

MILITARY Women's BULLETIN



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VOLUME MMXXI, #4

AUGUST 2021

Servicemen & women travel in comfort thanks to the efforts of MWAN Stars & Stripes Unit 36

Whether they cut, iron, sew, or stuff, Unit 36 members have dedicated a significant portion of the past 10 years to making neck pillows. In fact, on Friday, June 18th, unit members delivered their 10,000th neck pillow to the USO located at San Diego International Airport.

As any traveler will surely say, a pillow is the single most valuable comfort item whether riding on a plane, train or bus. These pillows are made with love and routinely delivered to the USO where they are free for military personnel and their family members.

The idea was born about 12 years ago when MWAN (then known as WAVES National) members in Texas made a few neck pillows to give deploying military personnel at the Dallas airport. Having served on active duty themselves, the women knew how precious handmade items were to service personnel.

But the pillow project grew! Other MWAN units worked on the project - and some still do - but San Diego Stars and Stripes Unit 36 has been the most ambitious.

Unit 36 member Barbara Ellis, a Naval Reserve officer who served from 1954-1956, coordinated the pillow effort from its inception in 2012. She recently stepped down and unit member Shirley Ferrill, a Navy veteran who served from 1954-1958, stepped up.



Stars & Stripes Unit 36 members attended a reception hosted by the USO at the Neil Ash Airport Center. (Left to right) Front row: Roxanne Jones, Esther Brasmer, Shirley Ferrill, USO Center Manager Brianna Bentley & Liz Osborne; Back row: Pandora Menegus, honorary unit member Susan Farnsworth & Lynne Pine.



Neck pillows at the San Diego airport USO are free to traveling military personnel and their families.

“It’s not just one person,” Shirley said. “It is a group project.” At monthly ‘stuffing parties’, hosted by unit members in their homes, five to 10 members gather to cut, sew, label, stuff (Continued on Page 3, “Pillows”)

→→ Don't Forget! ←←

Unit Annual Financial Report **DUE 1 Sep**

Unit Letter of Authorization **DUE 1 Sep**

October Bulletin Input **DUE 1 Sep**

The MWAN Procedures Manual is currently being revised. Please contact your Regional Representative listed on Page 10 of this bulletin, if you have questions.

Presidential Ponderings

by Patty Parks, National President

To all who took time to submit articles to this bulletin, I cannot thank you enough. The stories, events and activities you have shared are what makes our bulletin worth reading. Please keep up the great work!!

Treasury Tidbits

by Terry Taylor, Vice President for Finance

In addition to paying their annual dues, many of our members make donations to Military Women Across the Nation. We are very grateful for their generosity and acknowledge them annually in our bulletin. *Donations to MWAN are tax deductible.* The following members made donations during the past fiscal year:

Krista Beaver	Frances Loring
Merle Clark	Margaret Reason
Susan D'Ambrosio	Barbara Sheehan
Diane Diamantopoulos	Gloria Simon
Gloria Drenzek	JoAnne Smith
Annette Dunseth	Judith Sokolowski
Barbara Eastman	Linnea Sommer-Weddington
Carol Goodlin-Couture	Teresa Stamm
Donna Harnish	Eleanor Tilvikas-Borek
Byrness Haworth	Myrna Van Meter
Virginia Jorgenson	Delores Walk

In Memory of Marilyn Bosley, Unit 9

Volunteer Viewpoints

by Denise Duke, National Representative for Veterans Administration Voluntary Service (VAVS)

The VAVS National Advisory Committee (NAC) has been busy this year. In May, they held the 75th VA Voluntary Service Conference virtually with more than 400 participants. While many significant topics were discussed the single most important issue which DIRECTLY affects MWAN is membership on the VAVS NAC.

The levels of membership depend on the number of representatives an organization has throughout the VA network. The organization must have 25 representatives to maintain full membership. There was a time when MWAN

met that requirement. However, we're now struggling to meet the associate service level of 15 representatives. We have representatives at many VA medical facilities but we simply don't have enough.

CALL TO ACTION! Each and every one of you can be a VAVS representative, whether you volunteer at a local VA as an individual or with a unit. What does a representative do? You attend a quarterly VAVS meeting held at your local VA. It's that simple. When I attend the meetings, I find out about activities or identify new support programs. Then, I share the information with all veterans in my local community. My VA medical center is an hour away. So, to say it's local is a stretch, but it's the facility most veterans use. Plus, being a woman veteran, I'm able to share women's medical care issues with the facility itself. It's a win-win relationship for the facility and for the veteran.

In my desperation, I may reach out to you if I identify an unrepresented VA medical facility near you. You'll be invited to be that VAVS MWAN representative! Please take pause and consider the request. It is the most fulfilling role I've ever accepted since retiring from active military service. It's the best way we can continue to serve!

Wonders from the World Wide Web

by Lynne Pine, MWAN Webmaster

Didja Know? The QR (Quick Response) code at the right will send you to our MILWOMEN.org website.

Just point your smartphone camera at this QR code embedded within the dog tag & voila!

Consider copying the code and adding it to your brochures, handouts and other MWAN displays.



Military Women's Bulletins are sent **BULK MAIL** and will NOT be forwarded by the Post Office. Please include MWAN on ALL Address Changes in order to keep receiving your bulletin. Please send the address change 60 days before moving.

Consider Receiving Your Bulletin via Email. Contact Secretary@MilWomen.org for details.

PLEASE PRINT!

MWAN ID# _____

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

NEW Address: _____ **City:** _____ **ST:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____ **Effective Date:** _____

Mail to: MWAN Secretary Ginger Daniels, P.O. Box 314, Shattuck OK 73858-0314

OR send via Email to: secretary@milwomen.org

Miscellaneous Information ❖ 1. Military Women's Bulletin is the official newsletter for Military Women Across the Nation, Inc., a nonprofit, veteran-service organization originally chartered in California in 1979 by co-founders Jeanne Palermo, Loda Mae Dobbins and Esther Govorchin. ❖ 2. This newsletter is published six times per year in February, April, June, August, October and December by Harbor Printing Inc., 3 Graf Road, Newburyport MA 01950. Items for publication may be submitted via postal or electronic mail to the Bulletin Editor and must be received by the 1st of the month PRIOR to publication. ❖ 3. National Dues are \$25.00 per calendar year (1 Jan-31 Dec). New members pay \$35 annual dues for the first year. Unit members submit dues to Unit Treasurers; Members-at-Large submit dues directly to Vice President for Finance. ❖ 4. Membership cards are issued directly to NEW members upon receipt of their initial dues payment. Regular members will not be issued membership cards annually. Life members will be issued a permanent Life Membership card. ❖ 5. National conventions are biennial. ❖ 6. Submit all changes of address to the Secretary as soon as possible. Returned newsletters will NOT be re-mailed.

Victory in Volunteering

MWAN is a veterans' service organization. One of the services we provide is volunteer support for our brother and sister veterans as well as our communities.

Tracking the hours spent on volunteer activities helps determine the true cost of programs we operate and aids potential donors in realizing the credibility of our organization.

This year's number of volunteer hours is disappointing, mainly because the total doesn't come close to reflecting the ACTUAL hours being served. Our national volunteer hours total for June 2020 to May 2021 is **18,110**. Our membership is low, we only have about 20 active units and of course there is the dramatic impact of the pandemic. However, volunteer hours reported for June 2018 to May 2019 reflected individual unit totals of more than 10,000 hours.

Just so you know, nationally, the current value of one hour of general volunteer service is \$28.54.

Please capture your volunteer service hours on a regular basis and submit them to our national Volunteer Hours Chair Karen Warren – by mail or email – when requested next summer.

Supply Locker Stash

With Veterans' Day just around the corner, consider shopping at our Supply Locker for your gift needs. The newest item on our shelves is a lapel pin honoring women veterans!

Recently designed, the pin features the names of all U.S. Armed Forces including the newly-created Space Force, along with silhouettes of women veterans. Pictured here at its actual size of 1 3/4", the pin is secured with two frog clips and sells for \$6 plus shipping. Use the Supply Locker order form on Page 11 to order yours now!



Veterans' Health Administration's Innovation Ecosystem (VHA IE)

VHA IE is the catalyst for mission-driven health care innovation to advance care delivery and service. The following are some programs of interest to women veterans. (For more information visit: <https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/90612/> or call 800-698-2411.)

◆ **HER Space:** Healing, empowerment and resilience retreat for women: Chalmers P. Wylie Ambulatory Care Center in Whitehall, Ohio, has recognized that Military Sexual Trauma (MST) increases risk for multiple adverse health outcomes, yet nearly 50% of women Veterans with MST do not receive care through VHA. This project involved a two-day, offsite, therapeutic retreat for women Veterans with a history of MST who are unengaged or under-engaged in VA services.

◆ **PRIDE in All Who Served:** It's estimated that there are more than 1 million LGBTQ+ Veterans. LGBTQ+ Veterans are at an increased risk for health care disparities, especially suicide, due in part to discrimination and difficulty accessing health care. With the support of the VHA IE, Dr. Tiffany Lange, clinical psychologist at Hampton VA, developed the PRIDE Program, which has grown to 34 VA facilities. PRIDE is a 10-week health education program focused on reducing health care disparities among LGBTQ+ Veterans. The program focuses on overall wellness, increasing social connectedness, and empowering LGBTQ+ Veterans to engage in VHA services relevant to their personal health care needs.

◆ **START Now:** Women Veterans have higher-than-average rates of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), homelessness, poor mental and/or physical health, suicidal ideation/attempts and substance use disorders. Strength, trauma, anxiety, rehabilitation, treatment (START) Now is a strength-based program designed by Lebanon VA Medical Center in Pennsylvania to build resilience, confidence and overall well-being in women Veterans.

◆ **Through Our Eyes,** The Women Veteran's Experience Roadshow: VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System is dedicated to promoting a positive culture for women Veterans both in the VA facilities and the community at large. This portrait exhibit features images and My Life, My Story biographies, which increase the cultural awareness of the women veteran experience.

Pillows (Continued from Page 1)

and stitch pillows which are then delivered to the USO for distribution to deploying military personnel and their families. On average, about 12 to 18 pillows are delivered each week!

Unit funds are used to purchase the stuffing – ordering up to 50 pounds at a time – but the unit depends on volunteer donations of fabric and cash donations to purchase what fabric isn't donated. Sometimes they make holiday themed pillows such as green for St. Patrick's Day, hearts for Valentine's Day and holiday-specific fabric for Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. However, the most popular themes which are favorites throughout the year are military services and patriotic.



Hard at work are (left to right) Back: Carol Weiss & Pandora Menegus, Front: Thelma Fernando-Palomo, honorary member Deb Quiett, Shirley Ferrill

Shirley said they receive lots of positive feedback on the "comment" sheet adjacent to the pillow display at the airport, and occasionally, the unit will receive an email or note from a delighted recipient thanking them profusely for their work. But the unit members' primary reward is simply knowing they are providing a measure of comfort to brother and sister service members.

Whether you're a seasoned seamstress or a novice stitcher, consider starting a neck pillow project in your area. The pattern is simple and there are more than 150 USO offices nationwide which could distribute the pillows. For more information about getting started, contact Shirley Ferrill at PillowsWest@milwomen.org or (619) 267-2516.

Sound Off!

KEYSTONE WOMEN VETERANS

Unit #6 (PA) – Instead of a Memorial Day Parade this year, a special ceremony was held at Media Courthouse. Mayor Bob McMahon asked Ruthie Severino to lead the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance. The flag was flown between ladders of two strategically placed firetrucks. After the National Anthem was sung, a gun salute and Taps were provided by Vietnam Veterans of America. Veterans from different services were recognized and lunch for all veterans and their families was provided by Media VFW.

Unit members Tina Crowding and Pat Sherwood traveled to the Military Women's Memorial (also known as WIMSA) in Arlington, Virginia, to participate in Women Veterans Appreciation Day. The Women's Armed Services Integration Act, PL625, was signed into law on June 12, 1948, establishing a limited, but permanent place for women in the nation's military services. So far, 11 states have designated this date as Women Veterans Day.

Program speakers included Memorial President Phyllis J Wilson, President Emeritus Brigadier General Wilma Vaught (On the left in below photo with Pat Sherwood), and U.S. Army Surgeon General Patricia D Horoho.

A commemorative brooch designed by Ann Hand to honor Women of Valor, was introduced and identifies the wearer as an American service woman.

On Flag Day we gathered at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial to honor the 2021 Freedom Medal honorees. Representing the U.S. Navy as a recipient was our own Gladys Hoffmire Martin. Also, in recognition of her 99th birthday, she was presented with a bouquet of flowers. June Robbins was dressed as "Rosie the Riveter" and recognized as a real-life riveter during WWII. The 7th annual Freedom Medal Awards dinner will be held in November at Springfield Country Club.



(Left to right) Honorary Member Hope Anne Hart, Tina Crowding, Ruthie Severino & Freedom Medal recipient Gladys Martin.

HEART OF AMERICA

Unit #9 (KS) - We held a bi-monthly meeting June 26th at our favorite Italian restaurant. We had a good turnout and a couple of youngsters as guests. It was really great to be with friends again and enjoy the fellowship. Sadly, we lost another long-time member, Marilyn Bosley. She was one of our WWII Navy WAVES and will be missed.



(Left to right) Nellie Croke, Beverly Hagen, Lois Hardeman, Darlene Miella, Phyllis Rosales, and Michele Batliner.

SAN DIEGO STARS AND STRIPES

Unit #36 (CA) – Unit members met at American Legion Post 434 in Chula Vista on June 5th. We opted for a picnic lunch on the patio with 10 members and one guest present. President Monica O'Hara is off on summer travel to the mid-west while current First Vice Roxanne Jones conducts the meetings.

Now that California is opening up, we hope to see more members at the meetings. Ideas were discussed as to what future activities we could support.

Lynne Pine gave the finance report due to the Treasure's absence. Sherry (and her twin sister) have their hands full being caretakers for their dad, and recently another sister has been seriously ill as well. Prayers to all and we stand by if assistance is needed. Our next unit meeting is set for August 7th at the Coronado VFW Post. **Contact Roxanne Jones at (619) 274-1606 for more information.**

MILITARY WOMEN OF TAMPA BAY

Unit #55 (FL) – On Armed Forces Day, unit members joined the John Donaldson Jr. Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Colonists (DAC) in presenting the Medal of Award to Mission BBQ, Brandon FL recognizing their patriotic service in accordance with their corporate motto "Proudly Serving Those Who Serve." Crystal Haytasingh Mission BBQ's Community Ambassador, accepted the award.



Representing MWTB55 (Left to right) front row are Jouay Koppari & Cathy Gerolimatos. Representing the DAC & Mission BBQ (Left to right) back row are Nathalie Tomczak; Roberta Jordan (also an MWTB55 member), Crystal Haytasingh, Rebecca Bandy, Cynthia Zanne, Jane Schafer & Caroline Bosbyshel.

In accordance with long-standing tradition, MWTB55 kicked off its summer hiatus with a luncheon at Jesse's Steak & Seafood. This is an opportunity to get together with

MILITARY WOMEN OF TAMPA BAY #55 (Continued)

family, friends and potential new members. It was happenstance that the luncheon took place June 12th which has been designated Women Veterans Day in Florida.



(Left to right) In back: Harriet Montoya & Denise Finlay; In front row: Linda Langdon, Kathleen VanMiddlesworth, Lee Martin, Roberta Jordan, Jouay Koppari, 'Soldier Girl', Pattie Duvall & Cathy Gerolimatos

Our next big event is October's Field of Honor which honors those who have lost their lives in service to the U.S. including the repatriated remains of KIA/MIA from WWII, Korean and Vietnam Wars. Also, beginning in August, the unit's Wreaths Across America (WAA) Committee will begin gearing up for December's WAA program at Veterans' Memorial Park.

REDWOOD EMPIRE MILITARY WOMEN

Unit #77 (CA) - We recently participated in a couple of outdoor events, and - at long last - we held our first unit meeting in more than a year July 10th. Memorial Day found us at the veteran section of Cypress Hill Cemetery along with the other Veterans Service Organizations. On July 1st we were invited to the Pacific Air Museum honoring WWII and Korean War veterans.



Rose Nowak (Left) & Glenn Ross of the VFW



(Left to right) Representing our unit at the museum were (L to R, above) Rose Nowak, Korean-era WAVE Emily Sousa, Teri Wright and WWII WAVE Mary Lou Loustalot at 97 years young.

As we move forward, we will continue having monthly meetings until November and December. Plans are in the works for the November Veterans' Day Parade where Unit 77 members will be the Grand Marshals. This opportunity was rescheduled when the 2020 parade was modified due to safety concerns. Additionally, we will continue performing community service with other Veteran Service Organizations and supporting our sister women veterans at Yountville Veterans Home.

Sound Off!

TRIANGLE WOMEN VETERANS

Unit #144 (NC) - In June, TWV hosted what we hope will be our final Zoom meeting due to COVID restrictions.



(Left to right) Top row: Annette Stevenson, Brenda Brubaker, Christine Milam & Jerry Brunton, Bottom row: Jill Blakeney, Jo Flack, Pat Childers & Scottie Hudson,

The program covered two significant events: Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948 which granted women the right to serve as permanent, regular members of the armed services, and Juneteenth, the now-federal holiday celebrating the emancipation of those who had been enslaved in the U.S. dating back to June 19th, 1865.

After the meeting the unit held a Beach Blanket Bingo social. Pat Childers (Below left) and Jerry Brunton (Below right) tied for "beachiest" outfits with Jerry winning the game of bingo. Visa \$25 gift cards were given as prizes.



Congratulations to unit member Nelly Onate on her recent promotion to Navy Master-at-Arms Senior Chief!

MEMPHIS BELLES

Unit #151 (TN) - Unit members memorialized their unit's last WWII veteran, Charlotte Larson, who passed away in December 2020.

Charlotte (Pictured in uniform at right circa 1944) enlisted in the Navy in May 1943. She served as a Pharmacist Mate until shortly after her 20th birthday.



Sound Off!

MEMPHIS BELLES #151 (Continued)

While stationed in Corpus Christi, Texas, she met the love of her life, Navy man Bill Larson. Married in January 1945, Charlotte was a devoted wife and mother and raised a daughter and two sons. She worked full-time for many years and volunteered in scouting and Eastern Star activities. A favorite Sunday School teacher, she continued to teach until her health began failing at age 96.



Charlotte pictured during her trip to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, with the Forever Young organization.

A charter member of Unit 151, Charlotte was proud of her service in the WAVES. She held various unit offices, regularly attended local and national functions, and was always ready to promote and support military women.

Charlotte was loved by all who knew her and will be dearly missed by her military sisters. Fair Winds & following seas, Charlotte.

MILITARY WOMEN OF TIDEWATER

Unit #152 (VA) - YAY! We were finally able to resume our monthly meetings in July. It was so good to see our members and have an opportunity to socialize. Members continued to serve and support the community of veterans among us, as well as their own communities,

Dassa and husband Jerry Carvey made ice cream for the community picnic and followed on by providing more ice cream for their local police precinct picnic, sponsored by the Virginia Beach Community Action Committee.

Jo Heimerl has been tracking our Unit's volunteer hours and reports she submitted 4,438 hours to national. Due to the pandemic, our total hours were less than usual but we anticipate a significant increase this coming year as restrictions are lifted and our area returns to "normal."



April Maletz & family come through for the Norfolk USO!

We recently had a call out that the USO at Norfolk International Airport needed supplies - both food and non-food items - to support our troops stopping by for a respite between flights. Unit member, April Maletz (Pictured at bottom of previous column) and her family went shopping and presented our donation to the USO.

We meet monthly, at VFW 4809, Norfolk, VA. For meeting information, contact Dassa Carvey, at dassahsg@gmail.com or (757) 363-3059

SALT RIVER MILITARY WOMEN

Unit #155 (AZ) - It is with great sorrow that we had to say goodbye to 'Silkie' (Pictured below). She was a dedicated service dog to member Georganne Bickle and a loyal member of her family for more than 12 years. Silkie's sudden, unexpected departure left her family unprepared to deal with her loss. She was a loving girl who captured many hearts at the MWAN national conventions, regional meetings and in our local unit. We know she is in Heaven running healthy, happy, and free. She will be deeply missed by many.



We love you Silkie!



TRISTATE WOMEN VETERANS

Unit #157 (TN) - Several unit members continued our annual tradition of marching in the Chattanooga Armed Forces Parade early in May.



(Left to right) Danette Skyles, Teena Gravitt, Joyce Campbell, Louise Jones & her twin sister Diane Howard. (Sorry, Tidewater: Your loss is definitely our gain!!)

Later in May we enjoyed another "Red Shirt Lunch" to again announce the presence of military women in our community! More than 15 members attended the luncheon along with six guests. We all wear red shirts to draw attention to ourselves and continuously announce our "militaryness" by shouting military slogans, singing, etc. Not very ladylike, but VERY effective: We signed up a new Coasty and another Marine: Ooh-Rah!!!

We closed out the month by parading our colors at the Memorial Day Service conducted adjacent to Chattanooga National Cemetery. (Photos on Page 7)

TRISTATE WOMEN VETERANS #157 (Continued)



Red Shirt Lunch Gals! (Left to right) Top row: Michelle Brown, Penny Manna, Louise Jones, Shelly Galloway, Patty Parks, Diane Howard, our new Coasty Jo Schendel, Beth Wingfield, Gloria Gray, Cathy Brown & our new Marine Bobbi Taylor; Bottom Row: Renee Chisholm, Teena Gravitt, Deborah James & her civilian guest Evelyn Grimes, Danette Skyles, Diana Rand & Carla Bell.



Memorial Day representatives (Left to right) Sheil Billings, Glora Gray, Beth Wingfield & Patty Parks.

NEW ENGLAND

Unit #158 (RI) – Unit members marched in the Bristol, Rhode Island 4th of July Parade.



(Left to right) Dora Vasquez-Hellner, Sharron Lee Hardy Zapor, GinaMarie Doherty, Dottie DiLullo & Gretchen Vierling-Cutlip.

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE, NEBRASKA

The sad news is Flatwater Women Veterans Unit 98 members decided to disestablish on Jun 15th. The good news is they plan to continue getting together!

On Saturday, June 26th, they met at the Blair Public Library and are now saving memorabilia for the library's Veterans Day display set for November. Pictured at top of next column (From left to right) are Linda Cady/Navy, Suzanne Gilsdorf/Navy, Pat Hunsche/Navy, Carol Tschampl-Deising/Army and Deb Wehrli/Army.

Sound Off!



MEMBERS-AT-LARGE, NEVADA

MWAN members from Nevada got together for the first time in more than a year! Pictured below (From left to right) are Carol Watson, Yvette Weigold, Edith Hicks, Elaine Chin, Peggy Randle, Barb Sebring, Sandy Clasen, Marilyn Schall, Sheila Tuttle and Mary Harmon



MEMBER-AT-LARGE, OHIO

Teresa "Terry" (Hanst) Stamm served in the Navy from 1955 to 1959 as a Yeoman 3rd Class. A former member of WAVES National Lake Erie Unit 128, Terry has been a MAL for many years and misses visiting with her military sisters.



She lives on her family's farmland in northwestern Ohio, but rents out the work of farming beans and corn to others. Years ago, she and her late husband Tom enjoyed camping and often spent time in Bowling Green, Florida.

These days, when Terry is not visiting her sons or daughter (a retired marine!), her volunteer work keeps her busy. She spends an evening each week at her church putting the finishing touches on quilts, and provides respite for the husbands of two friends plagued with dementia.



Terry (above right in the 1950's & lower left in 2017) is featured in **A Pictorial History of Navy Women, 1908-1988, Volume Two** on Pages 9 & 186-7.

Meet Your National Staff!

This feature will be presented as bulletin space is available. The mini biographies (presented in random order) were written by each staff member. If you see where your military or travel path may have crossed with one of these gals, don't hesitate to reach out and get to know each other!

Also, keep in mind these are not "career" positions. Please consider stepping up to one of the jobs in the future. Finally, ALL MWAN positions are volunteer, with some travel reimbursement available for elected officers who are expected to attend annual board meetings. No one is paid for the job she does.

Martha Alderman is Region 3 Representative and lives in Arizona.



I have been a member of MWAN for 10+ years starting with the Cactus WAVES then as a Charter member of Salt River Unit. I am currently the vice president and have held each office over the years. I retired from the Navy as a Chief Petty Officer in 1999 and still miss the unique challenges & opportunities.

I'm always "up" for involvement with my fellow veterans, which is why I was a benefits counselor for 12 years and am now a volunteer American Legion Service Officer at my post. We have a great Arizona Military Women's Luncheon annually (except in 2020) and I'm always part of the planning committee because I just love being with so many women veterans.

My husband & I are "child-free" but we have fur babies. We enjoy camping, kayaking and anything that gets us out of the summer heat here in the Sonoran Desert, to which I am a native. I also love to travel, cook and hike. I have a great life!

Michele Diamond is Region 13 Representative and lives in Rhode Island.

I joined MWAN in 2018. Although it's only been a couple of years, I plan a lifetime of membership in support of my sisters in arms.

I'm a native Rhode Islander, married to Jim and have two wonderful daughters: Tamra from New York and Meghan from Rhode Island, and two grandsons, Camden and Ashton. I'm a graduate of Rhode Island College with a bachelor's in Nursing, and I am certified in case management.

I joined the Army Reserve in 1995 as a 2nd Lieutenant in the nurse corps and retired as a Major in 2017. Iraq was my first tour in a war zone. However, I've also served on Native American reservations as well as on humanitarian missions in South and Central America during times of conflict between Chile, Bolivia and Peru.

I continue to serve veterans as the Nurse Transfer/Travel Veteran Coordinator at the Providence VA Medical Center.



My appointment as Minority Veteran Program Coordinator affords me the opportunity to work with diverse populations advocating their concerns and assisting them with navigating the VA system.

When not working at the VAMC I keep busy volunteering for Operation Stand Down and Disabled American Veterans Post 22 in Cumberland. I was selected as Rhode Island Female Veteran of the Year in 2019 and serve as a member on the Veterans Business Administration Selection Committee for future candidates.

Michele Batliner is Region 9 Representative and lives in Missouri.



I joined the Navy at 18. I attended boot camp in Orlando and was sent to Naval Training Command Bainbridge, Maryland, for Radioman "A" and "C" schools. I was then ordered to NAS Bermuda where I met and married a Marine. I resigned from the service just before the birth of our first child. You could do that back then. My husband was

transferred to 29 Palms, California, which is where I started my federal employment.

After we separated, I moved to Kansas City and resumed my federal employment as the first woman carpenter in the region. I joined the Naval Reserve and was assigned to a NATO unit home-based in Norfolk, Virginia. That was the best six years of my life! I remarried, had two more children and now have 12 grandkids.

After 36 years of government service, I retired as a journeyman electrician. I love my fellow veterans and spend many hours volunteering at American Legion Post 21. I'm also a member of the all-female American Legion Post 1107. I've been a member of MWAN since 2005 and a Regional Representative for many years. I love it!!!





MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Military Women Across the Nation (MWAN)

Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____
First Middle Maiden Last

Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip

E-Mail Address: _____ Unit No. or MAL _____

Birthday: Day _____ Month _____ Year _____ Branch of Service: _____

Dates of Service: From: _____ To: _____

Highest Rank/Rate: _____ Basic Training: _____

Training schools: _____

Primary/Last duty station: _____

College/special talents: _____ Referred by: _____

MEMBERSHIP shall be extended to military service women who served or are serving honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces, both regular and reserve components to include the National Guard and Maritime Services. Membership includes an E-MAIL subscription to *Military Women's Bulletin* published six times per year. **IF YOU PREFER a black & white printed bulletin mailed via USPS Bulk Mail, initial here: _____**

"I certify that I meet the eligibility requirements of MWAN and I can produce a copy of my military identification, DD214 or other honorable discharge document upon request."

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

First Time, NEW Member Dues are \$35 for the period of 1 Jan through 31 Dec

Initial Annual Dues for **First Time, NEW Members** joining after 1 Sep shall cover the remainder of the current year AND the full, following calendar year.

First Time, New Members will receive an MWAN Membership Card and MWAN T-Shirt:

Please select preferred Unisex T-Shirt size: **S** **M** **L** **XL** **2X** **3X**

Annual Renewal & Reinstatement Dues are \$25 for the period of 1 Jan through 31 Dec

LIFE MEMBERSHIP IS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS 90 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER for \$30.00

New members joining through a local unit, make check payable to the local unit. The local unit treasurer will submit the payment and application to the MWAN Vice President for Finance.

New members-at-large make check payable to "MWAN" and mail with this completed and **SIGNED** application to: Terry Taylor, MWAN Vice President for Finance
10105 E Via Linda, Ste 103-253, Scottsdale AZ 85258.

PLEASE MAKE A COPY OF THIS APPLICATION FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR UNIT.

A tax-deductible donation to MWAN in the amount of \$ _____ is included in the attached check.

(For office use only) _____ MWAN National ID # _____

MWAN National Officers & Staff 2020-2022

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2020-2022 Regional Representatives

REGION I: California, Hawaii, Nevada

Representative: **Donna Lee**, 702-595-1879/NV
RR1@milwomen.org

REGION II: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington

Representative: **Caren McCurdy**, 503-679-7429/WA
RR2@milwomen.org

REGION III: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah

Representative: **Martha Alderman**, 623-810-9328/AZ
RR3@milwomen.org

REGION IV: Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming

Representative: **Annette Dunseth**, 701-509-5412/ND
RR4@milwomen.org

REGION V: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin

Representative: ***VACANT*** (Contact VP for Membership)
RR5@milwomen.org

REGION VI: Florida

Representative: **Jouay Koppari**, 813-684-1668/FL
RR6@milwomen.org

REGION VII: Oklahoma, Texas

Representative: **Sue Gunnell**, 281-712-1984/TX
RR7@milwomen.org

REGION VIII: Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi

Representative: ***VACANT*** (Contact VP for Membership)
RR8@milwomen.org

REGION IX: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska

Representative: **Michele Batliner**, 816-315-9229/MO
RR9@milwomen.org

REGION X: Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee

Representative: **Beth Wingfield**, 706-508-5612/GA
RR10@milwomen.org

REGION XI: Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia

Representative: **Jennifer Baun**, 314-803-8643/OH
RR11@milwomen.org

REGION XII: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland,
New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia

Representative: **Hortense Toliaferro**, 215-327-7384/NJ
RR12@milwomen.org

REGION XIII: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New
Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

Representative: **Michele Diamond**, 401-824-6786/RI
RR13@milwomen.org

MWAN Regional Map



Contact information for each Regional Representative is provided in the chart to the right.

MWAN Supply Locker

AUGUST 2021

Name: _____ (Why not use a return address label here!)

Address: _____ **City** _____ **ST** _____ **Zip** _____

Did you circle the type/size and/or color on items?? Double Check please! ****Phone Number:** ()

Price per piece...X Number you want = total cost for item(s)

PATCHES

- MWAN 2½" (caps) \$ 3 X _____ = _____
- MWAN 3" (shirts) \$ 4 X _____ = _____
- MWAN 8½" (vest) \$10 X _____ = _____
- US Navy WAVES Veteran (circle) \$4 X _____ = _____
- Patches: Navy Flag or Services (USN, USAF, USMC, USCG, ARMY) \$4 X _____ = _____
- American Flag Patch (3½"x2") \$4 X _____ = _____
- Proud to Serve (square) \$5 X _____ = _____
- Women are Veterans, Too \$5 X _____ = _____
- WAVES Anchor (old style) \$4 X _____ = _____
- Vietnam Era Eagle \$6 X _____ = _____

JEWELRY & PINS

- MWAN Coin \$10 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Lapel pin \$ 4 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Charm \$ 7 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Earrings \$12 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Coin Keychain \$12 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Mouse Pad \$6 X _____ = _____
- Original Hat Pin \$10 X _____ = _____
- Anchor & Prop Earrings \$14 X _____ = _____
- Anchor & Prop Charm \$ 7 X _____ = _____
- Anchor & Prop Lapel Pin \$ 4 X _____ = _____
- Veteran Lapel Pins \$ 4 X _____ = _____
(USN, USAF, USMC, ARMY)
- Little Lady WAVE w/Flag Pin \$4 X _____ = _____
- Vietnam Era Pins \$6 X _____ = _____
- Dogtag Pin (Women Proudly Served) \$5 X _____ = _____
- Freedom Forever Eagle Pin \$5 X _____ = _____
- US Flag & Service Flag Pin \$4 X _____ = _____
(USN, USAF, USMC, ARMY)
- USN Hat Pin (Spread Eagle w/USN) \$8 X _____ = _____
- USN Crest Lapel Pin \$4 X _____ = _____
- US Navy Lapel Pin \$4 X _____ = _____
- USN Patriotic Ribbon Pin \$4 X _____ = _____
- POW/MIA Lapel Pin \$5 X _____ = _____
- Department of Navy Lapel Pin \$4 X _____ = _____
- Service Crest Lapel \$4 X _____ = _____
(USN, USAF, USMC, USCG, ARMY)
- Service Dogtag Pins \$5 X _____ = _____
(USN, USAF, USMC, ARMY)
- US Vet Stars/Stripes Lapel Pin \$9 X _____ = _____
- Honoring Women Veterans Pin \$6 X _____ = _____**

MWAN CLOTHING ITEMS

- Neck Tabs, Black w/Velcro \$12 X _____ = _____
- Garrison Caps (includes patch) \$23 X _____ = _____
Sizes: 21, 22, 23, 24, 25
- MWAN Visor \$12 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Ball Cap \$12 X _____ = _____
- MWAN T-Shirt \$15 X _____ = _____
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL
- MWAN Polo Shirt \$30 X _____ = _____
Gray or White Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL
- MWAN Jacket \$32 X _____ = _____
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL
- MWAN Sweatshirt \$22 X _____ = _____
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL
- MWAN White Dress Shirt \$34 X _____ = _____
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL, 5XL
- Patriotic Scarf (100% Polyester) \$4 X _____ = _____

ITEMS OF INTEREST

- American Veteran Bracelet \$5 X _____ = _____
- 2016 Convention Pin \$2 X _____ = _____
- 2016 National Convention Patch \$1 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Playing Cards \$10 X _____ = _____
- Canvas Key Chain/Stars & Stripes \$6 X _____ = _____
- 2016 National Convention Coin \$6 X _____ = _____
- US Navy WAVES Veteran Magnet \$3 X _____ = _____
- Mini-Flags Set (MWAN & American) \$10 X _____ = _____
(flags are 6"x4" with weighted gold base)
- MWAN Window Decal \$3 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Magnets \$2 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Car Magnet (8" Oval) \$5 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Pencils (2 each) \$1 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Pens (5) \$4 X _____ = _____
- WAVES Key Chain, Rubber \$5 X _____ = _____
- DD214 Alumni Decal \$6X _____ = _____
- MWAN Flags (3'x5') \$80 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Table Coverings \$120 X _____ = _____
- MWAN PopSockets \$10 X _____ = _____
3 for \$20. X _____ = _____

NAME BADGE W/MWAN PUCK \$15 X _____ = _____

Double clutch back **OR** Magnet back (circle one)
 Name on Badge: _____
 Nickname/Maiden: _____
 Unit or Other Info: _____
 Branch: _____ Years / From _____ To _____
 (**Use back of form if you need more space**)

NEW ITEM

****Shipping Cost****

Up to \$40 = \$8; \$41-\$100 = \$15; \$101 & above = \$20
 Check/MO #: _____ **NO PHONE ORDERS**

Subtotal: \$ _____
ADD Shipping: \$ _____
TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

Make checks/Money Orders payable to MWAN SUPPLY LOCKER
 Mail check with Order Form to: Linda Coffield, 95 Vernon Street, Atoka, TN 38004
 Questions? Call: (901)488-4153 or Email: LindyC1951@gmail.com

=====

NOTE: MWAN Ladies White Dress Shirt **RUN SMALL** (Ladies cut).
 POLO Shirts are unisex, sizes run larger; I suggest you order a size smaller.



Silver Taps

U.S. Navy

Marilyn J. (Marlatt) Bosley	009/KS
Yvette M. (Richard) Vary	118/RI
Amanda R. (Hottel) Colby	MAL/AZ
Sylvia (Ascher) Levine	MAL/FL
Elizabeth C. (Jordan) Hickcox	MAL/GA
Martha N. (Haigler) Warth *	MAL/GA
Alice (Hart) Johnson	MAL/ME
Louise (Temple) Pike *	MAL/MD
Mildred E. (Allen) Lairson	MAL/MI
Jeanette E. (Antaillia) Cooksey	MAL/NV
Betty Jean "B.J." (Rose) Carlile	MAL/TX
Mary A. (Buretz) Hinman	MAL/VA
Martha E. Mee	MAL/WA
Betty (Spooner) Meyer	MAL/WA



*Gone but never
 forgotten*

*MAL = Member at large * Denotes Charter Member of WAVES National*
 Submit all MWAN member Silver Taps info to Ginger Daniels, P.O. Box 314, Shattuck OK 73858-0314 or secretary@milwomen.org

MEMBER-AT-LARGE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

(Dues period 1 January to 31 December)

*Please type, print
 or use address label*

Name: _____ Member ID #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

NOTE: Future newsletters will be sent via email. If you Prefer A Printed Copy, please check here

Phone: _____ *Life Membership for those 90 years & older is a one-time payment of \$30.*

National Dues for 1 year are **\$25.00** + Tax Deductible Donation \$ _____ = **Total Amount:** \$ _____

Please enclose a check or money order made payable to "MWAN", and submit with this form to:

Terry Taylor, VP for Finance, 10105 E Via Linda, Ste 103-253, Scottsdale AZ 85258-5362

First-time applicants must use the MWAN membership application available online at www.milwomen.org