2016 WMA Convention - Portland Wants You!

Portland is a city known for many things: It's a great town for beer (Portland is home to more than 30 breweries) diversity in people and food, interesting neighborhoods, easy access to nature hikes and more, all of which make Portland a perfect location for the 2016 WMA convention. Want to see a town in style? The shuttle from the hotel will take you into the city where you can choose to catch a bus, a trolley, rent a bike or even walk.

Portland is renowned for its food but, is famous for its food carts. There are plenty of affordable places to eat around the hotel as well. If you need a coffee fix, then walk yourself over to Starbucks. The shuttle (free) from the hotel will take you to restaurants that will suit your every taste.

There is no shortage of natural beauty in Portland. From the hotel deck, you can see Mt. Hood as you enjoy a nightcap or herbal tea. Take a trip to Multnomah Falls and see the gardens. If you love roses, you are in the right spot. Portland is the home of the International Rose Test Garden, Japanese Rose Gardens, and several other gardens and parks to visit. Willamette Valley is a great scenic trip as well. The Grotto-National Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother has been described as a must-see from travelers all over the world.

Your visit to Portland is also the time to conduct our business as an organization. Be sure to attend the business meetings and voice your opinions and vote on pending Bylaws and Standing Rule changes. Check out the schedule of events (page 15) that lists the various workshops and events to give you a better understanding of your VA benefits as well as other subjects.

We will take a moment to honor our Fallen, the women who have gone before us and are guarding the gates. A solemn ceremony honors their service to our country and their dedication as members of WMA. We hope all will come to celebrate their lives. Are you representing your chapter? Be sure to attend the 1st VP and Chapter President meeting. It's a great place to ask questions about your chapter and learn how to make them stronger and more active. Let us help you prepare for your future.

The Recognition and Awards Ceremony will highlight the good things that our chapters are doing, from their newsletters to their volunteer efforts. Of course, the best is saved for last when the winners of the Broe Award are announced. Every chapter entry and contribution showing what we stand for is important.

Arriving early? The Rose Bowl (see page 12) will be a great time to greet your friends and make new ones. You won't want to miss this event if you arrive on Thursday. Be in awe at the Opening Banquet, the flag ceremony and the announcing of the National Service Award for our outstanding members. Yet another event you don't want to miss is the Installation Ceremony. Here, your new slate of officers for 2016 – 2018 are installed and take their oaths of office to serve our membership. Then we follow up that evening with our closing ceremony, concluding our convention.

Last, but certainly not least, is the fantastic hospitality that is provided by our Loyal Escorts. Their hospitality assures you will have a great time at the convention. Enjoy the camaraderie. Do a little dancing, have a drink or two and let your hair down, all in the comfort of the hotel. Bring a few extra dollars for the raffles, too (The Hospitality House is how the Loyal escorts raise their money!).

There is something for everyone in Portland. Come and enjoy all that is offered. Spend time with our WWII members and learn about our history first hand. Meet our active duty and hear how much the Corps has changed since you enlisted, and experience the *esprit de corps* of generations of Marines.

VOLUME TWO, 2016 / CONVENTION ISSUE

From The Editor: My Thanks, and Farewell

When I took over the reins as editor from Sondra Metzger six years ago, I knew I had some big shoes to fill, but I looked forward to the opportunity to serve WMA. Now, that I am passing the torch, it's a little bittersweet. I have enjoyed reading all of your stories, and getting to know many of you, but it's time for me to step aside and do other things. I still

haven't decided what those other things are!

I am thankful to have had support from members who wanted to help, and believe me, I needed that help. I'd like to thank all who ever offered to write a story, proofread, take pho-

tographs and edit copy. Know that you were not doing it for me, you were doing it for WMA. I'd also like to thank my husband, Howard, for supporting me, and sometimes taking a backseat because I had to work on 'Nouncements on his days off. A BIG thanks goes out to Sondra Metzger, for helping me out when I had just had a baby and a move from California to Texas. She did an extraordinary job as guest editor, and because of her, I was able to take care of my family and not worry one bit about my "job." I knew my job was being done by the best that ever did it!

Besides the team of helpers I have had within WMA, I cannot end my thanks without acknowl-

edging my graphic designer at Xpert Media Management (XMM), Jaime Jasso. I know when he reads this, he will be tempted to edit his name out, but I have the final say in this! I would not be able to do this job without Jaime. I can edit copy, revise, and rewrite this magazine, but Jaime makes it look good. He is truly an expert and has really helped me

I have enjoyed reading all of your stories, and getting to know many of you, but it's time for me to step aside and do other things.

to become a better editor. I am leaving, but I am happy that I've made a friend at XMM. Oh, and XMM will still be publishing 'Nouncements, so you will still have a quality product. You will also have a great editor. Back in 2012, I had

surgery, and Corrina Martell stepped up and took over the spring issue for me. I could not thank her enough for that, and now, she'll be your new WMA 'Nouncements editor.

Corrina comes from a public affairs background, so I feel confident that I'm leaving my "baby" in good hands.

I will not be in Portland this year, but I do plan to see everyone in 2018 in Washington, D.C.

Remember to take *lots* of pictures. Corrina is going to need them for the post-Convention issue! Semper Fidelis!

Wanda Antoine, Editor WMA 'Nouncements

Returning in the next issue:

Our regular features (such as our Merchandise Pages, Taps, Chaplain's Corner 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 Portland, Oregon, July 21 - 26.

If you have not yet registered, the form is on page 14. Note that if you are On Orders, the form can be downloaded from our website: www.womenmarines.org

From the National President: Thank You For Your Service

OOHRAH!

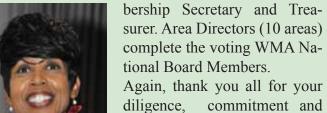
I hope you have made plans to join us in Portland, Oregon in

As we make the final preparations for you, we'll use this issue for our annual reports and business items to close out our fiscal year (June 30).

Of importance first is to WEL-COME our new WMA Board of

Directors. Thanks to those who are continuing to serve and those wonderful volunteers who are stepping up for service. When I first joined WMA, I wasn't clear on who made up our National Board and who were our Committees and Representatives. While all this valuable information can be found in our RMD, I thought this would be the ideal time to share our WMA National Board of Directors:

Executive Leadership Board consists of President, Immediate Past President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, Secretary, Mem-



commitment and service to WMA.

Finally, I'd like to share with you an exciting partnership we are forging with the Marine Corps League.



You'll hear more about this in Portland, but I just wanted to share some photos from their Mid-Winter Meeting and welcome any of our brothers and sisters to join us in Portland.

Get lots of rest, bring an extra suitcase for all the goodies and come to Portland for a big OOHRAH with fellow Marines!

Semper Fidelis! Betty Moseley Brown **WMA National President**

1st VP: President: Convention Planning for ADs and Chapters

It is hard to believe that we are almost ready to hold our 2016 convention. In just a couple of months, we will be gathered in Portland to celebrate with our sister Marines. One of my primary duties at convention is to hold the Area Director/Chapter Representative meeting which gives our ADs and chapter officers an opportunity to discuss items of interest to our members and their representatives.

I encourage every chapter that has chapter officers or members attending the convention to ensure your representatives attend this meeting on behalf of your chapter. All chapter officers are most welcome and encouraged to attend.

If, however, your chapter officers will not be in attendance - any

chapter member is welcome to participate. If your chapter has any questions or issues that you would like to see addressed at this meeting, please send them to me so that I can include them in the agenda. If one chapter has questions, it is only logical that other chapters might have the same questions. Additionally, we would love to hear your suggestions about ways to increase membership, raise money, reach out to Members at Large, improve communications, etc. There is no such thing as a dumb question, so please send your questions, issues or suggestions to me at 1VP@womenmarines.org.

This is my last article as your 1st Vice President and I want to thank everyone who has supported me over the past two years. It was my honor and privilege to have served you in this position. At the Portland convention, we will install several new National officers I ask that you please support them in any way you can. Together, we can help WMA to grow and thrive.

I am stepping down because I will be downsizing my very large house and this will require my full time attention. I may not be active at the National level, but I will always support WMA in any way I can. I wish each of you good health and happiness.

Semper Fidelis, Kathy Wright 1st Vice President

Women Marines Association

73 YEARS OF PROUD SERVICE TO COUNTRY AND CORPS

National Officers

May 2016

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WMA 'nounceme<u>n</u>ts

Official Publication of the Women Marines Association

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Deadline for materials for next issue:

15 August 2016

Please send all materials for 'Nouncements to the Editor: 117 Silent Country Cibolo, TX 78108 (228) 243-3845 Editor@womenmarines.org.

A Letter From the Outgoing 2nd Vice President

The nomination process for your Board of Directors has been completed. Since there was only one position among the elected Board of Directors for which we had more than one nominee, Area 3 Director, we only sent out one ballot to the members of Area 3. Results of the election and the announcement of the entire 2016-2018 Board of Directors will be published in the next issue of 'Nouncements and the new Board members will be installed at the Convention in July. Thanks to all who have stepped up to take on the responsibility of guiding the Association into the future. Hope to see you all at the Convention to welcome your new Board members.

As we wind down from the elections we are gearing up for the Convention. If you have never been to a Convention you should try and attend. It's great fun and we get to reconnect with friends from all over the nation. This year we hope to have a really good representation from the active duty Marines as well. Come relate your experiences to these young Marines. They do so look up to those of us that have "gone before". Looking forward to seeing everyone in Portland!

This will be my last letter to you as your 2nd Vice President. At the Convention, I will be stepping down and turning over the position to Tracy Crow. I have no doubt that she will do a great job for you and will be a great mentor to the committees that fall under the purview of the 2nd Vice President. It has been an honor and my pleasure to serve you over the past four years. I thank you all for the support you have provided to me and my committees. I trust you will show Tracy the same support. Fair winds and following seas to you all and Semper Fi!

Kathy Sheppard
2nd Vice President

WMA Officers Annual Reports for 2016 From the Immediate Past President

- Advised National President as required
- Served as the Recording Secretary on the Capital Fund Review Board
- Served as a member of the National Board of Directors
- Coordinated with the Nomination/Convention site Committee in the preparation of the Election Ballot.
- Prepared and published Election Ballots for Area Directors
- Attended/Participated the 2015 Interim Board Meeting (IBM)
- Participated in monthly teleconference calls
- Voted on all Ballots

Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower Immediate Past President

From the 1st Vice President

- Attended IBM in Portland OR in Jul 2015
- Supported monthly BOD teleconferences
- Prepared quarterly articles for 'Nouncements
- Reviewed SOP changes as requested
- Attended scheduled meetings of No. California chapter CA3
- Hosted National President as guest at CA-3 meeting in February 2016
- Prepared paperwork to disband CA-6 only other chapter in Northern CA
- Attended 8th Annual Women in Military History event in Alameda, CA, Mar 2015
- Met returning Honor Flight of local WWII veterans on 24 Oct 2015
- Attended MCL luncheon at the Elks Club in Menlo Park to celebrate the 240th MC Birthday Nov 6, 2015
- Attended annual All Service Women Veteran's Luncheon in Berkeley Marina Nov 7, 2015
- Nov 11, 2015 spoke to 750 challenger school students about the meaning of Veteran's Day Grades K-8
- Assisted ADs/chapters in processing disbanding requests
- Assisted ADs/members asking to start up new chapters
- Responded to member/chapter/AD email on a variety of topics and/or issues
- Represented WMA at 3 MCJROTC awards programs in San Jose, CA
- Responded to inquiries received by the WMA info line
- Collected input for mid year budget review and for 2016/2017 budget
- Rewrote the How To Book for Chapters
- Corresponded with members who wrote with questions or issues
- Sent get well, sympathy, thinking of you and birthday cards as appropriate
- Attend 9th Annual Women in Military History event at Coast Guard Island, Alameda, CA, on 2 April, 2016
- Will represent WMA at 3 MCJROTC awards programs in San Jose, CA Semper Fi,

Kathleen Wright

1st Vice President

From the 2nd Vice President

- Attended WMA Interim Board Meeting (IBM) in Portland, OR the site of our 2016 Convention.
- Participated in review and update of SOP changes.
- Participated in monthly Board meeting conference call
- Prepared quarterly articles for 'Nouncements
- Represented WMA MCJROTC award at Clearwater High School in Largo, FL
- Responded to inquiries received by the WMA info line
- Attended Chapter Meeting for FL2 in Largo
- Corresponded with Committee heads on issues/progress throughout the year
- Participated in the Mid-year review of the budget and reported the results to the committees that reports to the 2nd Vice President.
- Assisted the National President on various projects as needed.
- Continued to support efforts related to the Women of the Corps Collection (WOCC).
- With the Curator of the Women of the Corps Foundation (MOU), reviewed the MOU with Women of the Corps Foundation to see what changes may be needed.
- Commenced the nomination process for the 2016-2018 election of the Board of the Directors.
- Assisted Committees reporting to 2nd Vice President and the National President as needed.

Kathy Sheppard

2nd Vice President

From the 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. As of Jan 2016 authorized payments totaling \$144,038.37.

- I am continuing to process claims and will do so for the remainder of FY 2015-2016
- There is are travel requirements for the 3rd VP except to the IBM and Convention however I was able to travel bit on my own. I attended the following activities:
 - The Area 3 regional conference
 - The rededication of the Molly Marine Statue in New Orleans
 - The 100th anniversary of Parris Island, South Carolina

Betty Cook
3rd Vice President

From the Secretary

- Work with and support our National President on administrative issues
- Support monthly BOD Training Conference Calls
- Prepare BOD ballots for voting and accountability
- Maintain the BOD Directory & Contacts
- Maintain the Chapter Charter listing and Chapter binders to include preparing new Charters
- Provide copies of Chapter Charters, Bylaws, and Standing Rules upon request
- Work with the Bylaws Committee, Area Director, along with perspective new Chapter in assisting Chapter Petitions
- Serve on the SOP Review Committee maintaining and publishing the WMA SOP
- Maintain the WMA Bylaws and Standing Rules master documents for the RM&D
- Maintain and update the Action Item List
- Maintain the Scholarship Procedures master document (additional duty as serving on the Scholarship Committee) for the RM&D and the WMA website.
- Prepare the electronic eBinder for both the 2016 Convention and for the 2015 IBM for BOD meetings
- Prepared and published and attended the BOD and Business Meetings minutes from the 2015 IBM held in Portland, OR in July 2015
- Respond to requests for budget reviews
- Work with and support National Headquarters issues
- Work with the BOC and auditors for review of WMA financial issues
- WMA's Registered Agent for the State of Missouri
- Serve on the Nominating & Convention Site Committee
- Attend Chapter meetings with MO-KAN 02 (currently serving as Vice President)
- Represented WMA at the Women Veteran's Luncheon in St. Louis, MO November 2015
- Other miscellaneous duties and assignments as directed

Mary Ellen Stone Secretary

From the Treasurer

Reviewed SOP changes as requested

Review RM&D content as requested

Collected input for mid-year budget review and presented results to the BOD

Responded to all ballots submitted

Attended Interim Board meeting

Attended scheduled meetings for Michigan Chapter MI-2

Responded to member/chapter/AD email on a variety of topics and/or issues

(Continued)

From the Treasurer (Continued)

- Collected input for mid -year budget review and for 2016/2017 budget
- Conducted audit of scholarship funds (to be finished by 30 June 2016)
- Filed all 990N returns for participating chapters
- Prepared and filed WMA National 990 return for tax year 2014
- Assisted in the proper recordings of WMA relocation of Hilliard Lyons accounts to new institutions of Commonwealth Financial and Merrill Lynch
- Communicated with new CPA firm to ensure regular review of financials
- Latest balance sheet February 2016 shows the following: Assets \$2.47M equal to sum of Capital and Liabilities
- Disbursed \$57,000 in scholarships
- Distributed \$3,000 in emergency funds
- Received \$17,692 in general fund and scholarship donations
- Received and reported all WMA income
- Paid all WMA bills as authorized by by-laws
- Provided periodic financial reports of WMA financial condition

Angel Estep

Treasurer

From the Membership Secretary

- Visits to/Interactions with Chapters/Community
- Encourage Chapters to connect with MALs as MALs renew memberships
- Attended the Women Veterans' Luncheon hosted by AZ-2 Nov 2015
- Attended AZ-2 Chapter meeting Feb 2016
- Attended Marine Expo West Feb 2016
- Attended Dedication for Tucson Fisher House Feb 2016
- Presented MCJROTC Award at Orange High School May 2015

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

From the Chaplain

Report not recieved as this issue went to press.

- Answer membership queries
- Called Members in Distress
- Called Members to resolve new/renewal membership issues
- Called Members to resolve issues concerning contact info
- Assisted family members in history searches
- Member obituary searches

Projects and/or Challenges with Suggestions

- Improve National communications between the ADs and Chapters
- Identify/Map meeting locations of all Chapters to assist placement of MALs w/Chapters
- Handed out WMA applications at Veteran & Civic Events
- Assisted with the change in new Membership Cards

Kimberly Skelton Membership Secretary

Annual Committee Reports

R & A Committee

The R&A Committee has been meeting on a regular basis. The committee is working with a time line to accomplish everything on a timely basis. To date:

- Prospective judges have been contacted and have confirmation on three.
- Date and time for judging has been selected
- Letters for return of perpetual plaques have been sent
- Decorations for the luncheon have been procured

Lillian Cross

R&A Committee

Annual Committee Reports

Public Relations Officer/Web Administrator

- Worked with chapters on recruitment and start ups
- Designed posters/ads as requested by chapters/Area Directors/WMA National
- Ran and moderated the Women Marines Association Facebook page
- Assist various Area Directors on their Area FB pages to give WMA a wide presence
- Ran and moderated the WMA Yahoo page
- Created email/web newsletters using Constant Contact to spread the word of WMA
- Answered any emails/calls directed to me from the national line
- Answered any calls/emails with requests for information to the PRO and WebAdmin
- Write columns for the WMA Blog and post Molly Marine and chapter info to the blog.
- Worked to recruit and raise awareness for WMA
- Advertised upcoming events from chapters and WMA National as provided
- Assisted Marines/veterans in need to find resources available in their area
- Work with Area Directors and chapters when requested
- Participate in Monthly WMA calls
- Participate in convention planning calls
- Update and work on WMA website/WMA Blog/WMA Yahoo Elist. Currently rewording the WMA website and working on new design with Romeo Computer.
- Work with Web contractor on any issues that arise that I am not able to handle.
- Send cards to our members celebrating birthdays age 85 and up.
- Advise WMA members of other members/Marines in need, celebrating milestone birthdays or just need a friend.
- Work with various officers of WMA to identify and resolve issues
- Constantly working to raise funds for WMA General Fund

Mary Ann Merritt

Public Relations Officer/ Web Administrator

Scholarship Committee

Number of applications received - 58
Total qualified applications - 54
Scholarships awarded (WMA only)- 37
1 Oregon scholarship selectee
1 LEGGS selectee
Total non selectees - 19

Dottie Stover-Kendrick Scholarship Committee

National Headquarters

Nothing to report at this time.

Lillian Cross

Headquarters Property Control

Nothing to report at this time.

Lillian Cross

Convention Planning Committee

- Attended 2015 Interim Board Meeting (IBM) in Portland Oregon
- Provided convention planning support as directed by the National President
- Conducted a Convention Planning Meeting with the 2016 Convention Coordination Committee (CCC) and the National President and Board members in Portland during the IBM.
- Continued support for the 2016 Convention Coordination Committee by holding monthly teleconference planning meetings.
- Traveled to Portland for an additional onsite planning meeting to assist 2016 Convention coordination
- Assisted the 2018 Convention Arrangements Committee with obtaining hotel ad for Convention Program Book

Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower

Convention Planning Committee

WMA National VAVS Representative and Certifying Officer

- Participated in the monthly BOD teleconferences when able. Missed several.

Jan 2016

- Worked the WMA Booth at the Modern Day Marines, Quantico VA. (Sept 2015)
- Attended scheduled meetings for WMA PA-2 Chapter

5 Dec 2015

- Attended the Chapel of Four Chaplains Open Hours, Phila Naval Yard, 12 Sept 2015.
- Attended PA-2 Holiday Party, 5 Dec 2015 at Shady Maple, Blue Bell, PA.

WMA National VAVS Specific

- Prepared quarterly articles for 'Nouncements
- Made Appointments and Reappointments
- Appointed Rep in Charleston S.C.
- Appointed Deputy at Durham VAMCNC (23 Feb 2016)
- Responded to AJR as received.
- Responded to e-mail requests for info

Will be sending out reminders about the Annual Joint Reviews due in May.

Registered to attended the VA NAC Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, NM (Apr 22-24, 2015) as the WMA National Representative. We are an honorary member until we increase the number of representatives at 15 or more VAMCs. (Voting members must send a representative to remain on the VAVS NAC.)

Local VAVS Activities

- Attended Open Hour at the Montgomery County PA, Veterans Multi-Service Center, 20 Nov 2015.
- Attended all Coatesville VAMC Quarterly VAVS meetings as the local WMA Representative
- Weekly, perform 2 regular assignments at Coatesville VAMC, (approx. 7 hours per week) and accepted other special assignments throughout the year.
- Participated in Coatesville VAMC Veterans Week parade as a part of the MCL Color Guard.
- Attended Coatesville VSO/VA Advisory Comm Mtg 9 January 2016; 10 Mar 2016
- Attended Coatesville VA Awards Luncheon, April 2015.

Issues/Problems:

- We need more volunteers with regular assignments, including representatives and deputies.
- We need people to understand that this program is a Dept of VA program and only covers time spent at VA facilities.

Kav M. Kroll

WMA National VAVS Rep and Certifying Officer

Standard Operating Procedures Committee

- Finalized SOP changes submitted at the July 2015 Interim Board Meeting (IBM) for publication in the most recent version of the SOP dated November 2015
- Coordinated SOP changes for submission at the Board of Directors Meeting July 2016

Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower

Standard OperatingProcedures Committee

MCJROTC Report

- Sent requests to Senior Military Instructors asking for their reports on their 2015 award ceremonies
- Sent lists of school to Area Directors
- Ordered ribbons from Vanguard Industries
- Completed filling packets to send to 270 schools participating in the program this year
- All packets were sent to schools in February
- Several schools have already returned their questionnaires

Respectfully submitted.

Barbara Chagnon

MCJROTC Program Manager

Matching Funds and Grants Committee

Here is the annual report information for the Matching Funds and Grants Committee for FY16:

- Processed and submitted five chapter matching funds requests
- Processed and submitted four emergency funds requests
- Responded to and followed up on all requests for information on Matching Funds or Emergency Grants in a timely manner
- Clarified MFG process and requirements with all requesters as needed, via mail, email and phone calls
- Submitted reports to WMA as required
- Submitted content for annual WMA 'Nouncements on how to apply for WMA MFG

Merchandise Sales Report

2016 Annual Report for WMA National Merchandise Sales (NMS) Chair Karen E. Beatty & Texas Chapter 2 (hereinafter referred to as "Committee"): Karen E. Beatty, Chair.

- Attended IBM in Portland, OR in Jul 2015 to provide report on status of NMS.
- Committee performs inventory count, reviews paperwork, and discusses the need to keep up to date inventory count, and current financial books, as well as vendor information and order history.
- Committee purchased LIFE pins and EGAs (for the WMA cover).
- Committee mails NMS checks to WMA PO Box (to attention of Erin Holvoet).
- Committee responds to emails from BOD, members, and outside vendors regarding NMS.
- Committee meets regularly to discuss NMS.
- Committee is working on obtaining a vendor to produce the new Chapter streamers.
- Committee hosted a "fire sale" at the Meet Molly event hosted by the Molly Marine Chapter (LA-1). This was very successful and a report of the proceeds has been submitted to National.
- Committee is discussing attending the 2016 Convention in Portland, and we are requesting assistance from the BOD in "manning" the NMS table.
- Committee works with 'Nouncements Editor to assure the pricing and information is correct and up to date.
- Committee will decide closer to date of convention if the purchase of a Women Marines coffee mug (requested by Carol Mutter) is within the budget. We will base decision on amount remaining in budget, and the cost to produce and ship the mugs to the convention site.
- Committee fulfills orders sent in by the WMA members.
- Committee forwards WMA cover orders to American Heroes' for processing. The Committee would like the BOD to know that we are not responsible for the delivery time of the WMA covers once the orders have been sent to American Heroes for processing.
- Committee submits reimbursement request to 3VP Betty Cook.
- Committee communicates with 2VP Kathy Sheppard.
- NMS inventory is stored at Allied Products, 2636 Lily Street, Pasadena, Texas 77503. Signed,

Karen E. Beatty
On behalf of the Committee

Ways & Means Committee Annual Report

There have been successes in the fund raising arena as well as some challenges. We have produced and distributed (including at the last convention) brochures explaining how an individual can include WMA in his/her estate planning. There have been eight bequests to WMA since 2009, some of them very substantial! We appreciate very much that our members want to support WMA one last time through their estates. All donors are recognized through periodic lists in 'Nouncements, in the Resource Manual and Directory, and in the Convention Program. There will be more of the brochures available at the upcoming convention in Portland; they will be provided to Area Directors and Chapter Presidents. If you would like one direct mailed to you, please contact me at cam. wma@sbcglobal.net, or at the WMA 800 number.

WMA has also registered with Amazon Smile and Wreaths Across America. We get a certain percentage of sales when the purchasers properly indicate WMA as the charity they wish to support. This has netted WMA some funds – not a lot, but every little bit counts! Please invite friends and family to register for Amazon Smile – their purchases cost them the same but WMA gets the benefit from their spending. Periodic articles in 'Nouncements' describe the process of signing up for those who need it.

The redo of our website required a significant investment that required a special fund-raising effort. We were able to secure two large and a medium donation to cover the costs of that very necessary and worthwhile effort.

The I PLEDGE effort continues to make a difference – just commit

to a dollar amount each month (no amount is too small) or year and send it in. Many have their banks automatically send a check from their accounts every month. It's easy and most helpful.

We have submitted grant applications with very limited success. Anyone with experience and the necessary amount of time to help with one or two grant applications a year would be a most welcome addition to our committee. We've also checked into the Combined Federal Campaign, but so far the expenses needed for their required annual audits have been considered prohibitive for our small organization.

We will insert a donation envelope into one issue of 'Nouncements every year. These continue to generate more income than the extra costs involved. The publication and mailing of 'Nouncements (and the Resource Manual and Directory every 2 years) continue to be our largest expenses. We have begun to sell ads in the RM&D to help defray the costs. (The W&M Committee also assists the Convention Committee sell ads in their Program.) Digital copies save the organization a lot of money that we can put to better use elsewhere, like managing our data base, keeping the web site up-to-date, issuing grants to those veterans in need, and providing matching funds to chapters that spend their funds to assist and support veterans. All efforts to control costs and, especially all donations, are very much appreciated!

Carol Mutter

Women of the Corps Collection Report

The Women of the Corps Collection is now considered the largest collection on the history of women Marines individually and as an organization. The following is a review of some of our efforts during this past year includes:

- The WOCC has again this year supported WMA's participation in three major Marine Exposition's, Modern Day Marine, Quantico, Marine West, Camp Pendleton and Marine South, Camp Lejeune. A photo display on the history of WM's and WMA was prepared for these exhibits. The WOCC has supported this project with historical material through the last 45-48 shows.

The WOCC has worked as an intermediary on the acquisition of a unique part of Marine history between the family member owner of the object that queried at the WOCC Curator concerning for the family on "what they were looking at" to the donation of this rare piece of WWII history to the NMMC.

- The WOCC shared World War I women Marine information with the lead women historian from History Division, USMC. Sharing of information has been a two way street between History Division and the WOCC since 2004. This was the first time a Historian was sent TAD to see and utilize the collection on site.
- Noted British Author Dr. James Moran, PhD and team were weeklong guests of the WOCC in October 2015. Dr. Moran photographed every uniform worn by Women Marine in WWII, as well as the test uniforms, not made because of the Japanese surrender. The model traveling with Dr. Moran's team of three was a size two and could fit in every uniform but one, which turned out to be a size 1.5 and had belonged to Marine Lt. Katherine Drummond and part of her unique WWII collection.

Dr. Moran has written 7 books on Marine Corps topics and the photographs taken from the WOCC will appear in his upcoming book on the USMCWR of WWII.

- Manpower and Integration, HQMC requested WOCC support in the form of a history of the women of WWI thru current day from the WOCC. Still in progress and completed thru the 1970's this document 19,000 +words to date covering specific questions that have been required by Manpower for each era. Based on the integration of women into traditionally male Marine Units in the late 1970's the data available on women Marines has become less available. Or historically noted and has required assistance of WMA's Laura Brown and a number of her sister Marines. When the narrative is completed a photo history covering all the eras will be assembled for Manpower's use. Manpower and Integration was forwarded to the WOCC by History Division, the NMMC and the National Archives based on the depth of the information in the WOCC. Well over 200 hours has been worked on this project to date with another 1 week on the narrative and 1-2 weeks on the photography requirements, yet to accomplish.

Dr M. Packard, Georgetown University, History Department is assisting the USMC on the upcoming book recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps Reserve. This will cover WWI, WWII and Korea up to current Reserves today; the WOCC has supported them with a photo journey of Women Marine reservists from WWI through recent times and fulfilled their request for rarely or never published photos. They were referred by the Marine Corps Association and NMMC staff to the WOCC.

- The Women of the Corps Collection continues to grow 2015/2016 saw a 20%-30% increase in the size of the collection. The arrivals so far in 2016 indicate we may

have another year of increased growth at similar percentages.

-Over 200 requests for information from family and friends of women Marines were fulfilled from June 2015 thru February of this year. The WOCC has developed techniques so that if families can provide their WM's entry service date and MOS the WOCC can provide an accurate narrative on boot camp and advanced training and in some cases, provide duty stations or additional information, we are able to locate. We are not advertising this service......... until additional staff becomes available after the WOCC move.

- The WOCC has our major lost donors as they have passed away while costs of storage alone have more than quadrupled, the WCF has opened a go fund me account and the WOCC is hoping that individual WMA members and chapters and all Marines will support our efforts thru this WCF campaign to save our unique history and the accomplishments as Women Marines. The Women of the Corps Foundation and the Curator of the WOCC have raised the funding needed basically since 2005; please help us to continue our growth by passing the word on to Marines you know: https://www.gofundme.com/wy58nfw8.

This past year 9 graduate students utilized the WOCC on both master and PhD thesis dissertations. The WOCC has supported middle and high school students with history assignments and the role of women Marines thru history. This program grows each year and a goal of the WOCC is to develop an official program in the future that can be provided nationally to US schools, when additional volunteer staff becomes available, perhaps after our upcoming move.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Wilt

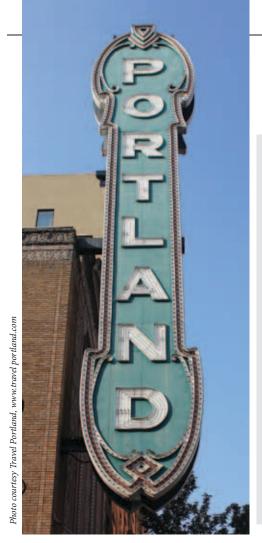
Curator, Women of the Corps Collection

Plans and Policies

- Accepted WMA new Strategic Plan and assumed responsibility for annual reviews
- Completed and distributed survey concerning VAVS through Area Directors/Nouncements
- Compiled results and briefed IBM on the results of the VAVS survey
- Provided list of potential VAVS volunteers/VAVS representatives to National VAVS coordinator
- Attended monthly teleconferences as available
- Designed annual review report to be completed by appropriate officers/committee chairs
- Annual review requests will be distributed April 15 annually, with annual deadline May 31st
- Will brief Strategic Plan review at National Convention

Respectfully submitted,

Mitzi Manning, Chair



"Everything Is Coming up Roses" for the 2016 Convention!

Traveling to the Red Lion on the River, Portland, OR

How are you traveling to the Convention? Is your transportation going to be by planes, trains or automobiles?

If you are traveling by plane, after you have claimed your baggage, call the Red Lion on the River at (503) 283-4466 for a *FREE* complimentary ride to the hotel!

How about by train? Your destination is <u>The Vancouver</u>, <u>Washington</u> train depot, **NOT** Portland Union Station! After claiming your baggage, call the Red Lion on the River at (503) 283-4466 for a <u>FREE</u> complimentary ride to the hotel!

Are you traveling by vehicle? Well, Red Lion on the River offers 365 *FREE* parking spaces of your choice! Remember--

Red Lion on the River (503) 283-4466

PX "Stop and Smell the Roses" -- Register Your Chapter TODAY!

Have you seen another Marine wearing something you wish you had, or do you want something new and out of the ordinary? Take a break and shop at the PX.

WMA chapters from around the world will be selling their creative talents and wares to send you home with great WMA memorabilia. It will be an experience you will never forget, right in the Red Lion on the River Hotel!

If your chapter wants to register for a table in the market, please send \$35.00 and this form to:

WMA Convention 2016 – (Attn: PX)

P. O. Box 7

Tualatin, OR 97062

Checks must be submitted for a table by July 1, 2016.

STOP AND SMELL THE ROSES MARKET RESERVATION FORM \$35.00 (a/k/a WMA-PX or Boutique)					
Chapter Name	Contact Name				
Address					
Phone ()	Email				
Special Needs					

Hotel Information for 2016 Convention, Portland, Oregon

Convention attendees must make their own room reservations.

Room rate is \$112 plus room tax of $14 \frac{1}{2} \%$ (Oregon doesn't have a Sales Tax!) facing the parking area. Room rate is \$127 plus room tax of $14 \frac{1}{2} \%$ (Again, no Sales Tax!) facing the Columbia River, tennis courts or swimming pool.

All rooms are equipped with two queen size beds, refrigerators, microwaves and FREE WIFI. Access to tennis courts, swimming pool and beautiful river walk.

Pet Policy: Service dogs are FREE. For pets, a one-time charge of \$15.00 (plus tax) is added to your room bill.

You must mention the Women Marines Convention to get this rate!!

When making your reservation, be sure to mention your needs for a special room that is ADA approved for disabilities if necessary.

Red Lion on the River, 909 N. Hayden Island Dr., Portland, OR 97217 (503) 283-4466



A FUN Talent Competition for Members, Chapters and Loyal Escorts to start our 2016 Convention!

WMA Rose Bowl - Come One, Come All!

You are invited to attend the WMA Rose Bowl on Thursday, July 21st, 6 - 10 pm. You are probably asking, "What the heck is *that???*"

Well, ladies and gents, it will be a *Talent Competition*. It's a chance for chapters and loyal escorts, as a team, or as individuals, to vie for the coveted WMA Rose Bowl Trophies while having fun, fun, fun! Ideas can range from karaoke, or lip-syncing with choreographic moves, or changing the words to favorite songs and maybe skits to go along with the songs.

When we had a similar party back in 2000, a California chapter dressed as grapes and came in singing "I Heard it Through the Grapevine". My Oklahoma chapter changed the words from YMCA to USMC and made fools of ourselves, I'm sure. And I know there is also some serious talent and there are some great voices out there, too. We want to hear it all! Be creative. The sky is the limit! So gather your sisters and brothers and see what you can come up with to make this a truly wonderful start to the Convention.

For the mere price of \$8 when you register for the convention, or \$10 at the door, you will get heavy hors d'oeuvres, salads, fruit and desserts, soft drinks at no charge, and a cash bar will be available. Come hungry as there will be enough for a full meal – and at a cheap price – along with free entertainment from your fellow members. Plan to travel in on Thursday and arrive by 6 pm if possible as, tentatively, the food will be out from 6-8 pm, with desserts until 10 pm when we will head to our racks and rest up for the remainder of "Everything's Coming Up Roses!"

Please contact me if you have any ROSE BOWL questions:

Pam Bloustine at pamokwm@aol.com or 405-226-5688. I will arrange for any particular music you may need with our karaoke/DJ. Hopefully we'll have room for some line dancing too! (*You know you want to!*) Mix and mingle with your old friends, and also meet new ones. It will be a truly memorable night.

Come to the **WMA Rose Bowl** and let's start this great convention off with a bang! (Or a Touchdown...? Ha!) Let's go for it, ladies!

Cash Door Prizes to Continue for 2016 Convention

Envelopes should name the donating chapter and reflect the 2016 Convention theme "Bridge to the Future". Each WMA chapter is asked to contribute at least one \$25 donation and envelope to continue to 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 welcome 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. Help to make the cash door prizes another fun and rewarding part of the 2016 Convention.

Send enevlopes to: 2016 WMA Convention

C/O Golda Fabian

P.O. Box 7

Tualatin, OR 97062

Any questions, please contact Golda Fabian, (503) 590 2342

Shipping Instructions: Getting Your Items to the Hotel

The Red Lion on the River will allow you to store your packages for the convention as early as July 14, 2016.

There is no charge for this service.

Packages **must** be addressed as follows:

Red Lion on the River C/O WMA 2016 Convention

ATTN: YOUR NAME AND CHAPTER

909 N. Hayden Island Dr.

Portland, OR 97217

Questions for the hotel? Call: (503) 283-4466

2016 Table Reservations-Please Reserve Tables NOW!

All meal events will be OPEN SEATING with the exception of reserved tables. We would like to provide your chapter or special group the opportunity to reserve a table for up to 10. This will be your table during any particular meal event or throughout all of the meal events.

Your chapter or special group name will be placed on a reserved table, and you will be informed of your table assignment. Reservations and checks must be submitted by July 1, 2016.

Cost to reserve a table per event will be \$50.00 per chapter or special group.

(Ouestions? E-mail hadees 1946@yahoo.com)

Make your check payable to

WMA 2016 Convention, and write "Table Reservation" in the memo block. Mail check and this form to

WMA 2016 Convention (Table Res.)

P.O. Box 7

Tualatin, OR 97062

ı	Chapter or Reservation name:	٦ ا
	POC Name	ı
ı	Phone	
•	e-mail	•
L		

Mobility at Convention

Many of you Marines have used or will use scooters to levitate extended periods of walking. We have a good solution for you. McCann's Medical has been in business since 1974. They rent small scooters that will accommodate a rider of 250 lbs or less for just \$35 a day or \$95 a week. If you would like a larger scooter or power chair, they rent for \$45 a day or \$125 a week. Call Mc Cann's with you needs at 1-855-622-2661 or locally the number is 503-639-7377. Ask for Al, retired Army Officer in Medical Corps. If you have other needs, I'm sure they will be able to assist you.

Heidi Tanada

Convention Registration Form



29th Biennial Women Marines Association Convention and Professional Development Conference Jul 21 - 26, 2016

You can register online at www.womenmarines.org

Attending my 1st Convention	
Mobility impaired	I would like to volunteer during convention

Late Fee of \$10 will be charged after 21 June, 2016

A fee of \$50 will be charged for cancellation after 1 July 2016. No refunds after 10 July. Refunds will be mailed 30 days after convention finalization.

	Service Name				
Email					
Mailing Address					
City	State_	Zip			
Name to be printed on Badge:		Primary	Chapter & Name		
_oyal Escort(s) Name for Badge					
Non-Member Guests Name for Ba	dge				
		eal Registration			
	nd Loyal Escort mem Package A All Meals	bers may take Package Option B Individual Choice	A or Option B: Non Member Meals	Totals	
July 21 Welcome Greet & Meet July 22 Opening Banquet July 23 Recognition and Awards July 25 Installation Luncheon July 25 Closing Banquet Total Cost (w/o Greet & Meet) Please specify if you have special di other needs:	Included Included Included Included \$195.00 187.00	@\$ 8.00 @\$47.50 @\$44.50 @\$37.50 @\$67.50 \$ Package A Ful Package A Wo Option B Non-Member M WMA Registration I WMA Late Fee after LE Registration Fee LE Late Fee after 6// Additional Donation Total Enclo	21July @\$187.00 SubTotal leals Sub Total see(s)@\$50.00 6/21/2016 \$10.00 50 @\$35.00 21/2016 \$10.00		
Red Lion Hotel Jantzen Beach 909 N. Hayden Island Drive, Portland, OR 97217 Make your hotel reservation online https://resweb.passkey.com/go/WMA2016 OR by calling the hotel directly at (503) 283-4466 Identify handicap room needs when you book your reservations. Tell them you are with WMA for the preferred room rates of \$112 plus taxes.					
I am unable to attend, but wish	to purchase a conve	ntion program at \$10 eacl	n, payable to WMA 20	16 Convention	
		th payment to WMA 201 n: Registration P. O. Box		62	
To be completed by Registratic	on Chair: Date Received	Registra	tion Number		

Rev 10/20/2015

IMPORTANT NOTE:

If you are ON ORDERS ONLY:
Please download the Convention Registration Form posted on

ww.womenmarines.o

Women Marines Association

2016 Convention and Professional Development Conference

Schedule of Events 21-26 July 2016

Thursday July 21, 2016

1300-1700 Registration Hotel Lobby

1630-1730 Workshop # 2 Resiliency Clackamas

1900-2100 Greet & Meet Clackamas/Multnomah

Friday July 22, 2016

0800-1600 Registration Hotel Lobby

0800-1200 WMA 2014-2016 Board Meeting Multnomah

0830-1200 Loyal Escorts 2014-2016 Board Meeting Clackamas

1000-1200 PX Set up Timberline

1200-1500 PX Grand Opening Timberline

1230-1300 Active Duty Orientation* Clackamas

1330-1530 First Timers Meeting* Clackamas

1500-1600 Flag Ceremony Rehearsal Grand Ballroom

1730-1830 No Host Reception Grand Ballroom Foyer

1830-2130 Opening Banquet Grand Ballroom

Saturday July 23, 2016

0800-1600 Registration Hotel Lobby

(CLOSED DURING BUSINESS MEETING)

0900-1100 WMA Business Meeting # 1 Grand Ballroom

0900-1100 Loyal Escorts Business Meeting # 1 Multnomah

1200-1430 Recognition & Awards Grand Ballroom

1500-1600 Workshop # 1* Leadership/Career Clackamas

1500-1800 PX Timberline

1630-1730 Workshop # 2* Resiliency Clackamas

1900-2200 Loyal Escorts Hospitality Clark/Washington

THIS IS A TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Lobby Level - 2nd Floor

Sunday July 24, 2016

TBD Registration Hotel Lobby

(CLOSED DURING BUSINESS MEETING)

0700-0800 3rd Biennial Fun Run/Walk Meet

Grand Ballroom Fover

0830-1130 PX Timberline

0900-1100 1st VP/AD's/Chapter Reps Multnomah

0900-1100 Workshop # 3* VA Benefits Clackamas

1230-1430 WMA Business Meeting # 2* Grand Ballroom

1500-1630 WMA Memorial Service* Grand Ballroom

1700-1800 Fireside Chat Multnomah

1900-2200 Loyal Escorts Hospitality Clark/Washington

Monday July 25, 2016

TBD Registration

1000-1130 WMA Board Photo/Installation Rehearsal Ballroom

1200-1400 Installation Luncheon Ballroom

1500-1630 Loyal Escorts 2016-2018 Board Meeting Clackamas

1730-1830 No Host Reception Grand Ballroom

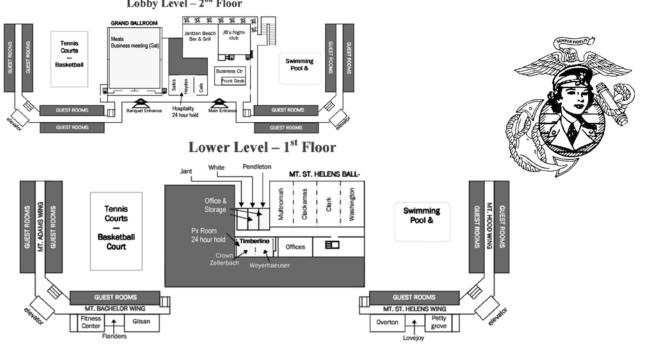
1830-2130 Closing Banquet Grand Ballroom

Tuesday July 26, 2016

0800-1200 WMA 2016 -2018 Board Meeting Timberline

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

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



WMA Area Director Reports

Area 1 - No report available as this iisue goes to press. **Area 2**

- Coordinated solutions and closed out multiple chapter issues
- Supported monthly WMA BOD and AD2 Leadership teleconferences
- Reviewed WMA materials as requested
- Voted on various WMA matters as required
- Started a proactive social media campaign for the AD2 Facebook page.
- Responded to inquiries received via Yahoo group, AD2 email, Facebook messages
- Sponsored two WMA Scholarship applicants *Valerie L. Mongello*

Area 3

- Sponsored Regional Conference in Lake Mary, FL
- Attended Salvation Army Luncheon
- Attended Veterans Day Luncheon
- Attended the 100th Anniversary Celebrations at Parris Island and delivered supply of presentation folders to Molly Marine Liaison.
- Assisted TN-1 with registration for the annual Turning Leaf Tour
- Sent chapter start up kits to NC, GA and TN. No response from any of them.
- Attend Marine Corps League Marine Corps Birthday
- Participated in the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive with TN-1.
- Participated in the Salvation Army Angel Tree Warehouse with TN-1.
- Traveled to FL to visit with FL-3 President
- Sent Group Exemption Forms to all Chapter Treasurers Sending letters to chapter and MALS members requesting Presenters for MCJROTC presentation ceremonies in Area 3 Sending letters requesting 2016-2018 Chapter Officers as requested for RM&D.

Barbara Chagnon

Area 4

- Traveled up to visit MI2 \sim two chapter meetings & presented awards to members
- Attended meetings of OH1 and OH2
- Forwarded WMA emails to all of my chapters
- Assisted in the formation of two new chapters ~ OH3 & MI3
- Sent information for a possible new Indiana chapter
- Forwarded membership rosters to all my chapters and assisted in updating individual chapter members
- Assisted in gathering & informing OH3 with information on attaining a chapter flag & streamer
- Attended the Ohio Women's Veteran Conference

Tania Shugarts

Area 5

- Represented WMA at public and civic events, such as American Royal parade, Ruskin High School Veterans Celebration, Truman Heritage Festival, Post 404 American Legion Tribute to Women Veterans and Missouri Veteran Commission town hall meetings
- Co-chaired the Stars and Stripes Softball Tournament with Belton Parks and Recreation Center
- Raised over \$6000 that assisted the Kansas City Honor Flight organization with the local veterans' trip to Washington, DC

- Raised over \$4000 that assisted veterans' stay at Camp Hope, Farmington, Missouri in honor of Marine Veteran PFC Christopher Neal
- Communicated with various veterans/non veteran organizations in discussions pertinent to morale and welfare of veterans.
- Communicated with MCJROTC Officers and Instructors to discuss and ensure hopeful WMA attendance for presentation of the WMA Award
- Supported monthly BOD teleconferences
- Communicated, via email, 'Snail Mail' and telephone with Area 5 Chapter officers, Members At large (MALs) and members regarding Chapter questions issues
- Disseminated Area 5 membership rosters to respective chapters for review and revision and researched online directories such as Intellius to correct/update address/phone information regarding MALs (Members-At-Large) with hopes to retain and renew membership with WMA
- Fielded inquiries from women Marines with interest in joining WMA /Chapters in Area 5

Deniese Elosh

Area 6

- Attended IBM in Portland, OR in July, 2015
- Worked with Area chapters to ask for volunteers to attend MCJROTC awards to present the WMA Award.
- Responded to member, chapter, and BOD emails upon request.
- Participated in BOD conference/training calls.
- Attended and assisted in the scheduled meetings of Texas Chapter 2.
- Attended the Meet Molly event hosted by the LA-1 Chapter.
- Responded to inquiries from outside of WMA.
- Sent Get Well, Sympathy, and Birthday cards to members and/or their families.
- Participated in Stone-Setting Ceremony for WWI Marine Lola Prince at Forest Park Cemetery-Lawndale, Houston, Texas. Texas Chapter 2 was the host chapter for WMA, and National President Betty Moseley Brown was in attendance. We then celebrated the Marine Corps Birthday at Brady's Landing, Houston, Texas.
- Participated in local Veteran's Day and Marine Corps Birthday Ceremonies.
- Participated in Texas Chapter 2's Anniversary Luncheon. Read the Anniversary messages from CMC and National President Betty Moseley Brown.
- Participated in decorating the VA Hospital with Christmas decorations, and in taking the decorations down.
- Participated in laying of Christmas Wreaths at the Houston National Cemetery.
- Passed on information to chapter presidents about the 2016
 Portland Convention; to build excitement and participation/ attendance of Area 6 members.

Karen E. Beatty

Area 7

- Participated in monthly conference calls as required
- Reviewed budgets, SOP and RM&D changes and content as required
- Installed a new Chapter, the NE-1 Lady Leathernecks

- Met with WMA members in North Dakota to consider starting a chapter- Attended the Interim Board meeting in Portland, Oregon
- Attended meetings for NE-1 Lady Leathernecks
- Voted on issues and ballots as required
- Communicated with WMA members in Area 7 and visited when able
- Took NE-1 board to MOKAN-2 for information share and support
- Volunteered with the Veterans Association via the Omaha National Cemetery and was elected as treasurer of the cemetery committee.
- Support Veteran students at Bellevue University under the AmeriCorps program
- Hosted WMA Day at local restaurant, VooDoo Taco for 73rd anniversary of Women in the Marine Corps
- Led fundraising efforts to support NE-1
- Prepared a bid to host the 2020 WMA Convention *Rebecca Lowell*

Area 8

- Supported monthly teleconferences.
- Voted on all ballots.
- Represented WMA at various veterans events in the local area.
- Supported members working to establish new chapters.
- Distributed quarterly membership rosters.
- Supported inquiries from members about WMA related issues.
- Ensured chapters submitted required tax forms.
- Supported local high school MCJROTC awards programs.

Becky Walker

Area 9

- Attended IBM in Portland OR in Jul 2015
- Supported monthly BOD teleconferences
- Prepared Native American Gavel access and story articles for 'Nouncements' and ensured delivery to WMA Historian
- Reviewed SOP changes as requested
- Attended scheduled meetings of NW Washington WA-3 Chapter
- Attended Snohomish High School Awards Night and present WMA MCJROTC Award
- Held a meet and greet in Seattle to see if there would be interest in another chapter restarting—no new people showed—although MAL invites were sent to 29 people
- Assigned as a member of the 2016 convention committee
- Volunteered to be the Convention PX leader
- Assisted Chapter President/Treasurer in the 990 outdated status of their chapters
- Forwarded info as requested to Area 9 Chapters
- Responded to member/chapter/WMA email on a variety of topics and/or issues
- Created an Area-9 Facebook page
- Sent get well, sympathy, thinking of you and birthday cards as approporiate

- Supported monthly BOD teleconferences
- Prepared Native American Gavel access and story articles for
- 'Nouncements and ensured delivery to WMA Historian
- Reviewed SOP changes as requested

Peggy Rieber

Area 10

- Supported monthly BOD teleconferences.
- Prepared quarterly articles for WMA 'Nouncements and sent out reminders to Chapters.
- Reviewed SOP as directed.
- Review RM&D content and worked with Chapters to update their information.- Reviewed mid-year budget requested increase for Area 10.
- Sent out corresponds to MALs in Area 10 inviting them to attend a nearby Chapter. Informed the Chapters of the MALs in their area.
- Visited Chapters all Area 10 Chapters.
- Social meeting with WMA President.
- I attended Chapters CA-7 for their WMA Anniversary Celebra tion Luncheons in February.
- I attended Chapter CA-5's 50th Chapter Anniversary honoring their long chapter existence.
- Area 10 is maintaining their Commemorative Partners Program with Vietnam War Commemoration organization. January honored veterans at local veteran's event in Santa Maria. One event will be held in July to honor more veterans.
- Chapter CA-6 Mt Diablo requested to disband and I endorsed the Chapters request with sorrow.
- Attended Santa Maria VA Hospital open house event an opportunity for recruiting WMA National information.
- Responded to Chapter members via email and phone on their issues and concerns.
- Participated in local parades recruiting for WMA.
- Worked with Amtrak to get group rate information for chapters who are interested in traveling to Portland, Oregon in July 2016 by train at a discount. (It is for those who do not like to fly)
- Represented WMA at MCJROTC award ceremony in California.
- Sent out cards to women Marines for get well, thinking of you, birthdays and condolences.
- Worked with local Veteran's group in the Central Coast to set up an informational booth for WMA National recruitment at their charity events.
- Represented WMA by mailing out troop care packages overseas to the Airmen, Sailors, Soldiers and Marines.
- Worked with local Marine Corps recruiters during Toys for Tots season in collecting toys and distribution.
- Honored local "Fallen Warriors" at local community events. *Soledad Kennedy*

Loyal Escorts: The Time is Nearing...

Portland Convention time is arriving! I look forward to seeing everyone there!

For Loyal Escorts, as usual, we will be looking for volunteers at Convention. Feel free to send me an E-mail, or sign up at the Registration table. We're hoping to have enough volun-

teers this year so that everyone can get out and enjoy all the wonders the city of Portland has to offer. We're also looking for people who might have ideas for entertainment during the Hospitality Suite. Of course we'll have drinks and music available, as well as raffles! (Continued)

Loyal Escorts (Continued)

If you have a button design idea for this Convention, feel free to pass it along to me at president@loyalescorts.org.

Remember to use the updated application that can be found at our website loyalescorts.org. This should be the best place to download. (Under the Membership tab.)

And I wanted to send a special thank you to the WMA CA-5 Chapter for your donation in memory and honor of Richard "Dick" Broe, LEGGs founder and first president. It is a generous donation, and is much appreciated. Thank you for supporting the Loyal Escorts.

We definitely appreciate all the support we get from WMA members, Loyal Escorts, and all of the other donors we have had over

the many years. Without your continued support, we would not be able to do the things that we do. Especially during the conventions.

And finally, I'd like to congratulate Amanda S. Levy, of Yuma, Arizona who has been awarded the 2016 Father Charles Covert Memorial Scholarship. She is a Woman Marine, though I don't believe she is currently a WMA member. I hope she becomes a member, and joins us at a future Convention.

I hope this summer is fantastic, and I sure do hope it will be less dry for our West Coast friends!

Michael E. Pearce President, Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter

WMA Donors - June-December 2015

WMA thanks you for your generous gifts.

Ken Allred, in memory of his mother,

Virginia Allred

Amazon Smile

Betty Baughman

Pamela J. Bloustine

Lily Brockmeier

Suellen Beaulieu

Doris Bell, in memory of Barbara Hlubocky

Jeanne Botwright

Bravelets

Mary Broussard

CA-2 San Diego County Chapter

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Rheata Case

Barbara Cogburn

CT-1 Nutmeg Chapter, in memory of

Phyllis Berglund

Edwina Davis

Leah Draper

Arlene Farrell

Barbara Finkbeiner

FL-2 Florida Gulf Coast Chapter

Marie Ann Gray

Cathleen Gruetzner, in honor of WMA

Historian Nancy Wilt

Mary Guest

Dolores A. Herrero Estate

Rita Hoch

Charlene Itchkawich, in memory of Dorothy

"Dot" Munroe

Barbara Kaufmann, in memory of her mother, mentor, & cheering section Elizabeth Kaufmann

Linda Lacy

Be Hanahan La Force Bequest, in honor of

Lucille Daniel

Bettie Lerdall

Mitzi Manning

Veronica K. Mayers

Re McClung, in memory of her daughter,

Maj. Megan McClung

Natalie McPherson

Mary Ann Merritt

Gary Metelak, in memory of Betty Jean Kubicki

MO-1 St. Louis Chapter

Linda S. Munson

Carol Mutter

John Neal, in memory of Barbara Hluboky

The New York Community Trust

Kara L. Nissen

OR-1 Lady Marine Rose Chapter, in memory

of Betty A. Workman

OR-2 Southern Oregon Chapter

Parris Island Alumni Reunion

Paula Sarlls

Connie Schroller

Sgt. Grit

Theresa "Sue" Sousa

Sandra Spatz-Wiszneauckas

Mary Ellen Stone

Joseph Taylor, in memory of his aunt, Gladys

(USMC) and uncle William McCrea (Army)

CJ Watson

Karen Wheeler, in memory of Judy Wheeler

Schroeder

Wiszneauckas Family Foundation

Wreaths Across America

WMA Chapter Clippings

AZ-2 Saguaro

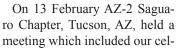
AZ-2, Saguaro Chapter, hosted the annual Women Veterans' Luncheon on 14 November 2015. More than 100 women met at the Viscount Suites to celebrate our service. The social hour was brought to a close by the opening ceremony of Posting the Colors by the AM VETS Post 770 Color Guard and Congresswoman Martha McSally singing the national anthem.

Our guest speaker, Congresswoman Martha McSally (Col., USAF, Ret.) spoke to the theme "We Answered the Call" and entertained and educated us with many examples of how women have served in our armed forces from "Molly Pitcher" of the Revolutionary War to today's new female Army Rangers.

Her examples of our struggles to push the parameters of our service, particularly from the Vietnam War to the present, illustrated our attempts to gain parity with our male counterparts.

The program was led by our president, April Stephens, and Treasurer, Bernadette Perez. TSgt Charmaine Pozo, AZANG, remembered our homeless women veterans. Our de facto Chaplain, Kevin Stephens, and our guest vocalist, Marcia Halula, added to the enjoyment of how "We Answered the Call."

D. Jean Hansen (DeWitt) was presented with the Congressional Medal of Honor by Congresswoman Martha McSally (USAF, retired) for her service with the Civil Air Patrol during WWII. She later enlisted in the USMC during the Korean War era.





ebration of the 73rd Anniversary of the Women Marines. Jean Hansen hosted the meeting and arranged for a buffet lunch to be served. We were proud to have participants from WWII and forward and several guests.



Kim Skelton, WMA National Membership Secretary, joined us and brought Victoria Rivas, a WWII veteran who will participate in an Honor Flight in April. Maureen (Moe) Gagliardi, Colonel (Ret.) USA, team lead for the Arizona Honor Flights, also celebrated with us (and brought dessert).

June Berkey

CA-3 Greater San Francisco Bay Area

The monthly meetings of the Greater San Francisco Bay Area Chapter CA-3 continue to be well attended. On 16 January, at the meeting hosted by Nell Marie Forsey and Susan Johnston, members, Loyal Escorts, and guests met to celebrate and welcome the New Year.



Our February 20th meeting was a very full meeting. Hosted by Kathleen Wright, a larger than normal group met to celebrate the 73rd anniversary of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve.

The annual letter from the Commandant of the Marine Corps General Robert Neller, and the proclamation from the President of the Women Marines Association, Betty Moseley-Brown, were read. The guest of honor at this meeting was none other than National President of the Women Marines Association, Betty Moseley-Brown! After her speech, Betty handed out a letter from President Barack Obama recognizing Vietnam Veterans – those individuals who served on active duty any time during the time period 15 November, 1955 thru 15 May, 1975. This recognition is to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. The recipients of this proclamation were CA-3 members and CA-3 Loyal Escort veterans – Paul Giadrone, Lynn Giadrone, Don Johnston, Susan Johnston, Kathy Wright, Nell Marie Forsey, Greg Miller, Maggie Hart, and Vern Smith. Each veteran was thanked for their service as Betty handed a copy of the proclamation to each and every one of them.

In addition, Betty received a special mounted USMC stamp from CA-3 Loyal Escort and Marine Corps League member Vern Smith.

The 2016 WMA Biennial Convention and Professional Development Conference was also discussed - Coming Up Roses. CA-3 had planned to reserve a table for meals at the Convention. However, a show of hands of those who planned to attend the convention was such that we voted to reserve 2 tables! CA-3 plans to have a healthy turnout at this convention so close to home, and all are looking forward to this event.

Betty also presented our very own Kathy Wright with an 'Oscar', for being an awesome National 1st Vice President.

CA-3 also held a cake-cutting ceremony in celebration of the 73rd Anniversary of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve, with the first piece of cake being presented to the oldest Marine present – Lucille Danielsen – who passed the piece of cake to the youngest Marine present – Margo Ellis.

We talked about what our older Women Marine Veterans did in the Marine Corps during World War II and Vietnam, and what is expected of our younger Women Marines today.

At this meeting, our Scholarship Chair, Lily Brockmeier, announced that she will start accepting applications for the annual CA-3 Scholarship.

On 19 March, at our monthly meeting hosted by CA-3 member Barbara Naas and Loyal Escort Sarah Naas-Rivera, we celebrated St. Patrick's Day, with most of those in attendance wearing some shade of green.

On Saturday, 2 April, three members of the Greater San Francisco Bay Area Chapter CA-3 attended the 8th Annual Women in Military History Event which honors women who have served in the Military. Kathleen Wright and Connie Guaraglia represented CA-3 and Vern Smith, one of our very special Loyal Escorts, made it possible for Connie to attend in her wheelchair. Connie has been recovering from a long illness and this was her first outing in many months. Kathy also brought one of her Navy WAVE friends, Anita O'Neill and it was her first time attending this event. The event was held at Gresham Hall Conference Center on Coast Guard Island in Alameda, CA. About sixty veterans attended the event, including a group from the Veteran's Home in Yountville, CA. All branches of the military were represented at this event. The program included guest speakers, a buffet luncheon, and raffle prizes. The weather was perfect and everyone enjoyed the day.

On a sad note, CA-3 had to say goodbye to CA-3 and WMA lifetime member Kathleen Felicia Davis. She passed on 10 February. Kathleen served in the Marine Corps and then in the Navy. She retired from the Navy. She was a linguist. Kathleen spent six months at her home in Bremerton, Washington and six months at her home in Vallejo, California. She attended CA-3 meetings while in Vallejo and enjoyed going to WMA Conventions. She is survived by two brothers and one daughter, Elizabeth Davis.

Susan Johnston

CA-5 Orange County



That's Rita Stonebraker celebrating her 96th birthday last January! She has her singing Marine bear that belts out the Marines' Hymn. Rita had a Princess Party with her sister Marines Carlene Wojciechowski, Ellie Fox, Eileen Sampson and Patricia

Singer. We all wore tiaras, sang, shared memories of CA-5 and active duty adventures with our cake!

One day we have joy with birthday parties to celebrate and then we have a day of solemn farewell. Jean Balcom Davis Laird left earth's bounds 25 January 2016. She celebrated 93 years of life... as a daughter, a Marine, a wife, a mother, a grandmother. She gifted our chapter with her grace and enthusiasm through these many years as a life member and came to our meetings and gatherings as her health permitted. We attended her church services and stood tall as the Marines' Hymn resounded to celebrate her full and remarkable life.

Patricia gave part of Jean's eulogy. We remember and honor our Chapter Life Member Helen Hamen Laukes, 4 December 1923 - 1 February 2016. She may have resided in Illinois but we had many telephone chats. The last was early December and she wanted to be sure we laid a wreath at the grave of "Vi" Lambert at Riverside, CA. She was a much appreciated sponsor of our Wreaths Across America program and we had many laughs with and about our shared E-mail jokes and correspondence through the years.

CA-5 did not have a celebration of the 73rd Anniversary recognizing Women serving in the Corps.

Nonetheless we celebrated by having seven chapter members attend CA-7's wonderful blowout celebration. Those terrific ladies know how to throw a party! Thank you Edith Macias Vann Magnificent Marines.

We even found time before the festivities to visit the graves of our favorite Sergeants Major Ellie Judge, Sarah Thornton and Judy Andler at their nearby sacred spaces, holy place. We left five-pennies for remembrance on their headstones.



L to R, standing: Sonia Gryske, Mary Ann Rogers, Eileen Sampson, "Tippy" Paine, Beverly Daugherty, Carlene Wojciechowski, Eleanor Wilson, seated: Shirley Redding, Gerry Czarnecki (Charter Member 1966) and Patricia Singer.

Celebrations! It was our chapter's Golden 50th Anniversary 13 March 2016. So many memories were shared, Sister marines that have left earth's bounds were recalled, our adventures during active duty, what we accomplished as a chapter and as dedicated Marines. Our stories are commendable.

Twelve members were present for our luncheon plus our many guests. From National, Betty Cook 3rd VP and AD-10 Soledad Kennedy joined us. Each CA-5 member present received a golden coin (challenge coin size) commemorating our Golden 50th. They are indeed wonderful and will be treasures forever.

Patricia Singer

CA-7 Edith Macias Vann So. California

On 13 February 2016, the chapter hosted a luncheon for the 73rd Anniversary of the Marine Corps Women Reserves.

The luncheon was held at the Jolly Roger Restaurant in Oceanside. The guest speaker was Colonel Chris Richie, Commanding Officer of Marine Air Control Group 38 at MCAS Miramar. He spoke of the strides of female Marines and their importance to the Marine Corps and its mission.

Ladies from several CA chapters (CA-2, CA-3, CA-5, CA-11, and CA-29) and our Area 10 Director, Soledad Kennedy, came to celebrate with us.

We also recognized in attendance were Mary "Tippy" Paine, one of the first women in 1943 to attend Hunter College for recruit training and our earliest enlisted Marine in attendance; Grace Carle, the 6th and last Sergeant Major of women Marines; and Captain Susannah Stokes the most recent commissioned Marine in attendance. Everyone had a wonderful time sharing stories and making new friends.

Taps was sounded for long-time CA-7 member and WWII veteran Vera Nelson on 21 February 2016. She joined the Marine Corps in 1943 and was one of the first women reservists to be stationed in California at MCAS Miramar. A memorial service was held for her on 12 March 2016 at the Masonic Lodge (San Dieguito Lodge No. 381) in Oceanside. Semper Fidelis, Vera.

During our March meeting, Connie Luna became a new WMA CA-7 member. Welcome Connie!

The WMA National Convention Recognition & Awards (R & A) committee has been busy finalizing judge selections and firming up the luncheon ceremony logistics. Many members are planning to attend the convention. Ah yes, more "volunteers" for the luncheon and boutique.

For the past several months, our Kathy Kincaid has been working diligently as the organizing officer and interim adjutant to establish a Marine Corps League detachment here in the Oceanside area. Her determination has paid off. The organizing group is now preparing to submit their application for charter approval. She is already plotting ways for our chapter and the new detachment to work together in support of our community. Great job Kathy!

Glynis Rates

CA-8 Palms to Pines

CA-8 was sad to hear that Denne Howard passed away in December. She was a long time member of CA-8 before she started CA-29. We last saw her at the Philadelphia convention where she played taps at the memorial service. CA-8 members Dorothee Irwin, Sybl Acree and Loyal Escort Helen Page attended her memorial service at Riverside National Cemetery 29 January. USMC honor guard Semper Fi #1 from RNC, of which Denne was a long time member and bugler officiated.

CA-8's Rosemary Abrego-Holmes, Johnnie Williams, Ozell Barksdale, Cassandra Thompson-Jervis, Sybl Acree, and Loyal Escorts Helen Page, and Sharon Catlett. attended the Seventy-Third Anniversary Luncheon hosted by CA-7 in Oceanside 13 February.

Feb. 20th at our monthly meeting, we had a cake to celebrate our 73 Anniversary. Traditionally, the oldest and youngest member attending cuts the cake. Rosemary Abrego-Holmes (youngest) and Sybl Acree (oldest). When I joined CA-8 I never thought I'd be cutting the cake. We still have 3 WWII members but they don't attend meetings anymore.

Installation of officers was March 19th. CA-8 member Joanne Evans (former city council women of Perris, CA) was installation officer. Chapter officers are Johnnie Williams, President, Sybl Acree, Vice President, Ozell Barksdale, Treasurer, and Cassandra Thompson-Jervis, Secretary. We are set for another two years.

We have found that some of the younger Women Marines that are now raising a family can't afford the dues to join WMA. We are setting up a fund to assist any WM who wishes to join WMA and CA-8 with membership.



L to R, Rosemary Abrego-Holmes, Sharon Catlett (LE), Johnnie Williams, Lillian Cross (CA-7 and Ca-8), Helen Page (LE), Ozell Barksdale. Front (L-R) Cassandra Thomas-Jarvis and Sybl Acree.

April 30 we will be attending the Salute to Veterans Parade in Riverside. Lisa Roybal for the VA has a ride for all service women so we join our sister service women. It's always fun.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Portland, so until then, Semper Fi.

Sybl Acree

LA-1 Molly Marine

Mardi Gras season was early this year with Fat Tuesday being on 9 February. Chapter members started the festivities with attending the Krewe of CAMAN (Coast Guard, Army, Marines, Air Force, Navy) Mardi Gras Ball on 16 January! This has been an annual tradition for several LA-1 members since 2008. The best Mardi Gras Ball in New Orleans! Members sharing in the festivities were Patricia Huttinger, Jack Huttinger (LE), Allison Stein, Jennifer Koon-Fink, Mary Whittington (LE), Helenisa Thibodeaux (LE), William LaPratt (LE), Linda Allen (LE), Darlene Graves (LE) and Melanie Young.

On the evening of 4 February, we were very heavy into the Mardi Gras season, one of our favorite times of the year. The season was exciting as ever with 20 members rolling in a parade with the Krewe of Muses, an all-female krewe! This krewe of fine ladies was gracious enough to provide us with a complimentary float, where eight members had the opportunity to ride. The remaining members were on foot as a walking unit, getting a little physical training (PT). The parade route is almost 5 miles! Members that decided to' laissez les bon temps rouler' (let the good times roll) were Barbara Ruffin (LE), Patricia Huttinger, Mary Draughn, Cpl Shereka Slater, Jack Huttinger (LE), Sgt Ashley Harris, SSgt Shree Thornton, GySgt Crystal Reynolds, Sgt Kimberley Wiesner, SSgt Chandra Hall, MGySgt Tashal Williams, Janet Heriot, Sgt Melissa Carbo, Dalia Robles, Allison Stein, Melanie Young, Darlene Graves (LE), Nora Huete, April Bell and Elizabeth Damron

Happy 73rd Anniversary Women Marines!!! Our Chapter celebrated the anniversary by participating in a beautification project on the corner of Canal and Elk Place in New Orleans. This is the location of the first statue of woman in uniform erected in the United States (10Nov1943).

She so happens to be our beloved "Molly"! The morning started out by cleaning the area in and around the statue, followed by a tribute to women Marines past and present. Mary Draughn, Chapter Chaplain, did the invocation, then read the Commandant's anniversary message. Patricia Huttinger, Vice President, read the WMA National President's anniversary message. After the tribute, we enjoyed a delicious lunch at "Rouses Market". Members present for the anniversary celebration were Patricia Huttinger, Helenisa Thibodeaux (LE), Nora Huete, Mary Draughn, Allison Stein, April Bell, Dr. Janie Beers (guest) and Melanie Young.

Immediately after the anniversary celebration luncheon, a few of us left Rouses Market to go by the Lambeth House to wish our eldest member, Frances Hoffman (93), "happy anniversary". She was very delighted to see us! Members that had the pleasure of visiting with Frances were April Bell, Mary Draughn, Helenisa Thibodeaux (LE) and Melanie Young.

February's meeting was held at El Paso Mexican Grill in New Orleans on the 20th.

This was a very important meeting to buckle down and start preparing for the "First Timers Meeting" that Molly Marine LA-1 is hosting in Portland during the 2016 Conference.

We have a lot of great ideas and are confident we will do our usual; presenting a class act! Following the meeting, the majority of the attendees stayed to enjoy delicious Mexican cuisine. The attendance was awesome!

Easter is one of our favorite times of the year! Our eighth Annual Easter Egg Fundraiser was held at the Marine Corps Support Facility in New Orleans on 14 and 15 March.

The Marines, sailors and civilian employees are always supportive. Once again, it was a huge success!

Members that helped sell candy filled eggs were Karen McCann, SSgt Hideshi Dyer, Patricia Huttinger, Sgt Melissa Carbo, GySgt Crystal Reynolds, Theresa Bahe, Jodi Lara, SSgt Alice Ramos, Janet Heriot and Melanie Young.

On 19 March, we had a great turnout at The Wine Market for our second "First Timers" planning meeting.

We welcomed ideas from members and got the wheels into motion; planning exciting, fun, and interesting activities for the meeting in Portland, Oregon.

Members that attended the meeting were (seated in photograph) Allison Stein, Jodi Lara, Patricia Huttinger, Dalia Robles, Taneika Key, Nora Huete, Sylvia Silva, Nicole Bailey, Melanie Young, Barbara Ruffin, Maggie Rogers, Mary Draughn and Lesley Corbin and standing are April Bell, Deloris Romero, Teresa Anderson, Felix Romero (LE), Janet Heriot, Darlene Graves (LE) Georgia Hildebrandt, Jennifer Koon-Fink and Cheryl Ellis.



On 1 April, LA-1 member MGySgt Judith Rivera had a very happy day and proud moment! Her birthday and retirement ceremony after serving 25 years in the United States Marine Corps The ceremony was very nice. There was a color guard, the Marine Forces Reserve woodwind quintet serenaded the audience and it ended with the presentation of "Old Glory". The auditorium was filled to its capacity. Several chapter members were in attendance to wish her well.

On 15 April, LA-1 had another proud moment, the retirement ceremony of MGySgt Tashal Williams. Lieutenant General Walter E. Gaskin was the retiring officer. There was a color guard, reciting of "The Watch", and the presentation of "Old Glory". Friends, family and Marines traveled from far and wide to attend; filling each seat in the Marine Corps Support Facility auditorium. Later that evening, a reception was held at the Magnolia Plantation where there was delicious food, an open bar, dancing and tremendous camaraderie!

Melanie Young

MN-1 Minnesota Leathernecks

On 14 September, Resiliency Awards were presented at the Minneapolis VA Hospital as part of the Women Veterans Campaign. One of the recipients included Minnesotan Elizabeth Strohfus pictured with WMA President Dr. Betty Moseley Brown. Liz was one of the first women in the United States to fly military planes serving during WWII as a Women's Airforce Service Pilot (WASP) ferrying military plans and helped train air and infantry



gunners from 1943 until the WASP was disbanded in December 1944. When Liz passed away on 6 March at the age of 96, she was the recipient of two Congressional Gold Medals for both her service as a WASP and with the Civil Air Patrol. Liz was often a guest speaker at events attended by Minnesota women veterans and was a never tiring advocate for women veterans.

MN-1 also reports the passing of World War II Marine veteran Geraldine Schei on 30 March. Gerry, a soft-spoken Marine with a keen sense of humor, will be missed by the Chapter.

Arlene Duncan completed the Department of Veteran Affairs Police Officers Training Course at the DVA Law Enforcement Training Center in North Little Rock, Arkansas and is currently working as a VA Police Officer at the VA Hospital in Minneapolis.

The Chapter's anniversary celebration scheduled for 6 February had to be cancelled. Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday 30 April at the American Legion Post 435, in Richfield, MN. Agenda includes discussion on the upcoming 29th Biennial Women Marines Association (WMA) Convention & Professional Development Conference and future Chapter events.

Como Park Senior High School will hold their annual award ceremony on Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 11:00 followed by a change of command parade/ceremony and lunch.

Representatives from MN-1 will present the Women Marines Association Award to the Outstanding MCJROTC Cadet. Como Park Senior High School has the only Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (MCJROTC) in Minnesota.

On Memorial Day, 30 May, Chapter members will join with the Women Veterans of Minnesota for ceremonies at Fort Snelling National Cemetery for Minnesota's largest Memorial Day observance that draws thousands for its yearly service.

The Chapter welcomes our newest member, Lt. Col. Kimberly Johnson, Inspector-Instructor, with the 4th Law Enforcement Battalion. Lt. Col. Johnson has extended an invitation to the Chapter's World War II veterans to speak to the Battalion on 4 June.

On 18 June, several Chapter members plan to attend the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Salute to Women Veterans to be held at Metropolitan State University, in St. Paul, MN.

If you are in the area, the Chapter extends an open invitation to join us any time.

Vicki Latiolais

NC-3 Semper Fi



NC-3 "Semper Fi" teamed up with Dress for Success Triangle to sponsor a one-day workshop, "Owning and Writing the Story of Your Military Life," taught by NC-3 president Tracy Crow, for women veterans and military family members, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 5 March, in Raleigh, N.C.

More than thirty women attended the inaugural class. Some were interested in writing for self-reflection and healing, some for a family legacy, and others for publication. Attendees were treated to a breakfast/coffee social, a catered lunch, a post-workshop cookie social, and signed copies of Crow's new text, *On Point: A Guide to Writing the Military Story*.

NC-3 and Dress for Success Triangle will co-sponsor a second event for this inaugural class in August and a two-day event in March 2017 to welcome a new group of women veterans and family members. The goal, according to Crow, is to develop a warm community of women writers who share the military experience as veterans and family members. "Everyone has a story," she said at the beginning of her workshop, "and every story matters. More important, you have permission to write your story."

Tracy Crow

OH-2 Emma Holmes

Marines have served in every clime and place in far off northern lands and in sunny tropic scenes. Come to Ohio and we will give you this in one week. We have been living in seasonal change since January.

Our chapter held their spring meeting and it was so nice to see Nancy Steel, Tammy Parsons, and Mary Ann Costantini. Mary Ann brought her daughter and new service dog. Judy Tillis was in North Carolina running in a 5K walk/run and finished in good time. We held election of officers and the following members were elected: President - Ellen Leidy, Vice President - Jenny Jenkins, Secretary - Karen Pressler, Treasure - Lora LeWay.

We voted to change the name of our chapter (with National approval) to OH-2 Emma Holmes. Emma was a Disabled WWII Veteran who researched the history of WWI Women Marines. She wrote or called all she could locate and became friends with each of them.

Lora LeWay has been busy and has been elected Commandant of the Marine Corps League, McKinley Detachment #277, in Canton, Ohio.

She hosted a luncheon for Iwo Jima Marines in Canton and also attended the Marine Corps League Central Division, 2016, Annual Conference with Ellen Leidy.

The Ohio Women Veteran License Plates are ready to purchase on 25 April. The hold up was the color black on the Army plates. Please go out and purchase these plates because our Ohio Women's Advisory Committee worked to get these made.

The 2nd Women Veteran Resource Fair will be held on 14 May in Summit County at the Summit County Veteran Service Commission Building. Ellen Leidy is co-chair this year.

Meetings have begun for the 11th Laura Williams Dunlop Stand Down on 13 September . Our Chapter and Military Women Across the Nation have participated since the beginning in 2006.

The Ohio Women's Advisory Committee held a panel discussion on the Changing Roles of Women in the Military. The panel had two WWII women from the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky and women who retired or served in the Gulf Wars. After the women discussed their service, the WWII women wanted to know why they were there. They felt they did not do anything compared to the combat service of todays women veterans.

The younger women thanked the WWII veterans for paving the way for women today. These young women suffered from PTSD and wounds received during their tours. It brought back memories for those of us who served during the Vietnam War. From where we started in WWI, we've come a long way.

On 7 April, Ellen Leidy and I were presented awards for a total of over 20,000 hours and 29 years volunteering service. It is so important to keep a record of your volunteer hours. We do not volunteer for any awards but for the needs of other veterans.

Hours add up when you are helping at veteran hospital events, stand downs, resource fairs, filling out forms at clinics, taking veterans to shop or appointments and many other things. We would like to thank all our friends for their kind remarks.

A big shout out to members out of state, June, Mary, Donna, Betty Jean and Brandi who just got married.

If spring or summer ever get here, enjoy and know we are thinking of you.

Elva M. Pounders

TN-1 Rocky Top

Did you ever wonder what happens to those Christmas gifts you purchase for the gift card attached to the Christmas tree in your Wal-Mart, Supermarket or other local store? Well, members of Rocky Top Chapter can tell you what happens to those gifts you take to your local store. They are picked up by Salvation Army volunteers and taken to the Salvation Army warehouse. The warehouse is not in the same place every year. It is wherever a large, empty store is located, probably had a 'for lease' sign on it in October and the owner is willing to provide two months' worth of space for free or at a much reduced rate. And it has to be large

(like a former supermarket) so that thousands of large oblong boxes can be set on the floor, side-by-side for almost as far as the eye can see.

Chapter members put each of those folded boxes together. Then they take a large point black marker and number each box with the number provided by the Salvation Army Officer in charge and under the number put strange little codes, like F-4 and M-6 (which says that this family has two children, a male age 6 and a female age 4) or F-Senior, (a female senior who is in need) or A) M-4 B) F-6, C) F-8 and D) F- Infant (which says this family has 4 children in need this holiday season.

If the boxes were used the previous Christmas season, we write labels and put those on the end flaps for this year. The Salvation Army gets its use out of these boxes.

Now the boxes have to be set side-by-side, moving first up one row and down the next row. Be sure to leave a walk way between rows, this will enable us to walk up and down rows, placing clothing, toys, stocking in each box. As your purchase is brought to the warehouse, there is a code on the slip that corresponds to the number code on the main card file and hence, on the box we have already pre-numbered. We take your purchase, walk to the correctly numbered box and check the end flap, ensuring that the item(s) purchased is indeed age appropriate for the M or F indicted on our box.

When things are a little slow at the warehouse, we sort clothing that is donated by large stores. The clothing is broken down into Male or Female and then sizes within the genders. This will mean that some child who needs a coat, pants, a shirt, or pajamas will get something this Christmas, if it has not been purchased via an Angel Tree Gift.

Massive amount of toys that are also donated by large corporations also get sorted and stored, to be used to fill spaces in those boxes where a toy has not made an appearance. There can be hundreds of basketballs or 50 bikes in all colors. Each must eventually be sorted and tagged with a number for distribution.

Christmas stockings are another way we spend any "down" time awaiting delivery of a truck full of Angel Tree packages. Stockings are stuffed by church groups or clubs or organizations. In 2011, Rocky Top Chapter asked for 40 empty stocking. We filled these 40 stocking for senior women with care and comfort items, such as bath sponges, shampoo, deodorant, new toothbrushes, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, lip gloss, blank note cards & envelopes, ball point pens, small note pads and hard candies. We then stapled the gift cards provided by the Salvation Army to the top of the stockings to ensure nothing would fall out and delivered these to the warehouse. One rainy day while awaiting a few delivery trucks, Barbara and Doris got to place all the stocking in 40 of the boxes with an end flap that said F-Sr. (Female-Senior).

The warehouse address is provided to TN-1's chapter contact in mid-November. We share that address with any of our members who can take a few hours to help out in the warehouse.

Daphne Jones, the Salvation Army Officer-In-Charge the past few years has requested "her Marines" for the past 3 years. It seems she had a lot of boxes out of numeric order, missing M or F on end flaps, etc., when a college sorority tried to help. She now insists that the boxes will be done when "her Marines" can get to the warehouse. All other groups will be scheduled to assist with other sorting and packaging AFTER "her Marines" do the boxes.

You can see in the top photo only one side of the warehouse with the boxes placed side-by-side. Yes, we made all the boxes first, then labeled them, then placed them in numeric order along nice neat rows. In the lower photo, you can see where stocking and toys have begun to be placed into the boxes in the back ground.

Chapter members who regularly put in some hours include Doris Keane, Barbara Chagnon, Jessica King, Gail Williamson, Eileen Neiler, Debra Henderson, and Lindsay Long. We have worked for over 60 hours a week each year at the warehouse. Some of our other members would love to help, but work full time and the warehouse closes at dark.

There are two big distribution days, usually around the 18th of December and items are distributed to the families on these days. There is much hugging, cries of sheer delight, and tears of joy that go on those two days. Jessica and Eileen have both been able to work at least one of those days and said it was one of the most rewarding (although hard work) things they have done recently.

Doris Keane

TX-2 Texas Gulf Coast

Texas had a very light winter this year and spring has definitely sprung in Texas. Everywhere you look the earth is covered with a Wildflower Blanket of Blue Bonnets, Flaming Arrows and Indian Paint Brushes to name a few of the local flourish.

We celebrated the 73rd Women Marines Anniversary with a special no business meeting at the Post Oak Grill in The Galleria Area of Houston. The restaurant set us up in a very elegant private room that had been reserved in the past by United States Presidents and movie stars at



TX-2 President Judy Anderson, Eleanor Gibbs and Christina Klein.

times, so we felt the love from the staff the minute we walked in. We were all served different items from the menu, but I swear every plate was so well prepared that they looked like works of art, and the flavor was over the top.

TX-2 President Judy Anderson welcomed everyone to the luncheon and there were nine members present. Marti Raney led the Pledge of Allegiance and Karen Beatty read the Commandant's anniversary message from General Robert Neller and an anniversary message from WMA National President Betty Moseley Brown.

Betty Huggins led us in prayer while we waited on our meal and we lit the Memorial Candle. We then had everyone do their own introductions and tell a memory from their time in the Corps.

Betty had once again provided the delicious double chocolate brownie Anniversary Cake for the cake cutting ceremony. WWII member Eleanor Gibbs and Christina Klein cut the cake as our oldest and youngest members present. Many thanks to Joan Gibbs for bringing her mother so that we didn't have to haggle over which one of us was the oldest. It was a very fun filled meeting and we sang the Marines' Hymn at the conclusion.

Hope everyone has a wonderful spring and see ya in Oregon! *Marti Raney*

Group Sales Department



CONVENTION FARE DISCOUNT INFORMATION FOR PASSENGER

You may present this information to the Amtrak Ticket Agent or your Travel Agent to assist them in providing you with this discount

Fare Code Number: X59Z-939 Valid For Travel: July 18, 2016 – July 29, 2016

WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION

Amtrak offers a 10% discount off the lowest available rail fare to Vancouver, WA between the above dates. Includes travel up to three days prior to the convention start date and three days following the last day of the meeting. To book your reservation call Amtrak at 1 (800) 872-7245 or contact your local travel agent. Please refer to Convention Fare Code X59Z-939 when making your reservation a 10% discount has been approved. Conventions cannot be booked via Internet. This offer is not valid on the Auto Train and Acela service. Offer valid with Sleepers, Business Class or First Class seats with payment of the full applicable accommodation charges. Fare is valid on Amtrak Regional all departures seven days a week, except for holiday blackouts.

If you have any questions or need any further assistance, please feel free to contact us at 1-800-USA-1GRP (1-800-872-1477) Monday through Friday, 6:00am-4:30pm Pacific Time.

We look forward to having your group travel with Amtrak.

ATTENTION MARINES!

Your help is urgently needed to keep the WOMEN OF THE CORPS Collection of valuable historic memorabilia from being sold to junk dealers for lack of funds to pay storage and insurance costs.

Your contribution is needed now!

Only a dozen years old, the Collection has grown from a few boxes of old uniforms to over 300,000 items now valued and insured for \$500,000. Costs of the Collection were generously funded by our older Marine sisters—now passed away—and new donors are urgently needed! The costs total **\$25,000 annually**.

Send your check TODAY for \$5.00 or \$5,000. All amounts are appreciated. Make check payable to WCF and send to:

WOMEN OF THE CORPS FOUNDATION 7305 San Dario Ave G-311, Laredo TX 78045

The WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION

proudly displays the impressive Women of the Corps collection of memorabilia of women Marines at the biennial conventions of the WMA - and especially during the grand 100th year celebration of Women Marines in Washington, DC in 2018.

During this 100th anniversary celebration, the Collection of Memorabilia will be visited by great numbers of the public, including local schools and government officials.

The costs of preparing, cleaning, displays, and shipping this collection for exhibition are paid by the WMA. **The cost for the 100th anniversary celebration will be approximately \$25,000.**

Send your contribution TODAY to this worthy cause. All amounts are needed. Make check payable to WMA/WOCC and send to:

WMA Treasurer PO Box 377, Oaks, PA 19456-0377

THANK YOU!

Proposed Amendments to WMA Bylaws

REF: ARTICLE FIVE, SECTION 2 - OFFICERS AND APPOINTEES

Current Wording

Section 2. Term of Office:

Officers shall serve for two years, or until their successors are elected and qualified. (The term shall begin at the close of the convention at which the officers are installed.)

Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

Section 2. Term of Office: Adding sub-paragraph b.

<u>a.</u> Officers shall serve for two years, or until their successors are elected and qualified. (The term shall begin at the close of the convention at which the officers are installed.)

b. Officers serving as President, First Vice President, Second Vice President and Third Vice President shall be limited to two consecutive terms in the same office. Incumbent may seek another National office once her two terms expire.

Rationale: This will bring fresh leadership to the board and will encourage members to seek higher office at the National Level.

Proposed Amendments to WMA Standing Rules

REF: PARAGRAPH 15 - OFFICIAL WMA CAP

Current Wording

This cap will be overseas style, green with scarlet piping with lettering on the left side to read 'WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION' and on the right side, the chapter designation (optional). The only ornament affixed to the Cap is the gold gilt United States Marine Corps emblem and (if applicable and purchased by owner) the gold "LIFE" pin, affixed 1/2" above and centered above the lettering 'WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION'.

Proposed Change/New Wording (underlined)

This cap will be overseas style, green with scarlet piping with lettering on the left side to read 'WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION' and on the right side, the chapter designation (optional). The only ornament affixed to the Cap is the small gold gilt enlisted United Sates Marine Corps emblem and (if applicable and purchased by owner) the gold "LIFE" pin, affixed 1/2" above and centered above the lettering 'WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION'.

Rationale: To define common standards for the EGA to be worn on the official WMA cap.

Please bring this copy of 'Nouncements with you to Portland!

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 NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION * Denotes mandatory field *Full Name: *Current Address: *State: *Zip Code: *City: Cell Phone: *Home Phone: *Date of Birth: *E-mail must be provided for electronic RM&D *E-mail: **ALTERNATE ADDRESS INFORMATION** Name: Address: State: Zip Code: City: E-mail: Reason for Alternate: Phone: Start Date: Stop Date: **EMERGENCY CONTACT** *Next of Kin: *Address: *Phone: *State: *City: *Zip Code: *Relationship: MILITARY INFORMATION When Served: Name (s) Served Under: Maiden Name: Molly Marine: 🔲 Y 🔲 N Plt. and Series: MOS: RM&D AND 'NOUNCEMENTS PREFERENCES Electronic copy * * **Must provide e-mail for electronic copy Hard Paper copy 'Nouncements is the organizational quarterly magazine Electronic copy * * **Must provide e-mail for electronic copy MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION **NFW** RENEWAL REINSTATEMENT **2 Year Membership** \$40 Life Membership: Pick One Age 30 & Under **\$295** 31-39 **\$260** 40-49 **\$210** Chapter Name if Known: □ 50-59 **\$180** □ 60-65 **\$150** □ 66 & Older **\$120** Enrolled by/How did you hear about WMA:

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

*Signature of applicant:

in the United States Marine Corps.

*Date:

Effective May 2016

WMA will never share any of your information with outside sources.

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

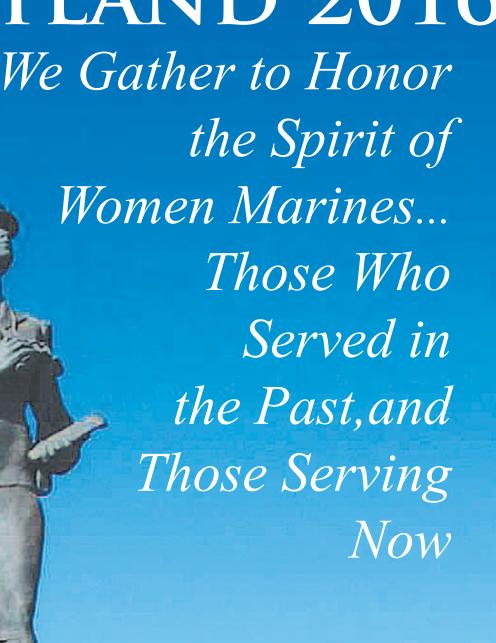
Application for membership in Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter

The Auxiliary of the Women Marines Association

LOYAL ESCORT MEMBER APPLICATION						
APPLICANT INF	ORMATION					
Name:						
Date of birth:	Ph	one:		Cell:		
Current address:	 					
City:		Sta	ıte:	ZIP Code:		
Email:		1		-		
New	Renew	Reinstated	Life (Spons	sor must be Li	fe member)	
SSN# (last 4 digi	ts only)					
·	40 and under - \$180	41-45 - \$150	46-60 - \$130	61-70 - \$105	71-80 - \$80	81+ \$55
SPONSOR INFO	RMATION					
WMA Sponsor N			Recruited b	y:		
Chapter Affiliatio			I	•		
	sponsor? Y N	Sponsor Li	fe Member # if	applicable		
EMERGENCY C	ONTACT					
Name of a relative	ve not residing with y	ou:				
Address:			Phone			
City:		Sta	te:	ZIP Code:		
Relationship:						
SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER INFORMATION IF APPLICABLE						
Name:						
Date of birth:	Ema	-	Phone	:		
SERVICE INFORMATION IF APPLICABLE						
Dates of Service						
Branch:		5 . 0	How Ic	ng?		
MOS Duty Stations:						
ABOUT MYSEL						
How did you hear about the Loyal Escorts?				Recruited B	v [.]	
TIOW did you fied about the Loyal Lacotta: Thechalled by.						
SIGNATURE						
Signature of mer	nber:		Da	te:		

Make checks payable to **Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter**Mail to: Michael Pearce, 1645 E. Madge Ave., Hazel Park, MI 48030

PORTLAND 2016



Thank you for your service!



MARINE CORPS HERITAGE FOUNDATION BANQUET



Sue Sousa and Mr. and Mrs. Walt Ford.



The evening's award recipients pose for a photo with the the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps and the Commandant.



Gathered at the banquet (L-R): Sally Pritchett (USMC, Ret.), Eileen Scanlon (USMC, Ret.), Sue Sousa, PNP, Sara Sheldon, Winner of the Colonel Julia Hamblet Award and Author of "The Few, The Proud, Women Marines in Harm's Way" and Betty Moseley Brown, WMA National President.