

Celebrating our Members and Their Families

**Bodhi Day, Christmas, Diwali, Eid al-Fitr,
Festivus, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa,
Winter Solstice, Yule**

As you celebrate this Holiday season may
you find comfort and joy, may you enjoy
the wonders of peace and inner harmony.

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM YOUR MARINE FAMILY



Enjoy This Season



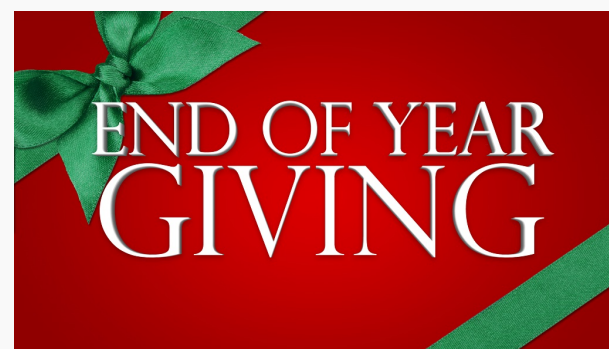
This month's Monthly Minute is going to look a lot different than in the past. Members will note that there will be more information provided from different WMA representatives like the Vice President who will introduce a future initiative that will include on line onboarding for new members and our National Chaplain will provide some words that will address not just the joys of the holiday season but also some of the pitfalls that can be overwhelming for some. Members will note that WMA, as a National organization for women Marines, is going to focus our efforts on Mental Health awareness. This topic will be our North Star – a direction to keep us focused on what is important to our women veterans. Each Monthly Minute, beginning with December 2022, will focus on an area that normally may not be mentioned. Our social media pages occasionally has comments made that cause me to pause and ask: why are our veterans and active duty Marines going through this kind of pain? Not everything in life can be controlled but at my level as the National President if I can bring awareness and positivity to our members than we are going better than good – we are doing great! Also, this month we are introducing a referral



program. You will see a link within the Monthly Minute that asks you to refer another woman Marine or FMF qualified who is not a member of WMA through their email. The program will automatically send them the Monthly Minute with the intent to have them become a member. Eventually members that refer the most will receive a gift on behalf of WMA! So make your gift to another member: the gift of referral! I wish all of our members and social media followers a very happy holiday and New Year! May you and your loved ones enjoy the season, take some time off if you can and reflect on your blessings in life.

Happy Holidays! Semper Fidelis, Ann

As 2022 is closing this is a great time to look at your finances, make sure everything is up to date and get those last minute donations sent out. A donation to WMA will make a difference. Consider giving to our Emergency Needs and Grant Funds to help our Active Duty and veterans who are struggling. **YOU CAN MAKE THAT DIFFERENCE.**



VP NOTES

I would like to say thank you for giving me this opportunity to be your Vice President. I am looking forward to the new direction WMA is going. I am very passionate about the member experience. I know you have heard that term a lot. I am hopeful that my vision will give the members the experience they will always remember. My vision includes quarterly chapter training via zoom. I would like to do this by areas in order to reach more members. This training will be open to all members. We will incorporate New Member Orientation on a quarterly basis. This will give new members information about WMA and all the programs and events we have and take part in. My goal is to not only get more in touch with our current members, but to make our new members feel welcome.

If you would like to see certain chapter training, please email listening@womenmarines.org.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Patty

WMAVP@womenmarines.org

CHAPLAINS CORNER

The four weeks prior to Christmas on the Christian calendar are called Advent and it is my favorite time of year. It is a time when we are invited to wait before we celebrate the birth of Jesus even while the world tells us to celebrate now, be joyful now, Advent tells us to wait. Two of the common symbols during Advent are darkness and light. There is an honesty and realness about these 2 symbols. Each of us, regardless of faith tradition, have experienced or may be experiencing dark times in our lives. Times when we wait for light and wonder if it will ever come. The root of our darkness may be caused by any number of things (e.g., abuse, PTSD, relationship(s), finances, health challenges, death(s), depression, etc.). The darkness can

be tolerable when we have even a glimmer of light but sometimes the darkness is too pervasive, and we are in danger of losing all hope. If that time comes, this is when we turn to each other, as sister Marines, and rely on each other to be the light we need to get us through this darkness. Semper Fidelis is more than a salutation, it is what we do and who we are as Marines.

For those in darkness this season, may you experience light that gives you hope. For those in the light, may you find ways to be a light for those who need you.

Melinda Townsend

chaplain@womenmarines.org

December Networking Event!

Let's get together dressed in our favorite ugly sweaters or festive holiday clothing and swap stories of memorable holidays while stationed or on base.

Please join us, virtually, on Tuesday, December 13th at 7pm EST, along with other WMA members from across the country to share special traditions developed while on active duty or traditions developed within your unit. Or, is there a tradition you picked up from Duty Stations that you still do now? Share with the rest of us! If you still have photos from during your active duty, gather them up and share with your fellow members!

Please register in advance to receive your unique login access via email. We also recommend joining via the Zoom app from your computer or smartphone to ensure the best user experience. Contact membership@womenmarines.org with any questions.

We look forward to seeing you on December 13th!

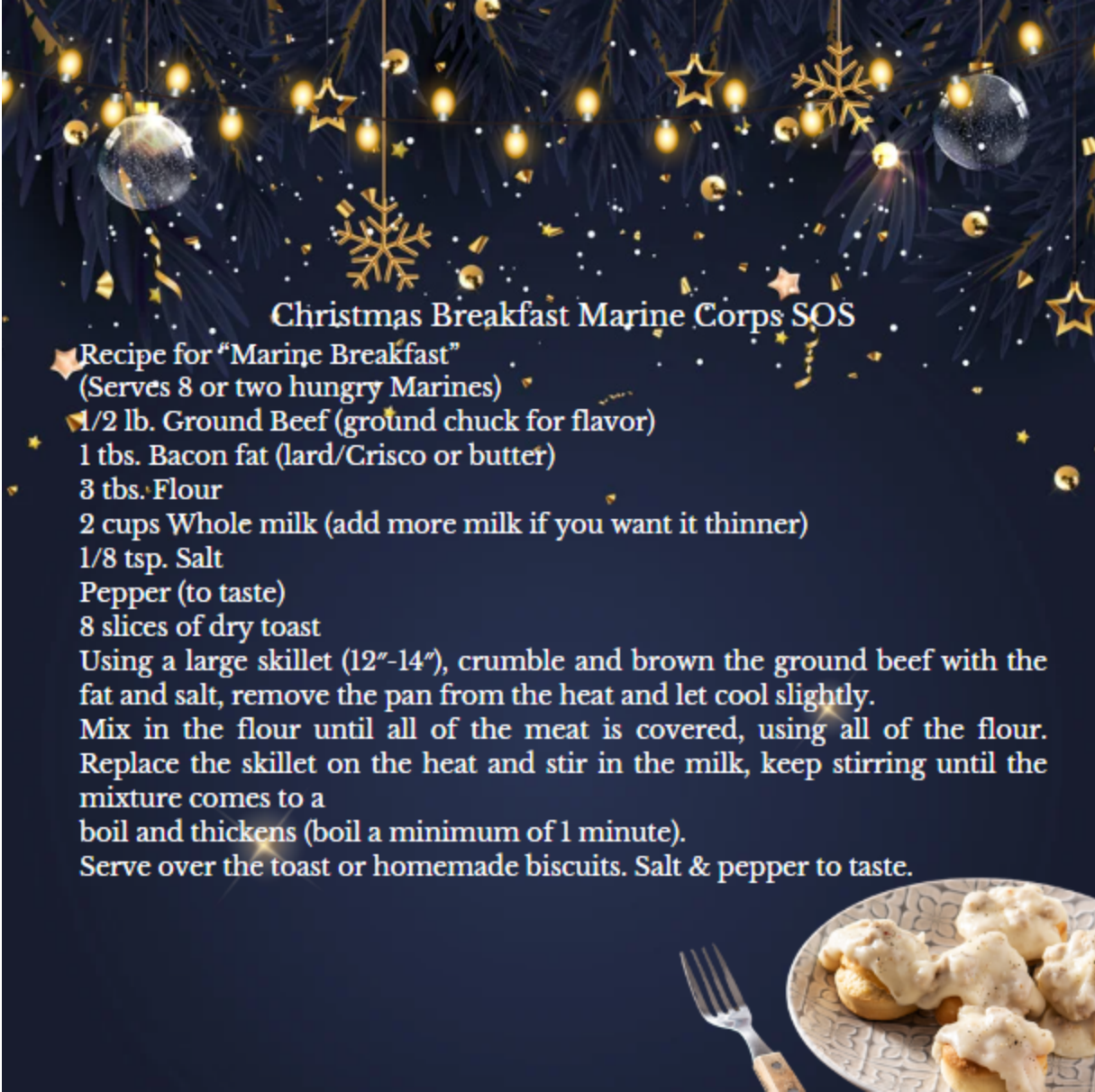
[Register Now](#)

Presidential Initiative for November and December

It is that time again to reach out and make a difference in our communities. Last year collectively we made a difference in the communities that we live. Any member can participate. Here are some of the suggestions:

- Invite a recruiter to have to diner. Many are away from home and alone.
- Adopt a family in need and provide a food basket or items for children
- Conduct a food drive in your community and donate to a local food pantry.
- Contact the Foster Program in your area. They are always looking for items for children that just got in the program and may not have a Christmas
- If there is a single member in your chapter or a neighbor take them a surprise, some cookies or jam, or invite them to lunch or dinner.

We can make a difference as individuals or chapters. Be sure to share your pictures.



Christmas Breakfast Marine Corps SOS

★ Recipe for "Marine Breakfast"

(Serves 8 or two hungry Marines)

★ 1/2 lb. Ground Beef (ground chuck for flavor)

1 tbs. Bacon fat (lard/Crisco or butter)

3 tbs. Flour

2 cups Whole milk (add more milk if you want it thinner)

1/8 tsp. Salt

Pepper (to taste)

8 slices of dry toast

Using a large skillet (12"-14"), crumble and brown the ground beef with the fat and salt, remove the pan from the heat and let cool slightly.

Mix in the flour until all of the meat is covered, using all of the flour.

Replace the skillet on the heat and stir in the milk, keep stirring until the mixture comes to a

boil and thickens (boil a minimum of 1 minute).

Serve over the toast or homemade biscuits. Salt & pepper to taste.

Dec Dates

1 Dec - 1947 – The Corps' first helicopter squadron, HMX-1, was commissioned at Quantico

5 Dec 1929 – Marine Captain A. N. Parker was the first person to fly over unexplored Antarctica.

7 Dec- National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

7 Dec - Hanukkah Begins

15 Dec 1948 - then-Secretary of the Navy John L. Sullivan signed a "Memorandum of Agreement" with the State Department. This memorandum laid the groundwork for the establishment of the modern Marine Security Guard program at U.S. embassies throughout the world.

16 Dec 2020 - First females graduate from DI school at MCRD San Diego

17 Dec 1835 – US Marines assist firefighters in efforts to control the Great Fire of New York as

Post your EVENTS!

WMA wants to help you promote your chapters to see continued strength and growth! But we need your help!

Please be sure to post your events online. It is a simple process and then they will appear on the WMA National Calendar

Send us pictures of your events so that we can promote your chapter on social media. From our National FB page to Instagram and Flickr.

Post your [EVENTS HERE](#)

WHAT TO SEND WHERE

Have you changed your address? Your email? Has there been a death in your chapter?

the fire levels lower Manhattan.

18 Dec - Wreaths Across America

20 Dec - 1957 – Elvis Presley was given a draft notice to join US Army for National Service.

25 Dec- Christmas

26 Dec - Kwanza

31 Dec - New Years Eve.

Please send all information to

wma@womenmarines.org

Have a suggestion? Something bothering you?

Email listening@womenmarines.org

Have a story to tell? Need to promote your chapter? Send it with pictures to pro@womenmarines.org for inclusion to the WMA National Blog.

November Chapter Highlights





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.

[Unsubscribe](#) from our mailing lists.

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