future articles.

This year has been a busy year in responding to requests on wma.org requesting information and data on women Marines and historical facts on women Marines. To assist families who know little of a family members Marine past, a guide for developing a story of their WM's Marine Corps experience based on the information the fam-

ily has and data developed by the WOCC can locate through Marine Corps sources.

The WOCC Curator/historian responded to a request by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command to assist with an environmental assessment and disposition impact of four historical MCRD Parris Island buildings. A report covering each building, its historical value to the command, possible future uses in the commands historical area, as well as photos and story of the earliest appearance of WM activity at MCRD Parris Island were also included.

The loss of funds on the WMA calendar has made this a "not in the future" project. It is recommended this project be returned to a possible chapter project on a volunteer basis.

This year the Marine Corps Association (MCA) has withdrawn their prize support for the Essay Contest held in convention years and announced at convention. MCA has been requested by CMC to support Marine Corps programs during this time of reduction of funds and assets. We have been encouraged to approach MCA again in the future. They have supported us for the 12 years I have been the Essay chair. I have notified the President of WMA a number of months ago on MCA's 2014 decision.

Multiple school presentations have been made in the last year at the U. S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Denver and Douglas County Schools, and the Colorado Universities on women Marines in history as well as WOCC presentations on talks on rationing, women in defense work, victory gardens, bond drives, etc. with huge success.

Julia Hamblet Award 2014 was successfully completed with the notification of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation by WMA's Hamblet Committee under the management of Eileen Scanlon. This year's winner is Dr. Peter Soderbergh, PhD, former Dean of the College of Education Louisiana State University. Dr. Soderbergh served as a unit commander during the Korean War and in his three books on Women Marines wrote the first social histories on Women Marines. Both Dr. Soderbergh's wife and sister-in-law were Korea era Marines. His family is making every attempt to attend, as is the senior faculty of Louisiana State University.

The WOCC has continued to grow at an amazing rate in this past year with numerous donations by women who have served

as Marines and their families. In addition, we have received collections from two Marine museums that do not have the funds to preserve items women Marines have donated. The WOCC has provided information to various Marine Command Museums as well as the National Museum of the Marine Corps and USMC History Division. We have received tremendous support this year from USMC Records Branch, the Marine Archives and History Division. This summer USMC History Division will be sending staff to work in the WOCC.

The WOCC is opening communications with the WWI Museum in Kansas City to see how we can assist them with a WWI women Marine display.

The WOCC has sent a number of small exhibit materials in response to requests. A total of 13 veterans groups, and schools received display materials.

*Nancy Wilt, Chair, History Committee  
Curator/Historian  
Women Of the Corps Collection*

### **Plans and Policies Committee Chair Report**

Attended the IBM in Kansas City, Mo in August 2013. Provided review comments on various documents staffed via e-mail. Attended or listened to all of the monthly teleconferences held for the WMA Board. Reviewed all proposed SOP changes and provided comments where appropriate. Represented WMA at various local veteran's events and parades. Served on the newly appointed Strategic Planning Committee. Assisted board members with a variety of special requests. I plan to attend the upcoming WMA Convention.

Semper Fi,

*Kathleen Wright*

### **Editor's Report**

I took time off as editor in 2013 to prepare for the birth of my first child, and a permanent change of station (PCS) move. Former editor Sondra Metzger took over the reins and did an excellent and timely job.

I enlisted the help of three volunteers who helped proofread and write for the newsletter: Michelle Weaver, Allison Stein, and Connie Schroller.

Xpert Media Management (XMM) continues to do an outstanding job with the layout and design of the newsletter.

*Wanda Antoine, Editor*

# Proposed Amendments to WMA Standing Rules

## REF: PARAGRAPH 2 — DIRECTORY

### Current Wording

A directory of the names and addresses of Active members of record as of 1 October shall be published following the biennial convention. The Resource Manual and Directory shall include a list of National Officers; Honorary Members; Appointed Officers; Committee Chairmen and their Committees; Chapter Officers; Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter Officers; a copy of the Articles of Incorporation; Bylaws, Standing Rules; and include the Scholarship Program procedure and application. Names and addresses of the Active members and reinstated members from a previous term shall be printed in each issue of WMA 'Nouncements, except in the issue that coincides with the publication of the biennial directory.

### Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

A directory of the names and addresses of Active members of record as of 1 October shall be published following the biennial convention. The Resource Manual and Directory (RM&D) shall include a list of National Officers; Area Directors; Appointed Officers; Appointed Representatives; Special Appointments; Standing Committees; Honorary Members; Chapter Officers; Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter Officers; a copy of the Articles of Incorporation; Bylaws, Standing Rules; and include the Scholarship Program procedures and application. Names and addresses of the Active members and reinstated members from a previous term shall be printed in each issue of WMA 'Nouncements, except in the issue that coincides with the publication of the biennial directory.

**Rationale:** To be consistent in identifying the National level positions. Added an "s" to the word procedure.

## REF: PARAGRAPH 6.A. — CONVENTIONS

### Current Wording

A. Convention Arrangements Committee consisting of a chairman and two members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors to manage the details and physical arrangements for the Biennial Convention to be held in four years, as selected on the ballot.

### Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

A. Convention Arrangements Committee consisting of a chair and two members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors to manage the details and physical arrangements for the Biennial Convention to be held in four years.

**Rationale:** Administrative change of "chairman" to "chair." By deleting "as selected on the ballot," alleviates confusion as to whether the convention is selected on an election ballot or by fiat. (E.G. if no ballot is required and or if only one bid is submitted.)

## REF: PARAGRAPH 9 — BUDGETARY ALLOWANCES

### Current Wording

Within the proposed budget, an allowance shall be established to help defray allowable expenses incurred by elected officers and directors and appointed officers and representatives (including Committee Chairmen) in

### Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

Within the proposed budget, an allowance shall be established to help defray allowable expenses incurred by National Officers, Area Directors, Appointed Officers, Appointed

connection with official WMA business.

Representatives, Special Appointments, and Standing Committee Chairs in connection with official WMA business.

**Rationale:** To clarify which positions receive a budgetary allowance.

## REF: PARAGRAPH 12 — CHAPTER EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN) AND GROUP EXEMPTION STATUS

### Current Wording

Each chapter shall obtain and operate under its own single Employer Identification Number (EIN). New chapters must apply for an Employer Identification Number within fifteen (15) months after being chartered. If an existing chapter does not have an EIN, that chapter's treasurer shall submit FORM SS 4 requesting same and shall notify the National Treasurer of the assigned EIN. No chapter is allowed to use the National Women Marines Association's EIN. The National Treasurer will furnish each chapter treasurer the "Group Exemption Status Authorization" form annually (February). Treasurers of chapters desiring to be included in the Group Exemption Status must complete and sign this form and return it to the National Treasurer not later than 10 March.

### Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

Each chapter shall obtain and operate under its own single Employer Identification Number (EIN). New chapters must apply for an Employer Identification Number (EIN) at the same time they prepare and submit their Bylaws and Standing Rules for their charter. The chapter's treasurer shall notify the National Treasurer of the assigned EIN. No chapter is allowed to use the National Women Marines Association's EIN. The National Treasurer will furnish each chapter treasurer the "Group Exemption Status Authorization" form annually (February). Treasurers of chapters desiring to be included in the Group Exemption Status must complete and sign this form and return it to the National Treasurer not later than 10 March.

**Rationale:** Chapters are required to have an EIN immediately upon being chartered and along with WMA National's responsibility to report the Group Exemption Status annually to the IRS; the 15-month requirement has been deleted.

## REF: PARAGRAPH 13 — DUTIES OF OFFICERS (ET AL.)

### Current Wording

Duties of Officers and Area Directors, and instructions to Standing Committees shall be prescribed in Standing Operating Procedures, which shall be furnished to all Board Members and Chairs of Standing Committees.

### Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

Duties of National Officers, Area Directors, Appointed Officers, Appointed Representatives, Special Appointments and Standing Committees shall be prescribed in the WMA Standing Operating Procedures (SOP). A copy of the SOP shall be furnished to all of the aforementioned members.

**Rationale:** To clarify all the positions including officers (et al/"and others) whose duties are included in the WMA Standing Operating Procedures (SOP).

# Proposed Amendments to WMA Bylaws

## REF: ARTICLE FIVE, SECTIONS 3, 4, 5 & 6— OFFICERS

### Current Wording

#### OFFICERS:

**Section 3. Duties:** Duties shall be those usually ascribed to such office holders, except as may be specified by the Board of Directors.

**Section 4. Appointed Officers:** Officers to be appointed by the President with the approval of Board of Directors shall be Chaplain, Editor, Historian, Parliamentarian, Public Relations Officer, and Legal Officer.

**Section 5. Appointed Representatives:** Representatives to be appointed by the President with approval of the Board of Directors shall be liaisons for Headquarters Marine Corps and Molly Marine Awards, as well as, national representatives for Marine Corps Council, Navy-Marine Corps Council, and Veterans Affairs Volunteer Service (VAVS).

**Rationale:** The changes to ARTICLE FIVE are administrative in nature to help better identify the supporting positions at the WMA National level.

1. Identify the resource WMA Standing Operating Procedures where detailed information about each Position and their duties can be found.
2. Eliminates the need to identify individual titles of each Appointed Officer, Representative, and Special Appointment to preclude required update to the Bylaws if those positions ever change.
3. Add the Special Appointments category in a new Section 6 since they have never been listed in the Bylaws before.

### Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

#### OFFICERS AND APPOINTEES:

**Section 3. Duties:** Duties shall be those usually ascribed to such office holders, except as may be specified by the Board of Directors. Specific duties are defined in the WMA Standing Operating Procedures.

**Section 4. Appointed Officers:** Appointed Officers are WMA members appointed to specific administrative positions such as the Chaplain. Appointed Officers shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors.

**Section 5. Appointed Representatives:** Appointed Representatives are WMA members appointed to official organizations such as the Navy/Marine Corps Council. Representatives shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors.

**Section 6. Special Appointments:** Special Appointments are WMA members appointed to specific positions within WMA such as the WMA Registered Agent in Missouri. Special Appointments shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors.

## REF: ARTICLE SIX, SECTION 3 - DIRECTORS

### Current Wording

**Section 3. Duties:** Each Area Director shall be the special representative for the area for which she is elected; shall be liaison for members of her area (including members-at-large) and for area chapters; and shall assist officers and committee chairmen in dealing with her area.

**Rationale:** This change is administrative in nature to better identify all of the supporting positions at the WMA National level to include the elected officers, appointees as now defined in Article Five, (Appointees include Appointed Officers, Appointed Representatives and Special Appointments) and the Committee Chairs.

## REF: ARTICLE SEVEN, SECTIONS 2 & 3 — BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Current Wording

**Section 2. Duties:** The Board shall manage all affairs of this corporation and determine policies to be followed; it shall issue such rules and regulations as it may deem fit and proper for members, elected and appointed officers, Area Directors, and standing committees of this Association. Elected and appointed officers, Area Directors and Chairmen of standing committees, who do not perform their assigned duties as prescribed in the Standing Operating Procedures may be asked to resign.

**Section 3. Appointments:** The Board shall fill any vacancy occurring among elected or appointed officers and directors; shall appoint committee members and fill any vacancies which may occur.

**Rationale:** Changes in this section are administrative in nature to keep in line with the identification of all supporting positions at the National WMA level to include elected officers, area directors, appointees (Appointees include Appointed Officers, Appointed Representatives and Special Appointments), and standing committees. Even though referred officially as a non-profit "corporation" in our Articles of Incorporation in the state of Missouri, for purposes of this section of the Bylaws the term "association" is more appropriate.

### Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

**Section 3. Duties:** Each Area Director shall be the special representative of the area for which she is elected; shall be liaison for all members of her area (including members-at-large and area chapters); and for area chapters; and shall assist elected officers, other area directors, appointees and standing committee chairs in dealing with her area. Specific duties are defined in the WMA Standing Operating Procedures.

### Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

**Section 2. Duties:** The Board shall manage all affairs of this Association and determine policies to be followed; it shall issue such rules and regulations as it may deem fit and proper for members, elected officers, area directors, appointees and standing committee chairs of this Association. Members serving in these positions who do not perform their assigned duties as prescribed in the WMA Standing Operating Procedures may be asked to resign.

**Section 3. Appointments:** The Board shall fill any vacancy occurring among elected officers, area directors, appointees, and standing committees.

(Continued next page)

# Proposed Amendments to WMA Bylaws (Continued)

## REF: ARTICLE NINE, SECTION 1(5) – CONVENTIONS

### Current Wording

#### Section 1. Conventions:

(5) In the event that no bids are received from chapters within the region, the Board of Directors shall agree on two sites within any of the three WMA regions.

**Rationale:** This change supports the Board of Directors authority to select a Convention site within any of the three Regions in the event no bids are received through the normal process.

## REF: ARTICLE TEN, SECTIONS 2 & 5 – ELECTIONS

### Current Wording

**Section 2. Nominations:** Active members may submit to the Nominating/Convention Site Committee, the names of active members who have consented to serve if elected; nominations shall close on 15 March of the even-numbered year.

**Section 5. Notification:** Officers and Convention Site elected and/or declared by fiat will be published in the pre-convention issue of 'Nouncements and on the WMA website.

**Rationale:** Changes to Article Ten help satisfy the administrative requirements defined in our current Bylaws and are based on the new changing dates of convention timeframe. For example the 2014 and 2016 Conventions will be held during July which is four to six weeks earlier than previous Conventions. (Aug/Sep) This requires us to obtain certain information and publish it to the membership earlier in the calendar year than in the normal "pre-convention issue" which has normally been in June of the convention year. This year's "pre-convention issue" was published in the April issue.

**Section 2. Nominations:** Eliminating the specific date of 15 March provides the flexibility to process the election ballot no matter what the date of the convention.

**Section 5. Notification:** Adding "Results for Elected Officers, Area Directors" clarifies which positions are considered "elected". Notification of the election results may not be available for "the pre-convention" issue but they will be published in 'Nouncements as soon as the results are known.

### Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

#### Section 1. Conventions:

(5) In the event that no bids are received, the Board of Directors shall work with areas and chapters in all regions, to identify at least one region, area, or chapter able to sponsor an upcoming convention.

### Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

**Section 2. Nominations:** Active members may submit to the Nominating/Convention Site Committee, the names of active members who have consented to serve if elected. Nominations shall close on a specified date in the even-numbered year to allow sufficient time to process the election ballot before convention.

**Section 5. Notification:** Results for Elected Officers, Area Directors and Convention Site, elected and/or declared by fiat, will be published in 'Nouncements and on the WMA website.

## REF: ARTICLE TWELVE, SECTION 3 – STANDING COMMITTEES

### Current Wording

### Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

**Section 3. Duties:** Specific duties of all Committees are defined in the WMA Standing Operating Procedures.

**Rationale:** Add a new Section 3 to be consistent with other Sections in the Bylaws that identify where the specific duties for all supporting positions at the WMA National level can be found.

**Please bring this copy of 'Nouncements with you to Kansas City.**

You will be able to see exactly what amendments you will be voting for during the Business Meeting  
Don't forget to pack it!



## WMA Chapter Clippings

### CA-7 Edith Macias Vann S. California

2014 is off to a great year for CA-7. Thanks to the marvelous chair, Nancy Arroyo-Avila and her wonderful MC Women Reserve Anniversary lunch committee, members from all over southern California enjoyed the luncheon held on a typical sunny California afternoon on the Oceanside Harbor at the Jolly Roger.

In addition to the renewing of many friendships, we had four new active duty women join us. We were honored to have WMA's own 3rd VP, Betty Cook in attendance.

Our guest speaker was Major Rosa Clarke. She entered the Marine Corps unable to speak very much English and rose through the ranks through sheer determination. Her speech was captivating and inspirational.

We also had our much-appreciated Loyal Escort support in attendance. The side room of the restaurant was filled to capacity with 68 attendees. The food was great, as was the entertainment. All seemed to enjoy themselves.

March had the scholarship committee headed by Mary Anthony perusing many applications and tough decisions ahead. There are so many deserving youths in our community. We also had the MS Walk and Relay for life events in April. So if you live in the area, we are always looking for more members to come and be part of the CA-7 family.

*Peggy Reiber*

### CA-11 Central Coast

Marines,

We have a few back dated events that we are happy to announce. We are proud to say we have another Molly Marine award recipient in our chapter, PFC Mitzi Venegas-Fausto, a graduate of Santa Maria High School, California. She completed recruit training in October 2013 and headed out to Marine Combat Training (MCT) in January 2014. We email her to keep in touch and she keeps us updated. It was a great pleasure to get to know her when she was on leave in November at the Marine Corps Ball; she was the youngest Marine present for the ceremony.

CA-11 Vice President WWII veteran Lenore "Lee" Kalem turned 95 on 21 March. She is a charter member of CA-11 Central Golden Coast Women Marines. We celebrated her birthday with a brown bag luncheon at her home with her family. We enjoyed cupcakes after lunch and she was presented gifts. She is holding up a CA-11 T-shirt for sale and a WMA logo apron, which she used as her



TV remote control holder. It was a fun-filled meeting, where Lee was also recognized her for long membership standing. We have been busy with other veteran groups recruiting in the local area,

looking for younger Women Marines who are not deployed. We found two more Marines, and we are working hard at getting

getting them to join us. Our membership is growing, but the bodies are everywhere but here. We know they will join us soon and will then take the lead when they return home.

The new CA-11 merchandise items will be available at the convention in Kansas City. See you Lady Leathernecks in July.

Semper Fi, Marines.

*Soledad Kennedy*

### FL-3 Gold Coast of Florida

Hello again from South Florida's FL-3. Our chapter is getting smaller and smaller. One of our members just moved to another county. Our last meeting in March was a special affair. Nine of us met at Hollywood Beach for a walk along the boardwalk and then a delightful luncheon on the waterfront. Our walk was challenged by 60 mile an hour gusts of wind every so often. We made the best of it as true Marines.

We were happy to make and contribute 25 gift bags to be given to the veterans at a dinner/bingo night at the Elks club. Unable to find the bags we wanted to use, we improvised with zip locks decorated with flags, smiling face decals, etc... Filled with goodies, they were very much appreciated.

This being the election year, our small chapter agreed to hold same offices being: Mary Jane Kane, President; Nathalie Champagne, Secretary; Molly Manolakis, Treasurer; Maxine Garrigan, Historian; and Jeanette Eno, Chaplain.

We honored one of our members, Catherine Murray, at a luncheon on 2 April, celebrating her 97th birthday. All our love and best wishes for health and happiness in the coming year.

As we continue to support local needs, our care packages to the troops have been put on hold. Please continue with prayers for those who are still overseas.

Hope to see you in Kansas City!

Semper Fi,

*Mary Jane Kane*

### FL-6 Florida Gators

FL-6 Gators gathered at the Bone Fish Grill in Cape Coral to celebrate the WM Anniversary.

The food was great, the company couldn't be better and the highlight of the evening was when we all stood and sung the Marines' Hymn. Everyone in the restaurant applauded us when we finished! We may be a small group but we are mighty! OOHRAH! We also had a member, Lauren Torres, come by for a beer with us. We hadn't seen her in a couple of years and it was great to get reacquainted!



**Standing, from left to right: Irene Toth, Louise Tamayo, Betty Capron, Carol Mayne, Joanne Wallace, Ty Moulds, Becky Hillian, Ashlee Bildzukewicz  
Seated: Eleanor Purser, Sally Goodall and Barbara Pinkston.**

We were also in the Edison Light Parade in February and a few of us were able to ride in the parade to represent Women Marines! We had a WWII, Vietnam, peace time and Enduring Freedom representative.

We have been enjoying the beautiful weather all winter long, but have kept those who live in the snow country in our thoughts and prayers. We took a day to help celebrate a 91st birthday of one of our members, Marjorie Roehm, who comes down for the winter, but no longer drives. It was a fun day for all who attended.

We are looking forward to travel to Venice, Fla. to participate in the MCJROTC program for the first time in many years. While we are there, we will reach out to a few members that live there that we haven't seen for a long time and share a meal with them.

We are looking forward to the Convention and are busy making plans, getting the envelope ready and our advertisement for the book. See you in Kansas City in July!

Semper Fi,

*Louise Tamayo*

## IL-2 Blanche S. Osborne

In spite of snow and very cold weather, we met in middle of February to celebrate the Women Reserves' 71st Anniversary, and to choose officers for the next two years.

Since there were no nominations from the floor, the present 90-year-old officers volunteered to serve another two year term: Muriel Underwood for president; Helen Laukes, (former national president for four years and a chapter founder) vice president; Helen Ehlers, treasurer; and LaVergne Novak, secretary.

We also thank Helen Laukes for always arranging our luncheon meetings held in the main dining room of the large retirement community complex of Beacon Hill in Lombard, a suburb of Chicago.



The meeting was hosted by another loyal 90-year-old former chapter president, Ann DiValerio.

For the program, Ann introduced two quilters, Jan Meyer and Sue Bruss, from the same retirement community Ann lives in. They belong to a chapter of the Gazebo Quilters-Quilts of Valor,

a chapter based in Huntley, Illinois. It's a nation-wide organization that makes quilts for service men and women returning from deployment and for veterans.

The Foundation has awarded over 95,000 quilts nationwide. Sue and Jan awarded quilts to two members of our chapter: Veronica (Red) Harrison and Muriel Underwood. Several years ago, Ann was instrumental in organizing a women's veteran group in the Huntley community.

We are glad to see Red able to attend our luncheons; she has been in and out of hospitals the past few years. Who can forget the 500 women Marine-dressed clothespin dolls she and her friends made for the 2000 WMA Convention in Washington!

Muriel, still recovering from a stroke a year ago, is able to assume president's duties again.

After the May luncheon meeting, we're looking forward to our chapter participating in Chicago's large Memorial Day Parade. For the few who are able, we ride in the back of a battle-scarred troop carrier Humvee, always furnished to us by the I & I Training Center of the 2nd BN, 24th Marines.

*Muriel Underwood*

## KY-1 Winning Colors



We lost a good member and great friend when WWII Marine Kathleen Drummond died at age 95 - just two days before the USMCWR's 71st anniversary. She was honored by 12 WMA members and 10 Marine Corps League members in a joint service during the visitation. KY-1 member and

Presbyterian minister Kathy Allen officiated at the Louisville funeral service and I traveled to Illinois to officiate at her interment. Chapter members gathered again to celebrate the anniversary on 23 February. On 28 March, 15 members, prospects and several spouses traveled to the Horseshoe Casino in nearby Southern Indiana to attend an event in memory of Sergeant Jeannette Winters and the aircraft crew killed in Pakistan. Unfortunately, we did not realize there was more than one Horseshoe Casino and the one having the event was 5 hours away on the Illinois border! We were overwhelmed by the hospitality of the local casino. Their Director of Community Relations not only assisted us in communicating with the folks at the other casino who were expecting us - she gave us all complimentary meals at their buffet along with a lot of gambling coupons to use at the slots after dinner. We are presently working on program ads and items to sell at the convention.

*Mary Broussard*

## LA-1 Molly Marine

On 1 January, April Bell (Visitation Committee Chair) started the year out right by visiting one of our WWII veteran members, Frances Hoffman. They had lunch at Frances' favorite restaurant, Piccadilly's!

The morning of 18 January was well spent by taking care of our favorite monument: the original Molly Marine statue in the heart of the city of New Orleans. Due to severe weather, the Marine Corps flag was damaged, broke away from the eyelet and was hanging lopsided. In the spirit of "taking care of one of our own," the flag was reattached and flies proudly, once again. Loyal Escort Marvin Savage lowered the flag, repaired it and ran it up the pole. Now that's what we call a "loyal" escort!

The evening of 18 January was a very exciting one for those that attended the Military Officers Wives Club of New Orleans' Krewe of CAMAN (Coast Guard, Army, Marines, Air Force, and Navy) Mardi Gras Ball! The ball was at the Hyatt Hotel in the Grand Ballroom. The chapter President, Melanie Young, was a member of the Royal Court! Members that attended this festive event were Patricia Huttinger, Jack Huttinger (LE), Deloris Romero, Felix Romero (LE), Allison Stein, Mary Whittington (LE), Marvin Savage (LE) and Melanie Young.

On 19 January, April Bell and Tara Perez went to the Chateau de Notre Dame in New Orleans to visit Marian Landry.

Marian is our oldest WWII member, and at 93 is as sassy as ever! She enjoyed the cheer and camaraderie.

On 20 January, GySgt Deidra Chapman delivered donations of clothing, baby items and gift cards to a "Marine in Need". JaNet Sheffield is no longer on active duty, but as we all know "once a Marine always a Marine". Ms. Sheffield is the first recipient of our Marine in Need Campaign. Members made donations on the 17th and Deidra was gracious enough to drive all the way to Alabama to deliver them! Ms. Sheffield sent the chapter a thank you card and a picture of her new born baby. Such a cutie!

On the 71st Anniversary of Women Marines, 13 February 2014, several chapter members visited our beloved Molly located on the corner of Canal and Elk Place in New Orleans to place a wreath in honor of all women Marines past and present. The wreath was gorgeous! Members that celebrated the anniversary at the statue were Maj Tracy Sampson, MGySgt Tashal Williams, GySgt Deidra Chapman, SSgt Hideshi Dyer, Cpl Elizabeth Damron and April Bell. Three guests were in attendance also.



In the spirit of the Mardi Gras season, on 27 February, we decided to "*laissez les bon temps rouler*" (let the good times roll!) once again by rolling in a parade with the wonderful ladies of the Krewe of Muses! As usual, we had a blast! In the photograph are members that took part in the "good times"; Kim Allen, Melanie Young, Deloris Romero, Mary Draughn, Allison Stein, Elizabeth Damron, Jodi Lara, Patricia Huttering, April Bell, Susan Bourgeois, Dalia Robles, Vicki Haynes, Darlene Graves (LE), Barbara Ruffin (LE) and Marvin Savage (LE).

On 15 March, we had the honor of Judy Anderson (Past National 1stVP/ Past Area 6 Director) install and recognize our new officers, elected and appointed, respectively. The Installation Ceremony was held at The Wine Market in Slidell, LA. Following the ceremony was refreshments of delicious New Orleans cuisine! Molly Marine LA-1 would like to thank Maria Crowley (Area 6 Director) for the beautiful installation gifts she made for the ceremony. She was unable to accompany Judy, to conduct the ceremony, due to an awful accident the morning prior. Our prayers go out to Maria for a speedy recovery.

The New Orleans Military and Maritime Academy (NOMMA) had their dedication ceremony on 20 March. NOMMA moved into their new facility located next door to the Marine Corps Support Facility near Federal City in New Orleans. A grand reception was held following the ceremony. Our chapter has presented the academy with the WMA MCJROTC award each year since its existence.

We volunteer at NOMMA to provide mentorship, give periods of instruction on grooming standards and assist with personnel inspections.

Members that attended this special event were GySgt Deidra Chapman, SSgt Yasheka Smith, Sgt Natalie Wilson, Dalia Robles, Linda Allen-Boseman (LE), Janie Beers (LE) and Melanie Young.

With Easter right around the corner, we are preparing for our Annual Easter Egg Fundraiser. The fundraiser will be held at the Marine Corps Support Facility (MCSF), New Orleans on 14 and 15 April. Marines, sailors and civilian employees at the MCSF are strong supporters of the Women Marines Association, which makes the fundraiser a HUGE success! Happy Easter WMA!

*Melanie Young*

## MN-1 Minnesota Leathernecks

On 25 January, a few chapter members were able to "weather" the cold and met at the home of Mary McGee to bid her a fond farewell and safe travels as she relocated to her new home in PA. Mary has been our phone lifeline with her reminder and "just checking in" calls. She arrived on the east coast just in time for several rounds of snow storms and power outages (or in other words, she felt as though she had never left Minnesota). The chapter welcomes Linda Munson, who will take over the treasurer's position with Mary's relocation.

In February the chapter met at Elsie's in Northeast Minneapolis and took over a little corner for a nice anniversary get together. A huge thank you to Julie Williams who cleverly had repurposed items received from Mary McGee as everyone took home a cute cup with a plant. The green plants were a welcome sight after the long, never-ending Minnesota winter.

In March the chapter met at Curran's in South Minneapolis with some taking advantage of having pie at the restaurant and by taking a slice home as well. It was so nice to see Carol Isnardi make it across the border to join us. Again, we thank Julie Williams for the St. Patrick's Day treats.

On 5 April, we ventured to the east and went to Red Robin in Shoreview. We hope that the change in locations, we can bring the meetings/social events closer to members who might not otherwise be able to attend.

Plans are underway for the June 14, 2014 annual chapter picnic. The chapter continues to discuss plans for the upcoming convention.

The chapter extends a welcome to you to any social event and/or meeting. For more information, email [vlatiolais@comcast.net](mailto:vlatiolais@comcast.net) or call 612-803-6641.

*Vicki Latiolais*

## NC-1 Tarheel

On 25 February, Shirley John, Linda Lacy, and MSgt Jeannine Franz participated in MSgt Vivian Holmes' Symposium for active duty women Marines aboard Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) New River.

Topics included sex education, finance, B billets, uniform regulations, health and assault, and other topics pertinent to women.

Linda showed part of her historical display while Shirley concluded the program with information on WMA and stories.

Our next big event was the 71st Anniversary Celebration combined with Women's History Month. We were honored to have Dr. Betty Moseley-Brown, President, as our guest speaker at the Officers' Club aboard New River Air Station.



Our guests included Brigadier General Robert Castellvi, Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations East, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and Colonel T. Salmon, Commanding Officer of MCAS New River. The program included Linda Lacy's historical display, a cake cutting ceremony, and the Camp Lejeune band. The Master of Ceremonies was MSgt Jeannine Franz.

*Linda Lacy*

## OR-1 Lady Marine Rose

The Monarch Hotel in Clackamas, Ore., was the site of OR-1's annual December holiday luncheon, which drew nearly 40 guests, including members of OR-1, their family, friends, and supporters. In addition to enjoying a festive luncheon, the highlight of the meeting was the arrival of Marines from Swann Island, who joined to accept the generous donations to Toys for Tots: toys and games, which would be brighten the Christmas mornings for families in need throughout the Portland area.

With the arrival of 2014, members of OR-1 were looking forward to a visit to Portland by WMA National President Betty Moseley Brown, as well as their regular monthly meeting at the Hazelwood residence of Dolly Ruble.

February's meeting day might have arrived rainy, but it was made to feel like spring inside Heidi's Restaurant in Gresham, Ore., thanks to the colorful fresh flower centerpieces in red baskets that decorated the tables. In addition to celebrating the 71st anniversary of the founding of the Women Marines, Nadine Leibertz, as installing officer, installed President Heidi Tanada, Vice-President Hattie Kelley, Treasurer Golda Fabian, Secretary Sally Van Wie, Chaplain Bobbie Aaby, Chaplain Ruth Falconbury, each of whom was presented with a red rose. Following the installation ceremony, the festivities continued with a delicious cake, featuring a perfectly executed Marine Corps emblem and decorated with red roses. The traditional first bite was enjoyed by Dolly Ruble as the oldest Marine and the second bite by Sally Van Wie as the youngest.

The meeting was topped off by their annual bake sale, with Heidi's delectable muffins and Golda's scrumptious scones being the sought-after items.

Everyone is looking forward to April's meeting as it's an opportunity visit Bill's Place, a museum of vintage cars and military vehicle that also features a large mural of several members of OR-1.

Warm welcome to our newest member, Sheryl Loberger! She was stationed in Okinawa and Camp Pendleton as a Transport Officer. Welcome, Sheryl!

OR-1 looks forward to the fountains of Kansas City and to seeing everyone in July at the 2014 Women Marines Association Convention.

*Judy Rankin, Loyal Escort*

## TN-1 Rocky Top

Like the rest of the country, the Marines of TN-1 are happy to be emerging from a cold and long winter, which kept most of us hunkered down for the winter months. We did peek out of our dens long enough to gather for our December meeting to celebrate the holidays and to recognize our WWII veterans, Eileen Nieler and Tommye Kelly. We had a nice lunch at Tommye's residence and followed up with some end-of-year business and 2014 planning. We welcome new member, Kristina McLendon. Kristina served 2008 – 2011, and we are excited to have her join. We are looking forward to a busy year in the Knoxville and surrounding communities, including parades, service events and supporting Veteran's organizations.

Happy Spring from Rocky Top!

*Laura Ward*

## TX-2 Texas Gulf Coast

*Distinguished* is the only way to describe the 71st Anniversary celebration of Women in the Marine Corps in Houston this year. Once again, we held our annual celebration at the Houston Junior League, which was founded in 1925 by 12 dedicated women who had built an exemplary record of charitable achievement through volunteer commitment. When arriving on the grounds, you will feel as if you have been transported back into an earlier time and age. History is everywhere, from the beautiful gardens to the elaborately decorated Tea and Garden Rooms. It's a lot like an old English sitting room for ladies to visit and dine and the perfect place to hold our 71st celebration and honor our Guest of Honor Major General Angela Salinas (Ret).

President Judy Anderson welcomed all the members and their guests and Marti Raney led the Pledge of Allegiance. After the prayer by Sheila Thorne we held the cake cutting ceremony. This year, our oldest member was our dedicated WWII Sgt. Eleanor Gibbs and vice president Marti Raney was once again our youngest member at 50+ years old. Marti wasn't complaining though, because Gen. Salinas presented both her and Eleanor each with her personal customized USMC coins. You'd have thought they'd won the lottery! General Salinas as the Guest of Honor, cut the cake which was decorated with the WMA logo, and with the assistance of Area Six director Maria Crowley, and Judy presented the first piece to Gen. Salinas, then a piece to both Eleanor and Marti. Lunch was served and as always the food and the service were excellent.

Introductions were made around the room as everyone introduced themselves and gave a personal note on their life in the Marine Corps. Area Six Director Maria Crowley gave a brief bio on Maj. Gen. Salinas as a Hispanic native Texan who in 1974 enlisted in the USMC. In 1977, she was selected for the Enlisted Commissioning Program and traded her NCO Sword for one of a Marine Corps Officer. Major General Salinas went from being a Series Commander at WRTC at Parris Island to becoming the Commanding General at MCRD, San Diego. She has been a force in the Corps and the first in so many fields as a woman Marine. She was the first Hispanic woman to be promoted to the ranks of a general officer. She served her heritage and her country proud for 39 years until her retirement in 2013 at the rank of Major General.

She then returned home to her native roots in the San Antonio area. She is currently a member of the San Antonio Chapter and the pride of Texans everywhere. General Salinas, as always, gave a gracious fun-filled speech about her history in the Corps. I think she has even picked up a little bit of that Texan drawl again as she told us about enlisting in the USMC and coming home all proud in her dress uniform and her mother informing her that they had already bought Girl Scout Cookies.

Laughter was enjoyed by all as we flashed back to our own individual returns home from boot camp. General Salinas brought Marine Corps Lanyards as gifts to everyone present and Karen Beatty passed out green dog tags with the WMA logo on one side and Proud to be a Woman Marine etched on the other side. A gift copy of the TX-2 cookbook "Cooking with Marines" was also placed next to each place setting and the General enjoyed the recipes in the book from our beloved WWII cook, Myrtle Case.

Karen Beatty and Judy Anderson presented Maj.Gen. Salinas with a certificate from the House of Representatives of the State of Texas and a Texas State Flag in a wooden display case. The certificate was honoring Maj.Gen. Angela Salinas, USMC, Retired by State Representative Mary Ann Perez and the Texas flag in the display case had been flown over the Capital of the Sovereign State of Texas on the 13th of February 2014 to honor the Women Marines' 71st Anniversary. Now you'd think the General had won the lottery. It was the perfect honor for our native Marine with a heart as big as Texas. The meeting was concluded with the singing of the *Marines' Hymn* and then it was time for pictures. Hope everyone's anniversary was as memorable as ours, and see ya in Kansas City!

*Marti Raney*

### WA-3 NorthSound

Spring is around the corner and let's hope for good days ahead. WA-3 started out 2014 with a luncheon meeting on 8 February at a Marysville, Wa. Restaurant.

Our new president, Karen Wheeler, was installed by the outgoing President, Betty Strand, who will serve as secretary. The remaining officers were all re-elected and installed.

Cadet 1st Lt. Madeline Anderson, MJROTC, reported that the members of JROTC units in six high schools will be partnering with our chapter again relative to the Care Package Program started by WA-3 in 2013.

We will resume our work on this project at the May meeting for shipping of the boxes around July. We are delighted to have such wonderful support from so many cadets. It is much appreciated, especially to know there are so many young people that care.

Our other chapter project, still ongoing, is the knitting of items in layettes for the new mothers at the Naval Air Station, Oak Harbor, Washington State.

The mothers have expressed how grateful they are for our donations. At the May meeting members will decide on several great ideas for items to be sold at the PX at the national convention in Kansas City.

How fortunate we are to have such enthusiastic members willing to support WMA in so many ways. Thanks to all.

Semper Fi,

*Louise George*

### WI-1 Wisconsin Women Marines

The big parade celebrating Veterans Day was again held in Milwaukee for the 50th year, honoring all generations of veterans. Women Marines rode in 2 vans and were preceded by 2 younger members on foot, carrying a large banner between them, proudly announcing who we were and it apparently attracted attention, judging by the applause when passing. With wind coming off Lake Michigan, the marchers had all they could do to keep from blowing away. Riders and marchers included Cheryl Batease, Jen Clarke and her faithful canine companion Shiloh, Linda Dancker, Mibs Ewald, Wendy Geier, Linda O'Hara and Loyal Escort husband Pat, and Connie Allord. After the parade all veterans were invited to a wonderful luncheon at the lakefront War Memorial. That is like one big homecoming for many who don't meet often.

Then came winter and it became evident that we were on a huge rollercoaster of snow, frigid temperatures and planning events would be futile. However in February Marion Forrer's daughter called for help - she had sneaked a peek into her Mom's Rolodex, saw a familiar name and called. She was planning a surprise party for her Mom's 90th birthday and wanted to invite her Mariner/veteran friends but didn't know their names to contact. Well, that call was all it took for "Operation Marion" to be put into motion. Only Marion and the Pentagon were the only ones not to hear about it. The word spread.



Photo by John Adams (Army), husband of Cheryl (Navy), both active members in our huge veteran's community, who also attended, as did Nancy Sheridan (Navy) and JoAnn Damkoehler (Air Force).

Another date almost coincided - the Women Marines 71st anniversary. It was a perfect combination and daughter Maryann agreed. Never mind the weather - everyone contacted was on board and plans took off. On 15 Feb., the appointed day, weather was cooperating and everyone set their car GPSs for Springers, a lovely place on a lake which was little known to most. Marion was escorted to a "family luncheon" - supposedly, but a crowd of more family, veteran friends, old neighbors and friends were waiting. Needless to say, the entrance produced tears of total surprise and joy. Decorations were in place, a beautiful cake, roses from the Marines and a wonderful luncheon was enjoyed by all. Now we have another 90 year old WWII Marine in our membership. The accompanying picture shows only the Marines present. They are: Mibs Ewald, Cheryl Batease, Connie Allord, Mary and Bob Lloyd (Marine husband), MARION, Rob Conroy (Marion's grandson-in-law), Ellen Healey, and Linda Dancker. Not to be overlooked, many more people are now aware that Women were declared eligible for the Marine Corps on 13 Feb, 1943 and Marion was one of the first in line. Many more Happy Birthdays, Marion! We won't forget this one.

*Connie Allord*

# Application for membership in Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter

The Auxiliary of the Women Marines Association

LOYAL ESCORT MEMBER APPLICATION			
<b>APPLICANT INFORMATION</b>			
Name:			
Date of birth:	Phone:	Cell:	
Current address:			
City:	State:	ZIP Code:	
Email:			
New	Renew	Reinstated	Life <sup>1</sup> (Sponsor must be Life member)
			SSN#
2 YR \$25	LIFE	40 AND UNDER \$175	41-45 \$145 46-60 \$125 61-70 \$100 71-80 \$75 81+ \$50
<b>SPONSOR INFORMATION</b>			
Sponsor Name:			
Chapter Affiliation:			Do you live with sponsor Y N
Sponsor Life Member # if applicable			
<b>EMERGENCY CONTACT</b>			
Name of a relative <b>not</b> residing with you:			
Address:			Phone:
City:	State:	ZIP Code:	
Relationship:			
<b>SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER INFORMATION IF APPLICABLE</b>			
Name:			
Date of birth:	Email:	Phone:	
<b>SERVICE INFORMATION IF APPLICABLE</b>			
Dates of Service			
Branch:			How long?
MOS			
Duty Stations:			
<b>ABOUT MYSELF</b>			
<b>SIGNATURES</b>			
Signature of member:			Date:

Make checks payable to Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter  
Mail to: David G. Wyszneuckas, 4914 Mulholland Drive, Lake Oswego, OR 97035-4394

## (Endnotes)

1 -- Must provide Sponsor Life member number

# Join or Renew Your Membership Today!

## WMA NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name:

Current Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Date of Birth:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

SSN:

### ALTERNATE ADDRESS INFORMATION

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone:

E-mail:

Reason for Alternate:

Start Date:

Stop Date:

### EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name of a relative not residing with you:

Address:

Phone:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Relationship:

### SPOUSE INFORMATION

Name:

Date of Birth:

E-mail:

Phone:

### MILITARY INFORMATION

When Served:

Name (s) Served Under:

Maiden Name:

Plt. and Series:

MOS:

Molly Marine: ☐ Y ☐ N

### RMD PREFERENCES

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

☐ Electronic copy

☐ Hard Paper copy

**One only**

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION \_\_\_NEW\_\_\_RENEWAL\_\_\_REINSTATEMENT

☐ 2 Year Membership \$40

Life Membership: Pick One

Chapter Name if Known:

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

Enrolled by/How did you hear about WMA:

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

### SIGNATURE AND VERIFICATION

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

Signature of applicant:

Date:

Effective July 1, 2010 Revised

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

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# Loyal Escorts Director Shaaron Wright : A Tribute

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Shaaron Marie Wright on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2014 at the age of 65 from liver cancer. Shaaron passed peacefully at her home with family, friends and her beloved puppies at her side. Shaaron was born on March 8, 1949 in Quincy, MA and moved to Tampa, FL when she was a few months old. She spent the next 12 years living in Tampa until the family relocated to San Jose, CA in 1962. Shaaron was a graduate of Pioneer High School in San Jose and attended a local beauty college upon graduation. She worked as a beautician for several years before going to work at San Jose Hospital.

A few years later, she went to work for Ford Aerospace as a Xerox operator, then as a data bank specialist and eventually transitioned into the logistics field that she really enjoyed.

While working for Ford, she wanted to get into the security field, so she took a security course at a private school and was the honor graduate from that course. She used her security skills in variety of ways because she worked on classified programs for many years. She also took management courses at Mission College.

Loral Systems purchased Ford Aerospace and later Lockheed Martin purchased it. Same facility, same desk, same job... just had a different sign out front. Shaaron retired in 2009 following 36 years of service. While she was working, Shaaron loved to organize parties and celebrations for her co-workers. She was the unofficial "party queen" of Lockheed Martin. Shaaron always appreciated the people who provided services that were frequently overlooked by many. Each Christmas, Shaaron made a

trip to See's to purchase candy for ALL of the service organizations such as security, material handling, repro, photo lab, maintenance, computer support, etc. Needless to say, Shaaron never had to ask twice when she needed support from these organizations.



Lockheed Martin had a Spirit Award that was given to deserving employees by other employees – versus by management personnel. Each winner would then choose the next employee to receive the Spirit. Shaaron was selected to receive this award and when it was her turn to select the next recipient, she chose the wonderful maintenance man who kept their office area clean and neat. He was blown away because he had never

been recognized for his contribution to the project or to the company.

When she retired, Shaaron became very active in several veterans organizations to include Chapters CA-3 and CA-6 of the Women Marines Association (WMA), our local Bay Area WAVES detachment and supported events for veterans at the VA facilities in Palo Alto and Menlo Park.

She loved to provide surprises or goodies at each gathering and always tried to recognize each person's birthday.

For the past 4 years, Shaaron served as a Director for the Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter (LE) that is an auxiliary for the Women Marines Organization. She loved attending the WMA conventions every 2 years and made many friends in the LE Hospitality Suites where convention attendees partied all night long. Shaaron never met a stranger. She always treated everyone as a friend she had not yet met. Whenever she noticed someone who looked like they needed a smile or a kind word – Shaaron filled

that need and she always left the people smiling and having a better day.

Shaaron was a woman of many skills. She could sing, hummed all the time – with or without music, and had taken drama – which gave her skills she frequently used. Her greatest loves were her puppies, gardening, listening to music, classic movies and spending time with her many friends. She was an artist who could draw, sketch or oil paint anything from cartoon characters to beautiful scenes such as the Golden Gate Bridge. She was very crafty and made beautiful floral arrangements from real or artificial flowers. She created hand made greeting cards or added her own personal drawings to commercial cards and always decorated her home and office space for every holiday – large or small.

Shaaron had an amazing sense of humor. No matter what topic or situation arose, she would instantly come up with a hysterical comment that was totally appropriate. Many called her Shaaron Rickles because of her quick wit. And don't even think of taking her on in a joke telling contest, because she literally knew "a million of them". When Shaaron was diagnosed on 23 January, everyone wanted to see her and her comment was that "she felt like a National Monument" that is on everyone's bucket list. Shaaron truly appreciated the outpouring of love and concern during her last few months.

She received so many wonderful gifts, cards, flowers, visits and prayers from the wonderful people she was blessed to call friends. Shaaron's treasured puppies were at her side 24-7. They will be lost without her.

Liver cancer took Shaaron from us way too soon, but Heaven must be a happier place now that Shaaron is there to entertain and amuse the angels. May the Good Lord Bless and keep her forever in his care. She will be greatly missed until we meet again.

Per Shaaron's request, there will be no funeral service as she will be cremated and her ashes will be dispersed at sea.

*(Continued)*



Shaaron Marie Wright, 1949-2014.

At a later date, we will hold a celebration of her life and everyone will be notified of the date, time and place.

Here again, we will be honoring Shaaron's request that it be held at a pizza parlor. She wants the event to be an informal and happy event because she doesn't want her passing to make anyone feel sad. In lieu of flowers, Shaaron requested that you please make a donation to one of her favorite pets/veterans charities listed here:

Humane Society of Silicon Valley (HSSV)  
901 Ames Avenue  
Milpitas, CA 95035

Women Marines Association (WMA) General Fund  
P.O. Box 377  
Oaks, PA 19456-0377

Semper Fidelis  
Love to all,  
**Kathy Wright**

## Taps

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

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

### Life Members

Brown, Nina (Fisher)	CA-5/AR-1	10/22/13	#1241
Cuffman, Merilynn (Rust)	IL-2	6/1/13	#2493
Dancey, Jewell (Reed)	MAL TX	1/18/14	#1152
Drummond, Kathleen	KY-1	2/11/14	#1459
Esmond, Emilie (Grossman)	MAL OH	2/20/14	#192
Fenton, Peggy	CA-5	6/16/13	#561
Galvan, Helen (Olsen)	CA-1	1/14/14	#1571
Justice, Alma (Bourgeois)	CA-5	12/11/12	#1508
Kalem, Lenore (Hoy)	CA-11	3/19/14	#1731
Kemp, Thelma (Moreland)	MA-2	12/25/13	#1493
Kelly, Mary	MO-1	7/26/13	#481
Langdon, Betty (Murphy)	MAL OH	10/9/13	#3349
Lieser, Betty	CA-3	1/8/14	#2145
Schachman, Ethel (Lazarus)	CA-3	11/2013	#1666
Streisguth, Jayne (Kelley/Bennett)	MAL NC	3/8/14	#922

### Membership No.

### Term Members

Davis, Vivian (Jacobs)	FL-7	2/28/13
Ebner, Patricia (Wagner)	MN-1	10/4/13
Elsen, Jane (Meyer)	MAL MN	3/15/14
Hackler, Jeanne (Barrenche)	CO-1	4/23/14
Hibbler, Dorothea (DeBlock)	MI-2	3/7/14
Kelly, Margaret (Griffin)	AZ-2	11/26/13
Passanise, Charlotte (Stone/Potter)	MAL MO	12/2/13
Terefenke, Myrtle	CA-7	10/23/13
Whitehouse, Ethel (Brazen)	MAL PA	1/16/14

## Chaplain's Corner

"If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue, but deceives his heart, his religion is in vain." JAMES 1:18-27

We see this carried to extremes in the polarization of factions in national and world politics. So many think they are "right" one there is no longer room for any kind of compromise. How often do you find yourself having to "win" even a petty argument? How are we making the other person feel as we argue for our point? Is it that important?

*Mary Broussard, WMA Chaplain*



# From the Loyal Escorts: Shaaron Wright First Recipient of Our New "Awaard"

Starting in 2014, the board decided that we would start awarding a special award for outstanding support, volunteerism, and an excellent example of what it means to be a Loyal Escort. In doing so, there was no doubt who the first recipient should be. We decided to nominate a member who has continuously proven her value, both at convention, and when at home. It is my great honor to announce that the recipient will be Shaaron Wright from the CA-3 chapter.

I asked a few of our seasoned members of the board to provide a quick paragraph describing their thoughts on Shaaron.

*From Ken Cross, IPP:*

Shaaron-Shaaron-Shaaron, yes with two A's. She is one of those people with an explosive mind.

Whatever the subject is, you can best believe you will get her opinion right off the get go.

She always wants you to think big and beyond and do all that you can whatever the subject.

That is the way I will remember her at all the Conventions we have been to over the years.

In the Hospitality room she was one you would see right off working or playing around all the time as she did.

She and her sister Kathy, were the Deco people- to let you know you were in the Loyal Escorts Hospitality Room (ready to party) and that we did. She was just that way, "Let's Party".

I'll always remember my friend and Director.

*From Helen Page, Secretary:*

It seems fitting that the first ever award for outstanding service above and beyond the call, by a member of the Loyal Escorts, be given to our own, Shaaron Wright. During her four-year run as Director, she has been a friend and supporter of all, and gone above and beyond the confines of her office to aid and sup-

port the goals in our mission to assist the Women Marine Association in its many endeavors. At the convention when help was needed at the merchandise sales table-Shaaron was there. When help was needed for the Hospitality Suite-Shaar-

***The Loyal Escorts' inaugural award recognizes a steadfast member whose tireless efforts and many accomplishments set a benchmark for outstanding service.***



**That's with TWO a's: Shaaron gives a hug to Eileen Scanlon.**

on was there.

When a new chair person was needed for merchandise sales-Shaaron was there and she brought forth new and innovative ideas for new sales.

If anyone was needed to fill a void-Shaaron was there. She was always willing, always volunteering, and always helping-always Shaaron. We shall miss

you at this convention, my friend.

*From David Wiszneaukas, Treasurer:*

What do the following words and/or phrases have in common- appreciative of women and men who serve(d) in the US military, creative, dedicated, determined, energetic, entertaining, enthusiastic, patriotic, and a great teammate? They are traits that LE Board Member, Shaaron Wright, has consistently demonstrated from the first time I met her.

She has volunteered and supported not only WMA and LE but other veteran organizations and programs.

Shaaron "worked her fingers to the bone," making craft items for a Santa Clara garage sale and donated all the proceeds to LE to help fund our support for the 2014 WMA Conference in Kansas City.

Shaaron is tireless with her volunteering, and she makes those working with her feel appreciated for all we contribute and accomplish.

Congratulations Shaaron. I can't think of anyone more deserving of this award.

I look forward to seeing everyone at Convention in Kansas City, MO.

Remember we'll be doing Custom buttons for those interested. If you have a

button idea, send it in! [president@loyalescorts.org](mailto:president@loyalescorts.org)

***Michael Pearce,  
President of the  
Loyal Escorts  
of the Green Garter***



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

## Marine Corps Heritage Foundation Awards

This year's recipient of the Colonel Julia E. Hamblet Award is Dr. Peter Soderbergh (posthumously).

The Hamblet Award is awarded annually to the individual or team who has done the most to further the history of women who have earned the title of Marine.

Dr. Soderbergh served in the Marine Corps during the Korean War, and wrote three books on women in the Marine Corps: *Years of Grace*, *Days of Glory: The Legacy of Germaine Laville*, *Women Marines: The World War II Era*, and *Women Marines in the Korean War Era*.



DC-1 members Sue Sousa, Sara "Sally" Pritchett, and Eileen Scanlon attend the MCHF Awards at the National Museum of the Marine Corps.



WMA President Betty Moseley Brown with the family of Dr. Soderbergh. His daughter Katherine, her husband, and their son, who is an active duty staff sergeant in the Marine Corps, are pictured.



Louisiana State University staff members Wayne Miller and Dr. Damon Andrew, along with WMA Historian Nancy Wilt and WMA President Betty Moseley Brown, attend the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation Awards Dinner in honor of Dr. Peter Soderbergh. Dr. Soderbergh was a professor at LSU.