



From Michigan: It's One For The Record Books

February brought us way too much snow and cold but it didn't freeze the spirits of MI-2 members, who celebrated in grand style our 72nd Anniversary and then the following week, moved on to an attempt to break a Guinness World Record for the most cards sent from a single location.

The Guinness Record was a HUGE project that the chapter dove into. It was decided after the convention that members wanted to do something special for Valentine's Day and started planning. They submitted an application to Guinness and it was approved under the title of, "The most greeting cards sent from one location."



MI-2 members gathered together for an attempt at a Guinness World Record.

MI-2 put its own twist on it by sending the greeting cards to the Wounded Warrior BN's on the East and West Coasts, to all of the names they had of those who were deployed, and all WMA members aged 90 years old and over.

MI-2 has submitted all of the docu-

mentation for the record and are waiting to get our verification. Our grand total of cards sent was 3,602.

A special cancellation made by the Romeo, MI Post Office. Alex Stubbs, Romeo Postmaster and his staff were awesome to have as partners. Volunteers came to help out and braved a white-out snowstorm to be there.

Along with the greeting card project members also packed up 211 boxes that were shipped out to the troops.

Managing two projects proved challenging but with the support of so many volunteers, the chapter succeeded in accomplishing both endeavors.

Mary Ann Merritt



VOLUME ONE, 2015

From The Editor:

Happy spring, Marines. By now, I am sure everyone has thawed out from the extreme winter weather most of the country experienced—another reason I enjoy living in south Texas. Sure, we have cool temperatures, nothing near what some of you had to go through this year. With warmer weather here, hopefully our chapters will be motivated to go out and do great things in the name of WMA.

We just celebrated our 72nd anniversary as the fewer and prouder. We are Marines. Not many people can say that. As women, we have come a long way in the Corps, and we have so much further to go! Gone are the days when a Marine could not be a mother while serving her country, and with traditionally male MOSs opening up to women, the sky is the limit for women in the Marine Corps today. We are going to have a woman Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps; we are going to have a woman Commandant. It's only a matter of time.

The 2016 convention in Portland is just a little over a year away. Are you excited yet? We will come together again as an association July 21-26, 2016 to take care of the business of WMA, and of course, to have a little fun.

Look for more information on Portland in upcoming issues of 'Nouncements, on Facebook (at https://www.facebook.com/groups/PortlandOR2016/?ref=br_tf), or look to the WMA website (http://www.womenmarines.org/BIENNIAL_conference.aspx).

I often receive e-mails from members asking how they should submit a Chapter Clipping, or an article to 'Nouncements. A few months ago, someone asked if I could publish guidelines of what is expected for each submission. You will find the rules for submission below.

All submissions to WMA 'Nouncements are welcomed. We encourage you to keep us informed of noteworthy activities you or your chapter have accomplished.

FORMAT: Please e-mail your contributions as Word files whenever possible, and send us your best photos as JPEG

attachments. You may also type your submission in the body of the e-mail. Please do not embed your images in Word documents and send the actual size photo. There is no need to shrink it. If you do not have computer access, you can mail your clipping via the post office. It does not need to be typed, and if you are sending photos, please send copies of the originals—not photocopies. Photos will be mailed back to you.

REMEMBER THE FIVE W's :

In preparing your stories, remember to include:

WHO: Name the people involved. Include any ranks or titles. If you meet or interview somebody, please tell us their name. Make sure names are spelled correctly!

WHAT: What was the activity? Was it a memorial ceremony, a fundraising event, or a parade?

WHERE: Be sure to tell us where the activity occurred. Not only the city, but be sure to tell us the name of the event, park or building. Give us the full official name if possible.

WHEN: Tell us when the activity took place. Weekday? Weekend? Morning? Evening? The exact date?

WHY: Tell us why your chapter participated in this activity, and of any personal connections to the event.

ALSO: Remember to take a minute to check the facts of your story.

Please remember that due to space limitations, we usually do not print more than two articles from the same chapter. When a number of members from one chapter send in articles on the same theme or event, we will combine their accounts.

Remember, too, that this is a great opportunity to tell your fellow Marines (as well as the general public) of what you enjoy most about being involved with our association.

Wanda Antoine
Editor

In This Issue:

First details about the 2016 WMA Convention in Portland, Oregon. **Page 4**

A symposium for women aviators. **Page 8**



Paula Sarlls recognized for making a difference. **Page 13**



From the President: It's Time to Blossom Again!

OOHRAH!

I'm often reminded that people said Eleanor Roosevelt (who said "With the new day ahead comes new strength and new thoughts") was born before her time... but, I believe that we are placed in the era that we were meant to grow. Sister Marines, it is time for you to blossom, again. WMA needs you to grow this association to the next level. Spring is here! As we prepare for our next convention in Portland, Oregon in 2016,



YOU are our needed link! If you have a willingness to serve again, contact our IVP at 1vp@womenmarines.org or contact me directly at President@womenmarines.org. We need volunteers with a willing heart and time to give back to your growing association.

As we celebrated our 72nd continuous year of women in the Marine Corps, it is amazing all the accomplishments we have sewn, while in uniform and after the uniform. Let's

continue this momentum as we meet May 15, 2015 in Florida at the Area 3 Regional Conference and October 10, 2015 at the original Molly Marine statue in New Orleans.

Yes, my Sister Marines...we've done a lot, but we have so much more to do. Join our band of sisters and help WMA prosper, so we can give back to veterans and their families in our communities.

WMA needs YOU!

Semper Fidelis,

Betty Moseley Brown

From the 1st Vice President: Let's Get Back To Our Roots

I would like to address a topic dear to my heart. Specifically, when WMA was first formed, one of our key purposes was to look after and take care of our sister Marines. This is something we seem to have gotten away from over time. I realize that we all have busy lives, but most of these suggestions don't involve much time. Unfortunately, we have many members who are no longer young and they can't get around as well as they did before. Many of our older members have no e-mail capabilities, so they cannot enjoy the constant flow of information that many of our younger members utilize to keep in touch and informed.



Many of our senior members have no children and have outlived many, if not all, of their family members. Others live in areas where there are no family members nearby, and they are basically alone. In such cases, WMA can be more than an organization to which they belong; it can be their Marine family. Quite a few of our members currently reside in senior living facilities, assisted living facilities, veteran's homes or live alone depending on their physical and/or mental limitations.

What I would like to suggest is that our chapters each start a project to provide one or more of the following services for their sister Marines. Here are some suggestions concerning local members who live alone or in some kind of care facility:

- 1 - Visit confined members as often as possible**
- 2 - Send cheery cards monthly, quarterly, or on major holidays**
- 3 - Call older members at least once a month to see how they are doing**
- 4 - For members who can't get around, offer them a ride to chapter meetings**

5 - Visit older chapter members who are hospitalized

6 - Find out older members' birthdays and send birthday cards to make their day more special

You might ask how you can locate such members. The best place to start is with the quarterly rosters that National provides to each chapter. Not only do those rosters list all the members of your chapter, they also give you a roster of all the Members at Large (MALs) who live in your area. By searching the MAL roster, you can find members whose address is a care facility or VA facility. You can call some of the MALs in your area to see if they need or want calls or visits. Ask your chapter members if they know any women Marines who live in your area and could use a card, call or visit from their sister Marines.

Another possibility is to draft a letter about your chapter and send it to all the MALs within easy driving distance to see if they would like to attend your chapter meetings or special events. Offer to provide transportation if possible. This could get new members for your chapter and it would give the older members something to look forward to when your chapter meets. I am sure that many of you have other brilliant ideas to help to brighten someone's day. Send them to me and I will share them with our members. One of the greatest things about our older members is that it takes very little to make them happy. Just a smile, a cheery greeting or a few minutes of your time can work miracles for someone who spends most of their time alone. The most important thing you actually give them is the knowledge that someone cares, that they do matter and that Marines always take care of their own.

Semper Fidelis!

Kathy Wright,
1st Vice President

WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION

72 YEARS OF PROUD SERVICE TO COUNTRY AND CORPS

APRIL 2015

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WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION

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Deadline for materials for next issue:

15 May 2015

Please send all materials for 'Nouncements to the Editor:
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February 13, 2015

What a great time to celebrate the continuous service of women in the Marine Corps! It was seventy-two years ago that the Marine Corps Women's Reserve was created, proving--yet again--that women were a necessary component to our Nation's security and freedom. As I meet our wonderful Women Marines Association (WMA) members, I am reminded that forty-six percent of our members are over the age of 70 (as referenced in our WMA 2013 Resource Manual and Directory-RM&D); they've seen the Marine Corps transition into the power force it is today. They are constant reminders of our diligence, tenacity and unwavering spirit, which is synonymous with the title Marine.

As we reflect on 1943, it is important to be knowledgeable about our WMA history. It was seventeen years later that our WMA founders held a reunion in 1960. Our Historian/Curator of the Women of the Corps Collection, Nancy Wilt reminds us of the following:

"We need to pause at this time and recognize Major Jean Durfee, USMCR(W) whose idea for a National Organization of WWII women Marines became the Women Marines Association. Major Durfee, as early as 1957, conceived the idea, created the plans of organization, instituted the development of a data listing 8,000 plus names of WWII women USMCR(W) members, organized the first National Reunion in Denver and chaired the event. Jean Durfee retired from the Reserves and is now looking down on how her idea and guidance made WMA a reality".

Let us also remember our other past leaders, whose talents have shaped WMA, such as Genevieve M. Dooner, the first National President of WMA, then, Helen Hannah Campbell, Helen E. Moore, Olga C. Bullock, Ruth Hammond Broe, and our Theresa "Sue" Malone Sousa (who I still affectionately refer to as Founding Mother). When we reflect on our past, it is a marvel at how these early WMA leaders crafted out guidelines, traditions and friendships that remain in our every vein today. It is now up to us to continue to valiantly carry the torch today, to create an even better tomorrow.

Our latest generations of Marines need us...our wisdom, our experience, and our vision. I call on you to sponsor a sister Marine Veteran in your communities, invite a newly transitioned Marine to your Chapter meetings, reach out to a Member-at-Large to let her know that you are there (if ever needed). Our founders created WMA because they knew how special our bond is and how much more we can do when we work together, as Sister Marines. Yes, we work hard to give back in scholarships and community service, but, we play hard celebrating our esprit de corps.

As we acknowledge the 72nd anniversary of the continuous service of women in the Marine Corps, let us remember our WMA Past Presidents, who gave their talents to further our cause. Every chance you get, say "thank you" for leading this illustrious Association. We are women by gender, Marines for life!!

*Genevieve M. Dooner 1960-1962
*Helen Hannah Campbell 1962-1966
*Helen E. Moore 1966-1968
*Olga C. Bullock 1968-1972
*Ruth Hammond Broe 1972-1974
Theresa "Sue" Malone Sousa 1974-1976
*Nita Bob Warner 1976-1978

*Jewell S. Schultz 1978-1980
*Mary G. Knapp 1980-1984
*Virginia Allred 1984-1988
Helen Laukes 1988-1992
*Sarah N. Thornton 1992-1994
Dorothy C. Durkin 1994-1998
Doris R. Keane 1998-2000

Carol A. Mutter 2000-2004
*Lucille "Lou" Teixeira 2004-2005
Paula Sarlis 2005-2008
Rhonda LeBrescu Amtower 2008-2012
Betty Moseley Brown 2012-

*denotes deceased

Semper Fidelis, Betty Moseley Brown

DOORAN!

www.womenmarines.org

1-888-525-1943

WMA@womenmarines.org

PORTLAND, 2016

29TH BIENNIAL WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION
CONVENTION &

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

When: July 21 - July 26, 2016

Where: Red Lion Hotel Jantzen Beach

More Info: Convention@womenmarines.org



Accommodations:

Red Lion Hotel Jantzen Beach
909 N. Hayden Island Drive,
Portland, OR 97217

Proudly hosted by OR-1 Lady Marine Rose Chapter

WMA for the preferred room rates of \$112 plus taxes

Watch the WMA site for more details.

http://www.womenmarines.org/BIENNAL_conference.aspx

Photos courtesy Travel Portland, www.travelportland.com

Please Note Our Recent Officer Changes

During the last quarter of 2014, five of the Area Directors elected during 2014 found it necessary to step down for a variety of personal reasons. I want to thank each of the original Area Directors for their service to WMA and to welcome the new Area Directors as follows:

Area 1 - Adele Hodges has replaced **Tiffany Pettis**

Area 2 - Valerie Mongello has replaced **Rhonda Farrell**

Area 4 - Tania Shugarts has replaced **Tracy Gavidia**

Area 6 - Karen Beatty has replaced **Elizabeth Damron**

Area 7 - Becky Lowell has replaced **Doris Bell**

Area 8 - Valerie Simon has replaced **Niccie McEneany**

Area 9 - Peggy Rieber has replaced **Angela Ramirez**

You may contact your respective Area Directors using the contact information on the WMA officers page. The Area Directors are your first line of communication to WMA National. Please get to know them and give them your support when so requested.

Please remember that these women have volunteered their time to help you with WMA matters. If you work with them as a team, everyone will benefit.

I would also like to mention that **America Dones**, our National Merchandise Sales Representative, has also decided to step down and I would like to thank America for her long service to WMA. The TX-2 chapter has volunteered

to take on this responsibility and the primary Point of Contact will be Karen Beatty. It will take a few weeks to complete this transition, but rest assured, we will continue to provide this service throughout the transition period. Once again, our wonderful members volunteered to step up and fill this void. We certainly do have some amazing women in WMA.

We are also looking for someone to serve as the WMA Historian, which involves documenting the history of WMA. Nancy Wilt serves as the WOCC Curator/Historian and she covers the history of women in the Marine Corps, but the position we need to fill involves the history of WMA itself. Specifically, to gather historical information about our current and past National Presidents, conventions, special projects such as the Molly Marine statue at NMMC, etc. We are hoping to collect this information in a digital format so that it can be easily shared with our members or other organizations that need information about WMA. If you are a history buff, have a background working with historical data, or would just love to get more involved with WMA history, please contact me at 1VP@womemmarines.org. Semper Fidelis!

Kathy Wright,
1st Vice President

VA Eliminates Net Worth as Health Care Eligibility Factor

(Washington)– The Department of Veterans Affairs is updating the way it determines eligibility for VA health care, a change that will result in more Veterans having access to the health care benefits they've earned and deserve.

Effective 2015, VA eliminated the use of net worth as a determining factor for both health care programs and copayment responsibilities. This change makes VA health care benefits more accessible to lower-income Veterans and brings VA policies in line with Secretary Robert A. McDonald's MyVA initiative which reorients VA around Veterans' needs.

"Everything that we do and every decision we make has to be focused on the Veterans we serve," said VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald. "We are working every day to earn their trust. Changing the way we determine eligibility to make the process easier for Veterans is part of our promise to our Veterans."

Instead of combining the sum of Veterans' income with their assets to determine eligibility for medical care and copayment obligations, VA will now only consider a Veteran's gross household income and deductible expenses from the

previous year. Elimination of the consideration of net worth for VA health care enrollment means that certain lower-income, non-service-connected Veterans will have less out-of-pocket costs. Over a 5-year period, it is estimated that 190,000 Veterans will become eligible for reduced costs of their health care services.

In March 2014, VA eliminated the annual requirement for updated financial information. VA now uses information from the Internal Revenue Service and Social Security Administration to automatically match individual Veterans' income information which reduces the burden on Veterans to keep their healthcare eligibility up to date. That change better aligned VA's health care financial assessment

program with other federal health care organizations.

Veterans may submit updated income information at www.1010ez.med.va.gov/, or by visiting their nearby VA health care facility. For more information, visit www.va.gov/healthbenefits or call VA toll-free at 1-877-222-VETS (8387).

*Elimination of the
consideration of
net worth for VA health care
enrollment
means that certain
lower-income,
non-service-connected
Veterans will have
less out-of-pocket costs.*

Loyal Escorts: Some Computer Safety Tips



Sometimes you may receive an E-mail that appears to be from someone you know. It's best to avoid clicking on links contained in an e-mail, unless you are actually expecting it.

However, an e-mail from someone you know with a short message stating they have a secure document for you to review (too general), would be suspicious, especially if you haven't had any conversations related to secure communications.

Here are some tips from Norton for handling e-mail, both using a WMA e-mail, as well as personal e-mail.

How They Attack

How You Know

What to Do

Malware

- May appear to come from someone you know or trick you into opening.
- May not have symptoms of infection but may be silently gathering information.
- Some may reduce performance or cause strange behaviors like a spontaneous re-boot.

- Only open e-mail attachments that come from a trusted source and that are expected.
- Scan e-mail attachments with Norton AntiVirus prior to opening.
- Delete all unwanted messages without opening.
- Keep security patches up to date.

Spam

- Spam is a serious security concern as it can be used to deliver Malware.
- Messages that do not include your e-mail address in the TO: or CC: fields are common forms of Spam.
- Some Spam can contain offensive language or links to Web sites with inappropriate content.

- If you suspect an e-mail is spam, **do not respond**, just delete it.
- Consider disabling the e-mail's preview pane and reading emails in plain text.

Phishing

- Requests for confidential information via email are **not** legitimate.
- Phishing attacks may use scare tactics to entice a response.
- Fraudulent emails are very often not personalized.
- Phishing attacks may consist of a group of e-mails that share similar properties, like details in the header and footer.

- Be extremely wary of e-mails asking for confidential information.
- Confirm the authenticity of a suspicious request before responding in e-mail.

If you ever have a question related to computer safety, viruses, malware, etc., don't hesitate to send me an e-mail at president@loyalescorts.org.

The Motor City Chapter exceeded expectations, and if verified, may have broken a Guinness Record of most cards sent from a single location. They had many businesses involved, as well as the local community to help break this record. A special stamp was made by the post office specifically for this occasion. There is also a golf tournament scheduled for the end of summer / fall time. If you might be in Michigan around this time, or would like to support the Fallen Warrior Scholarship, visit <http://womenmarinesmichigan.org> and click on the fallen warrior link.

As always, if you're a Loyal Escort, and you've been busy with your chapter, let me know what is going on, and I will happily include it in my next article. Hope everyone is having a good spring!

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

Application for membership in Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter

The Auxiliary of the Women Marines Association

LOYAL ESCORT MEMBER APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:			
Date of birth:	Phone:	Cell:	
Current address:			
City:	State:	ZIP Code:	
Email:			
New	Renew	Reinstated	Life (Sponsor must be Life member)
SSN# (last 4 digits only)			
2 yr \$30 Life 40 and under - \$180 41-45 - \$150 46-60 - \$130 61-70 - \$105 71-80 - \$80 81+ \$55			

SPONSOR INFORMATION

WMA Sponsor Name:	Recruited by:
Chapter Affiliation:	
Do you live with sponsor? Y N	Sponsor Life Member # if applicable

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name of a relative not residing with you:		
Address:	Phone:	
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
Relationship:		

SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER INFORMATION IF APPLICABLE

Name:		
Date of birth:	Email:	Phone:

SERVICE INFORMATION IF APPLICABLE

Dates of Service	
Branch:	How long?
MOS	Duty Stations:

ABOUT MYSELF

How did you hear about the Loyal Escorts?	Recruited By:
Would you like to get your copy of WMA 'Nouncements electronically via email? ___ Yes ___ No	

SIGNATURE

Signature of member: _____	Date: _____
----------------------------	-------------

Make checks payable to **Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter**
Mail to: Kaitlin Connell, 3126 Lexham Lane, Rochester Hills, MI 48309

Celebrating a Birthday, and a Symposium for Women Aviators



WMA members in the Washington, D.C. area celebrated the 85th birthday of Brigadier General Wilma Vault. BGen. Vault stands in front with WMA Past National President Sue Sousa. In the back, left to right are Eileen Scanlon, Karen Kelly, Pam Bloustine, and WMA President Betty Moseley Brown. Brigadier General Vault is the founder of the Women in Military Service to America Memorial Foundation.

Marine Lt. Col. Jenifer Nothelfer, a Recruiting Support Officer for Recruiting Station Des Moines, Iowa, speaks to the attendees at the Women in Aviation International Symposium Event. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by LCpl Logan Block/Released)



Lieutenant Col. Jenifer Nothelfer, recruiting support officer for Recruiting Station Des Moines, speaks with Wally Funk, an American aviator, at the Women in Aviation International Symposium in Dallas, Texas, March 7. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by LCpl Logan Block/Released)

Molly Marine Award Recipients

PLATOON
4006

Senior Drill Instructor
STAFF SGT. CHASITIE CHAMBERS

Molly Marine
PEC. JANINE PEDROZA

FOURTH RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

**MOLLY MARINE
PAPA COMPANY**

FEBRUARY, 25, 2015

GUEST SPEAKER:
MRS. SERENITY BUTTON

PLATOON
4007

Drill Instructor
STAFF SGT. CHRISTY A. MILLER

Molly Marine
PEC. SAVANNAH CHASE

Our History Continues to Grow

• Educators Series Presentation at the National Museum of the Marine Corps (NMMC)

I was honored to represent WMA at a women Marine history presentation at the NMMC the first week of December, as visiting instructor. The presentation fulfilled a request received by the NMMC Teacher in Residence, from the attendees of this year's Educators Series on Marine history. The attendees' request was for the addition of an entire evening program on the history of women Marines. This 3.5 hour presentation included leading a tour of existing women exhibits at the NMMC, followed by a classroom presentation of our history from Marine Corps Legend "Lucy Brewer", through our women serving today.

The class was hugely popular with the educators participating and provided the NMMC Education Department staff with much needed information and history they did not have available on women Marines. My participation in this unique and important program was made possible by WMA.

The trip to Washington was made even more special by meeting for dinner with WMA's, Sue Sousa and Eileen Scanlon right after my arrival. A delightful evening with a "wonderful touch" of WMA history stories added to our dinner.

Using every minute of my trip, my schedule, allowed me to interface, I was able to meet with historians from History Division HQMC and to meet with Colonel Mary Reinwald, USMC (Retired), the new editor of *Leatherneck Magazine*. Prior to the NMMC event, I had the opportunity for a visit with LtGen. Robert Blackman, USMC (retired), President and CEO of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation that supports the NMMC. Prior to departing for Denver, I met with Mary Karcher, a writer, who for *Leatherneck Magazine* has covered multiple WMA Conventions and is a huge WMA supporter.

• The Loss of a United States Marine

WMA, Women Marine history and the "Women of the Corps Collection" have lost a *very* special Marine with the recent passing of Mary Bacon Hale. Mary, a proud WWII Marine, was for decades an active WMA member. She was responsible for starting numerous (8-10) California chapters while being the Area 10 Director. Mary then moved to the position of WMA Plans and Policies Officer.

Mary's dedication to the preservation of the history of Women Marines led her to:

- Develop the concept for the 3 White (WMA) History and pictorial history books, some of the first non-Marine published books on the history of women Marines.

- Mary then led the process of gathering the personal stories of hundreds upon hundreds of women needed to fill 3 books, editing and researching, as needed the material received.

Mary then located and worked on the book development with Turner Publishing while funding the search for the stories, mailings, administrative and printing costs, for the books.

The president of Turner Publishing gave Mary Bacon Hale the title of "Honorary Turner Editor" based on her editing and administrative skills in handling such a major project.

- When the idea for the then "History Project" was originally presented at one of WMA's Interim Board meetings, Mary responded to my presentation by handing me a check for \$10,000 dollars to start with as "seed money" for the project.

That check has been followed by many others over the last decade, and has led to the Women of the Corps Collection developing into the largest known collection of WM history and memorabilia that continues at a dramatic growth rate today.

While the WOCC was still a chapter project, Mary Hale, with other donors and potential donors, requested that

for their continued support, a separate 501(c)(3) foundation be formed that would have but one function: to financially support the Women of the Corps Collection (WOCC). Their request was made to ensure their gifts be utilized for the sole purpose of funding the WOCC.

With guidance from then Marine Corps Heritage Foundation CEO, Lt-Gen Ron Christmas, members of the MCHF Board, General Hagee, CEO of the Nimitz Foundation and expert legal counsel the Women of the Corps Foundation, (WCF) a 501(c)(3) foundation, became a reality. Since the WCF's creation, it has provided 100 percent of the WOCC's Operating funds.

Note: WMA, through the Memorandum of Agreement with the WCF, the WOCC remains a WMA entity but does not supply the Women of the Corps Collection with any of operational funding that being the function of the WCF.

Funds that have been donated through WMA and clearly marked for the WOCC are being held as a special project fund for the WOCC at their request. One such special project is in the development phase at this time.

Mary's dedication to the preservation of history did not end with WMA.

Mary is considered a major donor by the National Museum of the Marine Corps and her name appears in the main lobby on the major donors wall of the NMMC.

WIMSA and the Women's Memorial were also recipients of Mary's generosity in funding military women's history. From the earliest calls for support by General Vaught when WIMSA and the opening Women's Memorial were just dreams, until recent times, Mary Bacon Hale answered the call for assistance.

Mary Bacon Hale dedicated a major portion of her life and resources to the preservation of women Marines history, and the welfare of (*Continued*)

of women Marines in need, so please help the Women of the Corps Collection continue her efforts.

Memorials for Mary Bacon Hale, a “Proud Marine” may be sent to:

Women of the Corps Foundation

Col Sara Phoenix, USMC, (retired), President

1221 Eisenhower Dr.

Laredo, TX 78046

Every dollar received by the WCF directly supports the preservation of women Marine History

(Mary Bacon Hale’s full obituary appeared in the last issue of *Nouncements* and is also available on line, and thru various press agencies, nationally).

• The Veterans Speak Exhibit

Veterans Day and veterans were celebrated by the city of Boulder, CO for two and a half weeks in November. The WOCC and the Broomfield Veterans Museum created military exhibits.

Each day started with a “Veteran coffee” with military speakers from different generations, followed by talks and guided tours of the exhibits offered from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm daily. Each evening closed with a different famous war movie at a WWII-era price. Veteran art filled the rooms and meeting areas. Sunday was the volunteers’ one day of rest.

As Historian/Curator of the WOCC, the exhibit and I moved to Boulder for nearly three weeks to set-up and staff the exhibit daily. Sara Sheldon, author of *The Few. The Proud: Women Marines in Harm’s Way*, graciously hosted me for the entire event. The response to the WOCC exhibit was huge and has led to the booking of multiple future college and school presentations in Colorado and surrounding states.

• A Special Day and a Rare and Unique Collection Received by the WOCC

Nancy White Henke enlisted in May of 1943 and was called to active duty in August of 1943. Nancy, a Quaker,

grew up in Pennsylvania and attended the Quaker Meetings with her family every Sabbath day. While at one meeting, after listening to numerous young male members stand and give “testimony”, stating their decisions to apply their right for Conscience Objector Status and to not serve in the Armed Forces or to bear arms in support the United States, Nancy calmly stood to give her testimony and stated clearly that she would not be at future meetings, as she had taken the oath to be a United States Marine.

[Nancy’s story is like that of our first Commandant, Captain Samuel Nicholas, who as a Quaker, lost his standing and membership in the church by choosing to serve our country during the American Revolution. He was reinstated a few years before his death at the age of 54.]

Nancy attended boot camp at Camp Lejeune, followed by training as a truck and vehicle driver. Upon MOS graduation, she was off to MCAF Cherry Point. She viewed the Marine Corps as a way to serve her country in war and also a way to experience the adventure of seeing new places and meeting new people.

Her excellent performance saw her move rapidly to the rank of sergeant. When asked to consider applying for Hawaii duty, Nancy submitted her paperwork and then waited to see if she would be selected. (Being selected for Hawaii duty in WWII was accomplished through a series of multiple Marine and chaplain interviews, a review of the Marine’s service record and an official and complete security investigation into the applicant’s background.) Nancy’s background, training and rapid promotions made her a perfect candidate for Hawaiian duty.

Nancy Henke’s albums and memorabilia contain very rare content. Nancy was an amazing artist and her Marine albums contain sketches of the lives of women Marines at each duty station or women units she visited while she was in transit and on assignment in Hawaii. The albums received so far

contain perhaps 100 plus clearly identified women Marines filling nearly every page.

This unique collection of photos also contains one of the personal stamps discussed in the October 2014 issue *Nouncements*. These stamps had no monetary value, but in an era where few Marines or individuals owned cameras, these stamps, when attached to letters, allowed families and friends to see them in uniform.

On February 18, 2015, Henke family representatives met with me to open the Nancy White Henke Collection that will be added to in the coming months. During this meeting, each item received was viewed, and its potential future in the WOCC was discussed. We also discussed and made decisions about how the items could be used in the telling and preservation of the history of women Marines.

• The Georgine Clontz Collection

WMA member Georgine Clontz has selected a very unique way to save women Marine history. In addition to her personal uniforms, she has expanded the WOCC research library.

Our small library has been part of the WOCC for a number of years and has been used by both WOCC personnel and volunteers for research. It has also been used by graduate students and interns using the WOCC for graduate papers and studies. Georgine, hearing me speak of the library, decided to seek out additional books on women Marines or those containing history on women Marines. When “new finds” of women Marine books became scarce, she expanded her search to books on Marines Corps history as well as other military books of note.

Singlehandedly, Georgine has created a library with data on WWI, Korea and Vietnam that with few exceptions, contains data on the participation of the Marines in our nation’s history. Like most libraries, used for research, at some point the new books will need to be reviewed prior to sending or being added to the WOCC. *(Continued)*

Space is just not available to become an all service and war library, nor is it the purpose of the WOCC; but for now, "Georgine's Library" is a unique gift and will continue to be a historically valuable resource.. Thank you, Georgine, for your unique and generous gift.

Other History Projects Accomplished or in the Works

- Fulfilled multiple requests for photos, uniform history information, and WM history information by a number of chapters in celebration of the recent Women Marine Anniversary celebrations.

- Working with students at a Maryland Prep School, (in the Washington, DC area) on an assigned project that was a result of the December "Women Marine History Presentation" at the NMMC. The project assignment "WWI Marine Opha May Johnson, her life; "marriage, government employee service" and her life as a Marine. The project was expanded to include the life of most women of that era and the influence they had on future generations of women, and then moved on to include the effect all the service women had on the Women's Movement and women's right to vote. Working with

an entire class has been definitely interesting.

- Continuing development of a project for the upcoming 2016 Portland Convention and historical research for 2018 celebration year and Convention. Ongoing personal Collection development.

Semper Fidelis,
Nancy Wilt, WMA Historian, WOCC
Curator, Archivist
niwilt@aol.com
303-663-3747
303-588-3594

Chaplain's Corner: Share Thoughtfulness and Kindness

"BLESSED BE GOD WHO REFUSED ME NOT MY PRAYER OR HIS KINDNESS!" -- Psalm 66:20

So many prayers have been answered in my personal life this winter - a relative now in recovery after many years as an alcoholic, a daughter's engagement to a kind and loving man and a friend's recovery from a broken neck.

As I read WMA's page on Facebook, I am reminded daily of the power of prayer and God's love in our lives. I see our sisters helping each other in small ways and large with many offering prayers for one who is ill or in distress. Over the months, I have seen prayers answered in both big and small ways - lost pets found, run-away chil-



dren found, recovery from surgery, and cancer in remission. Daily I see thoughtfulness and kindness extended between women who sometimes only know each others through the pages of Facebook.

One memorable act of kindness was a sister who laid flowers on the grave of another sister's mother because the daughter lived too far away. My prayer that day was in thanksgiving for bringing those two women together.

As I write this, I am offering my personal prayer to the sister reading this who is in most need of God's comfort. Please take a minute to join me in doing the same.

Mary Broussard
Chaplain

TX-1: A Pair of Snapshots from the Lone Star State



On 6 December, 2014, TX-1 member Joan Wright (pictured right, above) was presented with a certificate recognizing her 2000 hours of volunteer service with the United Services Organization Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (USO-DFW) by Debra Roper, Volunteer Coordinator for the USO-DFW. Joan is one among the many USO-DFW volunteers whose positive attitude and dedication have lifted the spirits of those entering the doors of the USO-DFW Center.

TX-1 members gathered at the Women Marine Memorial at DFW National Cemetery on February 7, 2015, to observe the 72d anniversary of women's service to the Marine Corps. Pictured standing, left to right, are chapter members Gwen-

dolyn Darwin, Freddie Lopez, Melody Bronson, Kathy Kamo, Joan Wright, Holly Hughes, and Polly Weidenkopf. Kneeling, left to right, are Maureen Moehle, Katherine Lorenz Townsend, Linda Shook, and Conny Green. The memorial was donated to the national cemetery by TX-1 in 2007.



WMA Chapter Clippings

CA-2 San Diego County

CA-2 San Diego County Chapter of the Women Marine Association held a luncheon to honor the 72nd anniversary of establishment of the United States Marine Corps Women's Reserves on 13 February 2015.

Our February weather is always awesome at this time; well it is sunny San Diego. Maybe we should have a huge celebration in San Diego for 75th?

We had 50 attendees. Our guest speaker was Sgt. Maj Angela Maness, USMC Sergeant Major of MCRD/ERR Parris Island. Ret. Sgt. Maj Grace A Carle (the last Director of Women Marines when they were a separate unit) was our Guest of Honor. Our Color Guard was provided by Sgt. Maj Jennifer Simmons of Wounded Warrior Battalion West.



We had members of CA-7 and CA- 11 in attendance. We also had Detachment Commandants from Marine Corps Leagues Scuttlebutt #886 and San Diego Bulldog #835 in attendance.

We also had Gladys Nichols, who was Sgt. Maj Maness' bunkmate in boot camp, and she traveled all the way from Fresno, California.

Other guests were Marie Charron, wife of Sgt Maj of MCAS Miramar Station and Cynthia Kimble, the wife of Sgt Maj 3rd MAW. Both are future members of WMA.

Our Historian, Estela Kemp, who is also crafty made an awesome gift for Sgt Maj Maness.

We tried to get as many Sergeants Major to attend as possible, but there are only 23 Women Sgt Maj's out of 400 (that statistic came from Sgt Maj Maness).

For our ceremony, we had two ladies who enlisted in July 1943. They were Ruth Gallivan and Bucky Edwards, and our newest enlistee was from our Color Guard, Sgt. Jessica Johnson.

Our Door prizes consisted of jewelry, MP3 players, handcrafted blankets, wine and gift cards. The blankets were made by the sister of our Treasurer Maria Franco. This talented lady may be our person we can use for fundraising - keep watching future announcements.

We came together in October of 2014 and we are moving our chapter forward to new adventures. Look us up on Facebook: San Diego County CA2 Chapter Women Marines Association.

--Submitted by the Officers of CA 2

CA-3 Greater San Francisco Bay Area

CA-3 continued to be busy over the last several months. We celebrated our Christmas party in San Mateo, with almost 30 attendees. A great time was had by all, including a fantastic gift exchange. There were several 'oohs and aahs' as packages were opened. Several members of CA-3 participated in the Veterans Administration holiday craft program held for their patients.



Sadly, CA-3 said goodbye to two of its long term members.

Catherine Roundtree, one of our inactive members, reported to her final command, as did one of our very active members - Lillian Rufsvold. Lillian faithfully attended our meetings. When she was no longer able to drive, a family member brought her, and was welcomed into our group. Lillian continued to participate - including dressing up in costume for our Halloween

parties. She was honored the last several years as our oldest member, receiving several pieces of birthday cake to pass on to our youngest Marine. Lillian will be sorely missed.

On a positive note, many members of CA-3 are looking forward to the 7th annual Women in Military History celebration to be held in Alameda in a couple of weeks - where our very own Betty Moseley Brown will be the guest of honor. We will be sure to report on this great event.

-- Susan Johnston



CA-5 Orange County

Members and guests of Chapter CA-5 celebrated the 72nd Women Marines Anniversary on February 15, 2015 at the Claim Jumper Restaurant in Fountain Valley, CA. Our Guest of Honor was SgtMaj Jennifer Simmons (SgtMaj of the Wounded Warriors Battalion West located at Camp Pendleton, CA). SgtMaj Simmons was accompanied by the Wounded Warrior Battalion (West) Color Guard and a Wounded Warrior Battalion (West) Photographer. A table was set in remembrance of our Fallen Sisters and a memorial table for our deceased Sisters.

Our cake cutting ceremony recognized our guest of honor in addition to the oldest and youngest Marines present. The oldest Marine present was Rita Stonebraker, born in 1922. The youngest Marine present was Sgt Saez (Wounded Warrior Color Guard) born in 1993.

Everyone had a great time! It was an opportunity not only to celebrate the 72nd Anniversary but also to bring Marines together across the generations.

Some attended as guests and left as chapter members!

-- Kim Skelton

CA-8 Palms to Pines

CA-8's beloved Secretary, Eddy Stephens, received her final orders 19 Oct, 2014. She served as CA-8 Secretary for many years and recruited many of us to join WMA. Eddy and her husband "Bud" (who was very active in the Loyal Escorts and passed away

10 Nov 2012) were buried together with full military honors at the Riverside National Cemetery. We miss her more than words can say.

We have changed our meeting place. Brandon's just become too crowded. Johnnie Williams, CA-8 President, found a more military friendly cafe in Norco-- the Cowgirl Café; a great little cafe with a large menu and large portions.

The founder of Big Paws Canine Academy and Foundation in Mira Loma, Mary Slavik, was guest speaker for the CA-8 chapter meeting. They train dogs for service, therapy and companions for disabled veterans. She gave information on the role a dog can have in the recuperating and recovery process of veterans with varying disabilities. She personally has a service dog. She is a type 1 diabetic, her dog knows how to tell if her blood sugar is low/high. It was very informative and we hope to have her back again.

Again this year, CA-8 took part in the Wreaths Across America. The ceremony at Riverside National Cemetery was very impressive. We will be there again next year.

This year CA-8 donated toys to the Corona-Norco Settlement House Christmas program. With our donation Settlement House was able to provide over 2,000 local underprivileged children with new toys.

It's almost time for USMC JROTC. We have 5 schools in our area and are looking forward to presenting the awards. This is one of the highlights of our year.

Semper Fi,

-- Sybl Acree

CA-11 Central Coast

Greetings, Lady Leathernecks!

This year we have started off to a great start. Chapter Officers are stepping up to help recruit members. We have been joined by a strong group of family and friends to establish our Loyal Escorts.

We have been busy preparing to adopt a highway in the name of Women Marines, and we've have been approved as tenants in the Lompoc Veteran's Memorial building.

Our chapter had a productive Toys for Tots campaign in 2014. CA-11 continues to volunteer our services to support veterans and other veteran's organization.

We look forward to new adventures this year and we will keep you posted.

Semper Fidelis,

-- Soledad Kennedy

CA-29 Twenty Nine Palms

The local Women Marine Association Chapter CA-29 Twenty Nine Palms recently celebrated the 72nd Anniversary of the founding of the United States Marine Corps Women's (USMCWR) with a luncheon at the Ed Chada's Mexican Restaurant in 29 Palms. President Elaine Bowden welcomed the twenty-five members, Loyal Escorts and guests present for the lunch. Our new member and Chapter Chaplain Lorraine Chamberlain led the invocation.

Honored guest, active duty CWO 2 Stephanie Davis, USMC, spoke on the current role and duties that women have attained in the Corps. An anniversary cake was cut with the first piece given to the honored guest, CWO 2 Davis; the second piece to WWII veteran Dorothy Angil, and chapter CA-29s newest member, SSgt



Mary Gilreath, received the third honorary piece of cake.

The Women Marines Association, Chapter Twenty Nine Palms welcomes all former, retired and active duty women Marines to share in the camaraderie. The membership consists of women that served in the Marine Corps during WWII, Korean, Vietnam, Gulf war and Iraq and Afghanistan.

The chapter will hold their next chapter meeting on Saturday, April 25th.

Information on the Women Marine Association, Twenty Nine Palms Chapter can be obtained from Elaine Bowden at 760-367-6187 or email elbow29@earthlink.net.

-- Elaine Bowden

CO-1 Colorado Columbine



The CO-1 chapter sponsored the Hero Bars at the first annual Gold Star Gala in Colorado Springs at the lovely Broadmoor Hotel on Feb 7th. President, Paula Sarlls attended representing the chapter.

President Paula Sarlls was nominated for the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, Women in Business, "Unsung Hero, Women Making a Difference" award and received a lovely trophy for being nominated at a luncheon on Friday, 13 February. Sarah Cereseras, pictured at right, representing Old Town Dental, works with Paula to help veterans receive quality dental care.

The CO-1 chapter was able to assist a couple of male veterans with housing and emergency counseling as well a Vietnam era female Marine with financial assistance and some feel good items to brighten her day. Last year the chapter assisted over 10 veterans with similar help.

Testimonial remarks of our President were used in several bills facing the Colorado congress when it began the 2015 session. She attended the Military Appreciation Day at the Capital on 30 January, sitting on the floor with the United Veterans Committee of Colorado and the Gold Star Wives Denver Chapter which were both recognized during that day's ceremonies.

President Sarlls has also been selected to be an Honorary Commander at Buckley AFB for the next two years. She was inducted on Monday, 23 February.

The chapter celebrated the Anniversary on 21 February in the Presidential Suite at the Renaissance Hotel, Denver. The hotel has provided the suite at no charge and has always been a great supporter of this chapter.

Also, Frontier Airlines will be sponsoring our Marine Memorial 5K run with \$250 Fly Bucks for the fastest male and female - 19 September, 2015. Want to join us????

See our web site at www.WMACO1.org.

-- Editor, CO-1

DC-1 District of Columbia

Greetings from DC-1.

It is with heavy hearts that we write to tell you of the passing of several of our members and Loyal Escorts.

Florence May Pratt Leon, a life member of DC-1, passed away comfortably 17 Nov 2014 in the presence of her sons, Paul, John, and David. During her membership, Florence served as former officer for the DC-1 Chapter the National Headquarters Chairperson and in the local Chapters as an Honorary President and Past Vice President and was a Virginia Crossroads Member.

As part of her legacy, Florence asked that her cassette tapes and pictures be forwarded to WMA Historian Nancy Wilt to be donated to WMA National.

On 18 Nov 2014, Caroline (Carrie) Jackson passed. Her daughter, Janice Kingston, informed us that her mother passed after a fight with cancer. Carrie was one of our dear Marine sisters and attended several WMA conventions and even roomed with Florence Leon on one occasion. Carrie was an active Chapter member until her family moved to NC in 2004.

DC-1 Member Stella Uhorcuk died Saturday, 17 January, 2015 at the Manor Care Potomac Nursing Home, where she had lived for the past several years. Stella was born in Philadelphia, PA and attended high school in Schwenksville, PA. Stella enlisted in the Marine Corps on August 10, 1943 in New York and went to boot camp in Camp Lejeune, NC. and was later released in 1945. She became a federal employee until duty called again and on July 26, 1950 during the Korean War, She was recalled to active duty with the first active reserve unit to be called. Stella served in Washington, DC and Camp Lejeune, NC.

Helen Wahlberg Fritz died in Chestertown on 22 June, 2014 from complications following a recent stroke, after a lifetime of service to country and community.

As a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, Helen was one of the first women officers. During her 25-plus years as a resident of Chestertown, she was a member of the Kent County Historical Society, serving as its secretary for many years, the Questers, and the Marine Corps League in Centreville.

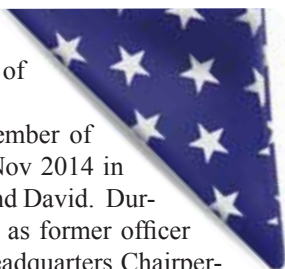
She also regularly participated in events sponsored by the C.V. Starr Center, Washington College and other local organizations.

Loyal Escort, Edward Gene Maust, husband of the late DC-1 member Aileen Maust, passed on 18 February, 2014. Gene very faithfully supported DC-1 for many years. He and Aileen, who was a long time DC-1 Treasurer, were a beautiful couple. The Women Marines could always count on them to manage the WMA National Convention Boutiques

Edward Leis, husband of DC-1 Chaplain Joan Hammond passed on 9 August, 2014. Ed was a proud but humble Navy Chaplain. He would always accompany Joan to the DC-1 meetings and was known for his warm smile and gentle spirit.

DC-1 is fortunate to have such wonderful and supportive members and the passing of these faithful members and Loyal Escorts will be sorely missed.

"I BELIEVE THAT EACH OF US COMES FROM THE CREATOR TRAILING WISPS OF GLORY." ~ MAYA ANGELOU



IN-1 Indiana



Diana Ward of IN-1 looks at a uniform in the local military museum in Indianapolis that is attributed to her but was never worn during the Korean era when she served. The chapter held their annual Birthday meeting in February 2015 at the museum and went through the museum identifying all the discrepancies in the Marine uniforms on display. They are working with the museum to get them corrected. They also enjoyed going over WW II WR uniforms recently donated to the museum by the heirs of WW II WR Martha J. Nicholson. The seven members present also heard the Commandant's birthday message and discussed ways to make monies to donate to the various causes we support, including Young Marines and the VAMC Transportation Fund. Last year we were also able to make donations to WIMSA, Wreaths Across America and the Veterans Home in Lafayette, IN.

-- Carol Mutter

KY-1 Winning Colors

KY-1 members celebrated the Women Marines Anniversary with lunch at a local restaurant. We picked the right day and time – by nightfall we had one of the biggest snowstorms Louisville has had in many years, followed by record cold that kept schools closed for most of a week.

With the money raised from our craft sales, the chapter donated a large supply of coffee, snacks and light meal items for the patients and visiting family members at Louisville VA's Hospice Unit. Through the WMA Facebook Page, we asked for Christmas cards to be sent to the unit. Patients and their families were rewarded with cards from all over the country. They were beautiful and decorated the patient rooms and halls of the unit. In return, several of our members responded to a Facebook request to send letters to recruits who would be in boot camp during the holidays. One recruit wrote back that her drill instructor had read one of the letters to everyone in the barracks and how impressed they were to receive encouraging words from someone they didn't even know.

-- Mary Broussard

LA-1 Molly Marine

On 13 December, several members participated in "Wreaths Across America" paying tribute to our fallen heroes, honoring those who serve, and teaching our children about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedom.

Mary Draughn (Chaplain), Teresa Anderson and Darlene Graves (LE) laid wreaths in the veterans' cemetery in Slidell, LA and

Jennifer Koon-Fink and Irvin Fink, Jr. (LE) laid wreaths in the veterans' cemetery in Biloxi, MS.

This year's Christmas party was hosted by Deloris Romero on 13 December at her lovely home in New Orleans. Deloris and Victoria Kinsey, of the Christmas party committee, did an exceptional job of ensuring everyone had a wonderful time. Everyone brought a delicious dish to share. The Secret Santa gift exchange was a big hit, along with the fun holiday games Victoria planned! Members enjoying this festive occasion were Deloris Romero, Patricia Huttinger, Mary Draughn, Darlene Graves (LE), Dalia Robles, Jodi Lara, Jennifer Koon-Fink, Teresa Anderson, LtCol Victoria Kinsey, Dan Kinsey (LE), Maj Tracy Sampson, Elizabeth Damron and Melanie Young.

On 20 December, a few members celebrated Christmas with WWII veteran member Frances Hoffman at Piccadilly's in Jefferson, LA. She enjoyed the presents, camaraderie, good food and most of all her favorite, a huge piece of chocolate cake! After leaving the Christmas luncheon with Frances, we departed to pay a Christmas and birthday visit to our eldest WWII veteran member, Marian Landry at the Chateau de Notre Dame Nursing Home. We enjoyed singing Christmas carols, as she softly snickered at us singing "out of tune" and not knowing all of the words; funny to each of us! After caroling, we sang happy 95th birthday and celebrated with cake and ice cream. Members who shared this special day with these charming ladies were April Bell (Treasurer), Mary Draughn (Chaplain), Georgia Hildebrandt (Parliamentarian), Darlene Graves (Loyal Escort) and Melanie Young (President).

It saddens us to announce that on 30 December we lost our eldest Chapter member, Marian Y. Landry (95). She passed away quietly at the Chateau de Notre Dame in New Orleans, with her daughter Louise Landry Kayser at her side. Mary Draughn, LA-1's Chaplain, arrived shortly thereafter. Marian was amongst the first group of women enlisting in the Marine Corps on 24 March 1943, "paving the way". She will be sorely missed.

Our first meeting of the New Year was held at the Wine Market in Slidell, LA. The turnout was awesome; 27 in attendance! We started with a formal Chapter meeting, followed by a champagne toast led by Patricia Huttinger (Vice President), delicious refreshments, lots of laughs and loads of camaraderie!

On 23 January, LtCol Victoria Kinsey, Patricia Huttinger, Deloris Romero, Cpl Karen Meza, HM2 Leyna Quinones and LCpl Michelle Najera mentored about 50 female cadets at the New Orleans Maritime Military Academy (NOMMA) as part of the Chapter's Community Outreach efforts. LtCol Nikki Mauery, an instructor at the school and a retired Marine, was instrumental in coordinating the event. Over the course of an hour Chapter representatives were able to present a class called 'Finding and Executing the Right Hair Styles: Exploring Options While Staying within Regulations' to the freshmen and sophomore cadets.

As our Chapter's relationship with the school is continuing to strengthen, members of the Chapter have offered to mentor by teaching specific hair tips to any interested cadets. Another class for the juniors and seniors will be during February and pending the school's evaluation of its impact, this rewarding mentorship effort has the potential to be an annual event targeting new incoming cadets as part of an orientation effort.

On 30 January, several LA-1 and TX-2 members attended Marian Y. Landry's memorial services held in Lafayette, LA. The Area 6 Director, Karen Beatty, was also in attendance.

Following the service, a repast was held at a Country Club in Lafayette. It was truly a celebration of her life, just how Marian would have wanted it; with wine and all the trimmings!



On 12 February, we did what we do best... "laissez les bon temps rouler!" We "let the good times roll" by rolling in a Mardi Gras parade with the finest of all female krewes in New Orleans, the "Krewe of Muses"! Each year we receive an invitation to roll with this awesome krewe. They were gracious enough, once again, to offer the use of float. This year we had the "Royal Float". A very exciting, unforgettable time for the 19 members that participated! Photographed are, front row: April Bell, Darlene Graves (LE), Barbara Ruffin (LE), Colleen Oltmann (LE), Cpl Karen Meza and Mary Draughn, back row: LtCol Victoria Kinsey, Dan Kinsey (LE), Patricia Huttinger, Deloris Romero, Jennifer Koon-Fink, Jodi Lara, Virginia Stockton, Allison Stein, Jack Huttinger (LE), Melanie Young and Felix Romero (LE).

-- Melanie L. Young

MI-2 Motor City

The snow and below zero temps have not stopped the Motor City Chapter at all this winter. November found us celebrating the Marine Corps Birthday, collecting for Toys for Tots and most of all holding our annual Christmas stocking packing for our deployed troops. In November we shipped out a total of 652 boxes.

Each box contained a wonderful assortment of Christmas treats, a Christmas stocking and just a nice taste of home with a letter to let them know that they were thought of.

February brought us way too much snow and cold but it didn't freeze our spirit. We celebrated in grand style our 72nd Anniversary and then the following week we moved on to breaking a Guinness World Record for the most cards sent from a single location. (See the accompanying story on the cover.)

We were graced by Tania Shugarts, Area 4 director who braved the weather and a recent surgery to join us as we celebrated our anniversary.

We were also joined by a new member Lee Rood and her husband. Sally Rizzo celebrated her 95th birthday with many cards and gifts from her fellow Marines from all over. Her favorite gift was a beautiful handmade prayer box from FL-2.

Best of all in that meeting was the start of a new chapter MI-3. They are working on their bylaws and hopefully by our next meeting they will be a chartered and well on their way.

In November we also collected for our Toys for Tots program as well.

We look forward to our next projects which include our golf outing to support the Fallen Warrior Women Marine Memorial, our volunteering at the VA Hospital and taking care of our troops.

-- Mary Ann Merritt

MO-2 MO KAN

MO KAN 2 has continued to keep the 'esprit de corps' representing WMA.

Here are a few of our 'happenings': Members of the MO KAN 2 Chapter were participants in Kansas City's American Royal Parade.

MO KAN 2 was 'chauffeured' in a 5-Ton which was humbly provided by the Kansas City HELL ON WHEELS Chapter of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association.

MO KAN 2 celebrated the Marine Corps Birthday at the Annual Globe and Anchor Luncheon, where Kansas City's Mayor Sylvester "Sly" James was the guest of honor.

This time-honored event, sponsored by the Globe and Anchor Society, is celebrated every year at the Hilton Garden Inn in Kansas City, Kansas. Marines from all eras came and celebrated "Happy Birthday" to one another.

Mary Ellen Stone, Yvette Clifford and Deniese Elosh represented MO KAN 2, WMA at the Annual Sprint Veterans Day celebration. Sprint took a few hours out its busy day to honor Sprint veterans with static displays from the WWII era to the local civilian flying club, VA veteran vendor information and local sports' great visits.

Christmas in "Show Me" State – Women Marine Style: Members of both MO-1 and MO KAN 2 wined and dined a delicious Christmas holiday lunch at Pietro's Ristorante in St Louis, with our fellow service sisters of American Legion Post 404 in St Louis. This is a delicious annual event.



If you are in Missouri and would like to become a member of MO-1 or MO KAN2 and join us in these annual events or ANY event, please contact ad5@womenmarines.org, MO1@womenmarines.org and MO2@womenmarines.org.

-- Deniese Elosh

NY-5 Central New York State



Our group met this summer at the Retreat Restaurant in Liverpool NY where we had a lovely lunch, and while we are small in number, our *esprit de corps* is strong. We hope in the future to have some guest speakers sharing some current military experiences for women in the military today. And due to the severe

weather conditions, our anniversary will be celebrated at a later date. Semper Fi,

-- Charlotte Wallace,
President NY-5

OH-2 Chesty Puller

We have had our share of ice, snow and cold and we are more than ready for a nice Spring. OH-2 will be meeting on 22 March at Jenny Jenkins home and it will be Spring so we are hoping for a nice turnout.

We are getting ready for our Stand Down and this is our 10 year anniversary. We spend at least nine months each year preparing for these Stand Downs and it is a lot of work and it takes a lot of cooperation. We are fortunate to have Ellen Leidy as our photographer and she has a history of our past Stand Downs in color and in books.

We had our God and Country Services and had three Women Marines help light the candles.

We have a Womens Resource Fair called Coming Together scheduled 16 May 2015. We have reached out to many organizations in five different counties to set up tables with all their information in providing help to women veterans. We will have child care, hair cuts, healing hands, and many other services from the VA Health and Veteran Services Commission.

12 September, 2015 is the Ohio Women Veteran Conference. We had over 750 women at our last conference but we have more than 69,000 women veterans in Ohio. We have thousands of women veterans who do not consider themselves a veteran because they were never in combat. Today we do have combat women so let's get the word out to all women who serviced in the Armed Forces to check in with the VA.

A big Shout Out to all our OH-2 members, we are so spread out and it is hard to get together, but we are together in spirit. Tonia Shugarts is our President and Area 4 Director and she has been under the weather with her leg but is up and about. We have other members with medical problems and I will not mention names but you are in our prayers.

Did I mention Ohio State Buckeyes won the first Big Bowl Title?

-- Elva Pounders

OK-2 Heartland

A blustery "hello" to all of our sister Marines! Since we missed the last newsletter, we have quite a bit to report.



Brenda Sutton (left) receives the Heartland Chapter's Chapter Service Award from Dorothy Rimbold.

On 4 October, the chapter once again co-sponsored the annual Oklahoma Women Veterans Recognition Day festivities with the Oklahoma Women Veterans. This year, we were "general heavy" with guest speakers BGen Wilma Vaught (USAF RET) and Under Secretary for Benefits Allison Hickey, Veterans Affairs (who is also a retired USAF BGen), and very special guests Carol & Jim Mutter. We were honored to have been included as a stop on Carol & Jim's road trip. It was wonderful visiting with them. Col Marsha Dorough, USA, Office of the Surgeon General, also served as a guest speaker. Both organizations work diligently each year to honor Oklahoma's women veterans, never failing to reach that goal. This year they served up great speakers and a wonderful luncheon, along with some country-flavored entertainment by the name of Ricky Lee.

The chapter elected officers in October. The following will be sworn in at the next meeting: president, Pam Bloustine; vice-president, Sondra Metzger; recording secretary, Dorothy Rimbold; treasurer, Joan Willauer; correspondence secretary, Pat Goss; historian, Deb Patillo/Sondra Metzger.

Chapter members Brenda Sutton, Dorothy Rimbold, and Pam Bloustine participated in the Halloween Party at the VA Medical Center in Oklahoma City on 31 October by staffing booths and causing a great deal of fun and frivolity for the vets.

Chapter members Brenda Sutton, Dorothy Rimbold, and Pam Bloustine participated in the Halloween Party at the VA Medical Center in Oklahoma City on 31 October by staffing booths and causing a great deal of fun and frivolity for the vets.

Next up was the Marine Corps birthday luncheon on 7 November attended by Betty Raines, Joan Willauer, Pam Bloustine, Sondra Metzger, and Karen Kelly. This event was started by the Oklahoma Marine Corps Coordinating Council and has been on Marines' calendars for many years.

The next meeting on 22 November included a collection of toys for Toys for Tots.

The chapter didn't meet again until 14 February when we held the annual anniversary luncheon at the Doubletree Inn in Oklahoma City. Members and guests enjoyed a wonderful lunch and shared in congratulating Brenda Sutton, who received the Chapter Service Award. But I think the hit of the day may have been Girl Scout Rachel Storm and the boxes of Girl Scout cookies she sold afterward!



Members included in the group photo are (l-r): Karen Kelly, Jenny Storm, Dorothy Rimbold, Pat Goss, Betty Raines, Pam Bloustine, Sondra Metzger, Deb Patillo, and Brenda Sutton.

It was great to have Jenny (Rachel's mom) back from Camp Lejeune where she was attending school for three months.

I believe that takes care of everything. Many thanks and congratulations to Brenda Sutton for all she does for the chapter.

We hope everyone is staying warm! Until next time, Semper Fidelis!

-- Sondra Metzger

TX-3 San Antonio Rose

The San Antonio chapter sadly reports the loss of 4 members within a 5 month period. Billee (Eby) Hare, Donna (Melville) Kluckman, Annamae (Marcus) Bejger and Ellen (Kirby) Fox were all WW II era Marines and long-time members of our chapter. We will miss them as members, but more so as dear friends.

On a happier note, new member Lucy Rodriguez expects to graduate this May with a degree in Criminal Justice, and then go to law school. How does she do it, with 4 young children at home? Must be the discipline she acquired at Parris Island! We are so proud of her.

In November, the Marine Corps Coordinating Council of San Antonio held its annual Birthday Luncheon in lieu of a Birthday Ball. Last year, Billee Hare was honored as the oldest Marine. This year, Phyllis Wallace had the honor. While Phyllis is several years younger than others in our chapter, she was the oldest attending the luncheon. Several males looked and claimed to be older, but they were not.

In early December we held our annual holiday party at the home of President Emeritus-for-Life Anne Collins. She has been hosting us for at least 15 years.

We continue to meet most months on the last Saturday for lunch and a roaring good time. Please join us if you're in the area.

-- Trish Martin

VA-1 Quantico Crossroads



The Quantico Crossroads Chapter VA-1 is still going strong. 2014 was full of fun events like our annual holiday party. During our 2014 holiday party, we had the pleasure and privilege of being honored by the Greater Rappahannock Virginia Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. In a letter from their chapter president, Beth Sinkler, it stated "We recognize that you, as a veteran or current



member of our country's armed forces, you have made positive differences and sacrifices far beyond the communities in which you live. It is only fitting that we reach out to you at a time when we all pause to thank veterans and active military personnel for all they have done and continue to do." The recognition started with a "thank you" from the chapter president followed by a presentation of white roses to all VA-1 members in attendance, followed by the presentation of beautiful cake decorated with an American flag and lastly, a monetary donation to the our chapter for Toys for Tots. We were honored to be recognized and the ladies from The Links, Incorporated who were in attendance made us all feel very special. Once the wonderful ladies of The Links, Incorporated left the party, we began our holiday party signature event, the white elephant gift exchange. As always, the ladies brought some uniquely wonderful gifts that only a Lady Leatherneck could think of. We even had a hand-made jewelry box made by one of our active duty ladies. The gift exchange is always an extra special fun time and 2014's holiday party did not disappoint!



In 2014 we also participated in The Modern Day Marine Exposition (MDME) at MCB Quantico VA by manning the Women Marine's booth as well as participate in the "30 Days of Giving" event

where we served a Thanksgiving meal to the homeless in Prince William County with food donated by many supporters including individuals and businesses. The event was organized and hosted by Operations Heroes Connect, which is a non-profit organization founded by VA-1's Vice President, GySgt Tawanda "Tee" Hanible, who is also the CEO of the organization. I am always extremely proud of the generosity and support of the members of VA-1. We all lead pretty busy lives, but we always find time to get together for VA-1 events and activities. I am looking forward to the camaraderie, fun, and new adventures that 2015 will bring the mighty women of Quantico Crossroads Chapter VA-1. Semper Fidelis,

-- Parisa Fetherson

WV-1 West Virginia Martcoto

WV-1 Chapter planned to celebrate our 72nd Anniversary on 21 February, with a luncheon. But the weather has been too bad for members to travel. We will reschedule a meeting as soon as the weather permits. Happy Anniversary to all!

-- Dottie Alderman

Attention on Deck: WMA Partners With Sgt. Grit

WMA has established a relationship with Sgt. Grit which allows them to market products bearing the WMA logo as long as the product is requested by a member or chapter in WMA.

Additionally, Sgt Grit will be returning a commission to the WMA General Fund on all products bearing the WMA logo. Please note that all products will be approved by WMA before going into production.

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Sgt. Grit is also offering a special discount to WMA members only. When you order items either online or via the phone, use the discount code WMAMBR and you will be given a 15% discount on everything you purchase - including sale items.

Merchandise Sales

Our current Merchandise Sales Representative, America Dones, has found it necessary to resign from this position and we thank her very much for her long service to WMA. TX-2 has stepped up to serve as WMA's Merchandise Sales.

We thank all the members of the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter for accepting this new responsibility.

Contact information for our new Merchandise Sales Representative is:
Karen Beatty/WMA TX-2
P.O. Box 1821
Pasadena, TX 77501
281-487-8205
sales@womenmarines.org
alliedproducts2@gmail.com

Semper Fidelis!

Kathy Wright

June Eleanor Harris: A Tribute to the Founder of the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of Women Marines Association

June Harris, WWII veteran from 1943-1945 and lifetime member #16 of the WMA, was transferred to her final duty station on October 16, 2014 at the ever young age of 93. She passed peacefully into her final sleep with her family and Labrador companion, Shadow, by her bedside in Conroe, Texas.

June Brickson was born on June 2, 1921 in Waukesha, WI. She graduated from Carroll College at the University of Wisconsin, where she studied journalism prior to joining the USMCWR in 1943. While stationed at Miramar, she met a Navy Commander from Texas in church and a week later she became Mrs. Edward J. Harris, the judge's wife. In 1945, they were both discharged honorably from their respective branches and returned to June's home state of Wisconsin where Ed got his Law degree. June wasn't idle during this time. She had started a political life of her own and was elected Wisconsin's first woman justice of the peace.

Shortly after Ed got his law degree, they decided to move back to Ed's home state of Texas and June started another form of being a WM as a Wife and Mother of a daughter, Ann, and son Edward. While in Galveston, June became very active in promoting her husband Ed's political career. She was the voice behind the man and assisted him in getting elected to many offices from city council, to state representative and his last position as state district judge. She was so very proud of Ed and his many accomplishments. She loved politics and being the judge's wife. She was a thrill to be around, with her signature flower in her curly red hair and that scarlet smile.

June was an active member of WMA from the beginning in June of 1960, when she was contacted by WMA President Ruth Broe about the new organization. She

quickly became a lifetime member and during the National WMA Convention in Hawaii, her suggestion of having the next convention in her present hometown of Galveston was approved. The only conflict was that there was no WMA chapter in the Galveston Area.

June, as the National Convention Coordinator for the WMA, was up to the task at hand though, and with the assistance of Captain Beverly Short, the WOSO assigned to the 6th District in New Orleans, the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter was chartered. To commemorate the 31st anniversary of Women Marines on February 9, 1974, 21 of those Women Marines met for a luncheon at the Junior League Tea Room in Houston and organized the local chapter, #45, designated as the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of the Women Marines Association and June added Chapter President to her many titles. June was a joy to be around and never met an adversary.

She was a friend to all and any willing participants. She was like the Energizer Bunny and was active in numerous clubs and organizations such as Beta Study Club, Galveston County Kennel Club, Red Cross, Cedar Lawn Garden Club, Galveston County Democratic Party, League of Women Voters, Galveston Art League, Galveston Historical Foundation, By the Sea Condo Residence Association, Moody Methodist Church, and The Marriot Forum of the Woodlands.

Ms. June, as many of us slightly younger in years called her, was my friend and neighbor. After Hurricane Ike hit Galveston, she moved a mile down the road from my residence in Conroe. We instantly

became close and although 50 years apart in age, we were like sisters in the way only Women Marines know how. I loved hearing her tales from when Ed was alive and in politics and she was attending meetings with the First Ladies of the United States.

I was just in awe as she talked about teasing Ladybird Johnson about a beautiful pin that the first lady wore, but covered with a collar or scarf as not to appear to be putting on airs. She'd keep you laughing with her blunt honesty and she even kept the pastor of the church we attended together, on the edge of his seat. One of the most amazing things about Ms. June was the way she made others feel important. She was the star of the show, but she gracefully always wanted to share the spotlight. She would tell everyone we'd meet how I was a woman railroad engineer and drove trains and the way she'd talk about it, made me feel like the president of the railroad. It didn't matter what you did in life, she'd make you feel like you were the best and the world would crumble without you!

Ms. June was cremated after her death and a memorial service was held November 15, 2014 in the Chapel at Forest Park of The Woodlands Funeral Home. I arrived early and placed Ms. June's last bumper sticker of the Eagle, Globe and Anchor on the bottom of her urn. There were many friends and family in attendance and not a dry eye in the house, as her granddaughter Mari Jones sung the Lord's Prayer Aria Soprano. It was truly beautiful and Ms. June had good reason to be proud. TX-2 President Judy Anderson read a brief bio on Ms. June's history in the USMC and WMA, and closed with the "Band of Sisters". Pastor Jerry Frank of our local Cornerstone Assembly of God Church officiated the service and then we all went to the atrium where Ed's ashes were already interred for the playing of the "Marines' Hymn" and "Taps". TX-2 Vice President Karen Beatty presented the flag to Ms. June's grandson Richard Jones, who is also a Marine. Area 6 Director Elizabeth Damron was also in attendance with her 3 year old son, Ryan, to pay her condolences. At the repast, there was a wreath made out of the many flowered hairpins that Ms. June had received at her 90th birthday. We all left with a smile as we remembered the Marine and lady that traded a USMC WM ball Cap for the flower of the season. Semper Fidelis to our departed sister.

-- Marti Raney



Marian Yancey Landry, 1919-2014

WWII Marine, Musician, Wife, Mother and Beloved Friend

Molly Marine LA-1's eldest member passed away in New Orleans at the age of 95 on 30 December 2014. She was truly an inspiration and will be sorely missed.

Jeanne "Marian" Alva Yancey Landry was born 21 December 1919 to William Paul Yancey and Lydia Cenac Yancey in Davenport, Iowa. Her father was a science and engineering professor at St. Ambrose College in Davenport, IA. Her mother worked most of her life as a nurse anesthetist while rearing three children with the help of her family. Following the untimely death of her father at age 33 in 1925, the family moved to Tampa, FL for two years to reside with their grandmother, Philomena Yancey. This was followed by a permanent move to Louisiana. The trials of the Great Depression helped to forge her character. As a young adult, she worked at the clerk of courts office in Houma, LA and Shell Oil Company in New Orleans, LA.

During WWII, she spent two special years in the Marine Corps Women's Reserve in Washington, DC. She had the somber duty of "pulling the cards" of 50-75 Marine Corps officers who died per day in WWII. She was honorably discharged at the rank of sergeant. She made lifelong friends in the Corps. Later in life, she devoted her time to the Women Marines Association and the Marine Corps League. She enjoyed the loyal company of women currently in the Corps.

On 17 June 1950, she married Claude J. Landry, Sr. at Francis de Sales Catholic Church in Houma, LA. Her uncle Patrick Henry Yancey, SJ officiated. They were married for 48 years. She lived in the same home for 58 years in Lafayette, LA where their three children were born. Her goal during these years was to provide a stable home environment for her family despite life's many challenges. She succeeded. Caring for her family and her home was a labor of love. Once she had more time to herself, she concentrated on her interests and talents. She attended performing arts concerts frequently. She believed in con-

tinuing her education. She learned how to play the guitar, how to invest money and run a business. She collected and studied antiques. She refinished antique chairs, teaching herself how to replace cane seats. As a young woman, she played the piano and the accordion. She traveled throughout Europe, North Africa and North America. Her sartorial skills were superior. Cooking remained one of her great loves and talents. Her critical thinking, decision making and organizational skills were frequently on target. She brought excellence to her many endeavors. Her song is done, but the melody lingers.

Marian was a life member of the Women Marines Association and a loyal and motivated member of the LA-1 and TX-2 chapters for numerous years. She remained active until the very end. The last event LA-1 members had the pleasure of sharing with her was at the Chateau de Notre Dame in New Orleans on 20 December to celebrate her 95th birthday and Christmas.

I'll never forget the last two words she whispered in my ear: "Semper Fi". Ten days later, the Supreme Commandant called our beloved Marian home. We are certain that she is standing tall, with many others, guarding the pearly gates. Marian we love you and "Semper Fi"!

*Melanie L. Young
President, Molly Marine LA-1*



Above and left: Marian in uniform.
Below: At LA-1 Christmas party in December, 2012



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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.

Term Members

Campbell, Eleanor (McClain)	6/8/14	MAL WI
Dean, Marcia (Wahl)		OR-1
Evans, Marjorie (Hawkins)	1/9/14	CT-1
Fritz, Helen (Wahlberg)	6/22/14	DC-1
Greene, Marilyn (Duchene)	6/13/14	CT-1
Harris, Dorothy “Bunny”	5/28/14	IN-1
McCutchan, Lee Anna (Sessler)	5/9/14	OH-2
McConnell, Anita	1/5/15	AZ-1
Moore, Evelyn “Sgt Mom”	7/26/14	MAL MA
O’Brien, Patricia (Stevens)	10/24/13	MN-1
O’Boyle, Lois (Adams)	8/5/14	WI-1
Rinker, Dorothy (Ruffner)	1/25/15	PA-1
Sarber, LaVerne (Novak)	6/11/14	CO-1
Stephenson, Shirley (Beardsley)	9/12/13	CA-5
Schmidt, Evelyn	5/23/14	MAL PA
Stoltz, Regina (Hazy)	12/20/13	MAL PA
Uhorczok, Stella	1/17/15	DC-1

Life Member

			Membership No.
Aanderud, Edith (Greenleaf)	4/18/14	OR-1	#651
Alexander, Maria (Calitri)	5/16/14	MA-1	#2279
Austin, Julianna	5/5/14	MN-1	#575
Arnold, Dorothy	6/26/14	AZ-2	#2132
Barnett, Claudine (Harris)	12/30/13	FL-6	#1079
Black, Jane (Kerner)	1/8/15	CA-5	#1240
Brown, Margaret (Bowen)	2/4/15	CA-5	#912
Butcheri, Dorothy (Ranker/Lowitzer)	6/9/14	FL-4	#717
Byrd, Madelene “Polly”	12/2/14	CA-5	#1376
Cartwright, Juanita (McMakin)	4/21/14	CA-8	#3059
Caya, Mary (Bath)	11/10/14	MAL OR	#872
Cuccinella, Jean (Brenigan)	3/11/14	CA-1/CA-10	#1295
DelCastillo, Josephine (Buhner)	11/29/14	FL-6	#1734
Denekamp, Elizabeth (Howden)	1/4/15	MA-1	#893
Francis, LaVeta (Edge)	6/2/12	IN-1	#2217
Frankum, Donna	11/25/13	MAL NC	32096#1005
Garrigan, Maxine	11/27/14	FL-3	#1157
Gibson, Rosina (Lovullo)	3/31/14	FL-2	#102
Grimm, Evelyn (Gaides)	11/23/14	CA-2	#865
Hale, Mary Bacon	11/26/14	CA-10/CA-3	#648
Herbert, Martha “Gwen” (Walker)	6/20/14	CA-8	#1280
Jackson, Caroline (Flammia)	11/18/14	DC-1	#483
Kalem, Lenore (Hoy)	3/29/14	CA-11	#1731
Kelly, Tommye	12/19/14	TN-1	#3331
Kobert, Shirley (Schmitt)	8/7/12	MAL PA	#2017
Kotwas, Virginia (Crist)	11/25/11	MAL NE	#1569
Landry, Marian (Yancy)	12/30/14	LA-1/TX-2	#2514
Leon, Florence (Pratt)	11/17/14	DC-1	#598
Lemons, Shirley	9/7/13	MAL NJ	
McAlhaney, Margaret	1/2/12	MAL VA	#1117
Metelak, Amelia (Janas)	6/5/14	MAL IL	#1216
Michelini, Grace (Bastible)	9/25/13	MAL NY	#1821
Myers, Laverne	12/11/14	FL-4	#200
Norcross, Betty	11/24/14	MN-1	#862
O’Connell, Anne (Powell)	5/6/14	MA-1	#1098
Parish, Donna (Francis)	5/26/12	MAL WA	#1789
Paulin, Marceline (Hilgart)	9/20/14	WI-1	#801
Proulx, Marie	7/3/14	CA-7	#3
Romano, Clara (Bobbett)	1/20/13	AZ-1	#3351
Rountree, Catherine (Murray)	12/24/12	CA-3	#630
Rufsvold, Lillian (Crum)	12/14/14	CA-3	#700
Shaw, Janet (Kittredge)	6/15/14	CA-5	#61
Sprague, Gertrude	7/1/14	MA-1/FL6	#24
Swartz, Virginia (Minshall)	1/3/15	PA-3	#1379
Vreeland, Marcella (Green)	12/4/14	MAL AK	#1139
West, Sharon	3/15/14	NC-1	#157
Wilson, Velma Johnson	5/11/14	OR-2	#2170
Wynkoop, Ruth	4/23/14	MA-1	#571
Young, Lillian O. (Whitaker)	3/18/14	MAL HI	#1307

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Reason for Alternate:

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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

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Signature of applicant:

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Five Key Benefits for Military Families



If you're married, make sure that you and your spouse understand what financial challenges you face and what benefits you're entitled to. Regularly discussing financial matters can help ensure that both of you are prepared to handle family finances whenever the need arises.

Military families face plenty of financial challenges. If you're saving for college or retirement, buying a home, or wondering how to help secure your family's financial future, don't overlook these five important benefits.

1. Thrift Savings Plan

Retirement is something you need to plan for, whether it's far away or just around the corner. Even if you can rely on a military pension because you've stayed in the service for 20 years or more, it's probably not going to provide all the retirement income you'll need, and neither is Social Security. That's why it's important to save for retirement on your own. One option you have is to contribute to the government's Thrift Savings Plan (TSP).

The TSP is a retirement savings plan for federal employees, including servicemembers. When you make traditional contributions to the TSP, you get the same types of savings and tax benefits as you would if you contributed to a 401(k) plan offered by a private-sector employer. Contributing to the TSP is simple--your regular contributions are deducted from your paycheck before taxes (which can lower your taxable income for the year), and your contributions and any earnings accumulate tax deferred until withdrawn in retirement. You can also opt to make after-tax Roth contributions. They won't reduce your current tax liability, but qualified withdrawals in retirement will be tax free (assuming IRS requirements are met).

You can enroll, change, or cancel your contributions whenever you'd like. You can contribute as little as 1% or as much as 100% of your basic pay (or a designated dollar amount) each pay period, up to what's called the elective deferral limit for the year. In 2015, you can contribute up to \$18,000; if you're age 50 or older and are making catch-up contributions, you can contribute up to \$24,000.

If you're contributing a percentage of your basic pay, you can also contribute a percentage of your incentive pay, special pay, or bonus pay (but you

can't make catch-up contributions from these types of pay). And if you're deployed and receiving tax-exempt pay (i.e., pay that's subject to the combat zone exclusion), you can also make contributions from that pay, and your contribution limit for the year is even higher; the limit for total contributions from all types of pay is \$53,000 for 2015.

When you leave the military, you can't continue to contribute to the TSP, but you have the option of keeping your money in the TSP or rolling it over to another retirement account, such as a traditional or Roth IRA or an eligible employer plan.

For more information on the TSP, visit www.tsp.gov.

2. Savings Deposit Program

Are you trying to save money to buy a vehicle or make a down payment on a home? Do you need to set aside money for a rainy day? If you're deployed to a designated combat zone for at least 30 days, you have a unique chance to save for your goals at a guaranteed interest rate by participating in the Defense Department's Savings Deposit Program (SDP).

The SDP pays you 10% interest on deposits up to \$10,000 while you're deployed, and you'll earn this interest rate on your money for up to 90 days after your return. You may deposit all or part of your unallotted pay. Interest compounds quarterly and is taxable.

Generally, you can withdraw funds and close your account only after you leave the combat zone and are no longer eligible to participate in the SDP, although emergency withdrawals while you're deployed are allowed in some cases.

To find out more or begin participating in the SDP, contact your local military finance office.

3. Post-9/11 GI Bill

Education benefits are one of the most valuable benefits available to servicemembers. If you're entitled to benefits, the Post-9/11 GI Bill will pay up to

March 21, 2015

Page 1 of 2. see disclaimer on final page



the full cost of in-state tuition and fees at public colleges for up to four years, or up to a certain maximum per academic year if you attend a private college or foreign school. The maximum for the 2014 academic year (August 1, 2014 through July 31, 2015) is \$20,235.02.

But if you don't need to use your entitlement, the Post-9/11 GI Bill can provide a great way to pay for your family's education. Servicemembers who make a long-term service commitment have the opportunity to transfer unused education benefits (up to 36 months' worth) to their spouses and children.

To transfer your unused benefit entitlement to your spouse, you must have served at least 6 years, and generally commit to serving 4 additional years from the date a benefit transfer is approved (some exceptions to this added service requirement exist). Once the transfer is approved, your spouse may begin using benefits immediately and has 15 years after your last separation from active duty to use up the benefits.

If you opt to transfer your unused entitlement to your dependent children, they can use the benefits only after you've completed at least 10 years of service. In addition, they must have attained a secondary school diploma or equivalency certificate or have reached age 18, and they can use the benefit entitlement only until age 26.

If both your spouse and your children are attending school, you can opt to split your benefit entitlement among them.

To learn more about GI Bill benefits for you and your family members, visit www.benefits.va.gov.

4. VA Home Loan

Saving for a down payment is one of the biggest obstacles to homeownership. Fortunately, military families can often benefit from the no-down-payment requirement of a VA loan. This type of loan, which can only be used to finance a primary residence, also features another money saving benefit: borrowers aren't required to pay mortgage insurance.

Despite its name, the VA loan isn't handled by the government. Like other home loans, VA loans are offered by private lenders such as banks, credit unions, and mortgage companies. The VA guarantees a portion of the loan, which may make it easier for you to obtain a loan or qualify for more favorable terms, including lower closing costs and

appraisal fees. Not all lenders offer VA loans, so you'll need to ask potential lenders whether they are VA-approved lending institutions.

One lesser known feature of the VA loan program is the opportunity to do a cash-out refinancing. If you have substantial home equity, this feature allows you to refinance an existing home loan (including a non-VA loan) while borrowing extra money, which you can use to pay off debt or make home improvements, for example.

A VA loan is often a good choice for military families, but it's not the only game in town. You should compare the terms, interest rate, closing costs, and fees against other mortgage options. One drawback of a VA loan is the funding fee that's generally required. This funding fee which you pay at closing (it can be financed into the loan) is a percentage of the amount you're borrowing.

For more information on VA loans, including how to qualify and how to apply, visit www.benefits.va.gov.

5. Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance

Knowing that your family will be protected is extremely important, and affordable term life insurance coverage is available through the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) program. Eligible servicemembers are automatically enrolled in SGLI, and spouses and dependent children are generally automatically insured through a related program, Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (FSGLI).

When you leave the military, you can apply to convert your policy to Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI), which provides renewable term coverage. An SGLI policy may also be converted to an individual policy sold by a participating commercial company. (Deadlines apply to both types of conversions.) However, you should carefully evaluate your options to determine whether VGLI will meet your life insurance needs. Points to consider include premium costs, plan features, and whether term insurance is your best option.

For more information about these and other life insurance programs for servicemembers, visit www.insurance.va.gov.

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

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These materials are provided for general information and educational purposes based upon publicly available information from sources believed to be reliable --we cannot assure the accuracy or completeness of these materials. The information in these materials may change at any time and without notice.

Loyal Escort Lanyards Now Available! Price is \$8.50 (includes shipping)

Send Check or money order to Loyal Escorts, c/o Mike Pearce, P.O. Box 590, Romeo, MI 48065

WMA National Merchandise Sales - Your Purchases Support Our Association!

WMA Patch, small	\$5.00	Denver 2010 Convention Coin	\$13.00
WMA Patch, large	\$5.75	Philadelphia 2012 Convention Coin	\$15.00
WMA Pin, Hat (pin or clutch)	\$5.00	50th Anniversary Medallions	\$5.00
WMA Pin, Life	Call for pricing	Woman Marine Matted Quote	\$12.00
WMA Flag	\$185.00	WMA Digital Drawstring Bag	\$12.00
50th Anniversary Medallions	\$7.00	WMA Digital Briefcase Bag	\$25.00
Book, "Above & Beyond: Former Marines Conquer the Civilian World" Call for pricing			
WMA Afghan Throws.	\$45.00		



WMA Cap (3 months delivery time). . . \$43.00

Chapter designation: ____ - ____ - ____

Example: CA-1 (4 spaces only except USA-1,2,3.)

Size: (1" above ears- allow for hair style)

Sizes for WMA Caps

20 1/2 - 20 7/8	XSm	22 3/4 - 23 1/8	L
21 1/4 - 21 5/8	Sm	23 1/2 - 23 7/8	XL
22 - 22 3/8	M	24 1/4 - 24 5/8	XXL

Make All Checks Payable to WMA

Contact: **Karen Beatty**, 5227 Oak Ave., Pasadena, TX 77503-3919
(281)487-8205

email: wmamerchandise@gmail.com

WMA Chapter Merchandise Sales

Send chapter ads to Wanda Antoine, 117 Silent Country, Cibolo, TX78108 (228) 243-3845, Editor@womenmarines.org.

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: When WMA sales items are no longer available, please notify Wanda so they can be removed.

Item: "Cooking With Marines", a collection of recipes from Marines

Cost: \$12.50 (includes shipping) Chapter: TX-2

Contact: B.J. Huggins, (WMA)
P.O.Box 1821, Pasadena, TX 77501



Books

Item: Not "Just Another Cookbook" More than 100 recipes by food grouping. Size: 6"x9"

Cost: \$5.75 (includes shipping) Chapter: NC-1

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



Item: Women Marines Padfolio (NEW ITEM)

Cost: \$28.50 to include shipping and handling.

They really are great. It zips all the way around, has a pocket on the outside and several on the inside zippered one on the inside. Writing pad is included. Logo is large and it looks great.

Contact: WMA MI-2 Motor City, PO Box 590, Romeo, MI 48065

Item: A limited edition booklet of line drawings portraying Women Marines, signed and numbered by the artist, Marion A. Alien, a Regimental Artist during WWII. The original art is now a part of the U.S. Marine Corps Art Collection at the Museums Branch, Washington, D.C. Printed in Forest Green ink.

Size: 12-Page Booklet (10" x 7 1/4")

Cost: \$3.00 (including postage) Chapter: TX-2

Contact: Barbara Clark, 3539 Teakwood Drive, Pearland, TX 77584
or e-mail Brchoho@aol.com



Cards

Item: WMA Postcard - 5 1/2" x 4 1/4" Wide green stripe top & left margins. WMA logo in upper left corner

Cost: 10 for \$1.60; 15 for \$2.10;
20 for \$2.60 (prices include P&H)

Checks: CA-7, WMA Chapter: EMVSC CA7 WMA

Contact: Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056-4011
(760) 724-9861



Item: "Parris Island: A Woman's Memoir of Marine Corps Boot Camp" Signed copy by author Lisa Cordeiro

Cost: \$16.95 (\$3.95 shipping)

Chapter: MA-1

Contact: Lisa Cordeiro, 35 Berkeley St., Watertown, MA 02472
or order online at www.lisacordeiro.com <http://lisacordeiro.com>

**Your Purchases Support Our Association,
so Please Buy Something!**

WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE SALES

Candy

Item: WMA & Letting 3" Insignia/Logo
Green, White, Milk Chocolate or Special Order

Cost: Singles\$1.50
Box of 8\$6.50
Box of 15\$13.50
Mints Box of 12\$10.50

Item: WMA Mint 1" round Insignia/Logo

Green, White, Milk Chocolate or Special Order
Singles\$1.50
Box of 12\$10.50

Chapter: CA-11 – Central Coast

Contact: Soledad Kennedy, 4062 Capella Street, Lompoc, CA 93436

Fax/Office: (805) 733-2175 Cell: (805) 588-0650 centralcoastwomenmarines.com
usmcrfemale@yahoo.com



Contact: Make checks payable to WMA OR-3 and mail to: Stephanie Wilcox 336 S.71st St, Springfield, OR 97478; call (541) 554-6015 or email or-3@comcast.net for information.

Item: 4th BN Shirts Unisex cut. Cost: \$23.50 each. Sizes M, L, XL, 2X. Crew neck unisex. Send your check our money order to WMA Motor City PO Box 590, Romeo, MI 48065. Specify size and color. Comes in Black and Burgundy. Large logo on back and small crest on front.

Item: Ladies cut TShirt with V neck. Logo in Hunter Green. Cost: Shirts are \$23.50 with shipping and handling. Make checks or money orders made out to WMA Motor City, PO Box 590, Romeo, MI 48065. Sizes are S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X State color. Comes in Vintage Khaki and gray. Specify color!

Shirts and Sweats

Item: Golf shirt Dark (Hunter) Green with WMA logo (matches green covers) embroidered in white. Available in sizes (S) to (XXL) Red and also Khaki solid polo shirts. WMA notation spelled out under acronym.

Cost: \$28.00 (includes postage) Chapter: VA-1 Crossroads
Make checks payable to: WMA, VA-1
Contact: Dorothy Gordon, 93 High Ridge Dr. Stafford, VA 22554

Item: White golf shirt with embroidered green WMA logo circled by the phrase, "More Than A Woman A Woman Marine"

Cost: All sizes (S) to (XXXL) \$28.00 (price includes shipping)
Make Checks payable to: WMA, OR-1
Contact: Heidi Tanada, 17103 S.W. Eldorado Dr. Tigard, OR 97224-2075

Item: Light gray t-shirt with small green WMA logo on front and large logo on back; both circled by the phrase, "More Than A Woman A Woman Marine"

Cost: Sizes (M) to (XXXL) \$16.00 (price includes shipping)
Make Checks payable to: WMA, OR-1
Contact: Heidi Tanada, 17103 S.W. Eldorado Dr. Tigard, OR 97224-2075

Item: A dult, Youth & Infant/Toddler Shirts, 3 embroidery options, prices include shipping.

Short Sleeved T-Shirt (S-XL)
\$17.00

Adult	Ladies Polos (S-XL)	(2XL)
	\$30.00	\$18.00
	(2XL) \$31.00	(3XL)
	(3XL) \$32.00	\$19.00
	(4XL) \$33.00	(4XL)
	(5XL) \$35.00	\$20.00
	(6XL) \$36.00	(5XL)
Youth		
	Short Sleeved T-Shirt (S-XL)	\$22.00
	Short Sleeved Tee (S-XL)	\$15.00

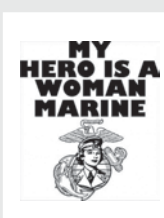
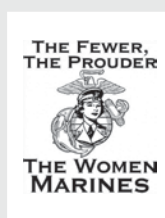
Infant/Toddler Long Sleeved T-Shirt Short Sleeved Tee
(6M-4T) \$16.00 (6M-4T) \$15.00

Embroidery Options:

Option 1:

Option 2:

Option 3:



Website: <http://home.comcast.net/~or-3> to see shirt specs, color options and pictures.



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

Item: Table Flag - WMA Logo 4"x6" with stand
Cost: \$5.00 and shipping cost \$6.00

Chapter: CA-11 Central Coast

Contact: Soledad Kennedy, 4062 Capella Street, Lompoc, CA 93436

Fax/Office (805) 733-2175, Cell (805) 588-0650

Email: usmcrfemale@yahoo.com

website: www.centralcoastwomenmarines.com

Item: Apron, Short - Three pockets, White with WMA Logo
Cost: \$10.00 and shipping cost \$6.00

Chapter: CA-11 Central Coast

Contact: Soledad Kennedy, 4062 Capella Street, Lompoc, CA 93436

Fax/Office (805) 733-2175, Cell (805) 588-0650

Jewelry

Item: WMA Logo Earrings

Cost: \$10.00/pair (includes shipping)

Chapter: Make checks payable to: TX-3, WMA

Please designate one: ☐ Wire/Dangle ☐ Clip-on

Contact: Anne Collins, 4707 Broadway, San Antonio, TX 78209
(210) 829-8522



Item: Charm "Semper Fi"

Cost: \$15.00

Chapter: Lady Marine Rose (OR-1)

Contact: Cleary Creations, 2225 NE 130th Ave., Portland, OR 97230-1704



WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE SALES

Item: WMA Ring. Jeweler - Jostens
 Cost: Lustrium (non precious white) \$181.00
 Questra (non precious gold) \$218.00
 10 Karat Yellow Gold \$325.00
 14 Karat Gold \$395.00 (Cost includes three initials inside ring & shipping)
 Note: Include ring size and phone number when ordering
 Chapter: FL-7 First Coast
 Contact: Gayle Plant, President FL-7, PO Box 463, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; (352) 473-7826



Item: WMA Pendant on chain Size: 7/8 inches round
 Item: WMA Lapel Pin Size: 7/8 inches round
 Cost: \$19.75 each (including shipping)
 Chapter: FL-7 First Coast
 Contact: Gayle Plant, President FL-7, PO Box 463, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; (352) 473-7826



Miscellaneous Items

Item: USMC Sun catchers (also have other military branches)
 Cost: \$5.00 each
 Size: 4" round w/suction hanger Chapter: CA-15
 Contact: Pat Murray, 40701 Rancho Vista #92, Palmdale, CA 93551 (661) 718-8324



Item: Travel neck pouch, black w/two zippered sections on one side with clear section on reverse with WMA logo; adjustable strap; size 6-1/2"x4-1/2"
 Cost: \$5.00 each (includes shipping)
 Chapter: NM-1 (checks payable to payable to WMA-Chapter NM1)
 Contact: Stella Delgado-Kinnison, 204 General Patch NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123

Item: WMA Logo Magnet. Ideal for gift. Size 2" long, 11/2" wide
 Cost: \$2.00 includes postage Chapter: NJ-2
 Contact: Lorraine Nankivell, PO Box 208, 38 Point Pleasant Rd, Hopatcong, NJ 07843-0208

Item: New aluminum license plate in distinctive RED
 Item: WMA Umbrella, green with WMA logo, Automatic Open Button Size: Collapsed 15 inches long, open 21 inches long and 36 inches wide
 Cost: \$17.75 (includes shipping) Chapter: FL-7 First Coast
 Contact: Gayle Plant, President FL-7, PO Box 463, Keystone Heights, FL 32656 (352) 473-7826

Item: WMA logo Rubber Stamps
 Cost: Large stamp: \$11.00 (includes mailing) Small stamp: \$8.00 (includes mailing) Chapter: CA-7 Checks to: EMVSC CA7 WMA
 Contact: Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056-4011 (760) 724-9861

Item: Clear Vinyl Bag with Long Zipper, WMA Logo Women Marines Association. Green/White Size: 9" x 12"
 Cost: \$6.25 (includes shipping) Chapter: NC-1
 Contact: Naomi Malone, 218 Sunset Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28546-7045 (910) 545-7154 nmalone@ec.rr.com

Item: Mouse Pad, 7" x 8", white background, WMA logo, "The Few, The Proud" in green Cost: \$10 Chapter: Bay State, MA-1
 Checks: Payable to Bay State Chapter, WMA
 Contact: Joyce Barden, 56 Poor Street, Andover, MA 01810

Item: Molly Marine picture, 8" x 10"
 Cost: \$12 each (includes shipping) Chapter: AR-1
 Contact: Vickie Davis, Treasurer, AR-1, 415 Maryland St. Benton, AR 72015



Item: Handmade soy wax candles (Lavender, White Tea and Ginger, Rose, Lemon and Lovespell)
 Cost: 9 oz. \$10 (plus \$5 Shipping); 16 oz. \$15 (plus \$5 Shipping)
 (Two candles or more contact Bonniesbunch@yahoo.com or Rosa_rmr@yahoo.com for correct shipping)
 Checks: WMA-Phyllis Alexander Chapter: SC-1
 Contact: Rosa Robertson, WMA, P.O. Box 5296, Parris Island, SC 29905 (or via email)

Item: "Proud To Be A Marine" ribbon magnet, 8"x 3"
 Cost: \$6 each (includes postage)
 Checks: Payable to EMVSC CA-7 WMA
 Contact: Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056-4011 (760) 724-9861



Item: "Koozie" Bottle or Can size sleeve for sweat absorption, foldable foam, green, with WMA logo in white on one side, other side in white letters: "No Sweat, the WOMEN Marines are on duty" Cost: \$4.00 each, or 20 for \$75.00 (Price includes shipping)
 Contact: Kathy Van Gorder, 584 Barrington Rd., Collegeville, PA 19426
 e-mail: VanGorders2@aol.com Fax: 610-489-4383

Item: Bumper sticker, The Few, The Proud, The Women Marines
 Cost: \$1.50 each (Price includes shipping) Chapter: NM-1 (checks payable to WMA-Chapter NM1)
 Contact: Stella Delgado-Kinnison, 204 General Patch NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123.

Item: EGA Zipper Pull (1 inch EGA, 2 inch total length), \$6.00 EGA Yellow Ribbon Lapel Pin (1 inch length) \$5.00, Marine Mascot Christmas Ornament (red ribbon, 2.5 inches in length) \$8.00, EGA Christmas Ornament (red ribbon, 2.5 inches in length) \$8.00, Red EGA Necklace (chain, 18 inches in length) \$10.00.
 (Plus \$3.00 USPS shipping per above items)
 Chapter: MN-1 Minnesota Leathernecks (make checks payable to MN-1)
 Contact: Mary McGee, 2652 Marshall St NE #301, Minneapolis, MN 55418 (612) 788-1216 or Vicki Latiolais, 7940 Fairfield Road North, Brooklyn Park, MN 55444 (763)560-6401 vlatiolais@comcast.net

Item: "Woman Marine" Ribbon Magnet, 8" x 4"
 Cost: \$7.00 (includes shipping & handling)
 Chapter: OH-2 Chesty Puller
 Contact: Ellen Leidy, 1107 Columbus Ave., Barberton, OH 44203 (330) 825-8935 email: leidyrun@aol.com



Item: This item has been officially licensed by the US Marine Corps.
 Item: Ornament "The Fewer" Size 2 3/8" x 3 1/8" Limited 3-D, only 300 minted, 24 Karat Gold on Brass
 Cost: \$29.75 (Includes Shipping).
 Portion of proceeds go to "Paws and Strips".
 Cost: 24 Karat Gold on Brass \$29.75 (includes shipping)
 Portion of proceeds go to "Paws and Stripes".
 Make Money Order or Cashier Check to: Katherine M. Lorenz Townsend
 Chapter: TX-1 "The Lone Star State"
 Contact: Katherine M. Lorenz Townsend and mail to: 4025 Tortoise Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76135 Orders can now be placed on line using a credit card at: www.womenmarineskeepsake.com



THREE NEW ITEMS:

Item: **Beautiful bag** in an off white with logo in hunter green. Very sturdy.
 Cost: \$18.50 including shipping.
 Chapter: Make checks out and mail to WMA Motor City, PO Box 590, Romeo, MI 48065

Item: **Fallen Warrior Coin** Honoring the memory of fallen Warriors
 Cost: \$15 inc/Shipping and handling.
 Chapter: Check or M/O to WMA Motor City Box 590, Romeo, MI 48065
All proceeds go to the Fallen Warrior Scholarship programs.

Item: **Hand Carved Sea Shells.** Each shell is "unique and one of a kind", since each shell is an unique color and no two are the same and hand carved by artist sister Silvia and Elva of San Diego Arts for the Women Marines. Cost: \$15 includes shipping & Handling
 Chapter: CA-8
 Contact Sybl Acree, 5015 Pedley Rd. Riverside, CA 92509, syblee@att.net (951) 231-4531

Acceptance of an advertisement for printing in 'Nouncements in no way endorses, nor does it indicate approval of the quality of the product. All local and state taxes, including any licenses, are the responsibility of the chapter submitting the ad. A percentage of profits from the sale of merchandise advertised on these pages must go to a chapter in order to be listed here.



A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

On behalf of all Marines, it is my pleasure to celebrate the 72nd anniversary of the establishment of the Marine Corps' Women's Reserve. Since Opha Mae Johnson became the first woman to enlist in 1918, to the establishment of the Women's Reserve in 1943, to today, women have distinguished themselves in every clime and place. All Marines can look back and take great pride in the accomplishments of our sisters-in-arms.

Being a Marine has never been easy. In many ways, being a woman and a Marine has been even more difficult given the societal challenges women have overcome through the years. As I reflect on the history of our Corps, I am deeply moved by the courage, determination and selfless service of our women. Throughout our history, their predecessors have overcome many obstacles in order to serve and have their contributions recognized. Once relegated to the role of "freeing a man to fight", women today fight our enemies alongside their male counterparts. This latest generation of Marines such as Brigadier General Lori Reynolds, Major Megan McClung (KIA), and Sergeants Major Lanette Wright and Angela Maness, just to name a few, have added to our legacy of honor. Today, women are fully integrated throughout the total force and have unprecedented opportunities to lead and excel. Women have been a vital part of our Corps for the past century and will remain a vital part of our Corps into the future.

This year's anniversary is a reflection of our women Marines' faithfulness to our Nation, our Corps and each other. It is an honor to represent all Marines in thanking all women who have served and who serve today for their service and fidelity. Continue to march!

Semper Fidelis,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "J. F. Dunford, Jr.".

J. F. DUNFORD, JR.
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps



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



Ohio: Remembering the 70th Anniversary of Iwo Jima

Elva Pounders, a Vietnam-era Marine vet from Springfield Township, reveals the cake she bought to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima. Pounders is among more than a dozen vets who meet monthly for lunch at O'Charley's Restaurant in Cuyahoga Falls; some of their number fought at Iwo Jima. (Story and photo courtesy of Paula Schleis/Akron Beacon Journal)