

## The Last Vestige

*"Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, to all the souls you can, in every place you can, at all the times you can, with all the zeal you can, as long as you ever can."* - A poem by John Wesley and words that memorialize Theresa "Sue" Malone Sousa.

That is how National President Ann Crittenden began her article in the WMA Monthly Minute. And she's right...that WAS Sue Sousa.

The day finally came...August 10th. The place...Arlington National Cemetery. The event...the inurnment of the ashes of Theresa "Sue" Sousa, "Mother WMA." The Marine Corps provided the rifle salute, "Taps," and the folding of the flag, so she was sent home in fashion. Personally, I thought there should have been fireworks and The President's Own, but that's me.

Ann commented that "as her urn was placed in the columbarium, a soft breeze came up that seemed to wrap around all of us as her last hug and goodbye." That would be like Sue. She loved us all, and she gave her heart and soul to WMA.

Mitzi Manning performed the eulogy and said, "Sue was not afraid. Eileen (Scanlon) told me that, and Eileen would know. Nancy (Sue's sister) told me that, and also said that Sue approached the end of her life with a rare satisfaction...peace of mind. She had worked hard, she had played hard, she had loved and helped others all her life, and she was unflinchingly kind. What better way to start your eternity?"

Is this really the last vestige of Theresa "Sue" Malone Sousa? Not on your life. Not as long as there's a living, breathing WMA.

Semper Fidelis, Sue. You have no idea how much you are already missed and will continue to be so.

*Sondra Metzger,  
Ann Crittendon, and Mitzi Manning*

## Photos of Her "Send Off"



**Eileen Scanlon, Sue's life-long companion**



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**Membership@womenmarines.org**

Membership questions, to include updates to  
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**Listening@womenmarines.org**

For questions and comments regarding the new  
governance structure.

**Phone Number:** 1-888-525-1943

## WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS

### **Official Publication of the WMA**

WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS (USPS 371410) is published quarterly by the Women Marines Association. Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN and additional mailing offices. **Membership eligibility:** Women who serve or have served honorably in the United States Marine Corps regular or reserve components; or in the United States Navy as "Fleet Marine Force (FMF) qualified" personnel to include corpsmen, chaplains, religious program specialists, and medical officers (these are designated as Active Members) are eligible for membership in the Women Marines Association. Dues are \$40 for two years.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to: Women Marines Association, 401 Edgewater Place, Suite 600, Wakefield, MA 01880-8501, membership@womenmarines.org.

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## DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE – JANUARY 10, 2023



### Reporting In...National President

Wow, time has flown. Last year at this time many of us were just coming home from our Las Vegas convention and what a time we had! And our new Board has been in office for one year. The Board has really been dedicated to making the transition from the old governance structure to the new – it’s been a long learning curve but we have made it happen. WMA has grown in members, we have created new partnerships with other like-minded organizations, we have a robust history committee committed to ensuring our legacy remains in the forefront! It’s been a journey but a good one!

This brings me around to my point for this issue of ‘Nouncements. We are through our first year as a National Board. The call for nominations for the NEXT board that will be elected in 2024 will be coming down range very soon. I would like all members to be aware that YOU can be part of the National Board if you have been a chapter officer, been part of the National Board in some capacity as a committee member, or a board member and are willing to put forth the effort. It is extremely rewarding to be part of this group. We want new blood to continue our efforts going forward. ALL POSITIONS WILL BE OPEN. If our current board members wish to re-up, great but competition is a good thing. Please – do not hesitate to look into the potential of serving WMA – it’s worth it.

We have to keep this column short as this ‘Nouncements has a lot of stuff in it. Keep charging, Happy Halloween, Happy Marine Corps Birthday, remember Veterans Day, Happy Thanksgiving, Kwanzaa, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year. Until we meet again – Semper Fidelis, Ann

### Reporting In...Vice President

I want to thank all of the new members that attended the meet and greet in September. It was great meeting all of you.

As we move toward the holiday season I would like our members and chapters to participate in a National food drive initiative. I would like to see how much food WMA can donate across the country. You can do this as an individual member, a group or your chapter. I will put out more information via chapter email and our social media platforms. Let's see how many families and people we can help.

If you would like me to join one of your meetings via zoom please send me an invite and I will do what I can to join. Also I would like to get out and see some chapters. If your chapter would like for me to come visit please let me know. Especially if you have multiple chapters that are close enough to get together. Looking forward to hearing from you. My email is [wmapv@womenmarines.org](mailto:wmapv@womenmarines.org).



Patty Collins

WMA is looking for our members who are 100+ years old. Please forward the Point of Contact (POC) information to the Director of Membership so WMA can celebrate and honor these Marines.



Chapter officers, please forward your POC information/Officer to the Director of Membership at: [WMADirMembers@womenmarines.org](mailto:WMADirMembers@womenmarines.org).

Marines, please ensure your address, phone number, and email are updated. Please send your updates to [membership@womenmarines.org](mailto:membership@womenmarines.org).

*Thank you very much,  
Adrienne McLarahmore  
WMA National Director, Member Services  
[WMADirMembers@womenmarines.org](mailto:WMADirMembers@womenmarines.org)*

### We Have a Commandant!

The Senate FINALLY appointed General Eric Smith as the 39th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Born in Kansas City, Missouri, and raised in Plano, Texas, General Smith graduated from Texas A&M University and was commissioned in 1987.

During his career, he has been a true Marine serving in every clime and place.

Along with General Smith, the Senate voted to confirm Air Force Gen. CQ Brown, Jr. to be chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Gen. Randy A. George as Army Chief of Staff.



## August Osprey Crash

The mother of a US Marine killed in an aircraft crash off the coast off the Northern Territory has spoken out about her daughter's love for Australia and the outpouring of support they have had since her death.



Captain Eleanor LeBeau Cooke, 29, was a pilot on board the MV-22B Osprey aircraft when it crashed on Sunday while transporting troops during a routine training exercise on Melville Island, about 80 kilometers

northwest of Darwin.

In an interview, LeBeau's mother, Victoria, paid tribute to her "bad-ass" daughter — "who gave herself that moniker when she joined the Marines and knew she was going to be a pilot" — and thanked Australians for honoring her memory.

"We are so grateful for all the outpouring of love from Australia," she said. "The vigils, and the prayers and the kindness — all Ellie ever said when she was in Australia was how much she loved being there.

"It's so important for us that the Australian people know how much we appreciate the respect and honor that you have shown her through all this."

The fatal crash occurred about 9:30 a.m. on August 27th during a military exercise called "Exercise Predators Run," a training drill that involves troops from Australia, the United States, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Timor-Leste.

Belleville, IL native LeBeau graduated from Althoff Catholic High School in Belleville in 2012 and went to Murray State University in Kentucky. She joined the Marine Corps in 2018, and married Chase Cooke, another pilot. Ellie was promoted to Captain on March 1, 2023.

Within just five years in the Marines, LeBeau received the National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

According to a release from Marine Rotational Force-Darwin, Maj Tobin Lewis, who also died in the crash, and LeBeau were piloting the aircraft at the time of the incident.

The other Marine killed in the crash was Cpl. Spencer R. Collart, 21, from Arlington, Virginia.

The Marine V-22B Osprey had 23 Marines on board when it crashed.

A crash investigation report in July found that the tragedy was caused by a mechanical failure related to a clutch.

*Farrah Tomazin, author  
Sondra Metzger, editor*



# WREATHS — across — AMERICA

WMA is supporting Jacksonville National Cemetery in Jacksonville, FL this year.

The site has been updated and can be found here: <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/20065/Overview/?relatedId=0>

Wreaths now cost \$17.00 and WMA receives \$5.00 from the sale of each wreath. Please make sure when you purchase your wreaths that the location selection is FLJNC/Jacksonville, FL. If any other cemetery is chosen, we will not receive the \$5.00 for the wreaths purchased.

We were short of hitting our goal of 150 wreaths last year. Let's all jump in and work together to make our goal this year! All sales are very much appreciated as this is a very worthy cause.

*Kay Ross*



## Loyal Escorts Board

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# WMA 2023 Scholarship Recipients

## LaRue A. Ditmore Music Scholarship

Kjersten Kleinschmidt      Brady Keith  
Donna Fullerton - WMA Member

## Elaine Kathryn Syverson Scholarship

Mikaela Brown

## Dolores A. Herrero Scholarship

Abigail Alexander      Veronica Cully

## Agnes Sopcak Memorial Scholarship

Bridget Bassett      Kylee Hertrick  
Noelle Brezillac      Mariposa Estrada  
Ania Calbough      Boyd Durand  
Kencis Kleinschmidt – WMA Member  
Summers Montgomery Platt – WMA Member  
Elizabeth Rojo – WMA Member  
Tara Perez – WMA Member

## Virginia Guveyan Memorial Scholarship

Alec Cousino

## Fallen Warrior Scholarship

Ava Cousino

## Lily H. Gridley Memorial Scholarship

Isabel Stokes

## Clare Bullitt Hokanson Scholarship

Valerie Welk – WMA Member

## Major Meghan McClung Memorial Scholarship

Gianna Bilderain

## Ethyl and Armin Weibke Memorial Scholarship

Christian Kintzley

## WMA Memorial Scholarship

Mia Mihocko	Natalie England
Margaret Moran	Kailan Thomas
Megan Sally	Laci Froncek
Mason Ritter	Maria Farst
Alexis Nothelfer	Ella Todd
Gabrielle Nicoll	Madison Stokes
Faith Morgan Tinney	



## Chaplain's Corner

May you know that absence is alive with hidden presence, that nothing is ever lost or forgotten. May the absences in your life grow full of eternal echo. May you sense around you the secret Elsewhere,

where the presences that have left you dwell. May you be generous in your embrace of loss. May the sore well of grief turn into a seamless flow of presence. May your compassion reach out to the one we never hear from. May you have the courage to speak for the excluded ones. May you become the gracious and passionate subject of your own life. May you not disrespect your mystery through brittle words or false belonging. May you be embraced by God in whom dawn and twilight are one. May your longing inhabit it's dreams within the Great Belonging.

*"A Blessing for Absences"*  
By John O'Donohue

## Taps

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

## Life Members

Isabel Bond	#227	08/18/2023	MI-2
Catherine H. Carpenter (Morgan)	#1923	08/03/2023	MA-1
Betty Duff (Olsen)	#1188	01/20/2023	WI-1
Donna Genovese (Rehkop)	#2127	08/23/2023	DC-1
Suzanne R. Graham	#2511	12/02/2018	CA-2
Wanda Janowski (Hughes)	#1520	07/12/2023	MAL
Evelyn Kallian (Desler)		12/07/2007	
Pauline V. King (Anderwald)	#1787	04/28/2023	MAL
Winifred Karnosky (Case)	#2952	07/03/2020	MAL
Rosemarie Anne Maffeo	#4072	07/20/2023	TN-1
Joyce Manchester (Stockinger)	#2099	01/03/2020	WI-1
Florence Nagler (Caplan)	#1833	08/20/2023	CA-2
Barbara Preli (Elovich)	#1764	07/04/2023	WI-1
Franciska Ritchey (“Fran”)	#2453	01/10/2021	MAL
Maxine C. Schening	#3861	02/25/2023	NY-8
Kathleen Wright	#2817	09/03/2023	CA-3
Maude Yancey-Meyer (Jones)	#1413	06/23/2022	MAL

## Term Members

Gloria Ann Balfour	08/20/2023	CA-5
Gwendolyn De Pinto	01/19/2023	IL-2
Genevieve Michals (Mazan)	09/17/2023	MI-2

# Proposed Amended Bylaws and Standing Rules

As we approach our Biennial Convention next summer, it is time once again to begin the process of making recommended changes to our National Bylaws and Standing Rules. The National Board of Directors is recommending the following changes and needs your review and approval to effect the changes. As a WMA member, this is your opportunity to participate in the process. Please review the proposed changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules and return your comments, edits, or any additional proposed changes to: [listening@womenmarines.org](mailto:listening@womenmarines.org) by 15 December 2023. Once all proposed changes are reviewed and edited, the final version will be sent to the membership in a ballot for final approval. Approval via a ballot vice addressing them at the convention, allows **ALL WMA members** to participate in the process instead of just those members who attend the convention.

Be an active participant in our Association and let your voices be heard. Remember **the deadline is 15 December 2023**. The Ballot will be sent after the first of the year.

## Women Marines Association PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

- Below you will find proposed Bylaws amendments for your consideration to include the current wording, proposed changes (underlined), and the rationale for the specific change.
- Please review and provide recommended changes via email to [listening@womenmarines.org](mailto:listening@womenmarines.org) for consideration before a ballot is sent to all members in good standing for approval.
- Comments must be submitted before the **deadline of 15 December 2023**.

Current WMA Bylaws	Proposed Changes <u>Underlined</u>	Rationale for Changes
<b>ARTICLE FOUR: MEMBERSHIP</b> <b>Section 2. Qualifications:</b> Membership qualifications are: (2) Honorary Members are women who serve in senior positions of organizations that support women Veterans such as but not limited to Presidents past and current of the Women In Military Service for America (WIMSA).	<b>ARTICLE FOUR: MEMBERSHIP</b> <b>Section 2. Qualifications:</b> Membership qualifications are: (2) Honorary Members are women who serve in senior positions of organizations that support women Veterans such as but not limited to Presidents past and current of the <u>Military Women’s Memorial aka Women in Military Service for America (WIMSA)</u> .	<b>RATIONALE:</b> Administrative name change.
<b>ARTICLE FIVE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b> Also known as the Board. Add New Section 2.  Renumber sections 3 through 6.	<b>ARTICLE FIVE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b> Also known as the Board <b>Section 2. <u>Non-elected Board Members:</u></b> <u>The Immediate Past President shall serve as a non-voting member of the Board in an advisory role.</u>	<b>RATIONALE:</b> To include the IPP as an advisory member of the Board to provide experienced continuity of service at the National level.
<b>ARTICLE FIVE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b> <b>Section 2. Term of Office:</b> (1) The Board members listed in Section 1, shall serve a two-year term of office that begins when the convention where they were installed closes. Should a Board member be unable to serve her full term, the BOD shall appoint a successor to finish the current term.	<b>ARTICLE FIVE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b> <b>Section 2. Term of Office:</b> (1) The Board members listed in Section 1, shall serve a two-year term of office that begins <u>at the convention where they are installed</u> . Should a Board member be unable to serve her full term, the <u>Board</u> shall appoint a successor to finish the current term.	<b>RATIONALE:</b> To better identify the term of office for the Board of Directors.  Administrative correction from BOD to Board.

<p><b>ARTICLE SEVEN: CONVENTION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM</b></p> <p><b>Section 1. Conventions:</b></p> <p>(3) These regions shall be divided for convention site purposes only as follows:</p> <p>Region 1. AL, CT, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT, and WV.</p> <p>Region 2. AR, IA, IL, KS, LA, MO, MN, MS, ND, NE, OK, SD, TX, and WI.</p> <p>Region 3. AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, and WY.</p> <p>(4) Convention sites shall rotate from Region 1 to Region 2, to Region 3, and then back to Region 1.</p> <p>(5) In the even-numbered years, bids may be submitted by chapters within the rotationally designated region for a convention to be held four years from the date of bidding.</p> <p>(6) If no bids are received, the Board shall work with all chapters to identify at least one willing and able to sponsor an upcoming convention.</p> <p>(7) Proposed convention site shall be published to the membership as part of the election ballot for selection or information if only one convention site was proposed.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE SEVEN: CONVENTION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM</b></p> <p><b>Section 1. Conventions:</b></p> <p>(3) These regions shall be divided for convention site purposes only as follows:</p> <p>Region 1. AL, CT, DE, <u>DC</u>, FL, GA, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT, and WV.</p> <p>Region 2. AR, IA, IL, KS, LA, MO, MN, MS, ND, NE, OK, SD, TX, and WI.</p> <p>Region 3. <u>AK</u>, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, and WY.</p> <p>(4) Convention sites shall <u>be determined by the Board based on but not limited to locations rotating among Region 1, Region 2, and Region 3.</u></p> <p>(5) <u>Convention planning will be conducted by the National Convention Planning Committee, assisted by a local host Chapter, per the WMA SOP and the Convention Planning Guidelines.</u></p> <p><u>Delete sub-paragraphs (6) and (7).</u></p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b></p> <p>(2) Include and alphabetize all states within regions to be considered for convention sites.</p> <p>(4) and (5) Update the process for convention planning to include convention site selection</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE EIGHT: ELECTIONS FOR NATIONAL BOARD MEMBERS</b></p> <p><b>Section 5. Tallying the Vote:</b> A majority of the votes cast shall be sufficient to elect a candidate, except in case of multiple choices for a particular office, in which case a majority shall suffice.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE EIGHT: ELECTIONS FOR NATIONAL BOARD MEMBERS</b></p> <p><b>Section 5. Tallying the Vote:</b> A majority of the votes cast shall be sufficient to elect a candidate, except in <u>the</u> case of multiple choices for a particular office, in which case <u>plurality</u> shall suffice.</p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b> Grammatical corrections.</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE NINE: FINANCE</b></p> <p><b>Section 2. Dues:</b></p> <p>4) When dues are not received before the end of the member’s anniversary month, a delinquent notice shall be sent by the WMA Database Administrator. After a grace period of thirty (30) days, the member shall be dropped from the active membership rolls. A former member shall be reinstated with the anniversary month coinciding with receipt of dues.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE NINE: FINANCE</b></p> <p><b>Section 2. Dues:</b></p> <p>(4) When dues are not received before the end of the member’s anniversary month <u>a reminder will be sent, and after</u> a grace period of thirty (30) days, the member shall be dropped from the active membership rolls. A former member shall be reinstated with the anniversary month coinciding with receipt of dues.</p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b></p> <p>Eliminate WMA Database Administrator. Delinquent notices are not sent; however, a reminder is sent.</p>

<p><b>ARTICLE NINE: FINANCE</b>  <b>Section 3. Life Membership:</b>  (1) WMA offers life membership on a prorated scale depending on the age of the member. Life membership provides the member all benefits of the organization, as well as recognition upon their death as a contributor of \$50.00 to the Memorial Scholarship Fund as noted in an issue of <i>'Nouncements</i>.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE NINE: FINANCE</b>  <b>Section 3. Life Membership:</b>  (1) WMA offers life membership on a prorated scale depending on the age of the member. Life membership provides the member <u>with</u> all benefits of the organization, as well as recognition upon their death as a contributor of \$50.00 to the <u>General Fund in her memory.</u></p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b>  The \$50 was intended to go to the General Fund as voted upon by the membership when the 2021 Bylaws were approved. This is a correction that the \$50.00 is going to the General Fund in memory of the WMA member. The Memorial Scholarship Fund is fully funded.</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE NINE: FINANCE</b>  <b>Section 4. Scholarships:</b>  (2) The number and the amount of individual scholarships shall be determined based on the annual earnings of the Memorial Scholarship Fund.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE NINE: FINANCE</b>  <b>Section 4. Scholarships:</b>  (2) The number and the amount of individual scholarships shall be determined <u>based on the recommendation of the Investment Committee.</u></p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b>  The Investment Committee determines the total amount of scholarships that can be awarded based on how well investments are performing.</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE TEN: CHAPTERS</b>  <b>Section 4. Chapter Membership:</b>  Chapter membership is restricted to active WMA members and only WMA Life Members may become chapter Life Members.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE TEN: CHAPTERS</b>  <b>Section 4. Chapter Membership:</b>  Chapter membership is restricted to active WMA members <u>in good standing,</u> and only WMA Life Members may become chapter Life Members <u>if so established in Chapter Bylaws and Standing Rules.</u></p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b> In good standing refers to members whose dues are current.   Chapters may decide whether or not to allow for Chapter Life Member dues in their respective bylaws and standing rules.</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE TWELVE: DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION</b>  <b>Section 1.</b> In the event of dissolution of WMA, the net assets of the corporation shall be applied and distributed in the following priority sequence:</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE TWELVE: DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION</b>  <b>Section 1.</b> In the event <u>of the</u> dissolution of WMA, the net assets of the <u>association</u> shall be applied and distributed in the following priority sequence:</p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b>  Grammatical corrections.</p>

**YOUR RECOMMENDED CHANGES MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE  
15 DECEMBER 2023 FOR CONSIDERATION BEFORE  
A BALLOT IS SENT OUT TO THE MEMBERSHIP FOR THEIR VOTE.**

# Women Marines Association

## PROPOSED STANDING RULES AMENDMENTS

- Below you will find proposed Standing Rules amendments for your consideration to include the current wording, proposed changes (underlined), and the rationale for the specific change.
- Please review and provide recommended changes via email to [listening@womenmarines.org](mailto:listening@womenmarines.org) for consideration before a ballot is sent to all members in good standing for approval.
- Comments must be submitted before the **deadline of 15 December 2023.**

Current WMA Standing Rules	Proposed Changes <u>Underlined</u>	Rationale for Changes
<p><b>2. THE RESOURCE MANUAL AND DIRECTORY (RMD)</b>            The RM&amp;D shall be published following the biennial convention and shall include but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directory of all Active members</li> <li>• Articles of Incorporation</li> <li>• Bylaws</li> <li>• Standing Rules</li> <li>• Scholarship Program procedures and application.</li> <li>• All named scholarships</li> </ul> <p>Resource material may also be found on the WMA website or in the WMA member database.</p>	<p><b>2. THE RESOURCE MANUAL AND DIRECTORY (RMD)</b>            Delete and renumber the rest of the paragraphs.</p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b>            The RMD is no longer published. Chapters receive the monthly membership directory, along with the WMA Member Platform that all members can log into. All National Directives and Resource Materials can be found on the WMA website and in periodic issues of <i>'Nouncements.</i></p>
<p><b>3. SCHOLARSHIPS</b>            A. Scholarship applicants must satisfy all qualification criteria for the award. Criteria and/or procedure changes shall be approved by the Board and published to the membership no later than January of the year in which it becomes effective. All named scholarships shall be listed in the RM&amp;D and on the WMA website.            B. Memorial Scholarship Fund annual earnings shall determine the number and amount of individual scholarships.</p>	<p><b>2. SCHOLARSHIPS</b>            A. Scholarship applicants must satisfy all qualification criteria for the award. Criteria and/or procedure changes shall be approved by the Board and published to the membership no later than January of the year in which it becomes effective. All named scholarships shall be listed on the <u>WMA website.</u>            B. Memorial Scholarship Fund <u>earnings</u> shall determine the number and amount of individual scholarships.</p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b> Administrative and grammatical corrections. Removed "in the RM&amp;D."            B. The Investment Committee determines the amount to be awarded based on earnings.</p>
<p><b>5. WMA LOGO and WMA SEAL</b>            A. The WMA logo shall be the Marine Corps Emblem with the head of a woman Marine superimposed on the globe.            B. The WMA seal shall be the logo with WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION inscribed within the rope circle.            C. The official WMA seal shall be imprinted on all charters; and may only be used as authorized by the Board of Directors.</p>	<p><b>4. WMA LOGO and WMA SEAL</b>  <u>A. The WMA logo as currently revised, may be used by WMA Chapters and National. (See WMA SOP and WMA website.)</u>  <u>B. The seal of WMA, as currently revised. It may be used only by WMA National or if authorized in writing by the National Board of Directors. (See WMA SOP and WMA website.)</u>  <u>C. Both the WMA logo and seal are copyright-protected.</u></p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b>            A complete rewrite of the description of WMA's logo and seal and when it can be used.</p>

<p><b>7. WMA GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS</b> (This further defines present “Regions” as cited in the WMA National Bylaws.) <b>Region 1:</b> Connecticut; Maine; Massachusetts; New Hampshire; New York; Rhode Island; Vermont; Delaware; District of Columbia; Maryland; New Jersey; Pennsylvania; Virginia; West Virginia; Alabama; Florida; Georgia; North Carolina; South Carolina; Kentucky; Tennessee; Michigan; Indiana; Ohio; UK; Europe; the Middle East; Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Canada; Caribbean Islands, and Africa. <b>Region 2:</b> Illinois; Iowa; Kansas; Minnesota; Missouri; Nebraska; Wisconsin; Arkansas; Louisiana; Mississippi; Oklahoma; Texas; North Dakota; South Dakota; Ontario, Canada; and Manitoba and Nunavut, Canada; and Mexico.</p>	<p><b>6. WMA GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS</b> (This further defines present “Regions” as cited in the WMA National Bylaws.) <b>Region 1:</b> Alabama; Connecticut; Delaware; District of Columbia; Florida; Georgia; Indiana; Kentucky; Maine; Maryland; Massachusetts; Michigan; New Hampshire; New York; New Jersey; North Carolina; Ohio; Pennsylvania; South Carolina; Rhode Island; Tennessee; Vermont; <u>Virginia</u>; West Virginia; UK; Europe; the Middle East; Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Canada; Caribbean Islands, and Africa. <b>Region 2:</b> Arkansas; Illinois; Iowa; Kansas; Louisiana; Minnesota; Mississippi; Missouri; Nebraska; North Dakota; <u>Oklahoma</u>; South Dakota; <u>Texas</u>; Wisconsin; Ontario, Canada; and Manitoba and Nunavut, Canada; and Mexico.</p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b> Administrative correction by listing States alphabetically and inserting missing states.</p>
<p><b>13. OFFICIAL WMA CAP</b> The WMA cap shall be overseas style, green with scarlet piping with lettering on the left side to read ‘WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION’ and on the right side, the chapter designation (optional). The only ornament affixed to the Cap is the small, enlisted gold gilt United States Marine Corps left collar emblem and (if applicable and purchased by owner) the gold “LIFE” pin, affixed 1/2” above and centered above the lettering ‘WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION.’</p>	<p><b>12. OFFICIAL WMA CAP</b> The WMA cap shall be overseas style, green with scarlet piping with lettering on the left side to read ‘WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION’, and on the right side, the chapter designation (optional). The only ornament <u>affixed or embroidered</u> to the Cap is the small, enlisted gold gilt United States Marine Corps left collar <u>emblem</u>; (if applicable and purchased by owner) the gold “LIFE” pin, affixed 1/2” above and centered above the lettering ‘WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION’; <u>as well as any pin authorized by the Board.</u></p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b> Identify the only items that can be affixed or embroidered to the WMA Cap.</p>
<p><b>14. CHARITABLE DONATIONS</b> Charitable donations at the national level shall be directed by the Board of Directors per applicable laws, regulations, and purposes of WMA.</p>	<p><b>13. CHARITABLE DONATIONS</b> Charitable donations at the national level shall be directed by the Board of Directors <u>in accordance with the contributors’ wishes and</u> per applicable laws, regulations, and purposes of WMA.</p>	<p><b>RATIONALE:</b> Grammatical corrections.</p>

**YOUR RECOMMENDED CHANGES MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE 15 DECEMBER 2023 FOR CONSIDERATION BEFORE A BALLOT IS SENT OUT TO THE MEMBERSHIP FOR THEIR VOTE.**



# WMA 2024 ATLANTA NATIONAL CONVENTION GEORGIA

August 8 – 12, 2024 | Hilton Atlanta, 255 Courtland Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30303

## MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORM

**ALL GUESTS MUST ALSO REGISTER TO ADD ON MEALS**

**NO REFUNDS AFTER July 25, 2024**

REGISTRATION TYPE		AMOUNT
<b>WMA Member Registration</b> Does not include meals.	<b>\$81.00</b>	\$ _____
<b>Loyal Escort Member Registration</b> Does not include meals.	<b>\$81.00</b>	\$ _____
<b>Active Duty On Orders</b> Includes all meals.	<b>\$280.00</b>	\$ _____
<b>Non-Member/Guest(s) Required</b> Does not include meals.	<b>\$81.00</b>	\$ _____

Are you planning to attend the Meet & Greet on Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Yes / No

Are you attending your first WMA Convention? Yes / No

MEAL PLANS	PRICE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
All meal events are PAY to enter.			
<b>All Meals</b>	<b>\$199.00</b>		\$ _____
<b>Opening Banquet</b>	<b>\$77.00</b>		\$ _____
<b>R&amp;A Luncheon</b>	<b>\$51.00</b>		\$ _____
<b>Closing Banquet</b>	<b>\$74.00</b>		\$ _____

**Dietary Restrictions:**

- Vegetarian
- Dairy Allergies (nuts/seeds)
- Medical (diabetic, gluten)

DONATION				
Consider an additional donation to the WMA 2022 National Convention.	<b>\$25</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>\$100</b>	\$ _____

PAYMENT SUMMARY	
Total Fee Enclosed (Registration Type + Meal Plan Selections + Donation):	\$ _____

APPLICANT INFORMATION					
Full Name:					
Mailing Address:	Street				
	City	State		Postal Code	
Email Address:				Primary Phone:	(###) ###-####
Name for Badge:				Chapter Affiliation:	(xx-##)
<b>Guest(s) Name:</b>					

**Make check payable to WMA CONVENTION**

**Mail application with payment to:**

WMA Convention Treasurer  
c/o Mary Ellen Stone  
611 Old Paint Road  
Raymore, MO 64083



# 2024 WMA Biennial Convention & Professional Development Symposium August 8 – 11, 2024, Hilton Atlanta

## Thursday 08 Aug 2024

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM Registration – Prefunction North  
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Meet and Greet – Grand Ballroom West

## Friday 09 Aug 2024

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM WMA Board Meeting – Room 209  
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM LE Board Meeting – Rooms 210/211  
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Registration – Prefunction North  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM PX set-up – Rooms 213/214  
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM PX OPEN – Rooms 213/214  
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM – Active-Duty Orientation – Rooms 210/211  
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM – First Timers Meeting – Grand Ballroom D  
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Flag Ceremony Rehearsal – Grand Ballroom East  
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Opening Reception – Grand Ballroom East  
6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Opening Banquet – Grand Ballroom East



## Saturday 10 Aug 2024

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Registration – Prefunction North  
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM WMA Business Meeting – Grand Ballroom East  
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Loyal Escorts Business Meeting – Rooms 210/211  
12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Recognition & Awards Luncheon – Grand Ballroom East  
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM PX – Rooms 213/214  
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM Workshop #1 – Grand Ballroom D  
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Workshop #2 – Grand Ballroom D  
7:00 PM - 11:00 PM Loyal Escort Hospitality – Grand Ballroom C

## Sunday 11 Aug 2024

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM Run/Walk  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Registration – Prefunction North  
10:00 AM - 11:30 Loyal Escorts Business Meeting – Rooms 210/211  
10:00 AM - 11:30 Workshop #3 “Chapter & MALs” – Room 209  
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM PX Open and Pack up – Rooms 213/214  
11:30 PM - 12:30 PM 2024-2026 LE Board Meeting – Room 210/211  
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM WMA Business Meeting/Installation - Grand Ballroom East  
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM Memorial Service - Grand Ballroom East  
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Closing Reception - Grand Ballroom East  
6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Closing Banquet - Grand Ballroom East

## Monday 12 Aug 2024

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM WMA 2024-2026 Board Mtg – Room 209

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

### 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

**Active Duty on orders must attend all events.**

**Admittance to meal events and business meetings require your bolo**

**Please be sure to attend the Business meetings.**

SAT 10 Aug at 09:00 – Grand Ballroom East

SUN 11 Aug at 12:30 – Grand Ballroom East

Includes Installation of new officers

## Reserve Your PX Table Spaces for 2024 WMA Convention – Atlanta, GA

*Strength in Diversity, Unity in Service* PX will be a great place to show off your Chapter wares and earn a bit of cash to fill your coffers. We invite you to bring your enticing goods and lead the charge on your Chapter path to financial security.

Table cost is \$50 per table.  
Make your check payable to:  
**WMA Convention**, 611 Old  
Paint Rd, Raymore, MO 64083

Credit Cards Accepted



### *Strength in Diversity, Unity in Service*

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ POC: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

ITEMS TO BE SOLD: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reservations close on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

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## Recognition and Awards

The Recognition and Awards Committee is the point of contact for the Chapters regarding Recognition and Awards (R&A) information which reports to the Convention Planning Committee (CPC). See the organizational chart. Should chapters have questions that are not answered by the current edition of 'NOUNCEMENTS, this guide, they should contact the R&A Chair at [RA@womenmarines.org](mailto:RA@womenmarines.org).

**Please note that there are major changes to the categories. Some have been deleted.**

All chapters, large and small, are encouraged to enter the competition in at least one category. The rules and prizes are delineated in detail in both the WMA Convention Guidebook and in 'NOUNCEMENTS. It's never too early to begin planning your entries! If your chapter did not enter any category at the last convention, pick one and concentrate on submitting the best entry possible for this convention. Remember, you can't win if you don't enter!

## Newsletter Competition

Purpose: To inform and stimulate interest in improving communications within and among chapters of the Women Marines Association.

### 1. **Layout and Design**

- Overall visual appeal and professionalism of the newsletter.
- Effective use of colors, fonts, and graphics.
- Clear and organized sections and headings.
- Consistency in formatting and spacing.

### 2. **Content**

- Relevance and interest of articles and features to the target audience.
- Accuracy and quality of information provided.
- Variety of topics covered (e.g., events, member profiles, achievements, updates).
- Inclusion of engaging and informative images or illustrations.

### 3. **\*\*Writing and Editing**

- Clarity and coherence of articles and stories.
- Correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation.
- Proper sentence structure and paragraph organization.
- Attention-grabbing headlines and subheadings.

### 4. **\*\*Inclusivity and Diversity**

- Representation of diverse perspectives and experiences.
- Sensitivity to gender, ethnicity, and cultural backgrounds.
- Inclusion of stories that promote equality and empowerment.

### 5. **\*\*Member Engagement**

- Opportunities for members to contribute articles, photos, or suggestions.
- Promotion of member achievements and milestones.
- Inclusion of member-submitted content (e.g., letters, testimonials, artwork).

### 6. **\*\*Readability and Accessibility**

- Font size and style that facilitate easy reading
- Proper spacing and formatting for enhanced readability.
- Chapter name, editor, volume and dates clearly shown on front page.

### 7. **\*\*Overall Appeal**

- Overall impression and enjoyment of reading the newsletter.
- Compelling and persuasive content that encourages continued readership.

### 8. **\*\*Bonus Points**

- Innovative or creative features (e.g., interactive elements, quizzes).
- Use of social media integration or links for further engagement.

### **Awards:**

a. 1st Place – A perpetual plaque inscribed “Editor’s Award for Outstanding Chapter Newsletter,” which is to be returned before the next convention. The plaque was donated by Past National President Theresa “Sue” Sousa. When returned, the chapter editor will receive at the convention an individual award plaque reading “Editor Award for Outstanding Chapter Newsletter” and bearing the winner’s name, chapter, and dates. The chapter will also receive a green streamer for its chapter colors and a certificate.

b. 2nd and 3rd Places – Receive certificates for their chapters.

### **Chapter Achievement Award**

All activities and events that support and promote the purposes of WMA should be included in a Chapter Achievement book:

#### 1. **\*\*Community Outreach**

- Participation in community service projects and events.
- Collaboration with local organizations and charities.
- Impact and benefit to the community as a result of the chapter's efforts.

#### 2. **\*\*Member Support and Engagement**

- Implementation of programs to support the well-being and development of chapter members.
- Organization of social events, mentorship programs, or networking opportunities.
- Active involvement of members in chapter activities and initiatives.

#### 3. **\*\*Promoting Women Veterans**

- Development and implementation of initiatives that empower women within the chapter.
- Promotion of opportunities within the chapter.
- Recognition and celebration of women's achievements and contributions.

#### 4. **\*\*Professional and Personal Development**

- Organization of meetings/events that benefit members. (VA Benefits, claim process, etc.)
- Provision of resources and support for members' career advancement or personal growth.
- Collaboration with Women Veteran Center to educate members on resources available.

5. **\*\*Chapter Growth and Sustainability**

- Recruitment and retention efforts to increase chapter membership.
- Development and implementation of strategies to ensure the long-term sustainability of the chapter.
- Active participation in regional or national Women Marines Association events and initiatives.

6. **\*\*Communication and Public Relations**

- Effective use of various communication channels to promote the chapter's activities and achievements.
- Quality and consistency of chapter newsletters, website, social media presence, and other communication materials.
- Public visibility and positive representation of the Women Marines Association in the community.

7. **\*\*Fundraising and Financial Management**

- Successful execution of fundraising activities to support chapter initiatives.
- Responsible management of chapter finances, including transparent reporting and accountability.
- Innovation and creativity in fundraising strategies.

8. **\*\*Collaboration and Partnerships**

- Collaboration with other Women Marines Association chapters or veteran organizations.
- Formation of productive partnerships with local businesses, educational institutions, or government entities.
- Joint initiatives or events that enhance the chapter's impact and reach.

**Awards:**

- 1st Place: Will receive a certificate from WMA, plus a blue streamer donated by the Loyal Escorts for their chapter colors.
- 2nd & 3rd Place: Receive certificates for their chapter.

**Website Awards**

Purpose:

- To inform members and recruit new members by showing the activities of the local chapters.
- To promote the goals of the Women Marines Association.

**Website Design and Navigation:**

Website layout is visually appealing and user-friendly.

Navigation menus are clear and easy to find.

Website is accessible and responsive on different devices (desktop, tablet, mobile).

Comments/Suggestions:

**Content Quality and Relevance:**

Website provides relevant information about WMA National and links to page.

Website provides relevant information about the WMA chapter's mission, events, and activities.

Content is up-to-date and accurate.

Information is presented in a clear and concise manner.

**Contact and Membership Information:**

Contact details for the WMA chapter are easily accessible.

Membership information is clear, including how to join the chapter.

**Event Calendar and Announcements:**

The website includes a calendar of upcoming events and activities.

Events are regularly updated and include relevant details.

Comments/Suggestions:

**Photo Gallery or Visual Media**

Website includes a photo gallery showcasing past events and activities.

Visual media is engaging and captures the essence of the chapter.

## Integration with Social Media:

The website is linked to the chapter's social media profiles. Social media updates are regularly integrated into the website.

## Awards:

- a. 1st Place: A perpetual plaque inscribed “Outstanding Chapter Website Award,” which is to be returned before the next convention. When returned, the chapter webmaster will receive an individual award plaque bearing the winner’s name, chapter, and dates, and reading “Outstanding Chapter Website Award.”

The chapter will also receive a silver streamer for its chapter colors and a certificate.

## Ruth & Dick Broe Award for Overall Chapter Achievement

No separate entry is required for this award. This, the highest Overall Outstanding Chapter Achievement award, is presented to the chapter which in the opinion of the judges has accomplished the most in keeping the objectives of the Women Marines Association as demonstrated by their entry in the Chapter Achievement Category.

It does not necessarily go to the Chapter with the most awards. The quality of the project is the most important key factor.

The chapter will be presented with a perpetual plaque inscribed “Ruth & Dick Broe Overall Outstanding Chapter Achievement Award,” which is to be returned at the next convention. When returned, the chapter will receive a small individual award plaque reading, “Ruth & Dick Broe Overall Outstanding Chapter Achievement Award” and the dates.

The chapter will also receive a royal purple streamer for its chapter colors. The plaque was donated by Past National President Sue Sousa. The streamer is donated by the Loyal Escorts. This award is presented at the closing banquet.

**The decision of the judges is final!**

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## And There Goes Another One!

A Marine pilot-turned-astronaut successfully led a crew into space, just months after another Marine pilot returned from a five-month stint at the International Space Station.

LtCol Jasmine Moghbeli made her first trip into space as a mission commander of SpaceX Crew-7, launching August 26th from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, according to a Marine Corps news release.

The crew — Moghbeli of NASA, Andreas Mogensen of the European Space Agency, Satoshi Furukawa of Japan and cosmonaut Konstantin Borisov of Russia — moved into the International Space Station on August 27th, according to a NASA news release.

Moghbeli started out as an AH-1 Super Cobra pilot and Marine Corps test pilot, and has accumulated over 2,000 flight hours, according to the Marine Corps release.

She was born in Bad Nauheim, West Germany, though she considers Baldwin, New York, her hometown. Her parents’ experience leaving Iran was one of her inspirations to serve the United States, she previously told Marine Corps Times.



Col Nicole Mann, originally an F/A-18 Hornet pilot, returned to Earth on March 11 after spending five months in space and conducting more than 14 hours of extravehicular activities outside of the International Space Station.

CMC Gen Eric Smith, said in the news release, “It’s inspiring to think how these Marines made a decision to serve their nation, and that decision gave them an opportunity to serve in space.”

“It gives new meaning to ‘every clime and place,’” Smith added.

*Author, Irene Loewenson  
Editor, Sondra Metzger*

**Helen Ehlers, IL-2**



*Mary Roa and Helen Ehlers with a very handsome escort!*



**Muriel Underwood, IL-2**

*Happy Birthday*



**Tess Garber, Jericho, NY**



*Tess and SSgt Melodie N. Griffin, Officer Selection Assistant, 1st Marine Corps District*



# Chapter Clippings

## CA-3 Greater San Francisco Bay Area

Greetings from the Greater San Francisco Bay Area. CA-3 continues to hold monthly meetings.

July's meeting was hosted by long-time CA-3 member Kathy Wright, celebrating Independence Day.

Our August meeting celebrated Mother's Day and was hosted by CA-3 member Bonnie Dabalos-



Castro. This was our annual backyard barbecue, and was, as usual, a rousing success.



table decorations and raffle prizes.

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, CA-3 member Lily Brockmeier supported the 23<sup>rd</sup> Marines Regiments car wash at the American Legion Redwood City. Donuts, snacks and beverages were provided to the Marines working at the car wash.

During this time period, CA-3 member Susan Johnston participated in seven memorial services as a part of the combined American Legion/ Veterans of Foreign Wars Honor Guard.

Alas, it is with a broken heart that I must report on the passing of the "heart and soul" of CA-3. Kathy Wright reported to her final duty station on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September. Kathy served CA-3 in several ways – as Historian, President, Treasurer, and Vice President. She also served at the National level as 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Kathy enlisted in the Marine Corps in January of 1965.



She served as an Admin Clerk. She was selected for Officer Candidate School, and upon being commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, was assigned as a Computer Systems Officer. She served until June of 1977, when she was discharged as a Captain. Kathy's passing leaves a huge hole in our hearts. Semper Fi Marine.



*Susan Johnston*

## CA-7 Edith Macias Van Southern California

Fall is upon us and our chapter will be busy. We are asking members to bring a toy for Toys for Tots, we are coordinating date, time, location and meal plan to celebrate the 248th Marine Corps Birthday (OORAH) and celebrate Veterans Day. CA-7 wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas!



Our 2023 Summer Social was a resounding success! On August 5th, the chapter gathered at Melinda Willett's home in Carlsbad for our annual Summer Social. We all had a wonderful time with plenty of good food, laughter and camaraderie. Our Loyal Escorts were also in attendance, doing what they do best. If you haven't joined us, put it on your calendar for 2024, usually the 1st or 2nd Saturday of August.



You'll be glad you did. A special **Thank You** to Melinda and her husband Bryce for letting us use their home once again.

Past President Kathleen Ables provided the following:

16 September 2023 - The first photo is with Elise who is a woman Marine veteran.





The second photo is Elise with MGySgt (Ret) Woody Hall and Brian Seals, the President of the Marine Artillery Association (MAA).

The third photo is Elise with the female members

of a San Diego MCJROTC.

I have known Woody for years. He remembered during a tour of one of the museums in San Diego that I had been the first woman to command a mixed-gender company since WWII. So he called me up and introduced me to the attendees. The pictures with the young women were taken at their request.



We would like to WELCOME ABOARD two new chapter members. Natalie Gordon received our postcard and came to our July muster. She joined the Marine Corps in 1967, went to Parris Island and was assigned MOS 7041, Aviation Operations Specialist. She was the honor man in her platoon and served at NATTC Memphis and MCAS El Toro. She was honorably discharged in 1969.

Bonnie Diaz also received our postcard and came to the September muster. She joined the Marine Corps in 1993, went to Parris Island and was assigned MOS 3529, Motor Transport Maintenance. She served at 3dMaint Bn, 1stMaint Bn, MSG Duty at Moscow, Costa Rica and Guatemala, SNCOA Pendleton, MCU-



EPME, I MHG, Truck Co 1stMARDIV, SYSCOM and I MEF G4. She retired 2023 and is married to (retired) Humberto Diaz. They have three sons and two grand babies. Bonnie is now pursuing her business, BASE, Bonnie's Automotive School of Excellence which helps young ladies to service their vehicles focusing on preventative maintenance and safety related issues.

Brenda Hockenull is no longer able to continue as Chapter Secretary. The board would like to thank Brenda for a wonderful job as our Chapter Secretary over these many years. We are excited and thrilled that Bonnie Diaz has volunteered to take over as Chapter Secretary.

To our Chapter Members - We are at the beginning of a convention year and at the end of our calendar year, a time when a lot is happening in the chapter. If you are able to volunteer in helping us out, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you! Semper Fidelis.

*Iris Biggers*

## IL-2 Blanche Osborne

IL-2 had a good summer. First we had a picnic at



the President's House where we enjoyed fabulous potluck, custom WMA cups, and wished Korean War Veteran Mary Roa a very Happy 96th Birthday. Mary Roa is seated on the front right chair (age 96 in June).

In addition, IL2 WMA members were represented in the group of veterans who served in Japan as guests of the Consulate-General of Japan, Tajima Hiroshi, in Chicago at his private residence for an appreciation dinner for their service.



IL-2 wished Marine Helen Ehlers a Happy 100th Birthday at her party in September and Marine Muriel Underwood a Happy 100th Birthday at her party in October.

*Stephanie Kifowit*

## LA-1 Molly Marine

On July 15, the Molly Marine Chapter, LA-1, held our monthly meeting.

On August 5, the Chapter, along with a large group of active



duty Marines from Marine Forces Reserve, G-4

which were led by our Loyal Escort, Sgt Gutierrez,



LA-1 Members at the Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge volunteer event

participated in a volunteer event at the Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge to conduct indoor and outdoor clean-up. Thanks to the large group in attendance a lot was accomplished today.

Taking care of our own: August 7, The Chapter attended the funeral service of James McCann, husband of former Molly Marine member, Karen McCann.

Community Service and volunteerism is one of the main missions of the WMA. Our Vice- President, Melanie Young, along with the Military Officers Wives Club (MOWC) appeared on the WWL Channel 4 morning show to advertise the Operation Free Ball Gown event.



At our August 19, LA-1 Chapter meeting our guest speaker was

Wendy Woodard, a member of the National Women Marines Association. Wendy spoke to the members about different retirement plans, investments, de-



ductions and more. The meeting was held at the American Legion Post 374 where new members were introduced.

On August 24, members of the LA-1 chapter attend



ed the National Montford Point Marine Association convention in Jacksonville, NC.

Melanie Young, LCpl Sugeily NievesSantiago and active duty Marines.

LCpl NievesSantiago is a member of the National Montford Point Marine Association.



On September 16, the Chapter participated in a volunteer event at the Beach Sweep to clean-up.



LA-1 Members at the Beach Sweep Clean-up at Big Branch Bayou



On September 30, the Molly Marine Chapter LA-1, held another monthly meeting at the VFW where

members discussed upcoming chapter volunteer opportunities, Operation Christmas Stocking, Mus-es Parade and the 2024 WMA Conference.

Stay tuned for LA-1's next quarter adventures.

Alice Ramos

### MO-2 MO-KAN

The MO-2 MO-KAN Chapter met on September 9th for a late breakfast meeting. In attendance were (l-r): Melisa Busby, Julia Lee, Yvette Clifford, Celia Grayless, Yinka Perry, Nancy Schumaker, and Mary Ellen Stone plus one more not in picture.



MO-2 would like to invite those Marines who live in the Kansas City, KS, or MO area to contact MO-2@womenmarines.org if they are interested in joining the chapter.

Mary Ellen Stone

## NM-1 Sandia Chapter

Greetings from New Mexico's Sandia Chapter NM-1!

The summer months have once again proven to be a busy time for our members. Near the end of June members of our Chapter were happy to be on hand at the airport to welcome home and pay our respects to the veterans returning from the 2023 Annual New Mexico Honor Flight. The returning veterans served during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.



Carla Gonzales-Schwarz, Peggy Ferris, Stephanie Pugh, and Joni Seymour at Albuquerque Sunport welcoming Honor Flight Veterans.

In July we were pleased to host Major Mariela Pena for dinner as she was traveling through our area to her new duty station in Washington, D.C. We met Major Pena at the Women Veterans conference held in Albuquerque in June and were happy to have her stop by for an evening of great conversation and a



Sharing an evening out with visiting Major Mariela Pena are Carla Gonzales-Schwarz, Roleen Younis, Stephanie Pugh, Laurel Hull, Major Pena, Tracy Tillerson, Lorena Sims, and our Woman Marine Funko Pop!

delicious dinner. What a fun evening we had and we look forward to visiting with her again when she travels through New Mexico.

co.

During our August meeting our members voted to make a monetary donation to the VA Operation We Care project which provides turkeys, hams, and gift cards for veteran holiday meals. Our members are always very generous and also voted to make an in-kind donation to help fulfill some of the basic housing needs for the VA HUD-Vash program as they help to transition homeless veterans into housing.

Member Tracy Tillerson is our super shopper and

did a great job shopping for the items needed for the HUD-Vash program. She was able to gather five sets of kitchen utensils, kitchen towels, dish and laundry soap, bath towels and washcloths, and shower curtains. The HUD-Vash program coordinators were very pleased to receive these items for the veterans setting up in their new homes.

We also like to have spur of the moment fun and a few members got together to take in some horse racing at our local track. It was a fun outing, and one of our group even had a winning ticket on the day!

So as we look forward our members are deep into preparations for the upcoming 248<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Birthday Ball. We look forward to celebrating with our Marine Corps brothers and sisters as we toast our birthday and honor the traditions of our beloved Corps. Have a great Birthday Ladies!

Semper Fidelis,  
Stephanie Pugh

## NV-3 Sagebrush

NV-3 Sagebrush Marines participated in the annual Summerlin 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade along with the Marine Corps League 186 Detachment and the newly formed Montford Point Marines Vegas Chapter. We walked the parade together and handed out candy to the kids along the route. It



was a warm day but not hot enough to cause any heat casualties.

NV-3 provided a working party to the MCL 186 Det to help make centerpieces for the 248<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Birthday Ball being held here in Vegas on November 11th.

Lastly, after our 8/17/23 chapter meeting held at The Leatherneck Club in Vegas we stayed to share



a meal together and chit-chat. Front row: Ellen, Renee, and Renee's guest. Back row: Lucrecia, Cathy, Judy and Rosemary.

Be safe out there, Marines.

*Semper Fi,  
Rosemary Abrego-Holmes*

## SC-1 Phyllis Alexander

SgtMaj Christine Henning and 1StSgt Toles hosted a women's symposium on 3 October at Parris Island titled "Find Your 'Fit.'" We were happy they invited us to attend.

This didn't mean scoring first class in a Physical Fitness Test (PFT). They explained that to be physically fit, you need to be able to accomplish your daily tasks without being exhausted at the end of the day: your job, your finances, your family, your health and nutrition; if there are problems in any of those areas you would be exhausted at the end of the day, every day.



The Marines had many questions about how to

address the way they are treated differently than the men when it comes to family matters and they don't feel they get the respect they deserve like the men.

The event was very informative. Linda and I really enjoyed it and it

appeared that so did the Marines in attendance. There were a few males and it was good for them to hear what the women are facing, and to also hear some of the challenges the males come across



*Linda Priest, SgtMaj Christine Henning, Rosa Robertson, unnamed Navy captain*

When working with women.

These women are facing the exact same challenges that we were facing 40 years ago.

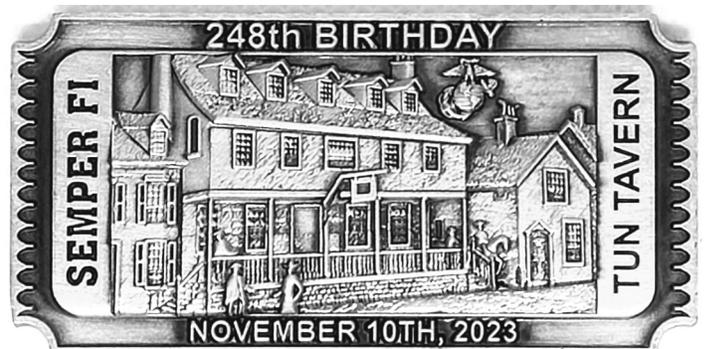
*Rosa Robertson*



Not a Marine, but he certainly deserves to be one. This member of the Old Guard walked his post at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier this past fall during **80 mph** winds.



Happy 248th Birthday, Marines! May you joyfully celebrate looking soooo



good at 248 years old!

And may all of your upcoming holidays be filled with joy, love, and many cherished memories.

# LOYAL ESCORT MEMBER APPLICATION

## APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:		
Date of birth:	Phone:	Cell:
Current address:		
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
Email:		
<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renew <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstated <input type="checkbox"/> Life <sup>i</sup> (Sponsor must be Life member)		
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 YR \$30 <input type="checkbox"/> LIFE <input type="checkbox"/> 40 AND UNDER - \$180 <input type="checkbox"/> 41-45 - \$150 <input type="checkbox"/> 46-60 - \$130 <input type="checkbox"/> 61-70 - \$105 <input type="checkbox"/> 71-80 - \$80 <input type="checkbox"/> 81+ \$55		

## SPONSOR INFORMATION

WMA Sponsor Name:	Recruited by <sup>ii</sup> :
Chapter Affiliation:	Do you live with sponsor <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Sponsor Life Member # if applicable	

## EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name of a relative <b>not</b> 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


<b>How did you hear about the Loyal Escorts?</b>	<b>Recruited By:</b>

## SIGNATURES

Signature of member:	Date:
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**Make checks payable to Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter  
Mail to: Alec Cousino 70160 Campground Romeo, Mi 48065**

<sup>i</sup> Must provide Sponsor Life member number.

<sup>ii</sup> Loyal Escort Sponsor/Recruiter is Optional.



## Women Marines Association National Membership Application

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name:						
Mailing Address:	Street				Apt/Unit #	
	City		State		Postal Code	
Date of Birth:	(mm/dd/yyyy)			Primary Phone:	(xxx)xxx-xxxx	
Email:						

### NEXT OF KIN CONTACT INFORMATION

NOK Name:						
Mailing Address	Street				Apt/Unit#:	
	City		State		Postal Code	
Primary Phone:	(xxx)xxx-xxxx			Relationship:		

### MILITARY INFORMATION

Service Start Date:	(mm/dd/yyyy)	Service End Date:	(mm/dd/yyyy)
Service Name(s):			
Plt./ Series/OCS:		MOS:	
Check box if you are a FMF Navy Service Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Attention:</b> Verification of honorable Marine Corps or Navy FMF service must be provided. This may include a DD 214, Honorable Discharge Certificate or Summary; and for those currently serving a letter on command stationary or copy of TBIR screen. Please redact any SSNs. Do not send ORIGINAL documents.	

### NOTIFICATIONS/PREFERENCES

The quarterly newsletter from WMA called 'Nouncements' is automatically sent to members in an electronic format. If you would prefer to also receive a hard copy of the 'Nouncements', please check the box.

### MEMBERSHIP SELECTION

Term Membership <input type="checkbox"/> (\$40 for 2-year Term)	Life Membership: (One-time fee based on Current Age)	\$295: Age 30 & under	\$180: Age 50 - 59
		\$260: Age 31 - 39	\$150: Age 60 - 65
		\$210: Age 40 - 49	\$120: Age 65 & over

Would you like information on a WMA Chapter within your area?

Enrolled By / How did you hear about WMA: \_\_\_\_\_

### SIGNATURE AND VERIFICATION

By my signature, I verify that all information contained within is correct and that I am eligible to apply having served or honorably serving in the United States Marine Corps or as Navy FMF qualified. I will abide by the WMA Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Signature of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail application with payment and military service record to:

Women Marines Association  
401 Edgewater Place, Suite 600, Wakefield, MA, 01880 USA

# Chapter Merchandise

Send chapter ads and ad removal requests to: [Editor@womenmarines.org](mailto:Editor@womenmarines.org).

## CLOTHING

**WMA Apron** - Chapter CA-11  
Short, three pockets with vintage WMA logo  
Cost: \$10.00 plus \$6.00 shipping  
**Contact:** Soledad Kennedy, 4062 Capella St.  
Lompoc, CA 93436  
Fax/Office: (805) 733-2176 Cell: (805) 588-0650

**Shirts, OD Green Crewneck (men's size)** - Chapter OR-1  
Footprint logo on back, flag on right arm, and a choice between two front logo options  
Size S-XL cost: \$28 plus \$4.75 shipping  
Size 2XL-3XL cost: \$30 plus \$4.75 shipping  
**Contact:** OR1@womenmarines.org



**Woman Marine Veteran Hats** - Chapter X-7  
Blue with red bill, pink Woman Marine  
Cost: \$15 plus \$5 shipping  
Black patch with red bill, red patch with black bill  
Cost: \$20 plus \$5 shipping  
**Contact:** TX7@womenmarines.org  
(for email / PayPal payments)

# MO-3 IS ON THE MOVE MERCH

**Infant & Toddler Sizes:**  
Onesies: 0-3 mos / 3-6 mos / 6-9 mos  
T-Shirts: 6mos, 12 mos, 18 mos, 2T, 3T

**Youth Sizes:**  
XS (2-4)  
S (6-8)  
M (10-12)  
L (14-16)

**SUBMIT YOUR ORDER TO:**  
MO3@womenmarines.org  
Include the quantity and size(s)  
Complete Mailing Address:  
First & Last Name, City, State, Zip

**ORDER YOURS TODAY**

You will receive a confirmation email with the amount due and you will then be instructed on how to pay using CashApp, Money Order, or by check.

## BOOKS

**Not "Just Another Cookbook"** - Chapter NC-1  
More than 100 recipes by grouping  
Size: 6"x9" - Cost: \$5.75 (includes shipping)  
**Contact:** Naomi Malone, 218 Sunset Rd.  
Jacksonville, NC 28546-7045, (910) 545-7154  
nmalone@ec.rr.com

## JEWELRY

**Charm "Semper Fi"** - Chapter OR-1  
Cost: \$5  
**Contact:** OR1@womenmarines.org



## TRAVEL MUGS

**Travel Mug** - Chapter CA-7 White aluminum with vintage green WMA logo on one side and gold "Oohrah Sisterhood Women Marines Association" centered - Size: 15 oz  
Cost: \$15 (includes shipping)  
checks payable to: EMVSC CA-7 WMA  
**Contact:** Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Dr., Oceanside, CA 92056-4011 (760) 724-9861  
Visit [www.womenmarines.net](http://www.womenmarines.net) to see the item in color



## Arctic Tumblers

 - Chapter TX-7


With 100 years Or Proud Female Veteran Marine Corps  
Cost: \$20 plus \$5 shipping  
**Contact:**  
TX7@womenmarines.org  
(for email / PayPal payments)



**WWII Poster Mug** - Chapter IN-1  
Vintage women Marines recruitment poster art,  
"Be a Marine - Free a Marine to Fight"  
Cost: \$12 each plus \$7 shipping & handling  
Make checks payable to IN-1  
**Contact:** Kay Ross, (317) 698-6637  
kayross@comcast.net



# Chapter Merchandise

## MISCELLANEOUS

### **FLAGS - Chapter CA-11**

**Car** - Vintage WMA logo - clips to car window  
Cost: \$10.00 plus \$6.00 shipping

**Table** - Vintage WMA logo with stand size 4"x6"  
Cost: \$5.00 plus \$6.00 shipping

**Contact:** Soledad Kennedy, 4062 Capella St.  
Lompoc, CA 93436  
Fax/Office: (805) 733-2176 Cell: (805) 588-0650  
usmcrfemale@yahoo.com  
www.centralcoastwomenmarines.com

**Woman Marine Plaque** - Chapter NV-3  
6 inches, wooden with vintage WMA logo

Cost: \$21.00; \$31.00 if shipping & handling included



Make checks or money orders payable to: NV-3 Sagebrush Marines or Zelle to our email address: nv3@womenmarines.org

**Contact:** Lucrecia D. Abrego, 10611 Auburn Springs Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89166

**Clear Vinyl Bag** - Chapter NC-1  
With long zipper, vintage green/white WMA logo  
Size: 9"x12" - Cost: \$6.25 (includes shipping)

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

**Ribbon Magnet** - Chapter CA-7

"Proud to be a Marine"  
Size: 8"x3" - Cost: \$6 (includes shipping)  
make checks payable to EMVSC CA-7 WMA



**Contact:** Lillian Cross, 3122 Morningside Dr., Oceanside, CA 92056-4011 (760) 724-9861  
Visit [www.womenmarines.net](http://www.womenmarines.net) to see the item in color

**Bumper Sticker** - Chapter NM-1  
"The Few, The Proud, The Women Marines"  
Cost: \$1.50 (includes shipping)

**Travel Neck Pouch** - black w/two zippered sections on one side, clear section on reverse with vintage WMA logo, adjustable strap - Size: 6.5"x4.5"  
Cost: \$5 (includes shipping)

**License Plate Frame** - weather resistant white plastic "WOMAN VETERAN" across top, "U.S. MARINE CORPS" along bottom edge  
Cost: \$20.00 (includes shipping)



Make checks payable for **all** merchandise to:  
WMA Chapter NM-1

**Contact:** Laurel Hull, 28 Tejon Canyon Rd, Placitas, NM 87043 (505) 867-9172 prism@lobo.net

Christmas ornaments!  
Each ornament is 3 1/2" x 3"  
and are made of porcelain.  
Cost: \$50 for 6 plus shipping & handling  
Contact:  
NE1@womenmarines.org



## WMA National Merchandise Sales – Your Purchases Support Our Association!

WMA Patch, Large. . . . . \$10.00  
 WMA Life Member Pin. . . . . \$10.00  
 WMA Cover Membership Pin. . . . \$10.00  
 WMA Logo Lapel Pin . . . . . \$10.00

Gold EGA for WMA Cover. . . . . \$ 10.00  
 WMA Afghan. . . . . \$ 55.00  
 WMA Ceremonial Flag. . . . . \$200.00  
 Chapter Ribbon (replacement). . . . \$ 20.00



**Cover Membership Pin**



**WMA Vintage Logo Pin**



**Vintage WMA Afghan**



**WMA Ceremonial Flag 3' x 5'**



WMA Cover with Chapter Embroidery and EGA. . . . \$55.00  
 Cover with Chapter and LIFE embroidery. . . . \$60.00  
 Sizing: Measure crown of head 1" above ears, allow for hair style  
 XSmall. . . . (20 1/2" - 20 7/8")      Small. . . . (21 1/4" - 21 5/8")  
 Medium. . . . (22" - 22 3/8")      Large. . . . (22 3/4" - 23 1/8")  
 XLarge. . . . (23 1/2" - 23 7/8")      XXLarge. . . . (24 1/4" - 24 5/8")



**Sale Items!!**

WMA Cammo Drawstring Bag. . . \$8.00  
 Turner WMA History Book. . . . \$15.00  
Above and Beyond. . . . \$10.00  
 by Rudy Socha and Carolyn Darrow

Please specify your cover size, chapter information, if "Life" is requested, shipping address, and contact information (phone number and email).

**Covers are custom ordered!  
 Please allow 4 – 6 weeks for delivery.**

Chapter Designation is limited to 5 characters max, ( i.e. CA-29 or USA 1)

**Please verify the size and information you provide**

**COVERS ARE A SPECIAL ORDER AND NOT RETURNABLE**

**(if you measure near the top of the size bracket, you may want to order the next size up...)**

**You may order any of these items on our website at [www.womenmarines.org](http://www.womenmarines.org), Shop, Members OR**

Mail the item information, quantity, your mailing address, and contact info including email address along with your check payable to **Women Marines Association** to:

WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION  
 WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS  
 401 EDGEWATER PLACE, SUITE 600  
 WAKEFIELD, MA 01880

Contact Info:  
 Phone: 1-888-523-1943  
 Email: [Membership@womenmarines.org](mailto:Membership@womenmarines.org)

WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION  
WMA 'NOUNCEMENTS  
401 EDGEWATER PLACE, SUITE 600  
WAKEFIELD, MA 01880



 **WMA** **2024**  
NATIONAL CONVENTION ATLANTA GEORGIA

8 - 12 August  
HILTON ATLANTA  
255 Courtland Street NE  
Atlanta, GA 30303

**2024** Reservations to open mid  
Aug 2023 for the hotel.

