

IT IS NOT GOODBYE



As we approach our Biennial Convention in just a couple of weeks, I want to take this opportunity to say a fond farewell as your National President. It has been an honor and a privilege to have served WMA at the National level for the past four years. I am proud to have been a part of the advances WMA has made to ensure our future for another 62 + years, including working with Virtual Inc. as our Management Partner who has provided administrative, marketing and fiscal support; to undergoing a rebranding effort and restructuring our National Board to oversee all of these areas to guarantee our future.

I am confident in handing over the reins to Ann Crittenden our new National President and her Board to include Patty Collins, Kat Montira, Christine Williams, Karen Laino Giannuzzi, Margaret Lazarus and Pat Horton. They all have the dedication, desire and motivation to serve our membership to the best of their abilities. WMA is good hands with this new leadership team but never forget you are all key in this effort as well. We are in this together so I encourage and challenge you to engage and participate in supporting your new National Board and to be an active member of our Association. We are the few the proud the Women Marines Association.

I may be leaving the office but I will never be far away in my continued support of WMA. As in the Eagles hit song "Hotel California" "you can check out any time you like but you can never leave", I am

not leaving WMA but simply checking out a new focus on how I can support WMA in all its efforts as we move towards a new Way Forward. I hope you will join me in my journey.

Semper Fidelis, Rhonda LeBrescu Amtower WMA National President 2018 - 2022 WMA National President 2008 - 2012



Announcing WMA Squads

We are planning to enhance the WMA member experience and would like your input. Our hope is to build/develop/facilitate new programming, that would be similar to special interest groups that support personalized/custom topics or themes. The intent is that everyone can participate based on their interest. We'd like to call these communities: 'Squads.'

The first step to get involved is to complete the survey which will allow us to better serve our members and understand the interest and identify those who would like to lead a Squad. We are starting with three recommended Squads: Active + Energetic, Health + Wellness, and Crafting - and outline what those could be below. However, the survey also allows you to input other Squad ideas that are of interest to you.

Examples for Active + Energetic Squad: individuals who like stay active: running, walking, Zumba, or other activities that can involve either virtual or in-person engagement.

Examples for Health + Wellness Squad: an opportunity for members to share lessons learned about nutrition, elder-care, or managing stress. Possibly bringing in expert speakers to provide useful techniques and resources.

Examples for Crafting + Art Squad: individuals who like crafting: sewing, quilting, knitting, painting, or other crafting. This group could do a shared project - contributing to a quilt and passing along to other members over a period of time to its completion, or all sharing the same pattern for a sewing project and donating the results of the efforts.

Your participation is invaluable as we work towards building the framework for the Squads. Please take a few minutes to provide your input and we are looking for those members who are interested in learning about becoming a leader of one of the inaugural Squads.

TAKE THE SURVEY

Convention Updates



Registration Information

A \$75 fee will be charged for cancellations after September 1st. No refunds after September 10th. Banquet registrations will be shut down on September 15th due to Golden Nugget's contract for meal count. Onsite registration will be \$100 and will not include banquet attendance. Refunds will be mailed 30 days after convention finalization. NOTE: The WMA convention bag with contents will be mailed to those whose \$75 fee was not refunded after convention. **Dress code Opening and Closing Banquets**

Civilian: Semi -Formal/Formal/Cocktail Military: Evening Dress/Blues/Service A

All other events:

Civilian: Business Casual Military: Service C

2022 Agenda Click Here

Our Convention Sponsors





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September Dates

Sept. 1, 1946 WR Units disbanded

Sept. 11 - Patriot Day

Sept. 14, 1814, Francis Scott Key pens a poem which is later set to music and in 1931 becomes America's national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner

Sept. 16 - POW/MIA Recognition Day

Sept. 17 Citizenship Day

Sept. 17 U.S. Constitution Approved (1787)

Sept. 17 US Air Force Established (1947)

Sept. 18 – Air Force Birthday

Sept. 25 - Gold Star Mother's Day

LAST DATE TO REGISTER

15 Sept 11:59 EST is the last chance to register for the WMA National Convention.

Join us in Vegas for a time of connecting with your Marine Sisters.

There are so many amazing events to open with Elvis and his showgirls to the closing banquet with

MajGen Roberta L. Shea as our speaker.

Everything in between will be amazing as well. Don't push your luck and miss the deadline. $\square \star$

Sept. 25 First Female Marine graduates from Officer Infantry Course Sept. 29 - WMA National Convention Starts

REGISTER NOW

Run Walk #VegasStrong #WMAStrong

Run With Marines



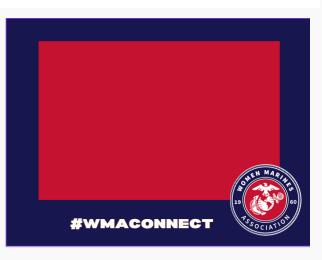
Sign up for this run and support this worthy cause! WMA will have two teams (5K and 1Mile walk) under the 'WMA/NV-3 Sagebrush Marines team. Please select this team when you register For registration:

All except Active Duty: Register with the code NV35DOL and you will get a \$5.00 discount. All Active Duty Marines register using the WMA/NV-3 Sagebrush Marines team use code NV325, \$25.00 fee. Reimbursable under TAD orders. Virtual Run or Walk

\$ 50.00 (01/01/2022 to 10/2/2022) NO DISCOUNT Shirts, medals and race bag items for the Virtual participants will be mailed the week of the event. Packet pick up for participants will be at the WMA Registration desk.

Sign Up Now





FOLLOW US

#OphaTravels - follow Opha as she makes her way to the 2022 WMA National Convention

#WMAConnect - please hashtag all of your convention pictures as we share with the world as our Marines come together in Las Vegas

WMA News

2022 Where the Past Meets the Future



Get In Touch

WMA would love to hear from you. Be sure to follow us on our links below.



Become a Volunteer | DONATE TODAY

If you have any questions please contact us listening@womenmarines.org. <u>Unsubscribe</u> from our mailing lists.

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