



*The celebrations of spring are abound*

Semper Fidelis Marine \*|FNAME|\* \*|LNAME|\*

April is finally here and Easter season is upon us. What a beautiful holiday. To me it brings peace and hope. Something we all could use right about now.

This month I want to write about grit. Grit you say? You mean that stuff that gets in your eyes and mouth, makes you feel nasty and out of sorts. No, that is not what I mean. I am currently reading a book, [Grit by Angela Duckworth](#), that everyone should take the time to sit down and digest.

So, what is grit? Grit is what makes you different from everyone else – it is what makes you that individual that stands out. Everyone in WMA already possesses the grit to be determined, stay in the game, make a difference. Ask yourself a question: when you joined the Marines – did you do it as a job, a career or a calling? Maybe it was not any of those things – but overtime it became a passion. WMA is loaded with passionate gritty women. We did not get this good at what we do because we showed up in Parris Island (and now San Diego) or OCS in Quantico because you were gritty. The Marine Corps gave you that grit to succeed. Not everyone was perfect that first day or even 8 weeks in – it took a lot of work to get this good and gritty. Some of us worked for nearly 25 years or more to get gritty.

But we succeeded and it did not end there. Grit is forever as long as you do not give up on yourself or your passions.

Soon, members will see a change occurring to our website. We will be introducing a job board that will have job openings hosted by companies who want veteran employees. It will be an opportunity for all – to include non-members, to take a look at what is out there and apply. This job board will also include career counseling and resume

writing benefits. Job board is no cost for any user. Also, we will soon be offering classes for those of you interested in entrepreneurship. We are developing a strategic partnership with Bunker Labs, a company lead by a former woman Marine and her COO is a former Marine. It will be at no cost to our members to participate in the classes, but the offerings will really encourage our entrepreneurs out there (you know, the gritty ones!!!) with a passion for something that may be outside their reach right now, but with effort and the right resources they will succeed? Yes, those gritty ladies.

So lots of good stuff coming soon (look for it by end of April 2023).

More importantly enjoy April – stay passionate and get your grit on!

Semper Fidelis Marines, Ann



VP Notes

Patty Collins

[wmavp@womenmarines.org](mailto:wmavp@womenmarines.org)

Happy Easter Marines. March was an amazing month. I had the opportunity to go to Florida and see our National President speak at the Marine Corps League conference hosted by MCL 061 Marion County. Her words not only inspired me but other Women Marines that were in attendance. WMA is making great strides in all areas.

I want to thank all the members that joined us on our Chapter networking for Recruiting. There were some great ideas shared. Also wanted to thank FL-13 Sgt Reckless for inviting myself and the National President to a luncheon on Sunday with Members all around Florida. It was great meeting some new Marines and catching up with others.

While I was in Florida, I had the chance to sit in on a presentation from the Fire Watch. The presentation was given by a Marine. This presentation talked about suicide prevention. This presentation not only taught us the signs of suicide but debunked many mythes. My next chapter networking will be from the Fire Watch. This networking will be open to all members and their families or anyone else you feel would benefit from this session.

If you have any idea on what you would like to learn or talk about on our chapter networking or would like to lead one. Please contact me [wmavp@womenmarines.org](mailto:wmavp@womenmarines.org) or [listening@womenmarines.org](mailto:listening@womenmarines.org).

---

How Do You Belong? Take our small survey and let us know how what organizations you belong to.

[Take the Survey](#)

---

### Our Newest Blogs

Do you have a story to tell? We would love to know more about our members. Are you a first in your MOS? Are you one of many generations of Marines? These are our 2 newest blogs this month

[MARINE DELLA A. DAVIS](#) written by her daughter

### Reading Corner

#### [Hestitation Kills ~ Jane Blair Vissi](#)

This riveting memoir is the first book written by a female Marine about the war in Iraq and one of the only books written by a woman who has experienced combat firsthand. Deploying to Iraq in 2003, Jane Blair's aerial reconnaissance unit was assigned to travel ahead of and alongside combat units throughout the initial phase of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Throughout her deployment, Jane kept a journal of her and her fellow lieutenants' combat experiences, which

Meet [HEIDI LARSON HURLEY](#) and learn about her time in the Corps and after.

Send us your story to [pro@womenmarines.org](mailto:pro@womenmarines.org)

she draws on to convey the immediacy of life in the military, not just for a woman but for all Marines.

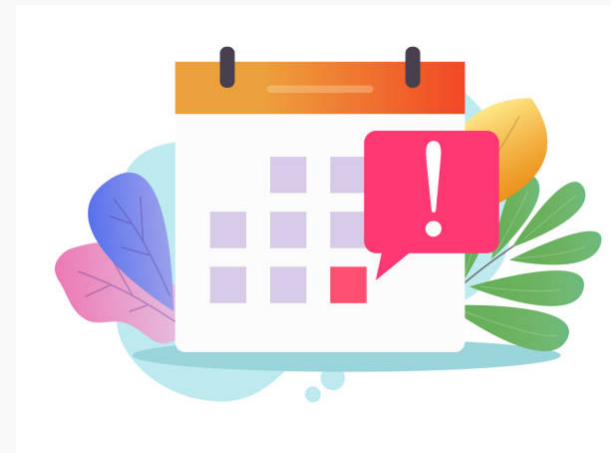
### Deadlines for 2023 'Nouncements

April 10

July 10

October 10

Chapters get your info in. We want to know what you are doing!



### Chaplains Corner

Are you a person of hope? While no one would ever accuse me of being overly optimistic, I have hope. Do you? Hope in the more practical things of life (e.g., waking up in the morning, interactions with those we love, plans we make and goals we achieve, etc.). Hope in the more theoretical aspects of life (e.g., love, faith, personal growth, etc.).

As I write this, many of us are observing, or are about to observe, major religious seasons. Muslims are observing Ramadan. Christians are commemorating Holy Week, culminating in Easter Sunday. The Jewish community is celebrating Passover. Each of these great religions

and these religious observances offer us hope. Hope that we can grow into being better students of our respective faiths. Hope that we can become better reflections of the God we believe in by how we live our lives. Hope that the steadfast love of God will prevail in our lives as exemplified by Moses leading his people out of slavery in Egypt to liberation in the Promised Land. Hope that death is not the final word but a transition to life everlasting as seen in Jesus' life-affirming ministry and, most importantly, in his resurrection. Christians, as Easter people, are people of hope.

May this be a season where hope is renewed and strengthened in each of our hearts.

Melinda Townsend

WMA National Chaplain

[chaplain@womenmarines.org](mailto:chaplain@womenmarines.org)

### The 2024 Atlanta Convention

Atlanta Hilton

Thursday 8/8/2024 – Monday, 8/12/2024

Atlanta, GA is known for many things, such as its rich history, world-class museums and attractions, vibrant nightlife, delicious food, and bustling cityscape. Some of the most popular attractions in Atlanta include the Georgia Aquarium, the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site, the World of Coca-Cola, the High Museum of Art, and the Atlanta Botanical Garden. Each of these attractions offers a unique and memorable experience that visitors to Atlanta should consider adding to their itinerary.

#### Atlanta: 1.5-Hour Highlight Trolley Tour

Explore all the most popular and historic areas of Atlanta, the capitol of the south on this guided trolley tour. Discover top attractions like the area where Martin Luther King was raised and greenspaces like Inman Park and Ansley Park.

Hop aboard the Trolley in Atlanta's downtown and hear the stories and history of this southern metropolis. This trolley tour is an excellent way to get the lay of the land and open your eyes to all the things you can do in Atlanta.

Cruise by the Old 4th Ward, the neighborhood where Martin Luther King Jr. grew up, which is now filled with artisanal restaurants and stores. Discover areas such as Centennial Olympic Park, Inman Park, and Ansley Park.

**Ingredients**  
**Sponge:**  
**1 cup milk (warm, no hotter than 110 F)**  
**2 (1/4-ounce) packages/4 1/2 teaspoons**  
**active dry yeast**  
**1 tablespoon sugar**  
**1 tablespoon all-purpose flour**

**Batter:**  
**4 large eggs**  
**1 cup sugar**  
**1 pinch salt**  
**11 tablespoons butter (1 stick + 3**  
**tablespoons, melted and cooled)**  
**2 3/4 cups flour (all-purpose)**

**Rum Syrup:**  
**1 cup water**  
**7 ounces/200 grams superfine sugar**  
**1 tablespoon lemon zest**  
**2 tablespoons lemon juice (1 lemon)**  
**1/4 cup dark rum**


**Make the Sponge**  
**Gather the ingredients.**

**Heat the milk. Add yeast, 1 tablespoon sugar,**  
**1 tablespoon flour and mix with a fork.**

**Set aside in a warm place to become foamy,**  
**about 15 minutes.**

In a separate bowl, whip together eggs, 1 cup of sugar and a pinch of salt for about 3 minutes. Add the melted and cooled butter and yeast mixture, combining well. Add 2 3/4 cups flour and, using the paddle attachment of a stand mixer or the regular beaters on a hand-held mixer, beat until well combined - about 5 minutes. The dough will be loose. Scrape down the sides. Cover and let rise in the same bowl in a warm place for 30 minutes.

**Bake the Babka**  
Place rack in the middle of oven and heat to 325 F. Coat a large babka pan or 10-inch Bundt pan (or 2 smaller pans) with cooking spray and fill with batter. Cover and let rise in a warm place for 20 minutes. Bake 30 minutes. Allow to cool 15 minutes and then invert onto a wire rack to cool completely. Make the Rum Syrup Boil 1 cup water with superfine sugar, lemon zest, and lemon juice. When sugar is completely dissolved, remove from heat and stir in the rum. Poke holes all over the cake with a toothpick and saturate the cake with the rum syrup. Decorate with jelly beans or other candy Easter eggs. Enjoy!



**MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD**

— ” —

*If anyone deserves recognition and appreciation for their selfless service, it is military children. Born in military hospitals around the globe, they will learn far too young that goodbyes will be frequent and difficult. At some point they will hug the camouflaged leg of someone other than their parent by mistake. They will move repeatedly, usually at the precise point in time when they feel most settled.*

-APRIL MILITARY OFFICER MAGAZINE  
AUTHOR

Donate -

Military children make up a critical part of our military community. These brave children stand in steadfast support of their military parents through frequent moves and deployments. To honor and recognize their unique contributions and sacrifices on behalf of our country, the month of April is designated as the Month of the Military Child.

Join us as we celebrate all military children and military families during this special month. Here at the Marine Corps University Foundation, we recognize that our Marines are only as strong as the families that support them. We are proud to celebrate military children and the important role they play in the armed forces communities!

Will you make a donation in honor or remembrance of an outstanding military child?



## April Dates

### April Awareness

Autism Awareness Month  
Sexual Assault Awareness Month  
Alcohol Awareness Month  
National Donate Life Month  
National Child Abuse Prevention Month  
Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month

### April History

**2018 Apr** Col Lorna M. Mahlock first African-American woman to earn the rank of brigadier general.

**1943 25 Apr** First class of enlisted graduated and report to active duty. Approximately 525 women entered every 2 weeks for courses that averaged about 4 weeks.

**1952 April** A list of appropriate MOSs for Women Marines is released and causes controversy over its limitations on women.

**2016 April** The U.S. Marine Corps officially opens all occupational specialties to women.

## WMA Member Portal

The WMA Member Platform provides a place for members to access their membership records. You can add profile information, update your extended profile fields, and pay an open membership invoice if your renewal is upcoming.

There is also a membership directory that includes name, photo, phone, and email fields. Members with official WMA roles will also have their association role listed. On the directory page, you can click the Chapter Directory which will provide a dropdown of Chapters to view the associated member names.

If you have not gotten your password please contact [wma@womenmarines.org](mailto:wma@womenmarines.org)

When you log in and update your information it is automatically updated in system and rosters.

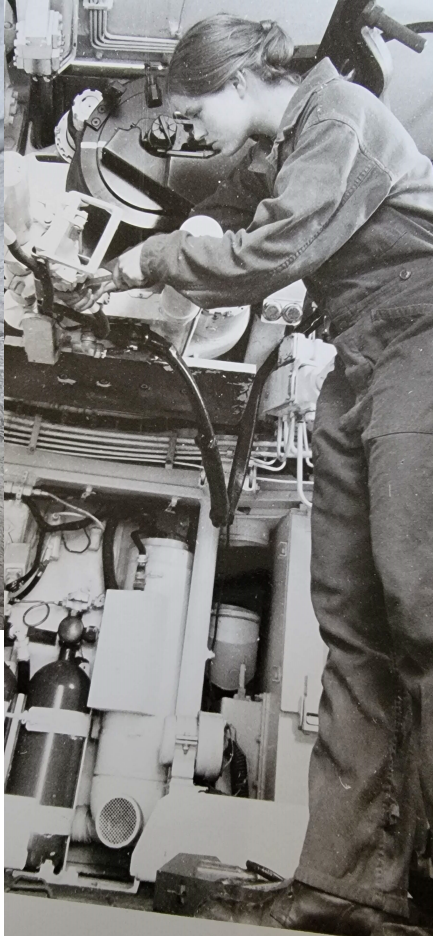
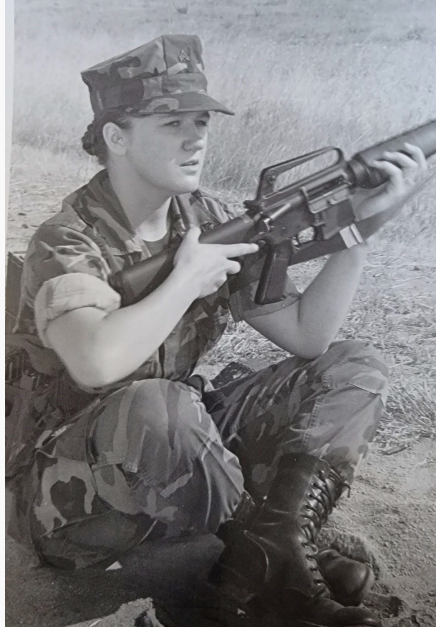
Please keep your information updated

WMA Member Portal Guide

Sign in here to update your information

## From the Past





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](mailto:listening@womenmarines.org).

[Unsubscribe](#) from our mailing lists.

---

© Women Marines Association. All Rights Reserved