

# WMA **N**OUNCEMENTS



Serving our members since 1969 • Vol. 37 No. 4, 2012 • December 2012



WMA President Betty Moseley Brown, LtGen Richard P. Mills, Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration, and WMA Immediate Past President Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower at the 2012 Convention.

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## Celebrating 237 years of Honor, Courage and Commitment

Happy Birthday, Marines! This year, we celebrate 237 years of honor, courage and commitment, and the camaraderie we share as Marines. Our camaraderie was on full display in late August through early September in Philadelphia when the 27th Biennial Convention and Professional Development Conference took place in the city where it all began.

Although I did not attend the convention this year, I enjoyed seeing everyone's photographs on Facebook and other websites. Many of those pictures are in this issue. I'd like to send a spe-



cial thanks to Cheryl Badorrek and Patricia McDougall Matthews (LE Vice President) for providing the photos for

this issue, and to Allison Truelove (LA-1) for helping with editing. These ladies know that teamwork gets the job done.

If you missed the convention this year, no worries. CA-3 president Kathy Wright gives a play-by-play of all the activities beginning on page 7.

I'd like to wish everyone a happy holiday season. Let us keep our service members who are deployed or serving overseas in our thoughts and prayers.

*Wanda Antoine*



## The WMA Board of Directors for 2012 - 2014

From left to right: Secretary Bess Gamble-Williams, Membership Secretary Kim Skelton, Area 2 Director Rhonda Farrell, Area 1 Director Corrina Martell, Treasurer Patricia Lewis, Area 6 Director Maria Crowley, Immediate Past President Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower, President Betty Moseley Brown, 2nd Vice President Kathy Sheppard, 1st Vice President Mitzi Manning, 3rd Vice President Betty Cook, Area 4 Director Ava Maria Knight, and Area 10 Director Kara Harris. Not pictured: AD-3 Barbara Chagnon, AD-5 Deniese Elish, AD-7 Miriam Harris, AD-8 Cheryl Gardner, and AD-9 Terry Hall.

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# President's Message: Living the Spirit of Molly Marine



OOHRAH!  
It was just yesterday (in 1978) when I stepped on the yellow footprints at Parris Island, SC.

Then, in 2012, it was near Tun Tavern in Philadelphia, PA where I raised

my hand again with the honor of becoming your WMA President.

We had *all* the eras covered, from a 96 year old WMA member to brand new poolees (those who have passed the test and physical for the Marines, but haven't departed for boot camp yet) from Recruiting Station Harrisburg.

The 27th Biennial Convention and Professional Development Conference whose theme was "Where It All Began" was a wonderful event.

Please visit our [womenmarines.org](http://womenmarines.org) website to view your new WMA leaders for 2012-2014. Thanks to all of the outgoing leaders; WMA would not be the great Association we are without all of the visionaries who have led the way for us.

There were so many reunions, celebrations and stories shared in Philadelphia, it is hard to capture them in a few pages. But, in less than two years (July 2014) we'll be in Kansas City.

I hope that all of you will mark your

calendars so that we can once again enjoy the presence of Marines.

You'll be receiving more information over the next year about plans for our next convention.

Thanks to the 2014 Convention Coordinating Committee who are making sure that you have even a better time with great friends and frolic along with great food.

Unique to the 2012 convention was a Molly Marine Celebration to honor our WMA Members who were Molly Marines in boot camp, and those who live the spirit of Molly Marine. The Molly Marine Award is presented to one graduating recruit for her *esprit de corps*. The award is named after the Molly Marine statue that was dedicated in November 10, 1943 to help recruit women during World War II. For female Marines around the world, Molly has come to represent the countless significant contributions they have made to the Corps. She has become a symbol of *esprit de corps* for all women Marines.

Our Immediate Past President Rhonda Amtower shared stories about her Molly Marine experiences and the connection she felt towards the statue of Molly Marine. Molly Marine statues are currently in New Orleans, LA, Parris Island, SC and in front of the Gray Research Center at Quantico, VA. It made me reminisce of the image Molly gives to us all. She stands tall and upright, wearing the eagle, globe and anchor.

The Spirit of Molly Marine lives in all

of us (no matter where we call home). We cross many eras...from the 1940's to those Marines still in uniform. We must work together as a Sisterhood, to respect the history and traditions of our past while we embrace the diversity and changing roles of Marines...as we write the future.

I shared during my Installation address the breathtaking view from I-95 as one drives near the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, VA.

Day or night, the museum's image is prominent in that corridor. This is the perfect next home for our Molly Marine statue. It is just waiting to be placed prominently as a rally point upon entering the museum near the Semper Fidelis Memorial Park. All visitors will then see the statue of Molly Marine as she stands so tall, upright, so MARINE. Help WMA make this happen. Let's work together and raise the funds so this Marine Corps image is forever standing tall on the grounds of Marine Corps history. You may contribute to the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, Attn: Molly Marine Rally Point, 3800 Fetter Park Drive, Suite 104, Dumfries, VA 22025. WMA may also match the funds of your contributions.

Semper Fidelis,

**Betty Moseley Brown**

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## 1st Vice President's Message: Big Shoes to Fill

Your new Board of Directors, coming down from the "high" of a wonderful convention in Philadelphia, now begins to dig into the meat of their respective job descriptions. Right away, I know that I will be doing a lot of reading.



Area Director stuff I know a bit about from serving two years as the Area Two Director, but Business Oversight, Electronic Communications, Legal, Public Relations are just a few of the areas that I will need to begin to come up to speed on. I ask that the Standing Committee chairs, Appointed Officers, and the Special Appointments that fall under the direct supervision of the 1st Vice President contact me by telephone, at your convenience, when you receive

your *Nouncements* so that we might discuss the many questions I am sure to have after reading all of your job descriptions. I have big shoes to fill, as do each of the new members of the Board of Directors. We will meet that challenge...we ARE Marines, after all. Thanks for the opportunity to serve WMA and Semper Fi!

**Mitzi Manning**



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69 YEARS OF PROUD SERVICE TO COUNTRY AND CORPS

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## WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS

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**Deadline for materials for next issue:**

15 January 2013

Please send all materials for 'Nouncements to the Editor:

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# Special People, Special Projects and New Contacts in History

## Mary Bacon Hale

Mary Bacon Hale, a WWII Marine, has published three woman Marine history books and has been the major financial supporter of the Women of the Corps Collection. She asked me to include the following in this issue.

Mary (91 years young) wishes to thank the numerous WMA members that have sent her cards and made phone calls to her as she recovers from a heart attack, and broken hip. The vast number of cards to quote Mary "were a wonderful surprise and very thoughtful and kind of the senders and the phone call messages left, certainly made for a happy home coming."

## Special People

### Emma Holmes

The history of women Marines has been made by some amazing women. One such woman is Emma Holmes. When WMA started a search for the women of WWI who had served as US Marines back in the 1960's, Emma stepped up and offered to tackle the project. Marine Corps sources were short on information, but from the little data she could initially locate, Emma located the names of 130 women who had served. She contacted a small group of them using address information she had located and little by little she contacted all 130 with 77 responding back. Emma then set up a scuttlebutt newsletter program just for these "WWIonderfuls". WWI members would write to Emma and provide info on what they were doing, family activities and Marine Corps memories. Emma would combine the letters and comments and then she would create, type and hand copy all she had received into *Scuttlebutt* and send it to all the WWI women at personal expense.

Tucked amongst her data and research is the only known copy of a 1918 December *Marines* magazine, the offices the various women worked in and their military specialties.

The WWI ladies also provided more names of women they remembered who had served and those that continued as civil servants in various departments in Washington after the war.

As the last of the WWI ladies passed

on, Emma was packing up her treasures and entrusted all the WWI data to Sue Sousa and Eileen Scanlon for protection. Sue and Eileen lovingly stored these documents and recently, this data was transferred to the Women of the Corps Collection for preservation and research. Emma received many WMA citations over the years for her work, but none that could recognize all she did to save the history of the women who had served as Marines fifty years before she tackled the project. As curator and historian of the WOCC, I want to thank Emma for all she has done to save and create a WWI women's legacy that will never be matched. The data she gathered and preserved is giving us a picture of these Marines, before and after their service.

## Interesting Facts from Emma's Files

Most women Marines served less than a year on active service with a Reserve commitment until 1923-1924. It appears that eight women reached the highest rank women could hold at that time--Sergeant. They were paid \$1.00 a month while in the reserves or as one woman reservist stated, "Enough for a pair of shoes." The last known unit function was the recall of a platoon of women Marines in 1921 to escort the "Unknown Soldier" of WWI to his final resting place in Arlington Cemetery.

## Female Engagement Teams

Our Female Engagement Teams are writing a new chapter on women in the Corps. They are performing tasks never attempted by females in the Corps and performing at amazing levels.

The WOCC is seeking unit letters/newsletters or personal accounts of these special Marines. If you are serving or have served as a member of a FET, please share your story with us as well as photos. Your history is now and to save it now rather than trying ten years from now, will make it relevant and will protect it as the years go by. We would like their names, hometowns, and FET stories to create a lasting history of their amazing performance

of duty.

## Special Projects

### NAS El Centro, CA

The Women of the Corps Collection (WOCC) never seems to run out of special projects. Over the last few months, a very special project has developed. The curator was contacted by Navy personnel at NAS El Centro Calif., who are seeking information for its historical exhibit. While researching, they came upon the fact that a large contingent of Women Marines was stationed here in WWII and they wanted to know much more about them.

The immediate data sent on to them was the famous Disney connection to the women Marines at this base. Walt Disney had designed nose art for aircraft, tanks and military units starting in 1941.

By late 1942 Walt Disney, overwhelmed with requests, assigned his cartoonists to take over the project. In 1944, the women Marines assigned to MCAF El Centro, wrote a poem, about their life at El Centro, their jobs repairing planes, the heat, the bugs, and how they wanted a patch to recognize their unit. Their efforts hooked Mr. Disney into creating the patch himself, and it appears that Mr. Disney created the last patch personally. Disney created a cricket like figure with long eyelashes, bright red lipstick, red high heels, with a tool kit and fly swatter in the background. It appears that 100 patches were made for the unit. The WOCC has one of the patches. A photo copy of the patch was sent to NAS El Centro for their exhibit and historical data base.



Working on a B-25 in WWII. (USMC photo)

Also sent were descriptions of the jobs women filled at Marine Corps Air Facilities and Stations.

Photos of the aviation women are the next items that will be sent. A CD is being created to provide the historical photos and visual history of the women for them. Our women worked as plane mechanics, re-fuelers, aircraft gunnery instructors, air traffic controllers, crew transport drivers, weather experts, parachute riggers, celestial navigators and instructors, to name a few.

### WWI

The farther removed we become from WWI, the less information appears to be available. Sara Phoenix, working as the then deputy curator, took on the project of finding the names of as many WWI

women as possible. It has been slow going, as the Marine Corps had a list of 130 women names researched back in the 1960's for WMA. Of this list not all names were accurate. Sara used documents available at the Marine Corps History Division, the WOCC, newspapers, etc. to increase the number to more than 250 names. Once the names were added to the database others were

added from news articles and other sources.

During a recent visit to HQMC, I spoke with Major General Angela Salinas. MGen. Salinas stepped into the project and provided the assistance of one of her historians, JoAnn Lovell, a retired CWO4 and Marine Corps historian in Records Branch.

They are providing the WWI project with the names and service numbers of the women they have located. This has been a huge assistance to us. In addition, names gathered by Emma Holmes will also be added and researched.

### New History Contacts

The Pritzker Military Library, founded in 2003, is hitting the museum world with a world class library and collections that will add much to the military knowledge of the United States. The library is located in downtown Chicago and is open to the public for research. In addition to the library, they hold a complete collection of US poster art for all the wars from WWI on. They are willing to copy any poster you may have interest in. If you live in Chicago or around it, or plan a trip to Chicago, make a stop at the library. I provided

them with additional organizations to contact to spread the word on this unique, one of a kind library, dedicated to America's citizen soldier. The library is located at 104 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL and their website is [pritzker-militarylibrary.org](http://pritzker-militarylibrary.org).

They would also like to do oral histories on you as well. The WOCC will be utilizing their archives and will provide them with data from the WOCC.

### Seeking

The WOCC is seeking:

- FET newsletters, personal photos and stories.
- Desert Storm, Gulf War and our Current Conflict, uniforms, personal stories and photos.
- Montezuma Red Lipstick, a used or empty tube is fine with us.
- Korea and Vietnam Memorabilia, including uniforms, photos and personal stories.

*Nancy Wilt*

**WMA History Chair**

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## Molly Marine Award Recipients



Recipients from Series 4022, Plt 4022: PFC Lynette M. Maldonado of Forest Park, GA, and from Plt 4023, PVT Emily A. Thompson of Colorado Springs, CO, (Pictured with Linda Priest).



Recipients from Series 4024, Plt 4024: PFC Paige Pendergrass of Yadkinville, NC, and from Plt 4025, PFC Brittney Snyder of Pace, FL.



Recipients from Series 4026: Plt 4027: PVT Alea K. Navarro, Christiansted of St. Croix, US Virgin Islands, and Plt 4026, PFC Tatianna E. Rivera-Fontanez of Coamo, Puerto Rico.



# Taps

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

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



## Life Members

Allred, Virginia	WA-1	6/8/12	156
Arnold, Irene (Losty)	MA-1	7/19/12	1612
Barry, Irene (Tripp)	CT-1	8/3/11	771
Blair, Carol (Kramer)	MAL NJ	6/1/12	3090
Ciancio, Virginia (Noll)	FL-3	10/30/11	1311
Clement, Bonnie	MAL FL	1/18/12	1674
Dillree, Lois (Green/Platoo)	MAL TN	7/31/12	2379
Dyke, Emma Lou (Guidry)	MAL TX	9/13/12	2323
Gaura, Sophie	IL-2	5/21/12	1916
Gentry, Shirley (Root)	MA-2	8/29/12	1963
Helper, Brenda (Haywood)	MAL NC	3/21/12	2877
Holmes, Anamarye (Greene)	MAL AZ	6/10/12	1775
Johnson, Stella (Tryopolis)	MAL FL	12/8/11	2827
Kelley, Elizabeth (Reedy)	CA-9	4/22/12	448
McGillicuddy, Sheela (Puri)	MAL CA	2/6/09	353
Meyer, Grace	NJ-1	7/31/12	94
Odom, Esther (McCombs)	MI-2	3/7/12	2203
Rusch, Claire (Walsh)	WI-1	3/25/12	1197
Schmid, Cornelia (Dellera)	CA-3	6/14/12	1655
Shafer, Helen (Whitmore)	FL-8	11/7/11	1377
Shaffer, Lee (Squires)	MAL NV	7/18/12	1306
Spelbring, Lyla M.	MI-2	1/20/11	2314
Sinsabaugh, Georgia (Dawson)	MO-2	10/20/11	1011
Weiner, Etta	FL-3	12/22/10	689
White, Barbara F.	MAL NY	12/19/11	2255
Wright, Belva (Ogan)	MO-KAN 02	8/2/12	2985
Zabel, Mary L. (Simmons)	MAL IL	8/9/11	2390

## Membership No.

## Term Members

Leach, Marion (Rodgers)	MA-1	1/3/12
Maxwell, Tana	NC- 1	6/18/12
Thompson, Barbara	FL-6	8/2/12

# Chaplain's Corner

*"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."*

JOHN 13:34

No one exemplifies love for one another more than a United States Marine. We joined the Marine Corps because we loved our country, and wanted to give back in some way. Remember all the things we were taught in the Corps, some even before we actually got to boot camp or OCS? We are a family within the Corps, but our own families also become part of our Marine family. We never leave a fallen Marine behind. Those and many other traditions perme-

ate our lives in and out of the Corps.

I have been on an airport tarmac with other veterans waiting for a Marine KIA to be returned to his family and saw that only Marine hands touched the coffin as it was prepared to come off the plane. I have seen my local Marine community pay for the funeral of a Marine recruiter's child who had been killed on his bike by a drunk driver.

At our convention in Philadelphia, "sisterly" love flowed everywhere. I saw it in the middle-aged veteran who helped the WWII veteran whose credit card was stolen. I saw it when a very young Marine cried as she listened to the story of the oldest of our veterans. I saw it

in the interaction between so many generations of Marines, each understanding how the dedication and professionalism of all eras has led us to a time where gender barriers and biases have almost disappeared.

Those of you who were not able to be with us were remembered in spirit and I know that you, too, in your own way are sharing your talents and love with your WMA Chapters, families, churches and communities.

Carry on, ladies and Semper Fi.

*Mary Broussard, Chaplain*

**Deadlines for 2013 January 15  
April 15, July 15, and October 15**

## 2012 WMA Scholarship Recipients Named



Brandon Buchholz  
Major Megan McClung  
Memorial Scholarship



Devon Genut  
Sopcak Scholarship



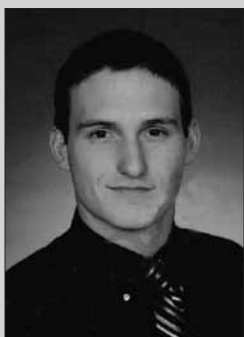
Lauren Heery  
Sopcak Scholarship



Micaela Heery  
Ethel & Armin Weibke  
Memorial Scholarship



Danielle Hunt  
Lily H. Gridley  
Memorial Scholarship



Daniel Hynes  
Memorial Scholarship



Patrick B. Mink  
LaRue A. Ditmore  
Music Scholarship



Kaitlyn McCulloh  
Memorial Scholarship



Alana Perez  
Sopcak Scholarship



Lenore Roberts  
Memorial Scholarship



Sara Roberts  
Memorial Scholarship



Danielle L. Shelton  
Memorial Scholarship



Thalia Valenzuela  
Sopcak Scholarship

For those sponsoring a student/students for the 2013 scholarship program, please help ensure that your nominees have completely filled out the application as required. Go to the WMA website under scholarships to see the application requirements.

Please go through section, II, III, IV, V, and VI, with the application, ensuring that it is complete. Note the mailing deadline of 31 January. All applications and supporting documents must be post marked no later than that date.

If you have any questions, contact Dottie Stover-Kendrick at: [skusmc@embarqmail.com](mailto:skusmc@embarqmail.com).



# PHILADELPHIA 2012:

WMA RETURNS TO THE CITY WHERE THE CORPS BEGAN IN 1775

**Thursday, 30 August** We had a Molly Marine Celebration where we all learned a great deal about Molly Marine and we got an opportunity to honor the Molly Marine recipients who were present.

We currently have Molly Marine statues in New Orleans, LA; at Quantico, VA; and at Parris Island, SC.

There is also a fourth statue which we are trying to raise money to place as a Rally Point at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, VA.

**Friday, 31 August:** I started the day with the WMA Board meeting and we discussed some interesting changes.

One significant action was to disband 9 chapters due to inactivity and lack of officers. These include RI-1, FL-1, NC-2, IN-2, AR-1, TX-4, NV-1, AK-1, and WA-1.

Shaaron Wright also attended the LE Board meeting where they solicited candidates for all their national offices.

This was the first day that the PX was open and there were many wonderful things to purchase from shirts to jewelry and everything in between.

The PX was open three days and appeared to do quite well because there were a lot of visitors. In the afternoon, we held the first timers meeting and the ladies from Texas put on a great program.

They did some Texas line dancing and everyone appeared to have a great time. All the first timers left with smiles on their faces, so you know it was fun.

In the evening, 27 chapters presented their colors at the Opening Ceremony and it was a great event.

The female color guard was from Milford Mill Academy in Baltimore and they did a fantastic job.

The guest speaker was Brigadier General Lori Reynolds who is the first woman to command MCRD, Parris Island and she was terrific.

Among her many accomplishments, BGen. Reynolds is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and has commanded male units in a combat zone. She is very impressive and gave a wonderful speech.



*Convention photos by Cheryl Badorrek*



The highlight was when she said "I am very proud to call myself a Woman Marine." Everyone was on their feet after that comment. Major General Angela Salinas and Lieutenant General (Ret) Carol Mutter also attended, so we had stars in our eyes all evening.

All three generals spent at least an hour following the ceremony taking photos with everyone who asked. At the end of the Opening Ceremony, Rhonda Amtower announced two National Service Award winners; Mary Ellen Stone and Kathy Wright.

We were both very surprised and honored to be in the company of the wonderful women who have won this award.

I want to thank all the women in Area 10 for your support during my two year tour as Area Director because I couldn't have done this without your help and support!

**Saturday, 1 September** We started the day with the 1st business meeting and went through all the proposed changes to By-Laws and Standing Rules, but did not actually vote. We also got a short presentation from the team hosting the next convention in Kansas City, MO in 2014.

This convention in being held in July instead of August/September and the hotel is located right in the heart of town so everything is convenient. There is also a large mall attached to the hotel. It should be lots of fun.

At noon, we had a luncheon to welcome home warriors who had served in Iraq and/or Afghanistan and there were many at the luncheon.

Additionally, BGen. Reynolds swore in 22 female poolies from Philadelphia who will be off to boot camp soon. They were such young women and they had a great time visiting with all the current and past Marines after the luncheon.

The rest of the afternoon was filled with classes and the evening brought opening day for the Loyal Escorts' Patriots Pub.

We had some terrific dancers among the active duty women and they really put on some great entertainment with their very lively line dancing.

They even got a few of the WWII ladies out there putting down their moves. Shaaron Wright and Don Johnson came in period costumes and many photos were taken with them.

**Sunday, 2 September** The day started with a fun run/walk around the area just outside the hotel and a lot of folks showed up for that event.



They were singing, calling cadence and generally having a great time. Free time followed so that the ladies could attend church or enjoy some personal time. The PX re-opened to brisk business and the Area Directors/Chapter Presidents had their first meeting with the 1st Vice President.

At 1530, we held our Memorial Service and the names of 215 of our sisters who passed since the last convention were read. Additionally, 12 Loyal Escorts were also honored at this service. The Sometime Singers provided background music, Denne Howard of 29-Palms played Taps, Betty Printzy-Simms of DC-1 played the key-board and it was a very sad but lovely event. The day closed with more fun and games at the Patriot's Pub hosted by the Loyal Escorts.

**Monday, 3 September** We opened the day with our 2nd WMA Business Meeting. At this meeting, we voted on all the proposed changes which were published in the last *'Nouncements*. Two of the changes are worth mentioning. The membership voted to stop the transfer of \$50 upon the death of a life member to the Scholarship Fund and leave the funds in the General Fund. In recent years, the Scholarship Fund has received several very large donations and that fund is very well funded. The General Fund is not in such great shape, so it was determined that we would keep the money in the General Fund to help support other WMA activities.

The second item was the addition of two new membership categories. We previously had Active and Honorary members but now we have two additional categories titled "Supporters" and "Compassionate Retention." The Supporters are business sponsors who make large donations to WMA on an annual basis but they do not have voting rights. The Compassionate Retention category is designed to prevent older TERM members who can no longer pay dues to remain on the active membership database and to be eligible for inclusion in the appropriate Memorial Service when they pass. All TERM members over 75 who fail to renew their dues will be placed into this category. Additionally, LIFE members who become incapacitated due to physical or mental issues may also be designated for Compassionate Retention. These members will remain on the rolls with a special designator in their expiration date, however, they will no longer receive the RM&D or the *'Nouncements* Newsletters.







If you have friends or chapter members who qualify for Compassionate Retention, please notify your Area Director so that she can get their records updated with this new membership status. This category was created to prevent long term members from dropping off the rolls just prior to their death and thus become ineligible for inclusion at the appropriate Memorial Service. Compassionate Retention protects members with dementia, Alzheimers, blindness, or needing full time care in a nursing facility.

The next big event was the Recognition and Awards Ceremony and there were many surprises at this event. Many chapters entered for the first time and most of them went home with one or more streamers for their flags. Area 10 had winners from CA-3, CA-7 and CA-8 with CA-8 winning their first 2 streamers ever! Congratulations to all who entered and especially to all who won. Start now preparing your entries for the next convention. We love to see new entrants do well but if you don't enter, you can't win. DC-1 entered just about every category for the first time and they did very well as did LA-1. The list of winners is included in this issue. Monday was also the last day for the PX and the Patriots Pub and attendance at both was very high.

**Tuesday, 4 September** This was the final day and it brought two major events - Installation of new National Officers for 2012-2014 and the Closing Banquet. Our new Area 10 Director is Kara Harris and she resides in San Diego. Don't hesitate to contact Kara if you need help with WMA matters. She will be providing her contact information to all the chapters very soon.

The new National President is Betty Mosely Brown and nobody can say OORAH quite like Betty. We wish the entire board great success.

Tuesday also brought us the Closing Banquet and it was quite a nice affair. The meal included a delicious filet steak with veggies, salad and rolls. Dessert was a beautiful display of fancy treats that were all delicious. The guest speaker was LtGen Richard P. Mills, Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration. LtGen Mills gave a wonderful speech in which he provided many examples of female Marines with whom he had personal experience and he stated that each and every one of them performed just as well as her male counterparts and he considers them to be as deserving of the title Marine as any male Marine. He sees a bright future for women in the Marine Corps in ever expanding roles and responsibilities.

Of course the final presentation of the evening was for the Broe Award to the chapter with the most outstanding Chapter Achievement over the past two years. Sue Sousa intentionally told the story of the Broe Award and dragged out the announcement to keep the chapters on the edge of their seats. She finally announced the winner and it was Louisiana 1 (LA-1) from New Orleans. This chapter does a lot of community service work and one of their annual projects is to clean up the Molly Marine Statue in New Orleans. Congratulations to LA-1 on winning the 2012 Broe Award.

We had an especially wonderful cadre of active duty personnel who interacted beautifully with the WWII women and all older veterans. It was amazing to see young women sit down with a WWII veteran and listen to her stories. In some cases, the young women were actually brought to tears and virtually all of them thanked the older women for blazing the way so they could be where they are today. The camaraderie was just terrific and we were so proud of all the young women who attended this convention.

LtGen Mills said that as he visited various units in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Marines he met never asked him for better food, better showers, better living environments or any physical needs at all. But they all asked him if they were performing in a manner that honored the traditions of Marines who had served before them. He said this was true for both male and female Marines. These young people are fantastic and it makes us proud just to spend a little time with them. He also said he was proud to have served with all of the women he encountered in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

All in all, it was a wonderful event and everyone enjoyed seeing old friends and making lots of new friends.

Semper Fidelis!

**Kathy Wright**  
President, CA-3

# 2012 Recognition Awards

It was like an evening at the Oscars. WMA chapters from all around gathered at the Hyatt in Philadelphia to celebrate excellence in the organization. Big winners were DC-1, who won the

first ever WMA R&A Chapter Participation Award for competing in every category; Kathy Wright and Mary Ellen Stone, who took home the National Service Award--WMA's highest indi-

vidual honor; and LA-1, who snagged the Ruth and Dick Broe Award for Overall Chapter Achievement.

*Wanda Antoine*



Ellen Leidy and Mary Ann Merritt

OK-2's Pam Bloustine accepts the first place Newsletter Award.



DC-1's Donna Genovese and Historian Nancy Wilt



(Above and below) DC-1's Lelia Jackson accepts the award for Chapter Newsletter, second place.



FL-2's Maxine Wehry accepted the VAVS award from IPP Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower



## 2012 Recognition Awards



CA-7's Peggy Reiber and PRO Mary Ann Merritt with first place website award.



CA-8's Sybil Acree



CA-3's Barbara Naas with 2nd place history award.

CO-1's Patricia Lewis with the chapter's second place website award



## 2012 Recognition Award Winners

Category	Chapter	Class	
<b>History:</b>			
3	DC-1	III	Donna Genovese
2	CA-3	III	
1	CA-8		
Honorable	CA-7	III	
<b>Website:</b>			
3	OH-2		www.chestypullerwma.freesevers.com
2	CO-1		www.wmaco-1.org
1	CA-7		www.womenmarines.net
Honorable	DC-1		www.wmadc-1.org
Honorable	CA-8		www.womenmarinesca-8.yola.com Sybil Acree
<b>Newsletters:</b>			
Honorable	MN-1	Leathernecks	V. Latiolais
Honorable	CA-8	Chatter	Sybil Acree
3	WI-1	WisconsiNotes	Linda O'Hara
2	DC-1	The Scoop	G. Lee
1	OK-2	Capcord	S. Metzger
<b>Chapter Achievement:</b>			
2	DC-1	III	A L. Jackson
2	DC-1	III	B L. Jackson
1	LA-1	III	B M. Young
1	LA-1	III	A M. Young
1	DC-1	III	C L. Jackson
1	TN-1	I	C D. Keane
1	TN-1	I	B D. Keane
1	TN-1	I	A D. Keane

• The Ruth & Dick Broe Award for Overall Chapter Achievement was presented to LA-1 Molly Marine Chapter.



# The Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter: They Also Serve



LE Director Shaaron Wright stands duty at the LE table in the Patriot's PX.



Don Cannon carries the flag at the opening ceremony.



Michael Pearce accepts the President's sash from Ken Cross.



Lelia Jackson accepts DC-1's LE recruiting streamer.



Sybil Acree of CA-8 accepts the LE recruiting award.



# Installation of 2012-2014 WMA Officers, Area Directors



Area Directors Ava Maria Knight, Maria Crowley, and Kara Harris.



Immediate Past President Rhonda LeBrescu-Amtower, pins Betty Moseley Brown with the WMA President's Pin.



3rd VP Betty Cook and Treasurer Patricia Lewis.



2nd VP Kathy Sheppard



Kim Skelton and Bess Gamble-Williams



# Loyal Escorts: We're Moving Forward on Our Goals



As many of you know, at the 2012 Convention in Philadelphia, I took over the reins as National President from our very own Don Cannon. Don stepped up after the death of John Holvoet to fill

some mighty big shoes.

I did not have the pleasure to know John, but I could tell by the conversations at this past convention that not only was he respected, he was respectful to others. Members talked about his helpfulness and willingness to listen. They spoke kindly of him and his passion for seeing that the Loyal Escorts moved forward and succeeded.

John left behind a huge presidential sash to fill. I can only hope that I am able to move forward on his goals and see our group become as successful as WMA with more members and participation.

Thank you, John, for your many contributions to the Loyal Escorts and WMA.

In the next 2 years, it will be my goal to build us up financially, increase recruitment activities, and increase communication and activities with the many chapters.

*In the next 2 years, it will be my goal to build us up , and increase communication and activities with the many chapters.*

Hopefully this will enable the smaller WMA chapters the assistance that they need to do more in the communities in which they live.

I look forward to working with our MI-2 chapter, as well as other Area 4 chapters.

As many of you already know, I've begun a newsletter especially for Loyal Escorts. This will be a great way for you to communicate to all other Loyal Escorts around the world. Let us know what is happening. Send me an E-mail at [LE@womenmarines.org](mailto:LE@womenmarines.org) – or take the time to Like the New Loyal Escort Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/National.LE>.

Feel free to post photos and/or videos on what is happening in your neck of the woods. Pictures from the convention have already been posted.

We are always looking for great ideas for fundraising, recruiting, and anything else that helps get the word out about the Loyal Escorts.

If you haven't received the Green Garter Gab, please contact me so we can update your e-mail address and/or mailing address. E-mail is the preferred method of delivery, as it saves us the cost of postage.

Thank you for those who eagerly volunteered at the 2012 Convention.

Thanks for all of your hard work, and I look forward to seeing many of you in Kansas City, MO.

And finally, I'd like to also introduce the new board of the Loyal Escorts.

Immediate Past President: Ken Cross  
WMA Liaison/Parliamentarian: Kathy Silvia

Chaplain: Nancy Leuben

Directors: Shaaron Wright, Erin Holvoet, Sarah Rivera

Treasurer: David Wiszneaucas

Secretary: Helen Page

Vice President: Patricia McDougall Matthews

President: Michael Pearce

**Michael Pearce**  
**President**

**Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter**





## New Orleans based Women Marines Awarded for their Achievements

Since Opha May Johnson signed the dotted line in 1918, women have been making their mark in United States Marine Corps history. To ensure the traditions and history of women Marines are passed on to new generations, the Women Marines Association was established in 1960.

The Molly Marine chapter LA-1 of New Orleans received multiple awards at their recent WMA convention and professional development conference; including the most prestigious award given: the Ruth and Dick Broe Award.

More than 70 WMA chapters competed in five categories of awards: newsletter, history book, website, recruiting, and chapter achievement. The Molly Marine chapter entered two categories in the chapter achievement competition and placed first in "volunteerism" and "Esprit de Corps, patriotism and camaraderie."

"There are so many things, just in the last two years, that we've done," said Cpl. Elizabeth Damron, the special projects officer for the Molly Marine chapter.

The main volunteer event, that is near to each member's heart, is the annual Molly Marine statue clean-up. After Mardi Gras each year, the chapter makes it their mission to restore the first Molly Marine statue, sculpted in 1943, to its original state. Other events include feeding the homeless, cleaning up the Audubon Zoo, regular visits to nursing homes, and hosting multiple fundraisers.

It is because of events like these, that the chapter received the Ruth and Dick Broe Award. This most-celebrated award is given to the one chapter that has demonstrated overall chapter achievement over the past two years.

"As area director, I am so proud of our Louisiana chapter; their active participation in community events is commendable and they are well deserving of the award," said Maria Crowley, Women Marines Association area six director.

The local Molly Marine chapter was presented with a plaque that has been shared among chapters since 1998. On Monday, Oct. 15, the chapter presented

the award to Lt. Gen. Steven A. Hummer, commander of Marine Forces Reserve.

"This is a great honor, thank you so much," said Hummer. "I'm privileged to be the commander of Marine Forces Reserve at this time and to be able to receive this wonderful plaque."

The plaque will hang at the Marine Corps Support Facility New Orleans until the next convention in 2014 when the Molly Marine chapter will be presented with a personalized, permanent plaque to be placed in the building.

In the next two years, the Molly Marine chapter plans on doing even more volunteer events and increasing member participation.

"We've done such an awesome job the past two years. I see us improving by maybe doing a little bit more volunteerism and community service," said Melanie L. Young, president of the Molly Marine chapter.

*By Lance Cpl. Jessica Ito  
Excerpted from  
Marine Forces Reserve*



Lt. Gen. Steven A. Hummer, commander of Marine Forces Reserve, accepts an award from Melanie L. Young, president of the Molly Marine chapter of the Women Marines Association, during a ceremony where the local Molly Marine chapter presented MARFORRES with an award plaque at the Marine Corps Support Facility New Orleans, Oct. 15. The Molly Marine chapter was awarded the Ruth and Dick Broe Award, the most prestigious award given to WMA chapters for overall outstanding chapter achievement, at their most recent national convention and professional development conference that took place in Philadelphia from Aug. 30 through Sept. 4.

# Service Members, Veterans Celebrate Military Legacy of Women

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22, 2012 – Hundreds of active-duty women and veterans turned out Oct. 20 at the gateway to Arlington National Cemetery to celebrate the legacy of more than 2.5 million women who have served in the nation's military.

Former WACs, WAVEs, WMs, WAFs and SPARS shared with their active-duty counterparts in the contributions women have made to the U.S. military that are enshrined at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial, dedicated by President Bill Clinton on Oct. 18, 1997.

While WIMSA serves as a memorial to all of America's service women, Wilma L. Vaught, president of the Women's Memorial Foundation, said she doesn't consider it a museum, though the building does contain a gift store and features numerous artifacts and photographic exhibits.

"This is more than a memorial; it's an educational center meant to tell the story of women in the military from the American Revolution through Iraq — it was an opportunity to tell the story of women's service individually and collectively," said Vaught, who enlisted in the Air Force in 1957 and went on to retire as a brigadier general in 1985 as one of only seven women serving as general or flag officers in all of the services at the time.

Vaught said WIMSA was also created because many women going back to World War II felt they never received recognition for all they did — from the nurse corps of the Army and Navy to the Army Air Corps WASPs who delivered fighter and bomber aircraft across the country. WIMSA also honors all women who served overseas during conflicts such as those who served with the Red Cross, USO and Special Services.

"They deserved recognition, because they changed the military and they changed life in America for women [and] because they stepped out and did things women hadn't done before. ... They created a new day for women," she

said. "Many of today's military women go through the memorial and realize for the first time what women in the military did before them.

"We stand on the shoulders of all these women who met up with all kinds of obstacles and barricades and they overcame them," Vaught added. "Today, they can say, 'I can have a career, I can have the opportunities for education, I can have a family and be in the military, when they couldn't stay in the military if they were pregnant.'"



**Women Marines who attended the WIMSA event (L-R standing): Melissa Schneider, Amber Peebles, Eileen Scanlon, Mitzi Manning, Pam Bloustine, and Carol Mutter. Seated L-R: Sue Sousa, MGen Angela Salinas.**

The afternoon ceremony included memories from active duty or retired speakers from each service branch who told the stories of why they served and the challenges they faced at the point in history in which they joined.

Speakers included Allison A. Hickey, undersecretary of veterans affairs for benefits and a retired brigadier general, whose military career started when she graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1980 — the first class to include women. Too many women veterans just fade away, she said, not thinking too much about their service after they leave the military.

She encouraged women veterans to stand proudly and declare themselves veterans, and did so herself. No fewer than 10 other women stood and joined in the declaration.

Keynote speaker Jessica L. Wright, assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs, was the Army National Guard's first woman CH-47 Chinook aviator. She began her association with the Army by enlisting in 1975, obtained her bachelor's degree and retired as a major general in 2010 after commanding the Pennsylvania National Guard.

"There's not a better or [more] fitting place to pause and reflect on those contributions than here at the Women's Memorial." She said. "It is a wonderful testament of the power of women in the service to our country. This monument honors the legacy and the proud and distinguished service of women. With every passing day, there is a new and enthusiastic group of young women who join the list of forbearers that we honor here today. They have the same determination and courage that runs through our current serving women that was in our predecessors."

WIMSA Foundation officials hope to have 250,000 women veterans in the memorial's historical record by the end of the year. Vaught said they're just 301 shy that figure, and that she's confident the foundation will reach its goal.

What she's less sure about, she said, is raising the \$3 million needed annually to meet payroll and maintenance of the 33,000 square-foot education center. She said the memorial has an average of about 150,000 visitors a year. "Not too bad a number," she added, "but I had hoped that given there's about 4.5 million who visit Arlington every year, we would see about 500,000 visitors. I think that would solve our economic problems."

*Army News Service*



# Marine Corps hosts 37th annual Marine Corps Marathon

Not even the threat of a hurricane could prevent the running of the 37th Marine Corps Marathon Oct. 28. As the District of Columbia braced for the winds and rain of Hurricane Sandy, 23,864 runners and thousands of spectators filled the streets of the nation's capital for the historic 26.2-mile endurance challenge. Not all participants were technically able to run. More than 140 wheelchair and handcyclists, some of whom lost limbs or suffered paralyzing injuries in various combat-related incidents, also competed in the challenge.

The race began with two Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 22 MV-22B Ospreys flying from the Pentagon over the starting line, and the thunderous boom of a 105mm Howitzer.

Lt. Col. Rob Riggie, notable actor, comedian and Marine Corps reservist, served as this year's official race starter. Spc. Augustus Maiyo finished the 26.2 miles first, posting a time of 2 hours, 20 minutes, 20 seconds. Maiyo, running his first marathon – ever – was impressed by his finishing time. "It's a one in a million [chance of happening]," Maiyo said. "It's exciting. I worked really hard along the way. It's a lift to finish." More than 11,000 participants competed in their first marathon along with Maiyo. Runners aged 14 to 86 endured the rigors of the course.

Kim Phillips, a first-time runner from San Antonio, said she was well prepared to complete the task before she even began.

"This is probably the best for me because the communication before the race was phenomenal," Phillips said. "The Marines wanted everyone to finish. And knowing that the race supports the Marine Corps makes it more meaningful."

The MCM course featured two time hurdles, which runners had to complete to officially continue the course. Participants had to maintain at least a 14 minute-per-mile pace to reach the National Mall Gauntlet at mile 17.5 by 12:20 p.m. Runners then had to reach the 14th Street Bridge and successfully "Beat the Bridge" just after mile marker 20 by 1:05 p.m., before the bridge was

reopened to Washington downtown traffic. Other than the excitement of completing a marathon, there is always a competition within this race that goes unnoticed by many spectators.

Annually, members of the British Royal Navy and Royal Marines travel thousands of miles to compete against the US Marine Corps All-Marine team in the Challenge Cup Competition. This year's competition was as close as ever, with the Royal Navy/Royal Marines team edging the Marines by one second. Staff Sgt. Michael Wood, a first-time runner with the All-Marine running team, was the second Marine from the team to cross the finish line, finishing in a time of 2:37:26.

"It was great with all the crowd out there," Wood said. "Wearing the jersey, everyone sees you and shouts 'Ooh-Rah' and 'Semper Fi.' You get caught up in the crowd and realize you're running 30 seconds faster than you should be. But it was a great experience."

But not all runners ran the marathon for competition. Many runners participated to honor family members killed in combat while serving their nation. Others ran in support of their favorite charity.

As he crossed the finish line, one runner explained his group was raising money for families that don't have the money to provide medical equipment to their special needs children.

Another runner said he was running for Team Travis and Brendan, a team honoring Marine 1st Lt. Travis L. Manion, killed in 2007 during his second tour in Iraq, and Navy Lt. Brendan J. Looney, a SEAL killed in Afghanistan in 2010. The two service members were roommates at the US Naval Academy and are buried next to each other in Arlington National Cemetery.

Another marathon participant ran in support of Goose Perez, a bi-athlete friend who is battling cancer for the fourth time.

The Fisher House based in Boston fielded a team of about 450 runners supporting their organization.

As runners crossed the finish line, some burst in tears or leaped into the air

in triumph; others raised their hands in victory or yelled shouts of joy. Couples hugged and kissed as they finished the race together. Some put on a last burst of speed to cross the finish line before their legs gave out or they crumpled in pain.

All were a testament to the dedication required to run 26.2 miles in keeping with the Marine Corps Marathon mission: to promote physical fitness, generate community goodwill and showcase the organizational skills of the United States Marine Corps.

Known as the People's Marathon, this is the largest marathon to not offer prize money. It is the fourth largest marathon in the nation and ninth largest in the world.

*By Sgt. Kuande L. Hall  
Headquarters Marine Corps*



**Capt. Maureen Carr with the Marine Corps Running team crosses the finish line for the 37th Marine Corps Marathon Oct. 28 with a time of 3 hours, 11 minutes, 58 seconds. Carr was one of 13,844 women who ran the 26.2 course of the 37th MCM, also known as the People's Marathon.**





## A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

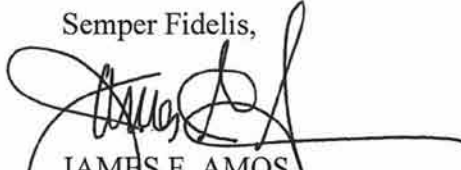
As we pause to celebrate the 237th birthday of our Corps, we reflect on the rich legacy of service handed down to us, we recommit ourselves to the tasks at hand, and we look forward toward a bright future in service to our country.

Marines exist to fight and win our Nation's battles. We are most proud of our well-earned reputation for answering the clarion call first. This was never more evident than at the epic battle of Guadalcanal 70 years ago. Picked to lead the first allied counter-offensive of the Pacific war because they were the "most ready," Marines landed on 7 August 1942 in the Solomon Islands. They persevered through months of unremitting deprivation and bitter combat. By the time the veterans of the Blue Diamond, the Cactus Air Force, our legendary Marine Raiders, and initial elements of the Follow-Me Division gathered together to raise a canteen and toast the birthday of their beloved Corps some three months later, the battle was no longer an issue. The situation was well in hand...victory was assured.

We carry that same legacy of resolute commitment and valor today. Over the past year, Marines have stood firm in the toughest of circumstances and on numerous occasions. We've taken the fight to the enemy in Helmand and to the Horn of Africa. We've manned the ramparts of beleaguered embassies in the Middle East and North Africa, fought alongside our allies throughout the world, while behind the scenes, afloat and ashore, other Marines did the painstaking hard work required to maintain our high levels of readiness and efficiency.

As we look toward the future, we know that our sentimental place in the hearts of our fellow Americans and critical role in the defense of our way of life are assured. America has always wanted a Marine Corps...it's always been that way. Now, more than ever, America needs its Marines as we confront a dangerous and unpredictable world. Faced with difficult days ahead, we will continue to draw strength from our rich heritage and the shared values of the Marines to our left and to our right. We know who we are...we know what we stand for. As ever we will strive to be found worthy of the legendary trust of our fellow Americans.

I salute the enduring faithfulness of those who have gone before, of those who wear our cloth today, and of the families who stand so resolutely at our sides. Happy Birthday, Marines!

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

# Join or Renew Your Membership Today!

## WMA NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name:

Current Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Date of Birth:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

SSN:

### ALTERNATE ADDRESS INFORMATION

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone:

E-mail:

Reason for Alternate:

Start Date:

Stop Date:

### EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name of a relative not residing with you:

Address:

Phone:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Relationship:

### SPOUSE INFORMATION

Name:

Date of Birth:

E-mail:

Phone:

### MILITARY INFORMATION

When Served:

Name (s) Served Under:

Maiden Name:

Plt. and Series:

MOS:

Molly Marine: ☐ Y ☐ N

### RMD PREFERENCES

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

☐ Electronic copy

☐ Hard Paper copy

**One only**

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION ☐ NEW ☐ RENEWAL ☐ REINSTATEMENT

☐ **2 Year Membership \$40**

Life Membership: Pick One

Chapter Name if Known:

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

Enrolled by/How did you hear about WMA:

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

### SIGNATURE AND VERIFICATION

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

Signature of applicant:

Date:

Effective July 1, 2010 Revised

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



## WMA Chapter Clippings

### CA-3 Greater San Francisco Bay Area

Sadly, several of our sisters reported to their final command in the first quarter of this year. CA-3 members Regina Goss (96) and Elizabeth "Betty" Kelley (87) passed, as did our dear friend Bonnie Medin (93) who served in the WR Band during WWII. We miss them all. Regina's family asked that friends donate to our scholarship fund in Regina's name and we thank the family very much for that kindness.

CA-3 had a busy summer! We rode in the Redwood City Fourth of July parade and had a picnic at the home of Sarah Rivera. In August, we supported an event at the Oakland Museum where Marines from WWII, Vietnam Era and the current conflicts discussed the changing role of women in the military.

At our May meeting, we added two new members: Angelina Miller who recently left the Marine Corps, and her mother, Elaine V. Miller, who joined the Loyal Escorts. We welcome both of these fine ladies to our chapter.

After 30 years of service as our chapter secretary, Maryannette Schneider finally decided to step down and take life easy for a change. Maryannette has been serving the chapter in various capacities since it was founded in 1964, and we thank her very much for her exceptional dedication and support all these years. Bonnie Dabalos has agreed to step into the secretary position and we thank her for volunteering. Additionally, we would like to note that Lily Brockmeier has agreed to take over as chair of our scholarship committee and we thank her as well.

Most of our members who were under the weather are now doing well and we are very pleased that they are able to resume participation in chapter activities. Semper Fidelis,

*Kathy Wright*

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

Edith Macias Vann Southern California chapter recently held its Installation of Officers for 2012-



2014. Pictured left to right are Lillian Tusa, outgoing secretary, who filled in for incoming secretary Eleanor Judge, who was traveling and unavailable. Also pictured are incumbent president Peggy Reiber, vice president Charlene Itchkawich, and treasurer Lillian Cross. Past President, Barbara Cogburn, far right was the Installing Officer.

The chapter has been very busy with sending packages to Marines in Afghanistan, and will be participating in the upcoming Veterans' Association of North County (VANC) Memorial Day celebration, as well as riding in an antique cargo truck for Oceanside's Freedom Day parade. The chapter held its annual summer picnic at the Ranch House on Camp Pendleton on 11 August.

*Peggy Reiber*

### CA-8 Palms to Pines

CA-8 won our chapter's first two streamers: one for our history book and the other one for the most Loyal Escorts to join in our size chapter.

We celebrated our win at our September meeting. Sybl Acree, Eddy Stephens, Mary Eliseo and Loyal Escort Helen Page attended the convention.

A good time was had by all. Helen and Sybl visited the Wreaths Across America museum in Columbia Falls, Maine. It's small but growing and is a must see for anyone in the area. There was not a lot on women, but we hope to change that. I added our nine Fallen Warriors to the Memory Wall and plan to add all the women from CA-8 who have passed.

To check out the wall go to [www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org). Under "About Us," click on Memory Wall. There are over 3500 names, and I'm sure we can add another 1,000 Women Marines.

We were dark July and August, so not a lot going on, but now we are back to business. Hope all had a wonderful summer.

Semper Fi,

*Sybl Acree*



(R to L) LE Helen Page, Sybl Acree, Mary Eliseo and Eddy Stephens

### CA-15 San Fernando Valley



**CA-15 sending a big OORAH to everyone!**

Nonie Lann, and Teri Thompson.

There are two major VA medical centers in our area, one in the San Fernando Valley, and the other on the west side of Los Angeles.

As we do periodically, we donated unisex toiletries, men's clothing, and shoes to the Sepulveda VA Hospital, where they maintain a no-charge clothing store for veterans. At the Los Angeles location, they have a 9-hole golf course.

Golfing CA-15 member Nonie Lann walks another golf course over the year collecting used golf balls. Thanks to her sharp eyes, we were able to donate 700 used golf balls last year.

Semper Fi!

*Joan Vitale*

We enjoy our bi-monthly meetings in which we share WMA news and news from each other. In the back row, from left to right, are Joan Vitale, Ruth Horgan, Elaine Wegner, and Pat Murray. Seated are Louise Brown,

## DC-1 District of Columbia

OOH RAH and greetings from DC-1 in the nation's capital! DC-1 kicked off April with chapter elections. Our beloved motivator and President Betty Moseley-Brown, who was installed as the new National WMA President during Convention handed over the DC-1 reins to the very capable Annette Taylor. Annette is pumped up and ready to lead DC-1 into another 2 years of service to our Corps and community. Remaining in place are Eileen Scanlon as Vice President, Bridget Young as Secretary, and Elsie Anderson as Treasurer. Joan Hammond will serve as the DC-1 Chaplain. Our dear wonderful sister and Chaplain Mitzi Manning recently retired from ministry and relocated to North Carolina. We are sad to see her go, but very happy that she is not retiring from WMA. Mitzi was installed as the new First Vice President of WMA at Convention.

Also during April, DC-1 member Eileen Scanlon worked tirelessly behind the scenes with other WMA members in preparing for the WMA Colonel Julia E. Hamblet Award presentation at the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation Annual Awards Banquet. Several DC-1 members attended the event where this year's recipient, LtGen Carol Mutter, was honored. Additionally, in typical DC-1 fashion, members continued hard at work representing WMA and volunteering in their local communities. WWII era veteran Helen Fritz received an appreciation award for her nearly 20 years of faithful service as Secretary of the Board for the Historical Society of Kent County, Maryland. Lelia Jackson presented the WMA Outstanding Cadet Award to deserving students at three local high schools. Of special note, on 1 June, Eileen Scanlon served as the Reviewing Officer at a boot camp graduation (both male and female recruits!) at Parris Island, SC.

Patriotic to the core, DC-1 members participated in a number of Memorial Day activities. Just to name a few: Mitzi Manning was a program participant for the Women's Memorial Annual Memorial Day Ceremony.

Marjorie Gallun and Bridget Young attended the Greenbelt, Maryland American Legion Post 136 Memorial Day event.

In her take charge style, Elaine May Stem organized and presided over a full blown Memorial Day Parade for Taneytown, MD and the Hesson-Snider American Legion Post 120 Memorial Day Program.

DC-1 had three members installed (by Installing Officer, WMA Past National President Sue Sousa) as National Officers: Betty Moseley-Brown, Mitzi Manning, and Rhonda Farrell (who will become the Area Two Director).

*Lelia Jackson*

## FL-2 Florida Gulf Coast

In the words of FL-2 Gulf Coast Chapter members who attended the 27th Biennial Convention and Professional Development Conference and echoing WMA's newly installed National President, OOOORAH!! What a terrific job by DC-1 and everyone who stepped up, pitched in and otherwise made it happen. Bravo Zulu to all.

FL-2's own Maxine Wehry served on a panel of authors in the "Telling Our Story" workshop.



**FL-2 Chapter members (l-r): Kathy Sheppard, Maxine Wehry, Karen Kelly and Kathleen Potthoff at Closing Banquet.**

The workshop was designed to give insight and perhaps inspiration to all of us to write our stories so as to capture more of the history of our service as Marines. Tracy Crow, author of "Eyes Right", and panel participant, provided insight on the importance of writing about our experiences even if it is just for family. Maxine noted that that was what started her down the path of a now published book, "A Kindred Spirit". Maxine's book was a sellout at the convention with those proceeds going to benefit FL-2 projects and the WMA general fund. Both Maxine and Tracy's books are available via Amazon.



**Maxine Wehry with WMA Citation and VA Certificate of Appreciation**

Maxine was also honored at the Recognition and Awards Luncheon for her more than 30 years of volunteer service through the Veteran Affairs Voluntary Services (VAVS) with certificates from the Department of Veteran Affairs and the Women Marines Association. Maxine was quite the rock star and garnered invitations to speak to Marines at Parris Island and Cherry Point. Maxine noted at our most recent chapter meeting that it all was a wonderful and humbling experience and that she now has several new friends from all ranks including General Officers! She is ever so proud to be a Woman Marine!!

Welcome aboard to the following new FL-2 Chapter members: Tracy Crow and Sharon Sir.

Wishing all Marines a Happy 237th Birthday and looking forward to seeing you at the 2014 Convention and Professional Development Conference in Kansas City.

*Kathy Potthoff*

## FL-6 Florida Gators

The motivating women of FL-6 continue with community involvement. April brought us together for lunch and our WWII ladies were, as usual, kidding with the waitress. Our WWII ladies rocked the house! We met for lunch before Mother's Day and roses were placed at the seats of the members who could make it. Thanks to Carol for being so thoughtful. Our President, Louise Tamayo, went to Orlando for a weekend in May to participate in the Florida's Chapter Presidents meeting.

They met on Saturday and passed along a lot of great ideas for growing our chapters.



Memorial Day found us paying our respect in various corners of the district. Ashlee Blidzukewicz and her children placed flags, while a trio of us participated in services culminating with the release of red, white, and blue doves. Other members commemorated in the Port Charlotte and Englewood area.

We had a birthday for one of our WWII ladies and enjoyed sharing a meal in celebration of her 90th. Her remark was, "Just think, in another 10 years I'll be 100!" We all chuckled at her great sense of humor. Happy Birthday Sally Goodall! Betty Capron will turn 90 at the end of this month. Happy Birthday Betty!



Four chapter members attended the convention in Philly and enjoyed meeting new sisters and renewing friendships of the past. Thank you to all that contributed to making it such a success. We are already looking ahead to Kansas City in 2014.

One of our local restaurants had a dinner to honor our WWII ladies, which two of our gals attended: Ty Moulds and Sally Goodall. Congrats ladies, you rock!

Irene Toth was selected for the Honor Flight to see the WWII monument and place the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington. She had a wonderful time, although the weather didn't cooperate, so she was unable to place the wreath. Later they found out it was a tornado! Wow!

We are looking forward to some community service in the months to come. We sent some care packages to a female Marine that is the daughter of one of our sisters.

OOHRAH and Semper Fi.

*Carol Mayne and Louise Tamayo*

## IL-2 Blanche S. Osborne

The large Memorial Day Parade in Chicago had perfect weather this year. Along with a few floats with veterans, there were thousands of JROTC cadets and bands marching from the many high



schools in the Chicago area. As usual, the 2nd BN, 24th Marines Training Center furnished a Humvee and several noncommissioned officers for drivers,

for us WWII and Korean veterans to ride in the back. The Marines also held the stepladder to make sure we were safe using it. In addition, the car used for recruiting, painted bright red with the gold Marine Corps emblem, was furnished for Helen Laukes, chapter member and WMA Past National President (1988) to ride in. Helen's driver was GySgt Villarreal. When our part in the parade was over and the vehicles were headed back north to the training center, we got dropped off near Berghoffs, a well known restaurant for lunch. A great time was had by all.

Our bagpipe player member, Carol Eubanks was with her band,

the Highlanders, marching in Elmhurst's Memorial Day Parade, a Chicago suburb. She said it was fun playing the Marines' Hymn.

Lots of hot weather has passed since the Memorial Day Parade. We gathered for our summer picnic, in the middle of July, held indoors instead of on a patio of Genevieve Bowen's shady backyard. Jennifer Green, Gene's daughter did the chicken breasts on the outside grill while about a dozen members brought all their favorite dishes to round out the meal. At the meeting, we swore in the new officers for the next two years: Muriel Underwood, president; Helen Laukes, vice president; LaVergne Novak, secretary; and Helen Ehlers, treasurer.

The work of one member was praised, Patty Bacon Klop for developing a website for our chapter. Hopefully, it will contact prospective new members in the Chicagoland area. Four of our members attended the WMA Convention in Philadelphia -- Mary Roa, Helen Ehlers, Muriel Underwood, and Carol Eubanks.

Carol was supposed to play her bagpipes at the Memorial Service, but she came down with a virus two days before and could not do it. We were all very sad, because she's quite good. The rest of us enjoyed meeting and talking to all the active duty Marines, and hearing of their experiences--so different from ours.

Now, we're looking forward to working with the new area director and with the challenge to recruit new chapter members, so desperately needed.

*Muriel Underwood*

## IL-3 Grace Hall Central Illinois



On 31 March, IL-3 members met for lunch and toured two local historical museums in Pontiac, IL. Members along with our Loyal Escort, Roger Wahls, received a personal tour of the Pontiac-Oakland Car Museum.

Mr. Green provided personal insight with specific information that was very educational of the vast Pontiac car history.

Afterwards, chapter members toured the Livingston County War Museum where we met a young prospective Marine who was impressed to meet so many women Marines at once!

*Tina Cunningham*

## KY-1 Flying Colors

KY-1 members had a busy spring. Chaplain Kathy Allen is also an ordained minister. After an F-4 tornado leveled the small town of Henryville, Indiana on 7 March, she organized church members to provide aid.

WMA member Susan Vogedes, also a church member, joined Kathy on a chain saw detail during one of several trips to the nearby town.

The chapter sponsored the 1st Annual BGen Margaret Brewer Leadership Award at the 42nd annual Colonel William R. (Rich) Higgins Memorial Mess Night 28 April in Lexington.

Mary Broussard presented the award to Candidate Katherine Smith, who will be commissioned later this year.

General Brewer, the first woman General Officer, was a Woman Officer Selection Officer in Kentucky early in her career. The annual mess night is co-sponsored by the area Officer Selection Officer and the Marine Corps Coordinating Council of Kentucky.

Mary, Susan and Alison Porter presented WMA awards at four area school MCJROTC award nights.

Susan and Alison represented WMA at Louisville's Armed Forces Dinner as guests of the Marine Corps Coordinating Council of Kentucky.

We were not all work and no play – members spent the first Saturday in May enjoying a potluck meal and watching the Kentucky Derby at Mary's house.

*Mary Broussard*

## LA-1 Molly Marine

On 13 April, the Molly Marine Chapter started out the spring season by assisting the New Orleans Military and Maritime Academy (NOMMA) with another uniform inspection. Active duty members GySgt Dalia Robles and Sgt Chantel Williamson inspected the female cadets and held a school circle afterwards to go over discrepancies and how to correct them. Sergeant Williamson also gave a class on how to neatly put their hair up in a bun. The Commander, Colonel William Davis, appreciates the support and time our chapter has devoted to the Academy and wants us to continue to assist and provide mentorship.

On 14 April, newly elected chapter officers were honored to be installed by the Area 6 Director, Maria Crowley at an Installation Ceremony Luncheon held at Le Café De Bon Temps in Slidell, LA. Appointed chapter officers were also recognized during the ceremony. The turnout was one of our best ever. Great company and delicious Cajun food! A distinguished guest accompanied Maria during this event: the National 1st Vice President, Judy Anderson. It doesn't get much better than that! Thanks ladies!

9 May was a very special day. April Bell, Angela Merrell, Jodi Lara and Melanie Young surprised Frances Hoffmann (WWII veteran member) with a birthday party to celebrate her 89th birthday at the Lambeth House in New Orleans! Frances was very happy to celebrate with us and several other residents of the Lambeth House. After Frances' party, April delivered a piece of birthday cake to Marian Landry (WWII veteran member). Marian enjoyed the cake and the visit! Continue to keep Marian in your prayers. In observance of Memorial Day, several members visited the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport, MS on Saturday, 19 May. A gorgeous facility! We arrived during recreation time and made root beer and pineapple ice cream floats for the residents.

While visiting, we shared stories, gave each of them an American flag, and let them know how we appreciated their service and that they are not forgotten. "Give them their flowers while they can smell them." An experience we shall never forget! Ten members participated in this event.

Photographed are Karen Williams, Patti Huttinger, Dalia Robles, Chantel Williamson, April Bell, Jodi Lara, Kimberly Allen, Terri Anderson, Melanie Young and Vicki Haynes.

Corporal Karina Santiago and Corporal Alexandria Betancur made a little history on 25 May by being the first ever to present



the WMA MCJROTC Award (certificate & ribbon) to a cadet at the newly opened New Orleans Military and Maritime Academy! The recipient of this prestigious award was Kayla Lewis for achieving a 4.0 GPA and holding the position of Commanding Officer of the NOMMA MCJROTC unit. They also presented her with a Molly Marine lapel pin, on behalf of the chapter!

On 16 June, we had a meeting hosted by our newest chapter member, Kimberly Allen. She had the meeting at her gorgeous home in Covington, LA. Members enjoyed the delicious refreshments she prepared and the camaraderie. A great deal of discussion revolved around the upcoming 2012 WMA Professional Development and Leadership Conference. We showed examples of envelopes we had decorated for the conference door prizes! We were very excited about competing in the envelope competition and making a cash donation! Thirteen attended this meeting: nine members, two Loyal Escorts and two guests.

In observance of Independence Day, our chapter had a flag fundraiser on 27 June at Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans. This fundraiser served two purposes: honoring Independence Day by selling American flags, and raising funds for conference door prizes. We are proud to say the event was a success! We sold all of the flags, resulting in a hefty donation to WMA for the 2012 Conference! Members that gave unselfishly of their time to assist with this fundraiser were Cpl. Elizabeth McQueary Damron, Kimberly Allen, Karen Williams, Angela Merrell, Mary Whittington (LE) and Dr. Janie Beers (future LE).

We love to party!!! So, on 9 August a few chapter members took the party to the Chateau de Notre Dame Nursing Home in New Orleans and partied with our eldest chapter member Marian Landry. We enjoyed wine, cheese, crackers, salami and loads of camaraderie! Marian's daughter, Louise, was able to join us. The party crew consisted of Mary Draughn, Darlene Graves (LE), Mary Whittington (LE), Melanie Young and Dr. Janie Beers (guest).

Several members and Loyal Escorts had the opportunity to attend the 2012 WMA Professional Development and Leadership Conference in Philadelphia, 30 August through 4 September.

The Conference was held "where it all began." Members enjoyed the workshops, events, beauty of the city and visited the site of where Tun Tavern once stood!

Molly Marine LA-1 submitted entries to compete in the category of "Chapter Achievement" Category A (patriotism, esprit de corps and camaraderie) and Category B (volunteerism).

We were awarded 1st Place in each of these categories! This couldn't have been done without the motivation, dedication and participation of each member and Loyal Escort.

During the Closing Banquet, the recipient of the "Ruth and Dick Broe Award for Overall Chapter Achievement" was announced. MOLLY MARINE LA-1 was selected to receive the award!



We received a streamer for our colors and our chapter owns the plaque until 2014. Not only did we receive the awards listed above, we received the 3rd Place Recruiting Award. We also were recognized for 1st Place in "Best Decorated Envelopes" and received a cash award.

Despite Hurricane Isaac, Cpl Elizabeth Damron (McQueary) and her Loyal Escort husband, Dustin Damron were determined to make it to Philadelphia for the Molly Marine Reception on 30 August.

They were so motivated, to do the Molly Marine LA-1 Power Point presentation, they drove from Gretna, LA to Pensacola, FL in the storm on Thursday, 30 August in order to take a flight to get there on time. They made it and the presentation received many accolades. WELL DONE!

*Melanie L. Young*

## MN-1 Minnesota Leathernecks

The chapter met on May 12, 2012 at Liz & Bill Whitbeck's home and it is believed that Bill enjoyed his Loyal Escort duties being surrounded by Chapter members. We discussed Memorial Day activities at Ft. Snelling, our annual Chapter picnic and the 2012 convention.



**Judy Austin and Guardian.**

Julianna (Judy) Austin spoke of her recent experience on the 8th Minnesota Honor Flight conducted on April 28, 2012. There were 99 veterans on the Honor Flight who saw the Iwo Jima statue, the Women's Memorial, the World War II Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial amongst other places of interest. They had a nice Welcome Home ceremony upon their return to the Twin Cities. Judy's favorite part of the trip was the National World War II Memorial.

On Memorial Day, chapter members Liz Whitbeck, Sandra Heredia, Dianne Cupples and Vicki Latiolais joined with the Women Veterans of Minnesota members to walk in the opening ceremonies at Ft. Snelling Cemetery, which has been conducted each Memorial Day since the 1950's.

Chapter members met on 9 June to finalize convention materials.

The chapter met on 14 July at the home of President Joyce Bakke for our annual picnic, but due to the intense heat, we wisely held the picnic indoors.

Chapter members met on varying weekends to make items to sell at the Patriot PX during the WMA 2012 convention. Betty Capron, Mary McGee, Frances Haubrich and Vicki Latiolais attended the 27th Biennial Convention and Professional Development Conference in Philadelphia, PA held 31 August through 4 September.

We had a meeting at the VA Hospital on 8 September to discuss the convention and to finalize chapter plans as hosts of the Women Veterans of Minnesota's annual fall luncheon to be held on 20 October at the Ft. Snelling Officer's Club.

Our next and final meeting of 2012 will be on 10 November at the VA Hospital. Our holiday party will be held on 5 December.

*Vicki Latiolais*

## OK-2 Heartland

Greetings, WMA!

Members celebrated the 69th Anniversary of Women Reserves on 4 February at the home of Deb Patillo. Great food, great cake, and even greater company! Plus leftovers!!

Speaking of parties, Pam held a St Patrick's Day party on 17 March. All had a fantastic time, and I imagine there's a lot of blarney circulating out there since then.

While a few members are making plans to attend the convention in Philly, we're all tossing around merchandise ideas for the WMA PX.

Joan Willauer's grandson, 1stLt Greg Rueth, has been deployed to Afghanistan. Thoughts and prayers to him and all our troops.

Our next meeting was on 29 April at Pam's building, OKLACO. Discussions on upcoming events such as Vets Fest, the annual dance to raise money for the Oklahoma Women Veterans Awareness Program, and the convention were conducted by those present. The U.S. Grant High School MCJROTC awards ceremony was held on 17 May. Several members were there to present the WMA cadet award to Misty Johnson.

We will focus the rest of this clipping on the two hardest working members in the chapter...Joan Willauer and Pam Bloustine. In April, Joan received a 10-year pin for volunteering at the Veterans



**Joan and Pam!**

Center in Norman. Both attended the annual Marine Corps Coordinating Council meeting on 19 April, which is where the photo was taken. The duo staffed a table at the Women's Health Fair at the OKC VA Medical Center on 15 May. Then Joan so-

loed with a table at the Veterans Appreciation Day at East Central University, Ada, on 24 May. Thank you, ladies, for your dedication and efforts to put WMA in the forefront! The chapter truly appreciates all you do for OK-2.

The chapter expresses their sincerest condolences to the families of John Holvoet and Anne Zink. Both individuals contributed a great deal to the inner workings of WMA. They will truly be missed by all.

Members who attended the convention in Philly had a great time, especially when they brought home the 1st place Chapter Newsletter plaque and streamer! Love those streamers and hoping for more in 2014.

Our chapter president, Jenny Storm, and husband Dan, welcomed their third child, Jacob, into the world about a week before the convention. And we still don't understand why she didn't go to the convention! Congrats to the Storm family! Our photo is of our active reserve major and her new "gear" bag!



**Jenny and Jacob Storm**

Our beloved member Joan Willauer went on one of the Honor Flights to Washington, DC to see the WWII Monument. Unfortunately, when she came back, it looked like she FOUGHT in WWII.

Poor Joan fell at the monument, getting two black eyes and some broken fingers. But the fall wasn't as disappointing as not getting to see the Korean War Monument. Rest and heal fast, Joan! We miss you!

On 15 September our chapter and the Oklahoma Women Veterans Organization (WVO) held the 7th Annual Vets Fest dance at the Biltmore Hotel in OKC. This is a fundraiser for the annual Oklahoma Women Veterans Recognition Day program in November. What a fun time! It was also Pam Bloustine's birthday, which didn't go unnoticed by the WVO ladies. Pam was treated like a "queen," receiving a beautiful bouquet of red roses, a crown, a cake that she cut with a sword and many cards. For the first time, Pam was out-hoopla-ed!

So ladies, till next time, Semper Fidelis and happy fall!

*Sondra Metzger*

## WA- 1 The Evergreen State

This is a sad time for our chapter in Western Washington. After much deliberation, we have closed our WA-1. It has been impossible to continue without active officers and only one or two members in attendance at meetings.

We closed as of 6 August 2012. WA-1 was organized 6 June 1969 and the charter was issued 6 November 1969. We had many wonderful members who were faithful and supportive, but like WA-2 in Eastern Washington, it was difficult to continue with members ill, no transportation, and dying. All accounts have been closed and all money sent to National.

Many of us, I am sure, will keep our membership going, regardless of the closing. WMA has been an important part of our lives over these many years.

Semper Fi

*Louise George*

## WI- 1 Wisconsin Women Marines

Wisconsin's WMA, WI-1 will be responsible for this year's All Women Veterans Luncheon next fall and plans have already been finalized.

On 21 April, the board met at Hi Way Harry's in Johnson Creek which is central to most of the state's women veteran population. The event will take place at this location on Saturday 27 October.

Present were President Linda O'Hara, VP Linda Dancker, Treasurer Mibs Ewald, Secretary Ellen Healey and PRO Connie Allord. Veterans shifted into high gear this spring and expect a like summer to follow.

On 4 May, the WDVA sponsored an event in Green Bay to honor all WWII veterans and come they did - many times more than were expected - by car, by van, by bus and the wheel chairs were numerous, but their occupants eager to take in the day's events at the Railroad Museum.

WMA members from Madison were Mibs and Connie and Nelda Gibs who brought her son from Schofield. Yes, there were as many families as veterans.

Connie was surprised to find herself as one of the five WWII vets to be recognized during the ceremonies and sit with the others

and the speakers on stage (how does one sit quietly like a lady on those wooden folding chairs?) The keynote speaker was Hugh Ambrose, the author of *The Pacific*, upon which a mini-series was made.

A bonus to the event was a tour of Eisenhower's command train, which was on display at the time.

On May 12 in Fond du Lac was the spring meeting of WI-1 and a good turnout and lots of camaraderie enjoyed. A few new members and supporting family are always welcome to join in the joy of the event. It's usually the only time some of the members get together.

*Dry Hootch* - ever hear that term? Hootch, a term used during WWII, and since which means "hut" or maybe illicit distilled alcohol. A couple of years ago a veteran in Milwaukee conjured up the name "Dry Hootch" and is now the name of a very successful place for veterans to meet and, as the name implies, substance free.

It's more like a coffee house for veterans, their families and general public to socialize, but also offers mentoring, counseling and more. Some of our WMA members were involved from the beginning --Linda Dancker, Linda O'Hara, Jen Clark and no doubt more.

That success has led to the opening of a second one in Milwaukee, and the first one in Madison was opened in a lovely setting provided by a local developer and veterans have taken it from there. It is not VA funded, but a compliment to it. If interested, go to [www.dryhootch.org](http://www.dryhootch.org).

More than 1200 flags were again placed on veterans' graves at Resurrection Cemetery in Madison, spearheaded by the MCL and assisted by two Boy Scout troops. Annette Howards and Connie assisted, and will again help in retrieving and storing after Memorial Day. The cemetery is beautiful with flags flying from end to end.

The World's Largest Brat Fest was held again over Memorial Day weekend in Madison. This year, over 251,000 brats were served, but this did not beat their record-breaker of over 300,000.

The Marine Corps League also held a fundraiser for the Fallen Warrior Program, offering mini roses for donations on the grounds. Mary Lloyd is the coordinator and worked all the shifts, along with a male MCL member and occasional other helpers. This year Connie lent a hand for a while. It's really a fun event and people are eager to show their monetary support and thank veterans for their service.

This year's Memorial Day services at the Capitol found 2 loyal WMA members involved. Ellen Healey placed a rose in memory of all women veterans of all wars. Marjorie Marshman served as chaplain and also placed a rose for WWII veterans.

On 30 May, two local Madison developers sponsored a social event at the Veterans Museum to thank veterans for their service. Ellen, Mibs and Connie enjoyed the evening with refreshments and camaraderie among the wonderful displays depicting all wars, beginning with the Civil War and ending with Iraq and Afghanistan.

In June, Annette Howards attended a reunion of her ABG-2 (Air Base Group-2) from WWII in El Toro. In early years they had a large group of both men and women but this year a total of 12 and only 3 women attended. Many family members attended, but time has taken its toll.

In July, Connie was invited by Governor Walker and WDVA Secretary Scocos to a press conference in the state capitol called by AT&T to announce a program for deployed military and their



families. AT&T will provide 600 prepaid telephone calling cards and will also accept used cell phones to recondition and pass on to the troops. Many National Guard and reservists were present as were commanders and representatives of veterans groups. Connie represented WMA and also United Women Veterans.

The highlight for a few was the big WMA convention in Philadelphia -- where it all began. Only three from WI-1 were able to attend. They were Mibs Ewald, Ellen Healey and her husband (a new LEGGS member) and Connie Allord. They not only enjoyed the convention, but historic Philadelphia as well.

The highlights of the convention will be found elsewhere in the newsletter, but Connie was able, once again, to join her dear friend from service days at Cherry Point, Marge Collins, who now lives in Florida. She even showed up at a luncheon in her WWII uniform. She and Connie used to do this, but Connie's uniform "shrunk".

A sightseeing tour took us to the historic parts of Philly, including the Liberty Bell. The driver, finding that he had Marines aboard, stopped at the Historic Marker where Tun Tavern once stood.

Sadly, it no longer stands -- but history and memories do.

Connie's adventure began when her flight was changing in Cleveland and she ran into Gen. Carol Mutter who was also changing planes from Indianapolis. Connie's son and wife invited her to join them at the Philadelphia airport and ride in their rental car to the hotel. Luggage and all, Carol and Connie enjoyed the ride, amid the bags not fitting in the trunk. Marine Generals are flexible and good sports about situations as they arise. The hotel was comfortable, accommodating and all of the activities were well planned, thanks to the convention board.

Betty Moseley Brown's induction as our new president, along with other officers, was a rousing affair.

The sad part was saying farewell " 'til we meet again". Hopefully, a few WWII members will still make it to Kansas City. So, as Betty would say, "OOH RAH" and Semper Fi.

*Connie Allord*

## CO-1 Member Publishes Stories from Four Iwo Jima Veterans

This year's Colorado Independent Publishers Association, CIPA Education and Literacy Foundation's EVVY competition brought in the second largest number of book entries in the history of the awards! This year's competition was open to e-books and audio books and was one of the best ever! The 18th CIPA Awards were held at the Lone Tree Arts Center in Lone Tree, Colorado 17 May and CO-1's Vice President/Treasurer, Carron Barrella entered the contest. Her book, *More Than 36 Days*, was awarded the CIPA EVVY Award in the Biography category. This award winning book tells the stories of four WWII Marines who fought on Iwo Jima. It is not a war book as it focuses

more on the men, their backgrounds and how their war experience defined them. Max Brown is married to long time WMA member and WWII Woman Reserve member, Shirley Gunston Brown, who is also in the book.

Adding to Carron's note as an author is the fact that the proceeds will benefit the Rocky Mountain Association for Brain Injuries, a 501 ( c ) 3 non-profit organization located in Louisville, Colo. Their hyperbaric chamber treatments have had miraculous results with Traumatic Brain Injury and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Carron toured the schools in the Metro Denver area with these men listening to their stories and realized that this is

the last generation of children that will hear their stories live. She wanted to preserve the memory of the men and their history for future generations and thought, "If I don't write it, who will?" She dreamed of becoming a writer since high school (Chicago, IL) and this provided the perfect impetus.

The only question now is "What will the next book be about?" WMA has an extraordinary member in Carron as she coordinates our events and provides support for all of them as treasurer and vice president. Get the book at [www.morethan36days.com](http://www.morethan36days.com).

*Paula Sarlls*



Pictured from left are Max Brown, Jim Blane, Carron Barrella, and Don Whipple.

## Chapter Tool Kit: Finding and Recruiting New Members

The 2012 Convention in Philadelphia, without any exaggeration, was a great time with some great people in a great place! Those who attended could not help but be moved by the intergenerational sisterhood that was on display all week. That's what Women Marines Association is all about...Marines of all eras and ages coming together to preserve the history and tradition of women who have worn the eagle, globe, and anchor.

With Convention behind us, however, it is time to take some of the good feeling...the warm, rosy glow of the camaraderie we enjoyed over Labor Day and direct our attention to how we can use that esprit to make our chapters bigger and better. We know that we have many chapters who struggle with the bare minimum number of members to continue to qualify as an active chapter.

Many of these chapters are in areas, not near active duty bases, where there are not WMA members-at-large

to recruit to chapter membership. Our problem has generally been that if they don't already belong to WMA, we have no way of finding them. While we were at convention, several ways for chapters to find and recruit new members were shared by chapters that have either enjoyed success with these methods or are planning on trying them this fall.

- **Visiting Reserve units** in your area and providing WMA postcards with chapter contact information and an invitation to join the chapter. I and I staffs/Reserve units cannot give out personal information on women who come through their centers, but usually will be more than willing to make the information available at the unit for women Marines to pick up. They may also let you post information on the unit bulletin board.

- **Posting** WMA National and local contact information on public bulletin boards, particularly at VA Hospitals,

American Legion/VFW/Marine Corps  
League posts, and in public libraries.

- **Running no-cost community activity ads** in local newspapers, with a short explanation about WMA and contact information for the local chapter.

Many of you will probably think of other unique ways to identify fellow Marines. Share them! Remember that as chapters, your first contact for advice is your Area Director. She is also your first contact when you have a good idea to pass on that may benefit other chapters. We have several new Area Directors, but all of the ADs and their contact information can be found in this issue of Nouncements . If your chapter has a great idea to share, or if your chapter is in doubt about something and can't find a reasonable answer in the RM&D or your How to Book call or email your Area Director.

*Mitzi Manning*

**Attention All Chapters with a Merchandise Area Posted in 'Nouncements :**


In an effort to update the Merchandise Sales section of *'Nouncements* and to provide more room in the summer and fall issues for convention and post-convention information, we are not going to have a Merchandise Sales section in the summer and fall issue of *'Nouncements*. We are asking all chapters to review what is posted in your respective Merchandise Sales sections for corrections and updates. We will also update the National Merchandise Sales section.

All chapters must review their areas and re-submit what you want posted in the winter issue of *'Nouncements* as items you are going to offer for sale to the membership. If we receive no information from your chapter then that chapter's area will be deleted from the postings. Please submit what you want included in the Merchandise Sales section by December 1, 2012 in order for the items to be included in the new Merchandise Sales section of *'Nouncements*. Please send your updates to: 2VP@womenmarines.org. Any questions can be directed to Kathy Sheppard, 2nd Vice President at this email.

## Holiday Gift Ideas

Wondering what to give a friend or family member for the holidays? Consider a gift membership in WMA or Loyal Escorts. You can do this quickly and easily on line for WMA at our web site (<https://www.womenmarines.org/MemberShipForm.aspx>) or use the membership applications in this issue of *'Nouncements*. Already a member? How about a donation in their honor? If you note on your donation that this is a gift, a letter recognizing the gift from you can be sent to the individual you are honoring. WMA makes it easy for you to take care of some of your many To-dos on your holiday list!

## Publisher's Statement of Ownership and Circulation

 <p><b>UNITED STATES EAGLE</b>  <b>WMA 'Nouncements</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation</b>  <i>(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685 - All Periodicals Publications - Except Biweekly Publications)</i></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">0371 0410</div> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>21 September 2012</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: 60%;"> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">Quarterly</p> <p style="font-size: 12pt;">(Indicate the issue frequency on the cover page and on label)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: right; width: 35%;"> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">\$15.00</p> <p style="font-size: 12pt;">71 copies</p> <p style="font-size: 12pt;">(330) 673-7671</p> </div> </div> <p><b>Women Marines Association, P.O. Box 377, Oaks, PA, 19456-0377</b></p> <p>1. Complete mailing label information (Name, address, city, state, and zip code)</p> <p><b>Women Marines Association, P.O. Box 377, Oaks, PA, 19456-0377</b></p> <p>2. If different and complete mailing information (Name, address, city, state, and zip code)</p> <p><b>Women Marines Association, P.O. Box 377, Oaks, PA, 19456-0377</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 18pt; margin-top: 20px;">Wanda Antoinette, 3020 Puffin Circle, Fairfield, CA 94533</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 18pt; margin-top: 20px;">Wanda Antoinette, 3020 Puffin Circle, Fairfield, CA 94533</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><b>Women Marines Association</b></p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><b>PO. Box 377, Oaks, PA, 19456-0377</b></p> </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 20px;"> <p>3. Answer Distribution Questions and (If Not Actually Being Filled in) Check if Other Method of Distribution or Other Qualities Exist, check one</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regularly  <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally  <input type="checkbox"/> Seldom  <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely  <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all  <input type="checkbox"/> Other         </p> </div> <div style="margin-top: 20px;"> <p>4. The label is for circulation by regular means addressed to the full regular name (Check and complete label and attach label to the publication)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Single Copies Only (Indicate)</p> </div>
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WMA 'Nougements		November 2012	
A. Waard en Veiligheid in Woonomgeving			
a. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		3400	3400
b. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		3320	3320
c. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		25	25
d. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		0	0
e. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		20	20
f. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		3365	3365
g. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		0	0
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k. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		0	0
l. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		3365	3365
m. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		25	25
n. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		3390	3390
o. Toelichting op de Landelijke Toets		100%	100%



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