

# WMA'NOUNCEMENTS

**SERVING OUR MEMBERS SINCE 1969**

★ **100 YEARS OF SERVICE 1918 - 2018** ★

## New Blues

A company of female Marines made history on November 16, 2018 after becoming the first group of new Marines to debut the Corps' latest dress uniform.

The approximately 129 Marines of November Company were the first on the depot to graduate recruit training in the new version of the female blue dress coat.

The new coat features the iconic mandarin collar, white belt, and gold waist plate seen on male Marine uniforms.

Mary Boyt, a member of the Marine Corps Uniform Board, said plans to introduce the coat began in 2013 when then-Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus instructed the Navy and Marine Corps to come up with ways to streamline uniforms and make them more unisex where possible. During a survey process, Boyt added many female Marines expressed that their current uniform wasn't being recognized as belonging to the Marine Corps as civilians were more familiar with the more common male version of the coat.

"This has been an issue that has come up to the uniform board several times in the past," said Boyt. "Female Marines have asked for the ability to wear the male uniform or something similar to the male uniform. We knew what the male uniform looked like, and we wanted to develop a female uniform that was similar to the males but met the unique design challenges of the female shape. So, we didn't want to just throw a male coat on them and say this is it."

For many drill instructors with November Company, the graduation was their first time publicly debuting their new blue dress coat. Many said the new uniform aligned them more with their male counterparts.

"It's very form fitting...it fits pretty well," said November Company DI Sgt. Jazmin Penado. "Now that we're wearing the same uniform as male Marines, I feel like we are all equal. I know that's what the Marine Corps is striving for, to make everything the same. I personally love the uniform."

November Company Drill Instructor SSgt. Kara Sykes, who serves as unit historian for 4th RTB, said the new uniform is a throwback to older female uniforms dating back to the World War II-era and is a return to form for the Marines; especially in light of the recent centennial marking 100 years of women serving in the Marine Corps.

"If you look back at history, when females first came into the Marine Corps, we had the high coats with the high neck collars and then we changed over the years to a different coat," she said. "The coat we have now is similar to when we first started. We're bringing it back. It's a good time for us to actually wear the coat...to see the history, to see how far we've come and to come back to history."

The new coat will gradually replace the current coat over the next several years and will become a mandatory uniform item in October 2022, at which time the current coat will become obsolete.

Last August, recruits with Papa Company, 4th RTB became the first recruits to be issued the new coat; however, they did not graduate in the coat as it is only worn for graduation in winter months.

*Marines.mil*





# WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION



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75 YEARS OF PROUD SERVICE TO COUNTRY AND CORPS

JANUARY 2019

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## WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS

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Please send all materials for 'Nouncements to the Editor: Sondra Metzger, 3805 NE 141 Circle Edmond, OK 73013 (405) 570-2472 Editor@womenmarines.org





## A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

On behalf of all Marines, I am pleased to congratulate the Women Marines Association on the 76th Anniversary of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve. When Opha May Johnson became the first female to enlist in the Marine Corps in 1918, few could have foreseen the depth of contributions women would make to national security. In every conflict since, women have answered our Nation's call with courage, honor, and devotion to duty.

Last year, we commemorated a century of achievements since women joined our ranks. In 2019, we look toward the next 100 years of warfighting excellence as a fully integrated Corps. Today, women have unprecedented opportunities to lead and excel because of every woman who has served with distinction over the past century. Marines in uniform today are proud to follow in your footsteps and continue building on the illustrious legacy each of you helped forge.

As you celebrate this anniversary, know that all Marines take great pride in your innumerable achievements and contributions. We remain grateful for your distinguished and dedicated service as well as your unwavering commitment to our Corps.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Neller, General, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commandant of the Marine Corps



February 2019

As we commemorate the 76<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve on 13 Feb 1943, we cannot deny the importance of that date to our proud heritage of women's service in the Corps. Women have earned the title "Marine" and have lived up to the high standards, demonstrating honor, courage, and commitment.

From World War II to Iraq and Afghanistan, women in the Corps continue to be key to readiness and mission accomplishment. The roles women filled have changed over time, but their quality performance and enthusiasm have not. As opportunities to serve increased, each generation of female Marines have stepped up to the challenge and paved the roads for future generations. Since the first woman donned a Marine Corps uniform, female Marines have enriched our Corps' history and enhanced our combat capability.

We are an elite group of women who share a unique bond of having served as U.S. Marines. It is important for us all to recognize the contributions of those women who have come before us and to commit ourselves to promoting these ideals, so today's female Marines can set the future course.

The Women Marines Association takes pride in its role in promoting and preserving the history of women who have served in the Marine Corps throughout the years. We have a proud heritage and history that has been written over time, through the trials and tribulations and the achievements and accomplishments of so many women Marines that have come before us because if not for them, we would not have had the same opportunities presented to us in our time in the Corps. By our actions and contributions, we have proven over and over again our value to Corps and Country. Here is to our historic past and to our promising future. Semper Fidelis!

*Rhonda LeBrescu Amtower*  
*WMA National President*

## Reporting In...National President

### Roadmap to Success

As we start another new year your Board of Directors (BOD) is already hard at work preparing to conduct the business of WMA. As we keep faith with the original goals of our Founding Mothers from back in 1960, we must continue to find what works in today's world to make WMA more relevant for our current and future members. These original goals, or "Purposes," as delineated in our National Bylaws, provide us the roadmap by which we keep WMA on track. That roadmap is supported by our guiding documents which includes our Bylaws, Standing Rules, Standing Operating Procedures (SOP) as well as our Strategic Plan. A continual review of our roadmap is necessary to best determine what direction, turns or possible detours are needed to ensure WMA's future.



Here are just a few specific course directions we are currently addressing:

- Our Plans and Policies (P&P) Committee has been tasked to review and recommend changes and updates to our guiding documents and processes based on recently identified problem areas over the last year.
- Our Bylaws Committee is working on a major rewrite of our Bylaws and Standing Rules that will most likely also affect additional updates in many sections of our SOP.
- The P&P Committee will also continue to review our Strategic Plan to ensure the initiatives and

strategic objectives are met to enable us to manage our assets in a way that best benefits the organization and its members.

- Our Ways and Means Committee is moving forward on a major fundraising effort to help keep WMA financially viable so that we can support our current and future programs.

- The Area Directors have been working diligently to assist the Membership Secretary in updating the Membership Database so that the most current information can be included in our Resource Manual & Directory (RM&D) that will be published to all members this spring.

- The Membership Secretary is also working to improve our membership process to make it more timely and effective.

- As part of this entire effort we are establishing an Advisory Council of prominent business and military leaders to help advise WMA on operational and organizational issues and how to best transition to a new way forward while plotting new routes on our Association's roadmap.

Staying on course even while factoring in alternate routes is an ongoing project but we must continue to think ahead and work towards what will be best for WMA in the future. WMA will celebrate 60 years of existence in less than two years at our 2020 Convention. We must change with the times to meet the current and future requirements to keep WMA relevant. If we keep our eye on the road ahead and follow and adjust our roadmap as required, we will be successful in meeting this goal.

*Rhonda LeBrescu Amtower*

## Reporting In...Areas 1 - 3 - 4 - 6 - 9 - 10

### Honor, Courage, Commitment in the WMA

In keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps, Area 1 has embraced the mission of honoring our fallen sister Marines.



When I accepted the duty of AD1, there were only two remaining chapters out of the original ten chapters. I had been a member-at-large from 2006-2016 and knew nothing about chapters or how they worked. I was told that my biggest task was recruitment of new members for this area, which includes all of New York state and all the New England states. So, I strapped my boots back on after 17 years being retired and started looking for Marines. Area 1's geography is the smallest of the ten areas in WMA; however, it's one of the highly populated areas in WMA with nearly 40 million people in just the major cities. This demographic research guided me in where my main targets would be to find Marines.

Coincidentally after becoming the Area 1 Director in 2016, I learned that one of our fallen sister Marines was from my area. I knew I had to find a

way to reach out to her Gold Star family, which meant I had to do some research about them, too. In the process of this research, I discovered that there were actually three Marines KIA from Area 1, not just the one. It became very clear to me that I needed to find a way to honor my fallen sisters; which would be to simply name new chapters after them to carry on their legacy. But before I could officially do this, I needed permission from their families.

This is where it took courage for me to reach out to the Gold Star families. I don't think anyone really knows what to say to these amazing families, but the right words ended up flowing forward with a promise to honor our fallen sisters while embracing their Gold Star families, who are now our families. In 2018, the WMA chartered the RI-2 Cpl Holly Charette Chapter and the NY-6 Cpl Ramona Valdez Chapter. Holly and Ramona were killed in the same IED explosion in Fallujah in June 2005. Because of our commitment to honor them, their Gold Star families finally got to meet after 12 years and find a little bit of a healing bond in their grief. (For those who attended the national convention, you may remember meeting Holly's parents, Ed and Regina Roberts, who were thrilled to be wel-



comed as part of our family).

I continued my commitment to locating Capt Jennifer Harris's family. Jennifer was KIA in February 2007 in Iraq and was from Swampscott, MA. It took a while, but I finally found a contact. She was an only child and her mom passed away two years ago, which left just her father as next-of-kin. I wrote him a letter of introduction and a request to start up a chapter in his daughter's honor. He called me immediately after receiving the letter, and with tears of joy and sorrow all mixed together, he enthusiastically agreed. We are finalizing the paperwork now and will be requesting to charter the MA-3 Captain Jennifer Harris Chapter early this year. We already have five Marines committed to pushing this forward and we are seeking more Marines from the Boston region and from Marines who may have served with her. Contact AD1@womenmarines.org for more information.

Quote of the Day: Failure will never overtake me if my determination to succeed is strong enough. ~ Og Mandino

*Jamie DePaola, AD1*

### Area 3

Area 3 has been very busy these past few months. Here are a few highlights.

Over 75% of the chapters in the area participated in Toys for Tots and Wreaths Across America. We also have several new chapters forming. In Florida we have interest in the Tallahassee area, and chapters forming in West Palm Beach and Cape Coral. In Alabama we have chapters forming in Montgomery, Birmingham, and Huntsville. AL-1 is reforming in the Moline area. GA is forming in Augusta and Savannah, and South Carolina is looking to add to their chapters in Greenville and Columbia. In North Carolina we find a chapter forming in the Fayetteville area. Tennessee has one forming in the northeast area around Kingsport as well as the Memphis Area.

If there is not a chapter near you, we would love to investigate starting one. Please contact me at AD3@womenmarines.org

GA-2 Semper Sororibus held true to their name by assisting a single mother and her children after they lost everything in the recent hurricane. The chapter purchased food, clothes and Christmas gifts for this family. They showed true Christmas spirit and sisterhood.

NC-1 Tarheel Chapter was at the Jacksonville City Hall awards ceremony where Julie Seadler Burlingham received the award for Outstanding Veteran for 2018. Her son received the Loyal Escort Outstanding Volunteer award. Congratulations to them both. Outstanding representation for WMA and NC-1 Tarheel Chapter.

FL-13 Sgt Reckless Chapter is currently working with the public relations representative for the



new Ocala World Equestrian Center (WEC) that will be opening in January 2021. The WEC will be erecting a statue of Sgt Reckless to be displayed at the center. This is a great honor not only for the Marine Corps and WMA, but for FL-13 Sgt Reckless Chapter. They will be involved not only with the entire process but also the unveiling. We are looking forward to 2019 being a banner year for Area 3.

*Patricia Collins*

### Area 4

Greetings! Semper Fi, Marines!

As the Area 4 Director, I have been humbled to see the work the chapters are doing. Having met with most chapters in the last four months, I have been able to see that volunteer activities were prominent in the last months of the year. IL-2 served hundreds of people at a veterans' pancake breakfast during November. KY-1 volunteered for Toys for Tots 5-6 days per week for several weeks wrapping many gifts. IN-1 laid hundreds of wreaths in the pouring rain for Wreaths Across America.

Operationally, chapters were innovative. Kay Ross and IN-1 showed us how fundraising is done with their t-shirt promotion, selling over 300 t-shirts online. Way to show initiative!

Brenda Moore and KY-1 shared with the area their fundraising idea, which was to print custom donor certificates, and hand them out to businesses who donate yearly to a WMA chapter. This is an easy way to generate repeat income, and allows the business to display the fact they support veterans' organizations. Way to go KY-1!

Vicki Cobbett and IL-2, after nearly closing due to low turnout in 2018, has experienced a strong resurgence under Vicki Cobbett's strong leadership. This chapter even had to increase their meeting schedule to every 8 weeks due to member interest. Keep at it, IL-2!

Ellen Leidy and OH-2, during the Area 4 visit in December, had several Loyal Escorts show up to their last meeting. This is a reminder to all of us that chapters should coordinate with the Loyal Escorts in order to utilize volunteers and establish those relationships with local LEs. OH-2 is also promoting leadership within the organization pushing chapter members to individually "own" various projects. Thank you for the leadership OH-2!

Mary Ann Merritt and MI-2 hosted a brunch buffet that included speakers helping attendees with how to process VA claims and home loans, as well as other information.

Kristen Gallagher and MI-3 volunteered with the Toys for Tots in Kent County, MI. The chapter also participated in the wreath laying ceremony at the State of Michigan Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

**Chapter REMINDER! Form 990-N tax filings should be placed on chapter calendars so as to make the yearly deadlines.**



Area 4 is working on a conference which will include chapters from across the area and hopefully chapters from neighboring areas as well. We are honored to host the WMA National President in Columbus, Ohio on February 17th. Let's all bring our ideas and enthusiasm to this meeting. It's a great opportunity to keep up motivation between conventions. Please email me at [ad4@womenmarines.org](mailto:ad4@womenmarines.org) for more information.

Last but not least, the mission of the WMA is to preserve our history as female Marines. The Area 4 historical interview program has been rebranded as "Conversations with Marines," and President Rhonda Amtower has reached out to say these videos are an important part of our WMA mission. Every Marine has stories and experiences to share, and many Marines have stepped up to share their stories with us which will be archived with the WMA historian.

Thank you for inspiring us and keep up the great work Area 4!

**Joanne Molina**  
[ad4@womenmarines.org](mailto:ad4@womenmarines.org)

## Area 6

With the closing of 2018, we begin the new year with new hopes, dreams and goals. WMA continues to grow, and our Area 6 members are doing an outstanding job being front and center in the public eye to promote WMA and to expand our reach within the local community and expanding into the areas just outside our immediate area to develop relationships and



Rosa and Beverly at the VA Medical Center

rapport. The phrase we hear most frequently is: "I didn't know there was a Women Marines Association." Our goal is to be engaged and involved with as many people as possible to get the word out and to reinforce that WMA is a viable, resourceful, growing, and supportive organization. For this reason, I would like to thank all the chapter presidents for their commitment and dedication to promote WMA. I also would like to open a dialogue with all the Area 6 members and members-at-large to ask what we can do better. To all members-at-large, I want to know what we need to do to bring you into a chapter or help you find new members within your area to create a new chapter. We currently

have three new chapters forming: TX-8 Central Texas (WACO); WMA Corpus Christi Area Marines; and WMA Lubbock Marines.

Below are events I participated in as Area Director:



Coordinating Council Birthday Ball

- 3 November - Marine Corps Coordinating Council (MCCC) Southeast Texas, honored TX-2 Gulf Coast, TX-7 Opha May Johnson, and all women Marines at the MCCC's 243rd Marine Corps Ball.

- 11 November - Attended the San Antonio-wide Marine Corps Ball along with members of TX-2 Gulf Coast, TX-3 San Antonio Rose, TX-5 Heart of Texas, TX-6 The Gruene Marines, TX-7 Opha May Johnson, LA-1 Molly Marines members.

- 11 November - Participated in a cake cutting ceremony at Houston Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center to give Marine veteran patients an opportunity to celebrate the Marine Corps Birthday. TX-2 and TX-7 member Beverly Franklin was recognized as the oldest Marine present.

- 17 November - Celebrated the Marine Corps Birthday with TX-7 Opha May Johnson at their monthly meeting.

- 1 December - Joined TX-2 Gulf Coast and TX-7 Opha May Johnson at Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center to bring cheer to women veterans during the holiday season.

- 15 December - Participated in Wreaths Across America at Houston National Cemetery along with TX-2 Gulf Coast, TX-7 Opha May Johnson, and LA-1 Molly Marines.

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR AD6

- 19 January - Attend LA-1 Molly Marines monthly meeting.

- 9 February - TX-3 San Antonio Rose's WMA anniversary celebration.

- 28 February - Attend LA-1 Molly Marines' event - an all-female Krewe of Muses in New Orleans, Louisiana. All WMA members are welcome.

**Rosa Osborn**

## Area 9

First of all, let me wish all a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year! While our weather may be a bit damp and chilly this time of year, our presence has offered some warming comfort to many!

We had WMA members involved in Toys for Tots, laying wreaths for Wreaths Across America, decorating VA centers, and establishing a coffee mess for veterans at the Mt. Vernon Community Based VA center.

We are excited to have Facebook pages and be talking about the possible growth of two new chapters, one in Spokane, WA area and one in Boise, Idaho area. So far it is just meetups, but who knows.

**Semper Fidelis, Peggy Reiber**



San Antonio Birthday Ball





### Area 10

Greetings Lady Leathernecks,

The new year begins and I look forward to visiting each chapter throughout my 2018-2020 term. We have a new generation of Marines and it is our goal to ensure we grow. It is important to read the *How to Book* and the SOP (Standard Operating Procedures). These materials are your chapter guide for you to use and to answer any questions you may have.

The Greater Los Angeles Chapter CA-1 is being rejuvenated on February 9 with new officers and membership. I am looking forward to attending the anniversary of women Marines with this chapter for their first meeting of the year.

The next biennial convention will be in Omaha, Nebraska in 2020. The convention committee wants you to bring your Ooorah to Omaha. I encourage all chapters to attend a biennial convention at least once.

Remember to be kind to everyone, for everyone has a story untold, a battle not won, struggles they do not share and demons within.

*Semper Fidelis, Soledad Kennedy*

## First female Marine graduates from Winter Mountain Leaders Course

Sgt Tara-Lyn Baker is the first female Marine to graduate from the Marine Corps' arduous and physically demanding Winter Mountain Leaders Course.

Sgt Baker, a heavy equipment mechanic, graduated January 8th from the nearly six-week school based out of the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, CA.

The course hones Marines' skills in cold weather survival, skiing, snow mobility and mountain warfare.

"You learn how to survive, you learn how to deal with the cold," Baker said in a video posted by the Marine Corps. Baker went on to say she suffered from frostbite and hypothermia.

"We learn how to overcome it," she said about dealing with the austere cold-weather environment of the mountains.

The Corps has been pushing to train the force in extreme cold-weather environments. The Marines recently doubled the size of their rotations to Norway to nearly 700 Marines in an effort to train more Marines in the harsh cold Arctic environment.

*Shawn Snow, Marine Times*



## Integrated Training

For the first time in its history, the Marine Corps will **integrate** female and male platoons during boot camp.

Unlike the other services, the Marine Corps has not fully integrated women and men during recruit training.

"On January 5, 2019, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion aboard MCRD Parris Island, will start their training cycle with one female platoon and five male platoons," the Marine Corps said in a statement Friday.

While the change is not permanent, a Marine Corps spokesman told ABC News that the service "will certainly look at how the company performs in this model as we continually evaluate how we make Marines."



The Marine Corps, which has the lowest percentage of women among the services at just under 9 percent, decided to incorporate the 50 female recruits into the historically all-male battalion because the recruiting classes are typically

much smaller in the winter months. The integration allowed Parris Island to not activate 4th Recruit Training Battalion staff for a single female platoon.

"The decision was made by Marine Corps leadership in support of training efficiency and is a first in the history of Marine Corps recruit training," the statement said.

The female recruits will still be led by female drill instructors, but will live in barracks co-inhabited by their male counterparts.

"This training cycle of about 300 recruits will provide Recruit Depot staff a unique opportunity to assess outcomes, achievements and challenges in training, logistics, and resource impacts of this company training model," the Marine Corps said.

Despite segregated male and female battalions, the Marine Corps has been increasing the amount of training men and women do together — something ABC News saw firsthand during a visit to Parris Island in February.

"The value of increasing the amount of integration that occurs between male and female recruits is that with increased exposure and socialization we address some of the attitudes that male recruits might have about female recruits and vice versa," LtCol Misty Posey, who leads 4th Battalion, told ABC News during that visit.

Posey didn't see gender segregation as a detriment, but praised the Corps' efforts to have more instances of men and women interacting in their training, beyond just merely operating side by side. Sixty percent of recruit training is now either gender-integrated or co-located, according to the Marine Corps.

Male and female recruits complete the Com-

bat Fitness Test exercises together: running side by side, facing each other while lifting the same 30-pound ammunition can over their heads, and sometimes even carrying one another on their backs. The genders are also integrated during the end of "The Crucible" – the 54-hour culminating event of training where recruits face physical, mental, and moral challenges with only eight hours of sleep over three days. They now hike the last nine miles of the event together.

The Marine Corps' West Coast recruit training in San Diego has not been opened to female recruits, something the Corps has said is due to the low number of women enlisting in the service.

*Elizabeth McLaughlin*

## WMA Matching Funds and Grants Application Requirements

Each fiscal year, the WMA Matching Funds and Grants (MFG) Committee processes applications and administers the budget for both matching fund requests from WMA chapters and emergency fund requests from eligible individual veterans.

The matching funds application form for chapters is provided in Appendix A of the WMA "How to Book," along with additional detail on acceptable expenses. Matching funds for chapters are limited to a maximum of \$250 per chapter, per fiscal year (1 July-30 June), and funds to be matched must be used to provide service, supplies, or equipment to support living military veterans. The term "matching" means that WMA matches the amount of money the chapter spends in support of veterans up to the limit of \$250 - e.g., in order to receive the maximum of \$250, the chapter must spend \$500. Completed applications with supporting documentation should be submitted to [MFG@womenmarines.org](mailto:MFG@womenmarines.org) for review and processing.

A one time, per person, emergency funds grant of up to \$1,000 is available to assist veterans in need. The program is available to all veterans. Requests for an emergency grant should be submitted to [MFG@womenmarines.org](mailto:MFG@womenmarines.org). The initial message should include a detailed explanation for the request, and include the amount being requested. By return email, the committee will send specific instructions on how to provide supporting documentation and independent verification of need and eligibility. Upon receipt of a complete emergency funds application, the committee will review the case and make a recommendation on funding.

All MFG applications are processed on a first-come, first-serve basis until the fiscal year's budget is exhausted.

*Thanks very much,  
Catherine Barker, Chair, MFG Committee*

## Oh No!

With trying to get all the information and photos in the last issue, I missed a major event... the result of the Holland cruise contest!

Bet you can guess by the photo who won it...Hattie Kelley from OR-1! Word has it that Hattie hasn't taken the trip yet. Because of a fall, Hattie has spent some time in the hospital and, at the time of this writing, will be moving to rehab for three weeks. Sounds like an excellent time after all that to go on a cruise to me!

Congratulations Hattie! And sorry I forgot this.

*Sondra Metzger*



## Odds & Ends - Photos

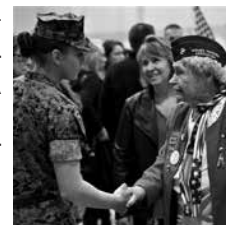
The City of Rockland, NY dedicated a statue of Cpl Megan Leavey and Rex. The photo shows Cpl Leavey admiring Rex, who passed away in December 2012.



The Lear sisters, Nina, Danielle, and Keilah joined the Marine Corps at the same time, were in the same platoon (4000, Oscar Company),

and graduated on January 4, 2019.

Found this photo on the 1st Marine Corps District's social media. Can anyone identify the WMA member or the other Marine? anniversary image\_1st MC District.jpg



This is Gunnar Simpson, Karen Beatty's grandson. He met CMC Gen Neller in the lobby of the hotel at the convention. This is his reaction to the challenge coin the general just gave him.





## Reporting In...Loyal Escorts President

Happy New Year everyone! I hope everyone had an awesome holiday and started this year with abundant blessings.

As we begin the new year I want to say, last year was great but this year will be greater. I want to thank TX-7 Opha May Johnson Chapter for allowing me to attend a memorial service a family wanted to have for a woman Marine. It was heart-warming and inspirational to see TX-7 step up and do what Marines do, "lead the Way." I was given the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Loyal Escorts and did a little recruiting.

This year our goal is to increase Loyal Escort membership and auxiliary support to WMA across the country, so let's go Loyal Escorts! We have a mission to accomplish in preparation for 2020.

In closing, I want to ask everyone to please pray for all of the federal employees and their families that were affected by the shutdown, and that our leaders reach a peaceful solution that will be good for our nation and our government.

*Respectfully  
Isaac J. Bazile*

## A Message from the LE Immediate Past President

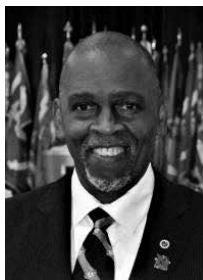
Dear WMA Members and Loyal Escorts,

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome Isaac Brazile as President of the Loyal Escorts. I have enjoyed spending time with the Loyal Escorts as president over the past six years, and I was happy to hear there was someone willing to take over the role at the 2018 Convention. I am still a member of the board. I am hoping to help move the board forward, and provide advice and my past experiences. I have seen Isaac at past conventions. I am confident he is up to the challenges, and will work to move the Loyal Escorts forward. You are still welcome to reach out to me at [ipp@loyalescorts.org](mailto:ipp@loyalescorts.org), and reach out to the new president at [President@loyalescorts.org](mailto:President@loyalescorts.org).

This past convention was amazing. I was, of course, somewhat mobily impaired and couldn't attend the tours offered, but I know from my visit last year that 8th & I was amazing...and I heard the same. Coincidentally, my attendance last year was almost rained out. (So maybe avoid visits around the same time of year?) But the weather changed for the women Marines in attendance, and opened up for just long enough for the amazing 8th & I band members. Thanks to the Commandant and his staff for both last year and the work this year to make such an event so special.

I look forward to seeing everyone in 2020 in Nebraska.

*Thanks,  
Michael Pearce*



## Around the Services

The Navy has promoted Michelle Howard, making her the first female four-star admiral in its 236-year history.



Another woman has completed a major milestone in the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter. Maj. Rachael Winiecki, of the 461st Flight Test Squadron, recently became the first female test pilot to lead an F-35 mission at Edwards Air Force Base, CA according to the service. Winiecki is part of a team overseeing developmental testing of all F-35 variants, which began last month at the base. The service did not specify what type of flights Winiecki carried out at Edwards. She worked side-by-side with her crew chief, Airman 1st Class Heather Rice of the 412th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, for the flight.



Capt. Dianna Wolfson, currently the operations officer at Norfolk Naval Shipyard in Virginia, was picked by Naval Sea Systems Command to take command of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. Wolfson will replace Capt. Howard Markle sometime later this year, though no exact date has been released. Capt. Wolfson holds masters' degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and brings a rich Navy experience: she served aboard aircraft carriers the USS George Washington from 1998 to 2001, and the USS Carl Vinson from 2007 to 2009. Born in Landstuhl, Germany, Wolfson graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy in 1996.



Able Seaman Kate Nesbitt, a medical assistant with the Royal Navy, receives the Military Cross from the Prince of Wales at Buckingham Palace for sprinting through an Afghan war zone under heavy machine gun fire to keep an injured soldier from choking to death from a gunshot wound to the mouth. She cut a temporary airway and treated him for 45 minutes as rockets whizzed overhead and bullets thudded into the ground nearby. She is the first woman to be invested with the Military Cross. The soldier did survive.

# LOYAL ESCORT MEMBER APPLICATION

## APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:

Date of birth:

Phone:

Cell:

Current address:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Email:

New Renew Reinstated Life (Sponsor must be Life member)

**2 YR \$30 LIFE 40 AND UNDER - \$180 41-45 - \$150 46-60 - \$130 61-70 - \$105 71-80 - \$80 81+ \$55**

## SPONSOR INFORMATION

WMA Sponsor Name:

Recruited by:

Chapter Affiliation:

Do you live with sponsor Y N

Sponsor Life Member # if applicable

## EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name of a relative **not** residing with you:

Address:

Phone:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Relationship:

## SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER INFORMATION IF APPLICABLE

Name:

Date of birth:

Email:

Phone:

## SERVICE INFORMATION IF APPLICABLE

Dates of Service

Branch:

How long?

MOS

Duty Stations:

## ABOUT MYSELF

**How did you hear about the Loyal Escorts?**

**Recruited By:**

**WMA Newsletter is sent electronically to members with an email**

## SIGNATURES

Signature of member:

Date:



## Molly Marines



10 Oct 2018

### Platoon 4038

PFC Olivia Broaddus, Spring, TX

### Platoon 4039

PFC Kennedy Ragsdale, Mansfield, TX

### Platoon 4040

Pvt Meredith Butler, Olympia, WA



31 Oct 2018

### Platoon 4042

PFC Kirsten Gray, Cleburne, TX

### Platoon 4043

PFC Alondra Perez, Las Vegas, NV



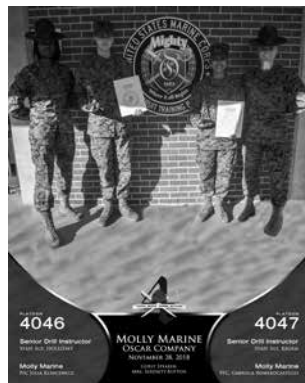
14 Nov 2018

### Platoon 4044

Pvt Bryanne Reynolds, Monticello, IN

### Platoon 4045

PFC Abigail P. Faa'uli, Arapahoe, CO



28 Nov 2018

### Platoon 4046

PFC Julia Klinecicz, Quincy, MA

### Platoon 4047

PFC Gabriela RomeroCastillo, Aurora, CA



5 Dec 2018

### Platoon 4048

PFC Samantha J Bunner, Parkersburg, WV

### Platoon 4049

PFC Erica K. Swinson



12 Dec 2018

### Platoon 4052

Pvt Andrea Vega, Richmond, CA

### Platoon 4053

LCpl Jessica L. Hawker, Abington, MA

### Platoon 4054

Pvt Evalynn Garrison, Chetopa, KS



2 Jan 2019

### Platoon 4000

PFC Brandy Vance, Spring Hill, FL

### Platoon 4001

PFC Lin Shibata, Waipahu, HI

## What it Means to Me

*Along with the photos of the Molly Marines, an information sheet and essay are also sent. I get these every time and seldom have room for the essays, but I'm going to try to include snippets from future essays in each issue (space allowing) from now on. When I read the below essay from PFC Alondra Perez, Platoon 4043, I thought you all should read it as well to see what this PFC went through before standing on the yellow footprints. PFC Perez graduated from recruit training on 2 November 2018. ~ Editor*

Being called "Molly Marine" is an unexplainable privilege. This recruit started from the bottom and made from the projects. Living in the ghetto, this recruit waited on every first day of the month to get food stamps because the boys and girls club was not giving enough.

MOTIVATION – that is a big powerful word used in Recruit Training frequently; however, it has always been this recruit's theme throughout her life of struggle. This recruit's life has not been as fortunate as others because this recruit was broken her whole life. She did not fit in anywhere, and she often found herself abandoned by family members, teachers, and friends. This recruit's life felt small; it felt like living a horror movie. Being mentally and physically abused made it extremely difficult to be motivated. This recruit had to raise a three-year-old at the age of six. Even though this recruit had no idea how, it was her duty to protect and raise her little sister.

Sometimes what drives this recruit to wake up, is hearing, "LIGHTS LIGHTS LIGHTS" every morning. This recruit's motivation is also derived from receiving a letter a night before, being explained to her by her own mother that RCT Perez saved her life because ten years ago, her mother contemplated on committing suicide in a bathroom when this recruit was younger. This incident just about ended her life, and this recruit being eight years old banged on the door because "she was starving."

MOTIVATION is what drives someone to do or finish something. This recruit has been motivated since the day she had to sleep on the streets. This recruit has been motivated since her father left her because she was not good enough. This recruit has been motivated since she was bullied because of the clothes she had on and the way she spoke.

Life has been giving this recruit motivation to strive for all types of greatness. This recruit keeps reminding herself why she pushes herself back up when pushing through an IT session. Every time this recruit's body shakes, she can feel its weakness leaving her body – weakness this life tried to give her. What is the point of being selfishness? Despite of the misery and agony this life has given to this recruit, this recruit is now more motivated than ever, and she has a lot of it to share with others. This recruit's sisters in the platoon 4043 need mo-

tivation as well, to do what they need to do every day. Every recruit has a reason to be here; every recruit wants to prove something. By giving that little "juice" every morning screaming "LET'S GO 4043," this recruit is hoping to push them a little further. It feels good to motivate others, telling them that they are going to make it. This recruit knows what it is like to feel horrible, sad, and miserable. Nobody should have to go through what this recruit went through.

This recruit motivates her sisters due to her past. The intentions were never for reorganization or show. It was more important for this recruit to remind them to focus on "Chow to chow" and "Sunday to Sunday." This recruit wanted to see motivation rushing through their veins. At the end of everything, there is no doubt that this recruit will scream at the top of her lungs, "WE MADE IT 43" because there always has to be that "juice" at the end. It is an honor and feels good when your sisters think that you deserve to be "Molly Marine." With the title or without, this recruit will always give her platoon all the efforts and motivation she has.

**PFC Alondra Perez**

## Marjorie Alexander - A Treasure

Marge. A woman who was in the last class of the eight boot camps conducted at Hunter College, afterward serving in Motor Transport at Camp Lejeune and then Miramar until 1945 when she was honorably discharged.

You might not think much of that. After all, how many other women Marines went through the same thing? The fact that she joined the Marine Corps makes her a class act. But "treasure?" Let's see.

A little background first. After the war, she used her GI Bill and became a teacher in Iowa, then moved to Denver where she retired from teaching. Then she went to work for JC Penney and retired from that job. When she was younger, she built furniture for her home.

Marjorie Alexander was a founding member of the CO-1 chapter and of the Women of the Corps Collection. She provided a great deal of history and many artifacts to the collection. She attended almost every convention and helped in planning three, as well as participating in events to teach the Young Marines about women in the Marine Corps. Marge would always share her stories with them about what she did in the war whenever they attended an event. They were always enthralled with her stories.

After retiring from Penney's, Marge began to paint. From that came the following:

- A painting for the WMA 50th Anniversary
- A painting of Tun Tavern that now hangs in





the National Museum of the Marine Corps' Tun Tavern (across from the bar)

- Three prints which proudly hang in the office of Congressman Mike Coffman

- A presentation to BGen Wilma Vaught at WIMSA

- Paintings to many of the Commandants who are alive today

- Paintings to Gen Robert McFarlane (National Security Advisor to President Reagan) and Maj-Gen James Kessler

- A Code Talker painting to Col Kessler when he retired from the Young Marine program

- A WWI painting to the National WWI Museum in Kansas City

- Paintings at the new VA hospital in Denver

- Artwork that has been gifted to CO-1 where all proceeds from sales go toward furthering the education of Young Marines and helping veterans in Colorado.

Unfortunately, Marge passed away on September 24, 2018. Her memorial service was conducted by members of CO-1. The service was a capacity crowd that included her line dancing friends, art class friends, church friends, VFW friends, living facility friends, MCL friends, and, of course, women Marines. She had no family, but her outgoing personality gave her a world of wonderful friends.

One of her last big hoorahs was displaying her art at the First Friday Art Walk in Denver held at VFW Post 1. The two pieces she displayed at the new VA hospital also sold. The funds will provide a scholarship to the outstanding MCJROTC cadets at Adams City and Greeley high schools. Marge... always the educator.

Does she qualify as a "treasure" to anyone (other than her chapter)? She devoted her life to helping people, constantly teaching them something. And in these times, yes, she was truly a treasure that we who didn't know her have missed a wonderful opportunity.



## Taps

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



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

## Life Members

|                            |      |          |      |
|----------------------------|------|----------|------|
| Avery, Wendy (Walters)     | 2588 | 12/16/18 | FL   |
| Campbell, Betty (Hitchens) | 3251 | 06/26/18 | CA-7 |
| Fish, Margaret (Gibson)    | 695  | 12/22/18 | CA   |
| Harvey, Ruth (Ratliff)     | 3192 | 08/00/18 | NY   |
| McGall, Lenora (Lane)      | 508  | 08/12/18 | ME   |
| Schmitzer, Janet           | 2095 | 03/22/16 | IL   |
| Silva, Jane (Baird)        | 1758 | 10/10/18 | CA-6 |
| Uziemblo, Helen (Krilyno)  | 704  | 10/03/18 | CT-1 |
| Wilson, Marilyn (Chandler) | 3301 | 10/28/18 | CA   |

## Term Members

|                               |          |      |
|-------------------------------|----------|------|
| Hanks, Carol Lee (Willoughby) | 10/05/18 | AL   |
| Nuschler, Vera (Rogachenko)   | 12/02/18 | LA   |
| Plaisance, Jean (Mackley)     | 07/27/18 | OR-1 |
| Weyrick, Martha (Rayne)       | 12/03/18 | OH   |

## Chaplain's Corner

As we begin a new year...

I'd like to take a moment to remind you how special you all are and how much you remembering our members on their special days or in times of illness means to them. Let's not limit those cards and notes to just special times. Let's try to drop a line for no reason at all. I received a lovely thank you from the daughter of a member who is 103 years young, telling me how much her mom enjoyed reading all the cards and notes she received. She was amazed at how far some of those greetings came. Every now and then I read about someone else being overwhelmed by the kindness of her sisters. We are so special and should act accordingly. Don't hide your light under a bushel! Let it shine for all to benefit. Let this be the year of good works. I don't know about you, but when I do something extra for someone and see it making a difference, I feel GOOD, too!

Last issue I asked if someone would be willing to start an online gathering spot for the remembrances our sisters have accumulated and have no way of sharing. Bobbi Taylor has volunteered to begin the task. You can email or snail mail her any obituaries, memorial cards, service programs, or other "special recognition" items to put in a new album. Once we iron out the details, we'll let you know how to find them. Here is Bobbi's contact info: Bobbi Taylor, 15147 Flight Path, Sale Creek, TN 37373, [usmcsgt98@me.com](mailto:usmcsgt98@me.com)

Stay warm and dry, find something to smile about each day.

A snowflake is winter's butterfly.

*Eileen Skahill*



## CA-3 - Greater San Francisco Bay Area

CA-3 continues to hold well attended monthly meetings. At the October meeting, hosted by Loyal Escort Kathleen Sao, CA-3 celebrated Halloween. The November meeting, hosted by Maggie Hart, we celebrated the 243rd Birthday of the United States Marine Corps. At the traditional ceremony, the oldest Marine present, Zita Cussary, passed a piece of birthday cake to the youngest Marine present - Molly Howe.



Bonnie Dabalos-Castro

The December meeting was hosted by Lily Brockmeier. We exchanged Christmas gifts, and had an ugly sweater contest won by Bonnie Dabalos-Castro, who really celebrated her win!

As has been our tradition for the past several years, CA-3 adopted a family in need. This year, we actually supported two Marine Corps families from the Combat Logistics Battalion 453 in San Jose. We obtained a list of Christmas wishes from the children of each family, and purchased all three items on each child's list. We also donated enough funds to gift each family with a food gift card, and additional cash for whatever was needed.



Zita &amp; Molly

During this time period, Lynn and Paul Giadrone attended a Veterans' Day luncheon sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution. Lynn and Paul were both recognized as Vietnam Era veterans. Of the 127 Vietnam Era veterans, Lynn was not only the only female Marine present, but also the only female



Gifts for adopted families

veteran present! Lynne and Paul also attended the USMC Birthday celebration at the Stockton Hilton sponsored by the Stockton Marine Corps Club.

On November 3rd, Kathy Wright attended the Frank Reasoner Marine Corps League Detachment 919 Breakfast to celebrate the 243rd Birthday of the United States Marine Corps, along with Loyal Escort Vern Smith. Kathy was the guest speaker and told the detachment and guests a bit about the 100-year history of women in the Marine Corps. She talked about history that a lot of the male Marines present were unaware of! The event was a big success and Kathy was presented with a lovely wooden plaque for having been the guest of honor.

Lily Brockmeier attended the San Mateo County 3rd Annual Veteran of the Year Luncheon on November 8th at the San Mateo Marriott. She was able to meet the color guard, who were Ma-

rines! Kaiser Permanent sponsored a table for its employees who are also veterans.

On November 10, Kathy Wright joined the Frank Reasoner Marine Corps League Detachment on their 28th Annual Marine Corps Birthday Cruise from the Benicia Harbor Yacht Club to the Vallejo Yacht Club and back. Each veteran shared a little about their individual histories in the Marine Corps, had a lovely SOS breakfast in Benicia and a wonderful luncheon in Vallejo. While in Vallejo, Kathy joined the detachment in a little close order drill before lunch. It was a beautiful cruise and everyone had a great time.

Susan Johnston participated in the Veterans' Day Celebration and reading of the names of the fallen at the War



CA-3 and their ugly sweaters

Memorial in Tracy as part of the combined American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars Honor Guard. Besides the guest speaker, there was the presentation of colors, a ceremonial gun salute, and the playing of Taps. Also, Susan participated in three funerals/memorial services as part of the combined Honor Guard.

*Susan Johnston*

## CA5 - Orange County Members-at-Large

We OCCMAL's give thanks and farewell to 2018 and all the "good stuff" that entered our lives. Now, we look forward to a New Year that will be filled with challenges and accomplishments, goals reached, and good health to make it all happen.

October found us at the Long Beach VA celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Women Veterans. More than 250 women attended from all branches of service. We were so spoiled with food, gifts, music, and a dance-master to get us up and moving. For sure we'll be back next October to do it all over again!

More celebrations at the VA for the Corps' 243rd Birthday and special recognition of 100 years of women in the Corps. We were feted royally. For the third successive year, our Goldie was the senior Marine! We are so spoiled!



Vanda Bresnan

Good news from Vanda Bresnan! She's out of rehab and home with "nurse" Mike on duty plus a team of experts. Vanda has graduated off of the first floor and can get to the second floor using the stairs...a whole new meaning to a "stair-master" ...it's



Goldie and "Family"



a Vanda-Master!

On 25 November, Goldie Nannes celebrated her 99th birthday. She says, "one more year to go, as the first 100 years are the most difficult. It's clear sailing from then on!"

Ellie and Gerry Fox have been on the move again. This past summer it was Kenya and early December they went to the Camp Fire site at Paradise with a humanitarian group to offer and render assistance as needed for more than a week. Both of the Foxes are certified crisis counselors. They ministered to first responders and residents, listening to their harrowing stories. They spent time at Chico's Disaster Relief Center; completed work-orders to cut down damaged trees; retrieved personal items that survived the fire; one day at Salvation Army Disaster Center helping survivors select items they needed; three days with the Rapid Response Team Chaplains to help survivors sift through ashes. At this time only three of 14 zones in Paradise are opened to residents to return to their homes, or the remains of their homes. Fifty-one sheriffs that lived in Paradise lost their homes to the fire. PG&E and the tree contractors are working 6-10 hours per day. Gives a whole new meaning to "and how is your day going?" The photo shows many locks attached to the fence. I can only presume these are to homes that were lost in this catastrophe.



Ellie and Gerry Fox



From the left: Sonia Gryske, Ann Erb, Patricia Singer, Lorry Vaca, and Carlene Wojciechowski

Our WAA campaign was a success. More than 150 wreaths were sponsored by our members, faithful family, friends, and business affiliations. Sue Roley Malone said "don't forget the Broes and Jewell Schultz please." We did even better! We laid a wreath at SgtMaj Beth Albert's headstone, and all of CA-5's past-presidents: Nina Murray; Ada Dodson; and Dottie Fisher. A special thank you goes to Carlene Wojciechowski and Ellie Fox for making this happen for so many of our treasured sister Marines and special guy Marines. You are the best! Carlene, as usual, out-sold all of us for the umpteenth time...\$878!

This upcoming time of year is so special to so many...the Holy Seasons of Lent and Easter. It's a time for us to have a fresh start to fix where we have fallen short to give and forgive. May all of your Easter eggs be chocolate!

Patricia Singer

## CA-7 - Edith Macias Vann Southern California

The final months of 2018 were just as busy for members of the Edith Macias Vann Chapter CA-7 as the beginning of the year. On 29-30 September, Col. Marianne Waldrop, USMC (Ret), PhD, and other WMA members attended the 2018 Miramar Air Show Expo Exhibit "Honoring 100 Years of Women in the U.S. Marine Corps."

Also, on 30 September, Shirley Downey, Mikki Hurst and Lillian "Lee" Tusa were at the San Diego International Airport to welcome chapter member Ruth Osborn and other veterans returning home from our Nation's Capital on Honor Flight San Diego.

On 6 October, a gala was held at Pacific Views Event Center, Camp Pendleton, to unveil the supplement to the commemorative magazine "Celebrating 75 Years of Service of Camp Pendleton Women Marines" published earlier this year. The Supplement is available on line at: <https://camppendletonhistoricalsociety.org> and scroll down to "75th Anniversary Publication (CPHS)".

Phyllis Shaw Ghio, a current resident of La Jolla, was the guest of honor. Phyllis was among the first women Marines to arrive at Camp Pendleton in October 1943. A pageant of uniforms worn through the years was featured.

CA-7 President Kathleen Ables and Suzanne Tabrum, staff member of VANC (Veterans of North County), attended the 9th Annual Fundraiser at St. Michael's-by-the-Sea on 19 October. Proceeds support VANC in its mission to serve as a one-stop resource center for all veterans and military to assist with jobs, education, finances, health and wellness, and family issues.

Members of CA-7 attended the 29th Annual Military Women's Luncheon held on 20 October at the Anchors Catering and Conference Center, Naval Base San Diego. Opening remarks by Congresswoman Susan Davis were followed by a multi-generational panel discussion moderated by Holly Shaffner, USCG veteran. Topics discussed included "Everything from A-Z."

The 243rd Marine Corps Birthday was celebrated by chapter members at Hunter Steak House on 10 November. The awards received by the chapter at the recent WMA Convention were displayed. During the traditional cake-cutting ceremony, the first piece went to Veronica Alford as the earliest enlistee and the second piece to Isabella Morales-Vargas as the most recent enlistee.

On 12 November, CA-7 participated in the Veterans' Day ceremony held at VANC. In attendance were: Marlene Alegria who sang in the choir, Lee Tusa, Shirley Downey, Mary Anthony, Lil Cross, and Anne Johnson as well as Loyal Escorts Wayne Renneker, Dennis Kovats, and Ken Cross.

On a sad note, a Celebration of Life for our beloved Alyce Williamson (21 July 1916 - 18 October 2018) was held on 1 December at the First Presbyterian Church in Oceanside. It was a beautiful ceremony befitting a lovely lady. Alyce joined WMA in



From the left: Ellie Fox, Eileen Sampson, Sonia Gryske, Ann Erb, Patricia Singer, and Carlene Wojciechowski at the VA celebration.

1964. She served as chapter vice president, and was chair of sunshine for 16 years. She is sorely missed.



Brenda Orr, Brenda Hockenhull, Charlene Itchkawich

During the December chapter meeting, Salvation Army Captain Brenda Orr spoke about the mission and goals of the organization. Chaplain Charlene Itchkawich presented a donation from the chapter to Captain Orr to assist the Salvation Army in preparing for the Christmas season.

Also at the December meeting, President Ables presented Col. Marianne Waldrop and Col. Robert "Bo" Hellman, USMC (Ret) and Mrs. Deb Hellman with Certificates of Appreciation acknowledging their herculean efforts in both time and treasure expended in publishing the supplement to the commemorative magazine. Were it not for their extraordinary efforts, the publication would not have come to be.



Col Bo and Deb Hellman, and Col Marianne Waldrop receive certificates

In keeping with tradition, a chapter photo was taken before closing out the final meeting of the year. Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and a wonderful New Year were extended from ALL to ALL!

*Lillian "Lee" Tusa*

## CA-11 - Central Coast

Greetings Lady Leathernecks,

Central Coast Women Marines is thriving here on the gold coast of California. We have joined the ranks of our sisters from all branches of service and are locating Marines in the area.

Chapter CA-11 and American Legion Post 211 partnered up to do a Stand Down in the city of Santa Maria in October. The chapter was approved to use the National WMA seal and the stand-up banner recruiting new members at the event.



The new Marine Corps tartan

This is our first of many partnership activities to recruit Marines using the banner.

The chapter celebrated the Marine Corps' 243rd Birthday and showed off the new Marine Corps tartan joined by the Air Force and Navy during the event.

The chapter donated handmade candies and



Soledad with the banner for the Stand Down.

sold Jarhead wine to help support Marine Corps League Detachment 1340 to continue the camaraderie for next year. CA-11 is a big part of the Toys for Tots for Santa Barbara County and works with the Marine Corps League to help less fortunate families in the central coast receive a toy.



Toys for Tots



Toys for Tots

When Marines get together, we make things happen. The chapter will be holding its first celebration of the Women Marines Anniversary on February 2. Save the date cards have been sent out to the MALs and members. We are looking forward to a growing membership for 2019. Semper Fidelis.

*Soledad Kennedy*

## CO-1 - Colorado Columbine

The chapter was very busy during the last part of the year. We are small but mighty!

- September 15th - we conducted the 11th annual US Marine Corps Memorial 5/10K benefitting our chapter and the memorial
- October 6th - conducted memorial services for 95-year-old WWII Marine Marge Alexander - see article
- October 20th - monthly meeting had two new attendees
- October 27th - attended Marine Corps League Department staff meeting
- November 9th - attended Marine Corps Birthday luncheon (helped to plan/provided gifts); Carol and Jim Mutter were our guests
- November 10th - attended and helped host the US Marine Corps Memorial Veterans' Day ceremony; attended the MCL Birthday Ball in Greeley - Carol Mutter guest speaker
- December 13th - conducted our annual Breakfast for Buckley event providing breakfast and gifts for the troops stationed at Buckley. Bed, Bath, and Beyond at Pioneer Hills in Aurora were a big sponsor for this event as was Chick-fil-a!!!
- December 16th - participated in Wreaths Across America event at Ft Logan National Cemetery
- Attended Ft Logan ceremonies for numerous veterans who passed away throughout the quarter
- Assisted several veterans with emergency funds
- Attended United Veterans Committee of Colorado meetings and helped to pass legislation on



veterans' issues including a CO Women Veterans' Coordinator

- One of our members is on the CO Board of Veterans Affairs working on various legislative issues for women vets.

*Paula Sarlls*

## CT-1 Nutmeg

The CT-1 Nutmeg Chapter and the Young Marines from the Brass City Detachment in Waterbury partnered together on December 18th to present a check for \$2,200 along with four bins of new socks and t-shirts for the veterans. Vince Santilli, CEO/Executive Director for Homes for the Brave in Bridgeport, was delighted to receive the gifts on behalf of the residents.

The chapter was one of the beneficiaries of the CT Veterans' Day Patriot Race held in November.

The Young Marines took on the mission of setting up a booth and collecting new socks and t-shirts at the race event for the homeless veterans in CT. The CT-1 chapter also collected eight cases of personal hygiene items and cleaning supplies from the shelter's Christmas wish list to donate along with their \$2,200 check.

The Homes for the Brave facility, which accommodates 42 males in the main building and 15 females in a separate facility, provides the housing and services necessary to help homeless and transitioning veterans return to a productive and meaningful life. Their vision is to provide a model to enable these veterans to attain safe, affordable housing, meaningful life activity and a livable income so that they may return to a productive and meaningful life.

*Jennifer Jackson*

## FL-12 - Heart of Florida

The Heart of Florida Chapter has been busy building a chapter to be proud of. We come from diverse backgrounds but share our unique Marine sisterhood. Our focus has been on Veteran Outreach. We do this by participating in service projects throughout the year and letting Central Florida know we are here. It is a slow and steady chapter focus.

This past year we celebrated the Women Ma-



*Pictured left to right: Young Marine PFC Ryan Spring, Jennifer Jackson, Vince Santilli, Bill Spring, Jamie DePaola, and Young Marine SSgt Tanner Linhard.*

rines Anniversary with a tea party. We participated in various veteran ceremonies to include a Flag Day burning of old flags. We represented WMA in presenting awards to MCJROTC students. Our chapter has volunteered our time for various veteran events including the 38th National Veterans Wheelchair Games. This was the first time the games came to Orlando. We traveled to Washington, DC to participate in the National Convention and to celebrate 100 years of women Marines. We officially received our chapter charter. That was a proud moment of accomplishment.

We celebrated the Marine Corps Birthday with lunch and a cake cutting ceremony at the Market to Table Restaurant in Winter Garden. We provided blank cards for all in attendance to write notes to a veteran for Veterans' Day. The cards were delivered to a couple of senior citizen apartment buildings in downtown Orlando.



We closed out the 2018 calendar year with the Wreaths Across America service project. We laid wreaths for a second year at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery. Our chapter donated seven wreaths this year.

We may be a small chapter in a large association, however, we have BIG ideas and dreams. In 2019, our goal is to focus on growing our chapter while having fun serving our community. We plan to add the Fisher House Orlando to our list of service projects and volunteerism. Planning a visit to the Orlando area? Let us know if we could share some Central Florida hospitality and include you in one of our service projects or events.

*Katie Dixon*

## LA-1 - Molly Marine

On October 5, LA-1 members attended "Sea Stories" at the WWII Museum in New Orleans for the retirement ceremony of CWO4 Michael Smith. There was a band concert followed by his ceremony (31+ years of service). The retiring officer was LtGen Jack Bergman (ret). A very motivating event!



*Melanie Young and CWO4 Michael Smith*

On October 6, members attended the christening of the Frank E. Petersen Jr. (DDG 121), US Navy guided missile destroyer, in Pascagoula, MS. LtGen Petersen was the first African American Marine Corps aviator and general. CMC General Neller attended and the guest speaker was General Al Gray, 29th CMC.

We donated goods, money, and time to the New

Orleans Mission on October 18. The mission is a local charity the chapter has donated to for many years. It has provided many with assistance over the years. We helped to provide to the program for people dealing with homelessness by giving them strength and fostering their re-engagement into society. We were welcomed and hosted by Deonne Beard, who completed the program and gives back to the mission as a volunteer coordinator.



VA Stand Down with Dalia Robles, Sarah Park, Laurie Tibbetts, Esther Antoine

On October 27, we volunteered at the Veterans' Hospital Stand Down. Members helped by providing supplies and services to homeless veterans, such as food, clothing, health screenings, and re-



Members Nora Huete, Dalia Robles, Melanie Young, and Diane Schlyer-Austin with mission donations

sources. Veterans also received referrals to other assistance such as healthcare, housing solutions, employment, substance abuse treatment, and mental health counseling. Manicures and haircuts were also provided to the veterans free of charge by local businesses.



Karen Junjak and Dalia Robles

MSgt Karen Junjak and Dalia Robles attended the Gifts of Gratitude Art Exhibit reception on

November 5th. The exhibit was dedicated to veterans past and present. Both members were honored to have their portraits painted by very talented young students from the 4th and 5th grade of the Jefferson Parish Schools.

On November 10, we celebrated the 243rd Marine Corps Birthday with Ms Vera, the chapter's 94 year old World War II Marine. The cake was shared between Ms. Vera, the oldest Marine, and Angela Lawrence, the youngest Marine. Ms Vera was showered with love and Marine Corps motivation from her sister Marines. Ms Vera also



Angela Lawrence, Sylvia Silva, Cheryl Ellis, Vera Nuschler



Birthday Ball

passed away shortly after this celebration on December 2.

Molly Marine Chapter, LA-1 attended the Marine Forces Reserve 243rd Marine Corps Birthday Ball at the Mercedes Benz Superdome in New Orleans on November 16.

On November 17, we visited fellow member Frances Hoffman, WWII Marine, to celebrate the 243rd Marine Corps birthday with her. The cake was shared between Ms Frances, the oldest Marine, and Sarah Park, the youngest Marine.

On December 1, Cheryl Ellis, chapter parliamentarian, and WMA National Parliamentarian Melanie Young, represented Molly Marine, LA-1 Chapter and WMA at the workshop of the Louisiana Association of Parliamentarians (LAP) held in Gonzales, LA.



Our Christmas party

We held our annual Christmas party on December 8 at Chapter Treasurer Nora Huete's home.



Nora Huete, Sarah Park, Frances Hoffman, April Austin, Melanie Young, Diane Schlyer-Austin, Laurie Tibbetts and Tommy Merrick



On December 15, we participated in placing 1600 wreaths on the graves of fallen and passed veterans in Wreaths Across America at the Southeast Veterans Cemetery in Slidell, Louisiana.

*Sarah Park*

## NY-6 - Cpl Ramona Valdez

I served in the Marine Corps from 1977 to 1983. I've learned that things haven't changed much for female veterans. Just like the male veterans returning home with PTSD, MST, etc., female veterans have the same issues. When I was desperate, I was told by the VA Hospital that there were not enough female veterans in need of services. So where do I go to get the help I need as a female veteran?

In the last five years, I noticed the VA is trying to provide additional programs for female veterans, but this is still not enough and too late for many. The sad truth is that female veterans are falling through the cracks. Many female veterans live in their cars or couch-surf from home to home.

For me, I returned home from the Marine Corps 36 years ago with an 8-month old baby and I used my car as my house. Many of my family and friends who used to be my safety net were no longer around or able to help me. This past November, I unfortunately lost two close friends who came into my life at the worst time and they helped me find a new normal and get back on my feet again. In their memory, I decided to pass on what I had learned from them. I began looking for ways to help other female veterans who were homeless and needed encouragement or maybe just struggling with their transition back to civilian life.

With the help of the New York City Veterans Administration staff, who connected me with the staff of the NYC Department of Homeless Services, I was able to find 28 needy female veterans ranging from 30-68 years of age, as well as help six female veterans with 13 children between them. The children's ages ranged from infant to 17 years old.

With the help of my sister Marines from NY-6 Cpl Ramona Valdez Chapter, we also coordinated services with military women in power, Professor Steve Alpert at Fordham University, and other caring neighbors in the NYC region. These amazing volunteers and the financial donations helped these homeless and needy women in their urgent time of need. Many received care packages from our sister Marines and others were assisted in finding a home in the shelters.

Our mission is just beginning.

*Maria Carrion*



## NY-8 - Western New York

Introducing WMA's newest New York chapter, NY-8, who had the distinct honor of being sworn in during the Marine Corps League's 95th National Convention, held in Buffalo, by guest speaker and then WMA President, Dr. Betty Mosley Brown.



Following the convention, which was held August 12 - 17th, several of the NY-8 members traveled to Washington, DC to commemorate the 100-

year milestone of women in the Corps, celebrated at the National Convention over Labor Day weekend.

NY-8 will serve eight counties in Western New York under the direction of Area 1 Director Jamie DePaola, Chapter President Julianne Thompson, Chapter Vice President Maxine Schening, Treasurer Terra Wiseman, and Secretary Lynn Godbout.

*Lynn Godbout*

## OR-1 - Lady Marine Rose



*Meal boxes from Silkies Run*

boxes for 10 families and gifts for the children in those families. Ashley Furniture was also gracious enough to allow us to sell our WMA shirts and litter bags.

Our chapter also participated in our monthly highway cleanup that morning. Later in the day many of our chapter members and officers attended the 243rd Marine Corps Birthday Ball at Vagabond Brewing, a local Marine veteran-owned company. Their owners were proud to give us the floor for a few minutes to allow us to talk about the 100-year anniversary of

The 243rd Marine Corps Birthday was a very busy day for our chapter. We started the day off participating in a "Silkies Run" in partnership with the Salem VFW and Ashley Furniture. Participants were asked to bring food or toy donations to the run or to Ashley Furniture's Salem store. With the items gathered our chapter was able to provide meal



*Our table at Ashley Furniture*



Highway cleanup



Holiday social

women in the Marine Corps, and to pay a special homage to Opha May Johnson and the work our chapter contributed in attaining a proper headstone for her this year.

In December our chapter members and their families gathered together for another successful holiday social.

*Melanie Bjerke*

## RI-2 - Cpl Holly Charette

Greetings from the smallest state - Rhode Island!

Last year was quite the year for our new chapter, the RI-2 Cpl Holly Charette Chapter. We received our official charter at the biennial convention in DC. And what an experience that was! We had two members and two Loyal Escorts attend, and I can confidently state that we left DC very motivated and energized for 2019 - and excited about the next convention in Omaha in 2020.

RI-2 chapter members participated in two separate scholarship fundraisers supporting the Holly Charette Scholarship Foundation. It was heartwarming to see the hundreds of people who continue to support Holly's Gold Star family and all the good work they continue to do in memory of their daughter.



From the Memorial Motorcycle Run in September to support the Holly Charette Scholarship Foundation. Pictured (l-r) are: Cynthia Allen, Micalia Britto, Carol Freitas, Rosilene DeOliveira, and Michele Skanks.



WWII Marine Henriette Kramp displays pictures of herself from her service days.

In October we joined in a kick-off event for a new Massachusetts chapter to be named in memory of Captain Jennifer Harris. This event was combined with the presentation of WWII service medals to Henriette Kramp from the MA-1 Bay State Chapter.

December saw our year-end meeting that culminated in an ornament swap and all members receiving a commemorative 100th anniversary wine glass.

Our Area 1 Director and

chapter member, Jamie DePaola, arranged several ceremonies in CT, NY, NH, and MA over the course of the year to award 17 of our sister Marines their WWII Victory Medal and American Campaign Service Medal that they did not know they rated. WWII veteran, Henriette Kramp, was one of the recipients.

The New Year is shaping up to be a busy year. We will again be supporting the Holly Charette Scholarship Foundation events on May 11 and September 29. Our mission for the new year is to focus on recruitment, and we plan to visit local VA hospitals to do some recruiting events and to honor other veterans in Rhode Island.

*Carol Freitas*

## TN-1 - Rocky Top

Happy New Year from Tennessee!!

TN-1 ended 2018 with our annual Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive competition between the members from the Knoxville area and the Maryville area. The Maryville members have bragging rights again this year, but the overall winner is the Salvation Army.



Knoxville area members: Lindsay Long, Mayra Diaz, Gail Williamson, and LE Barb Skidmore



Maryville area Marines: Leah Odom, Deb Henderson, Doris Keane, Barbara Chagnon, and Teresa Greene

Our last meeting of the year was held on 15 December at the AMVETS Post 22 clubhouse in Maryville. Following the business session, we celebrated the birthday of WWII Marine Eileen Neiler who turned 95 the following day. Member Laura Ward made her fabulous carrot cake for the occasion.

We also welcomed a new member, Cheryl Badorrek, who lives in North Carolina but is working in the area until mid-2019 and decided to join us.



Front row: LE Joy Goodwin and Deb Henderson; middle row: Pearl Rich, Eileen Neiler, Doris Keane, Barbara Chagnon; back row: Lindsay Long, Mayra Diaz, LE Pam Pritchett, Leah Odom, Laura Ward, and Teresa Greene

*Barbara Chagnon*

## TX-2 - Texas Gulf Coast

Happy New Year, Marines! It might be winter in other parts of the country, but here on the Gulf



Coast it is nothing but fall! Rain falling and leaves by the truck load daily. TX-2 along with our sister chapter, TX-7, started out our winter activities with a combined effort on December 1st by decorating the psychiatric ward of the Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Hospital in Houston where the question of the day was, "Those are Marines?" It was a day filled with fun and fellowship as we decorated the waiting rooms, halls, and two wards with ribbon and bows and a whole bunch of wintery holiday window clings and garland. The patients love it when we come as they can feel the camaraderie with us women Marines like no others! Afterwards, we ate some sandwiches and cookies, took some pictures of our work and our combined group and then snuck out before the doctors could examine us!



Front row: Beverly Franklin; middle row (l-r): Rosa Osborn (Area 6 Director), Tina Rodriguez, Lynn Sparks (TX-2 President), Marti Raney, Cecilia Killalea; back row (l-r): Jackie Bazile, Cory Frank, Katarina Fagering, Audrea Killalea (TX-7 President), LaShondra Jones, and Betty Huggins.

The following day, we gathered as a group at the Houston Veterans Cemetery to lay bundles of pine wrapped in ribbon on the graves and gold eagle, globe, and anchor wreaths at the columbine markers of our departed members. It was a beautiful day and I know personally that I love this event yearly. Our chapter is soon going to be placing a bench in the cemetery next to a pond by the columbines. So, it was an added treat to see where our new bench will be placed in the coming year. The bench is in memory of all women Marines buried there. A committee headed by Betty Huggins visited the cemetery to determine a site for bench placement on the grounds. A design for the bench was approved by our chapter and the cemetery. The bench is currently in process of being completed and is expected to be finished and ready for installation and a dedication in February of 2019.

As I have said before, visiting these sites and speaking on memories of our sisters past is always a joy and we truly can feel their presence with us and a special love in our hearts as we hear their laughter in our souls.

Visits to the VA Hospital are done on a regular basis besides holidays. On December 6th, cards were made for the patients as well as some decorations and donated military service ornaments.

It was a beautiful warm Christmas on the gulf and a cooler wonderful New Year when we returned to the Veterans Hospital to remove our decorations for the year! We are busy planning for the New Year and the anniversary celebration in February, so Happy Anniversary, ladies, in advance!

**Marti Raney**

**Barbara Barnhart**

## TX-7 - Opha May Johnson

In November, TX-7 members celebrated the 243rd U.S.M.C. Birthday at the Marine Corps Coordinating Council birthday ball. Our members volunteered to present the MIA/POW speech. On November 10, our members joined the family of deceased Marine Ann Medina Norton, to honor her service and life. Other members attended the 243rd U.S.M.C. Birthday at the Marine Corps League birthday ball in San Antonio. On November 11, our members attended the Veterans' Day parade in Houston. On that same day, members attended the cake cutting event held at the Michael DeBakey VA hospital. We held our chapter meeting on November 17. November is always full of ways to celebrate the U.S. Marine Corps and our fellow veterans!



Coordinating Council Birthday Ball



Ann Medina Norton

In December alone, we sponsored a young single mother and her five-year-old son. This little family received furniture, gift cards, toys, and Christmas dinner from our members. We participated in decorating the psychiatric ward and the women's health clinic at the Michael DeBakey VA hospital, and attended the ceremony of Remembrance of Pearl Harbor Day. We participated in the laying of wreaths with the Wreaths Across America at the Houston National Cemetery.



Cake cutting at DeBakey VA Hospital



Wreaths Across America placement

2018 is now gone and we are moving full force into 2019. We hope to recruit more members and participate in even more events in and around Houston! If you are a member-at-large and want to check us out, please check out our new website at [wmatx7.com](http://wmatx7.com) or find us on Facebook! We welcome our sisters to join our events! Semper Fidelis, sisters! Hope to see you soon!

**Audrea Killalea**

## VA-1 - Crossroads

We thought we would have a little time to breathe after wrapping up the convention but as we all know, life doesn't work that way. VA-1 rolled into the very next weekend with some of our members participating in the Walk for the Cure in DC. The end of September saw us participating in Modern Day Marine Exposition (MDME) aboard Quantico, which allowed us to promote WMA to all women Marines, active duty, retired, and those no longer in an active status. We also made a lot of great contacts within the business community for partnerships and support of WMA. The MDME is a great way to get the word out on WMA and what we do.

In October we met at the Globe & Laurel for good food, fellowship and business. We elected officers for the next term. Parisa Fetherson and Charmale Gallagher remain as president and secretary respectively. We are happy to welcome Dancy Felt and Melissa Ayers as our newly elected vice president and treasurer. We expect great things from our officers.

We immediately went from there into the Marine Corps Birthday Ball and Thanksgiving season where so many of us are busy planning and attending celebrations as well as participating in 30 Days of Giving. We also participated in Prince William County's "Salute to Armed Forces," where again we were able to display all the wonderful benefits of WMA.

Of course, then we roll into December and start holiday planning. Our Christmas party was held at the home of Carmen Cole, but only a few of us were able to attend because Mother Nature decided to send about five inches of snow to this part of Virginia that day and road crews were not quite prepared to plow neighborhood streets. We participated in Operation Covert Santa by providing Christmas presents for two families of wounded servicemen who are currently hospitalized here in the local area. It is a great program that is totally anonymous, so we truly get to be Santa and hopefully brighten Christmas and lessen the burden on families. For 2018, Operation Covert Santa supported 80 families in this area.

VA-1 is hoping and praying all had a safe and happy holiday and wish all a blessed and prosperous 2019.

*Charmale Gallagher*

## WA-3 North Puget Sound



*Coffee mess at CBOC*

Members who were able to attend the convention took turns sharing with those who could not attend at the November birthday celebration and business meeting. Many trinkets were shared and stories told.

WA-3 was proud to decorate the CBOC at Mt. Vernon, WA, as well as to establish a coffee mess for the enjoyment of all throughout the year. The coffee mess supplies will be supplemented in part by the Whidbey Island MCL.

January has us shipping out boxes for a small Marine unit with three women Marines in Kuwait. These will be Valentine themed boxes of goodies to include requested items such as chewing gum, wipes, deodorants, cookies, trail mix, etc.

WA-3 wishes all chapters and members-at-large a very Happy New Year!

*Peggy Reiber*



*L-R, President Bettie Glassey; MCJROTC Cadet Pvt. Turner, the youngest present; and Past President Betty Strand, our oldest Marine present.*

## OK-2 - Heartland

Looking back at photos, it seems like the fall season is party time for OK-2.

It starts in October with the annual Oklahoma Women Veterans Recognition Day program on October 6th. Over 200 women veterans from across Oklahoma (and beyond!) attended the festivities. Before all the serious stuff on the 6th, a party is held the night before with food, a DJ, and lots of dancing. Marilla Cushman, director for public relations and development at WIMSA, was the guest speaker on the 6th. During her speech, she proudly announced that as of October 2017, WIMSA was debt free!! But they will still need our support to maintain the memorial, so remember to donate!



*Marilla Cushman*



*Pam and her award*



*Joan and her escort at the Coordinating Council luncheon*

November parties began with the Marine Corps Coordinating Council's Birthday luncheon on the 9th. While waiting for the festivities to start, we were notified that our own Joan Willauer was the oldest Marine in the ballroom, so she got the first piece of cake. Pam Bloustine was presented with a recognition award as well, but our Joan was the star of the show!



*"Good cake!"*





Joan at her 95th birthday brunch



WMA members (l-r) Karen Kelly, FL-2; Wanda Graham and Melva Thomas, OK-1; and Pam Bloustine, OK-2

On the 10th, Pam held another birthday luncheon, only this was for Joan's 95th birthday! Family and friends gathered for a Saturday brunch at the Waterford Hotel in OKC. Everyone had a fun time.

The Heartland Chapter hopes everyone had a fun, safe, and memorable holiday season! Happy Anniversary, Ladies!

*Sondra Metzger*

OK-2's Chapter Clipping is out of sequence because it was delayed and the rest of the Clippings were already laid out. This will be the case with any chapter who sends in their Clipping late if the designer has completed the rest. ~~ Editor



LCpl Faheemah Bostan-Ali looks down the sight of an air rifle at Camp Lejeune, March 23, 2018, during the 2018 Marine Corps Trials, an event that helps select participants for the DOD Warrior Games. Photo by: Sgt Drew Tech



Sgt. Jenna L. Cauble poses for a photo with Ken, a military working dog, at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, January 18, 2019. Photo by: Sgt Allison Lotz



Cpl. Yesenia Rojas performs maintenance on an MV-22B Osprey aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Essex in the Arabian Sea, October. 2, 2018. Photo by: Cpl. Francisco J. Diaz Jr.



LCpl. Savannah Nickell performs maintenance on an F-35 Lightning II during Exercise Northern Lightning in Camp Douglas, Wis., August. 13, 2018. Photo by: Sgt. David Bickel



LCpl. Jasmine Huffman bounds to a casualty during a tactical combat mock casualty care training event at Five Hills Training Area, Mongolia, June 16, 2018, as part of exercise Khaan Quest. Huffman is assigned to the 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion. Photo by: PFC Grace Nechanicky, Army National Guard



Sgt. Lakezia Ortiz participates in a tug-of-war competition at Camp Pendleton, April 13, 2018. Ortiz is a section chief assigned to Repairable Maintenance Company, 1st Maintenance Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group. Photo by: LCpl Dalton Swanbeck

## WMA National Merchandise Sales – Your Purchases Support Our Association!

WMA Patch, Large. . . . . \$ 10.00  
 WMA Life Member Pin. . . . . \$ 10.00  
 WMA Hat Pin. . . . . \$ 10.00  
 Gold EGA for WMA Cover. . . . . \$ 10.00



Hat Pin



WMA Afghan



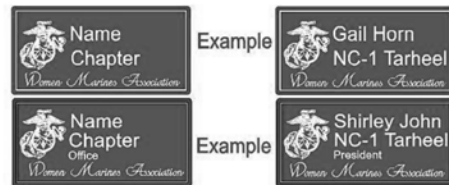
WMA Ceremonial Flag 3' x 5'

WMA Afghan. . . . . \$ 55.00  
 WMA Ceremonial Flag. . . . . \$200.00  
 Chapter Ribbon (replacement). . \$ 20.00



Name Tags: 1.50" x 3.00" . . . \$12.00

Nametags are laser etched on dark green acrylic with white text and have magnetic hardware. Please indicate your Name, Chapter and Chapter designator exactly as you wish it



WMA Cover with Chapter Embroidery and EGA. . . . . \$55.00

Cover with Chapter and LIFE embroidery. . . . \$60.00

Sizing: (Measure crown of head 1" above ears, allow for hair style)

XSmall. . . . . (20 1/2" - 20 7/8")

Small. . . . . (21 1/4" - 21 5/8")

Medium. . . . . (22" - 22 3/8")

Large. . . . . (22 3/4" - 23 1/8")

XLarge. . . . . (23 1/2" - 23 7/8")

XXLarge. . . . . (24 1/4" - 24 5/8")



Green WMA Cover

Please specify your cover size, chapter information, if "Life" is requested, shipping address and contact information (phone number and email). Covers are custom ordered - please allow 4 – 6 weeks for delivery.

Chapter Designation is limited to 5 characters max, ( i.e. CA-29 or USA 1)

**Please verify the size and information you provide—COVERS ARE SPECIAL ORDER AND NOT RETURNABLE**

**(if you measure near the top of the size bracket, you may want to order the next size up...)**

### Sale Items!!

WMA Cammo Drawstring Bag. . . \$8.00

Turner WMA History Book. . . . \$15.00

Above and Beyond. . . . . \$10.00 by Rudy Socha and Carolyn Darrow

**You may order any of these items on our website at [www.womenmarines.org](http://www.womenmarines.org), Shop, Members**

**Or**

Mail the item information, quantity, your mailing address and contact info including email address along with your check

Payable to **Women Marines Association** to:

WMA Sales  
 C/o Gail Horn  
 P. O. Box 12518  
 Jacksonville, NC 28546

Contact info: [sales@womenmarines.org](mailto:sales@womenmarines.org)  
 Gail Horn (910) 355-0293



## WMA Chapter Merchandise Sales

Send chapter ads to [Sondra Metzger, Editor@womenmarines.org](mailto:Sondra.Metzger@womenmarines.org). **IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE:** When WMA sales items are no longer available, please notify Sondra so they can be removed.

### Books



**Not "Just Another Cookbook"** More than 100 recipes by food grouping. Size: 6"x9"  
Cost: \$5.75 (includes shipping) Chapter: NC-1  
Contact: Naomi Malone, 218 Sunset Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28546-7045 (910) 545-7154 [nmalone@ec.rr.com](mailto:nmalone@ec.rr.com)



### Molly Marine picture, 8" x 10"

Cost: \$12 each (includes shipping) Chapter: AR-1  
Contact: Vickie Davis, Treasurer, AR-1, 415 Maryland St., Benton, AR 72015

### Clear Vinyl Bag with Long Zipper, WMA Logo

Women Marines Association. Green/White Size: 9" x 12"  
Cost: \$6.25 (includes shipping)  
Chapter: NC-1  
Contact: Naomi Malone, 218 Sunset Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28546-7045 (910) 545-7154 • [nmalone@ec.rr.com](mailto:nmalone@ec.rr.com)

### Flags

**Car Flag** - WMA Logo  
(Clips to car window)  
Cost: \$10.00 plus \$6.00 shipping cost

**Table Flag** - WMA Logo 4"x6" with stand  
Cost: \$5.00 plus \$6.00 shipping cost  
Chapter: CA-11 Central Coast  
Contact: Soledad Kennedy, 4062 Capella Street, Lompoc, CA 93436  
Fax/Office (805) 733-2175, Cell (805) 588-0650  
Email: [usmcrfemale@yahoo.com](mailto:usmcrfemale@yahoo.com)  
website: [www.centralcoastwomenmarines.com](http://www.centralcoastwomenmarines.com)

**Apron**, short, three pockets, white with WMA Logo  
Cost: \$10.00 plus \$6.00 shipping  
Chapter: CA-11 Central Coast  
Contact: Soledad Kennedy, 4062 Capella Street, Lompoc, CA 93436  
Fax/Office (805) 733-2175, Cell (805) 588-0650

**"No Sweat, the WOMEN Marines are on duty" Koozie**, bottle or can size sleeve, foldable foam. Green with WMA logo in white on one side, white letters on the other side.  
Cost: \$4.00 each, or 20 for \$75.00 (Price includes shipping)  
Contact: Pam Kubczak, 1156 Queen Street, Pottstown, PA 19464 [pa2@womenmarines.org](mailto:pa2@womenmarines.org)

**Travel Mug**, 15 oz., white aluminum, green WMA logo (two sides) and gold "Oohrah Sisterhood Women Marines Association" centered  
Cost: \$15.00 (includes shipping). (Checks Payable to EMVSC CA-7 WMA)  
Contact: Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056-4011, (760) 724-9861,  
(visit [www.womenmarines.net](http://www.womenmarines.net) to see the items in color)



### WWII Poster Mug

Mug with Vintage Women Marines Recruitment Poster Art,  
"BE A MARINE • FREE A MARINE TO FIGHT"  
Cost: \$12 each, plus \$5 shipping & handling  
Checks should be made out to IN-1  
Chapter: IN-1 Contact: Kay Ross • Email [kayross@comcast.net](mailto:kayross@comcast.net)  
(317) 698.6637

### Women Marines Padfolio

Cost: \$28.50 to include shipping and handling.  
They really are great. It zips all the way around, has a pocket on the outside and several on the inside zippered one on the inside. Writing pad is included. Logo is large and it looks great.  
Contact: WMA MI-2 Motor City, PO Box 590, Romeo, MI 48065

### Jewelry

#### WMA Logo Earrings

Cost: \$10.00/pair (includes shipping)  
Chapter: Make checks payable to: TX-3, WMA  
Available in Clip-on only.  
Contact: Trish Martin, 7026 Seidel Rd., San Antonio, TX 78262  
(210) 824-8441



#### Charm "Semper Parvum"

Cost: \$15.00  
Chapter: Lady Marine Rose (OR-1)  
Contact: Heidi Tanada, 17103 SW Eldorado  
Tigard OR 97224-2075.



### Convention Leftovers

The below items were sold by TX-7 in the PX and are still for sale.

#### Women Marine Veteran hats for sale, while supplies last!

The prices are as follows:

Blue with red bill, Pink woman Marine - \$15.00 + \$5.00 shipping  
Black patch with red bill, Red patch with black bill - \$20.00 + \$5.00 shipping

**Polo shirts** available for order. You may also choose to have your name embroidered on the shirt. Each shirt is \$30 and includes the name embroidered and shipping.

**Artic tumblers**, 100 years or Proud Female Veteran Marine Corps \$20.00 per + \$5.00 shipping.

#### WMA stickers

\$5.00 per + \$.50 shipping.

All shirt, hat, stickers and tumbler orders can be ordered by emailing [TX7@womenmarines.org](mailto:TX7@womenmarines.org). PayPal payments can be sent to [TX7@womenmarines.org](mailto:TX7@womenmarines.org).

All sales are final.



## Shirts and Sweats

**White Golf Shirt** with embroidered green WMA logo circled by the phrase, "More Than A Woman A Woman Marine"

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

Make Checks payable to: WMA, OR-1

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

**Light Gray T-Shirt** with small green WMA logo on front and large logo on back; both circled by the phrase,

"More Than A Woman A Woman Marine"

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

Make Checks payable to: WMA, OR-1

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

### Adult, Youth & Infant/Toddler Shirts,

3 embroidery options, prices include shipping:

| Ladies Polos        | Short Sleeved T-Shirt | Youth Polos  |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Adult               | (S-XL) ... \$18.00    | (S-XL) ... \$22.00   |
| (S-XL) .... \$30.00 | (2XL) ... \$20.00     |  |
| (2XL) .... \$32.00  | (3XL) ... \$22.00     |  |
| (3XL) .... \$34.00  | (4XL) ... \$24.00     | For Infant/Toddler: Please con-  |
| (4XL) .... \$36.00  | (5XL) ... \$26.00     | tact for availability and prices.  |
| (5XL) .... \$38.00  |                       | Website: <a href="http://wmaor3.wix.com/shirts">http://wmaor3.wix.com/shirts</a> |

### Embroidery Options:

Option 1: Option 2: Option 3:



For more information email Stephanie Wilcox at [swilcox818@yahoo.com](mailto:swilcox818@yahoo.com).

Make checks payable to:

WMA OR-3 and mail to:

Stephanie Wilcox, 336 S. 71st St, Springfield, OR 97478; call (541) 554-6015 or email [or-3@comcast.net](mailto:or-3@comcast.net)

**4th BN Shirts** Crew neck unisex. Comes in Black and Burgundy. Large logo on back and small crest on front.

Cost: \$23.50 each Sizes: M, L, XL, 2X

Send your check or money order to WMA Motor City PO Box 590, Romeo, MI 48065. Please state size and color.

**Ladies cut T-Shirt** with V neck. Comes in Vintage Khaki and Gray with logo in hunter green.

Cost: \$23.50 (with shipping and handling.) Sizes: S, M, L, XL,

2X, 3X Make checks or money orders made out to: WMA Motor City, PO Box 590, Romeo, MI 48065. Please state size and color.

**Tee Shirts** with the WMA EGA logo, center/front. White with green logo and Women Marines Association around the top of the EGA Logo.

Cost: \$20.00 plus \$5.00 shipping and handling Sizes: M, L, XL Please state size.

**Sweatshirts** White with Green image of 3 WMs from Charles Waterhouse's rendition. Only 6 remaining in inventory and will not be re-ordered.

Cost: \$20.00 (with shipping and handling.) Size: 2XL Only

Please include phone number.

Make Check/Money Order payable to PA-2 Liberty Belles

Mail to: Pam Kubczak, 1156 Queen Street, Pottstown, PA 19464 or email: [pa2@womenmarines.org](mailto:pa2@womenmarines.org)

**Luggage Tag**, 3.5" x 2.5", aluminum, "Proud Member Women Marines Association" WMA logo on one side and "Oohrah Sisterhood" and WMA logo on the other side.

Cost: \$10.00 (includes shipping)

Checks Payable to EMVSC CA-7 WMA

Contact: Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Dr., Oceanside, CA 92056-4011,

(760) 724-9861. Visit: [www.womenmarines.net](http://www.womenmarines.net) to see the items in color.

### USMC Sun Catchers (also have other military branches)

Cost: \$5.00 each Size: 4" round w/suction hanger

Chapter: CA-15

Contact: Pat Murray, 40701 Rancho Vista #92, Palmdale, CA 93551 (661) 718-8324

**Travel Neck Pouch**, black w/two zippered sections on one side with clear section on reverse with WMA logo, adjustable strap.

Cost: \$5.00 each (includes shipping) Size: 6-1/2"x4-1/2"

Chapter: NM-1 (checks payable to payable to WMA-Chapter NM1)

Contact: Stella Delgado-Kinnison, 204 General Patch NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123

### WMA Logo Magnet. Ideal for gift.

Cost: \$2.00 includes postage Size: 2" long, 1 1/2" wide

Chapter: NJ-2. Contact: Lorraine Nankivell, P.O. Box 208, 38 Point Pleasant Rd, Hopatcong, NJ 07843-0208

### "Proud To Be A Marine" Ribbon Magnet, 8" x 3"

Cost: \$6 each (includes shipping)

Checks: Payable to EMVSC CA-7 WMA

Contact: Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Dr.,

Oceanside, CA 92056-4011, (760) 724-9861,

Visit: [www.womenmarines.net](http://www.womenmarines.net) to see the items in color



### WMA logo Rubber Stamps

Costs include shipping: Large stamp: \$11.00, Small stamp: \$8.00. Chapter: CA-7 Checks to: EMVSC CA7 WMA

Contact: Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Dr., Oceanside, CA 92056-

4011,

(760) 724-9861, Visit: [www.womenmarines.net](http://www.womenmarines.net) to see the items in color.

### "Woman Marine" Ribbon Magnet, 8" x 4"

Cost: \$7.00 (includes shipping & handling)

Chapter: OH-2 Chesty Puller

Contact: Ellen Leidy, 1107 Columbus Ave., Barberton, OH 44203,

(330) 825-8935, email: [leidyrun@aol.com](mailto:leidyrun@aol.com)

**License Plate Frame**, aluminum, "Oohrah Sisterhood" on the top, and "Women Marines Association" on the bottom.

Cost: \$12.00 (includes shipping)

Checks Payable to EMVSC CA-7 WMA

Contact: Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Dr., Oceanside, CA

92056-4011,

(760) 724-9861. Visit: [www.womenmarines.net](http://www.womenmarines.net) to see the items in color.

### "The Few, The Proud, The Women Marines" Bumper sticker

Cost: \$1.50 each (Price includes shipping)

Chapter: NM-1, checks payable to WMA-Chapter NM1

Contact: Stella Delgado-Kinnison, 204 General Patch NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123.



# WMA NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## APPLICANT INFORMATION \* DENOTES MANDATORY FIELD

\*Full Name:

\*Current address:

\*City:

\*State:

\*ZIP Code:

\*Date of Birth:

\*Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

\*Email:

\*Email must be provided for electronic issues

## ALTERNATE ADDRESS INFORMATION

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Phone:

E-mail:

Reason for alternate:

Start Date:

Stop Date:

## EMERGENCY CONTACT

\*Next of Kin

\*Address:

\*Phone:

\*City:

\*State:

\*ZIP Code:

\*Relationship:

## MILITARY INFORMATION

\*When Served: mm/year to mm/year

\*Name (s) Served Under:

\*Maiden Name:

\*Plt./Co and Series/WOCC:

## RM&D AND 'NOUNCEMENTS PREFERENCES

The Resource Manual & Directory (RM&D) will be sent in CD format. If you prefer another format, please check below. Help WMA **"Go Green"** choosing the electronic copy for your RM&D and Nouncements.

\_\_\_\_ Electronic Copy\*\*

\_\_\_\_ Hard Paper Copy

\*\*Must provide email for electronic copy

**WMA 'Nouncements is the organizational quarterly magazine**

\_\_\_\_ Electronic Copy\*\*

\*\*Must provide email for electronic copy

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

\_\_\_\_ 2 year Membership \$40

**Life Membership: Pick One:**

Chapter Name if Known:

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

Enrolled By/ How did you hear about WMA:

\_\_\_\_ 50-59 \$180 \_\_\_\_ 60-65 \$150 \_\_\_\_ 66 & older \$120

## SIGNATURE AND VERIFICATION

Fill in application, print and mail with payment to:

Women Marines Association

P.O. Box 377

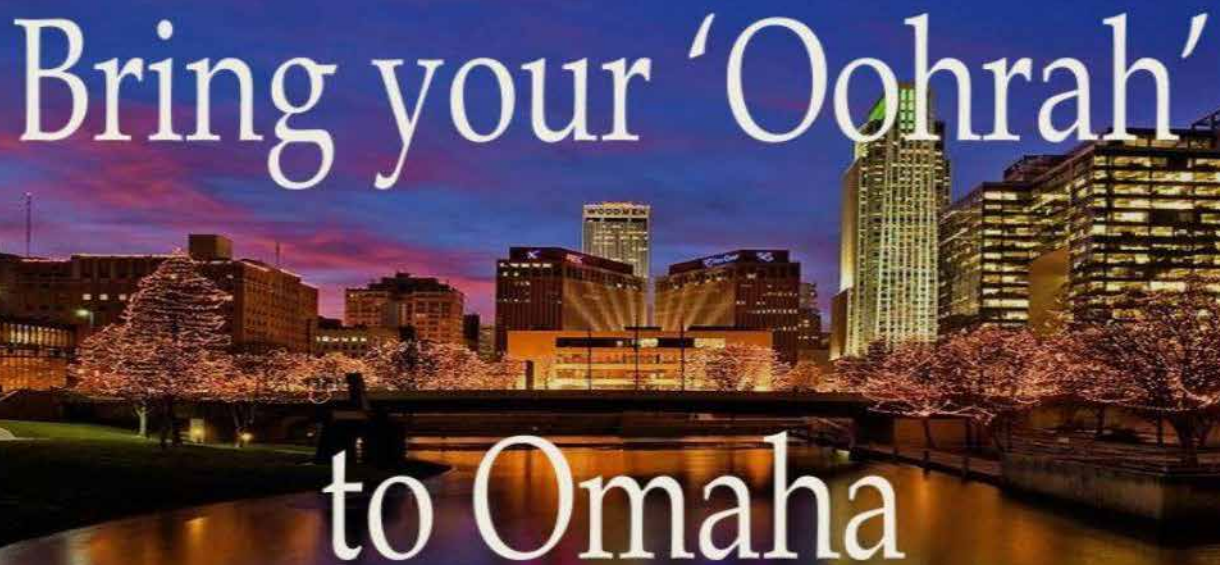
Oaks, PA 19456-0377

[www.womenmarines.org](http://www.womenmarines.org)

## WMA'Nouncements

P.O. Box 377  
Oaks, PA 19456-0377

# WMA'NOUNCEMENTS



Bring your 'Oohrah'  
to Omaha

Women Marines Association  
Convention and Professional Development  
Conference--2020

Omaha, Nebraska  
Friday Sept 4<sup>th</sup> to Monday Sept 7th, 2020