

# MILITARY Women's BULLETIN



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VOLUME MMXXII, #2

APRIL 2022

## Women Veterans Memorial Dedicated in Florida

By Cathy Gerolimatos

Monuments honoring military women were unveiled at Veterans Park on Okaloosa Island near Fort Walton Beach, Florida, during a Veterans' Day program this past November.

Attended by Region 6 Representative Jouay Koppari and Unit 55 Treasurer Cathy Gerolimatos, the formal dedication of the Women Veterans Memorial was conducted inside the Destin-Fort Walton Beach Convention Center where Air Force Colonel Allison Black, vice commander of the 24th Special Operations Wing, delivered the keynote speech. Attendees included the monuments' sculptor, Jon Hair; women veteran residents from the nearby Bob Hope Village Retirement Community; Elgin Air Force Base dignitaries; officials of Fort Walton Beach; representatives from the Daughters of the American Revolution, and residents of the local community.

"What an incredible way to celebrate Veterans Day," said Black who has served some 20 years in the military, so far.

"The women memorialized here in the park represent the best of all of us. Like all of their brothers and sisters in uniform, past and present, they kept the promise that we will bear any burden and endure any hardship in the cause of freedom."



Cathy Gerolimatos (left) and Jouay Koppari pose with the statue of Korean War veteran Jonita Ruth Bonham-Bovee.

The program continued at the park with sculptor Jon Hair removing the cover from the first of eight, life-sized bronze statues which are arranged along a picturesque, paved trail. The women featured in the park are:

◇ Margaret Corbin, Revolutionary War: Recognized by the U.S. Government for her bravery and sacrifice.

◇ Cathay Williams, Civil War: The only documented black woman who served as a soldier in the U.S. Army.

◇ Lenah Higbee, World War I: The first woman recipient of the Navy Cross.

◇ Jacqueline Cochran, World War II: The first civilian woman awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

◇ Jonita Ruth Bonham-Bovee, Korean War: The first woman awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

◇ Sharon Ann Lane, Vietnam War: The only American nurse killed as a direct result of enemy fire.

◇ Leigh Ann Hester, Gulf War: The first woman soldier awarded the Silver Star for Valor since WWII.

◇ Naseema, War in Afghanistan: A native of Afghanistan, she was fluent in Pashto and deployed as an aircrew linguist earning several medals for combat missions.



Statue of Civil War soldier Cathay Williams flanked (left to right) by Jouay Koppari, CDR Desley Parker & Cathy Gerolimatos

Home to native wildlife and vegetation, the park is situated on the Choctawhatchee Bay coastline and pays homage to the military which has played an integral role in sculpting the Okaloosa County community. There is no charge to visit the memorial, which will be open during regular park hours. (Photos of the other six statues are on Page 3.)

→→ Don't Forget! ←←

2022 NATIONAL DUES ARE DELINQUENT

June Bulletin Input DUE 1 May

Unit President Status Reports DUE 1 June

Volunteer Hours DUE 1 July

Please contact your Regional Representative listed on Page 10 of this bulletin, if you have questions.

## Presidential Ponderings

by Patty Parks, National President

Dear ones: Yes, as sister military women, each of you is very dear to me. And, while we all experienced the trials of being women in a predominantly male profession, each of us carries a unique satchel of memories. It was the desire to share those memories which fueled the foundation of our organization more than 40 years ago. At our membership peak, we boasted about 9,000 members. That's 9,000 exclusive gals who wanted to share their lives and memories with each other.

Some laughed all the time; some spoke only of the hardships; some reveled in how they overcame the hardships, and some chose to keep their memories private. But they all wanted to be with others who'd "been there".

Now, our membership has dwindled to less than 1,000. However, that's STILL 1,000 exclusive gals who want to share their lives and memories with each other. Don't we owe it to them, to keep our organization going?

When we had 9,000 members, there were about 75 national, regional and state positions necessary to support our national organization. Well, my friends, we are still a national organization, but we have reduced the number of national, regional and state jobs to 17 in an effort to continue providing national support for our sisters.

Yet, with our election only two months away, we don't have enough volunteers to fill those 17 positions critical to our survival.

Please consider stepping up to a position of leadership so our current members, and the two million-plus military women nationwide will continue to have somewhere to share their lives and memories.

## Volunteer Viewpoints

by Denise Duke, National Representative for VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement (VACDCE)

I hope everyone is well. Things are getting back to normal for me here in Alabama. Our local clinic is seeing patients and I have been able to assist in their processing. I've also been delivering neck pillows and lap blankets to Tuscaloosa for the resident veterans. Activities have been kept to small groups for now but they are picking back up.

# Officers' Call

The VAVS NAC Conference will be held April 27<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> in Colorado. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend due to a conflict of schedules. I have been in contact with them though and all information will be sent to me electronically so I can share it with you.

Annual reviews for VAVS volunteers will be due in April. As in the past two years they may or may not be completed. It will depend on local facility manpower.

Thank you all for your continued work in serving our country and our treasured Veterans!!!

## Supply Locker Scoop

by Linda Coffield, Supply Locker Officer

Unfortunately, several Supply Locker products as well as shipping prices have been increased.

When new orders were placed to restock supplies, I was met with increased product costs across the board.

Additionally, the postage charged to members has remained the same for many years, even though postage rates have steadily increased each year. This month's order form reflects the increased costs.

Just so you know, the Supply Locker is not designed to be a fundraiser or even a money-making venture. However, we must charge at least what is paid for the products we sell.

I hope you understand and will continue to use the Supply Locker for your patriotic and MWAN logo purchases.

Finally, I will be unable to attend the 2022 MWAN National Convention in Arizona due to previous commitments. However, I am making arrangements to have a Supply Locker of sorts available with special deals for those attending convention. Details will follow.

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**Consider Receiving Your Bulletin via Email.** Contact [Secretary@MilWomen.org](mailto:Secretary@MilWomen.org) for details.

PLEASE PRINT!

### ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

PLEASE PRINT!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ MWAN ID # \_\_\_\_\_  
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 E-mail to:** [secretary@milwomen.org](mailto: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. ❖ 3. Items for publication may be submitted via electronic mail to [editor@milwomen.org](mailto:editor@milwomen.org) and must be received by the 1st of the month PRIOR to publication. ❖ 4. Submit all changes of address as soon as possible. ❖ 5. Returned newsletters will NOT be re-mailed.



**Florida Women Veterans Memorial Statues (Continued)**



Above (left to right) Margaret Corbin, Revolutionary War; Lenah Higbee, WWI; Jacqueline Cochran, WWII.  
Below (left to right) Sharon Ann Lane, Vietnam War; Leigh Ann Hester, Gulf War; Naseema, War in Afghanistan.



**In Memory...**

By Michele Batliner

I wish to honor all the WWII women who have been such a large part of Heart of America Unit 9 in Missouri, since it was chartered in 1983.



Two of these women have been especially dear to me. I enjoyed taking them to our meetings and events, and hearing all the wonderful stories they shared about their time in the Navy. I admired them for all they had accomplished in their lives. They were trailblazers and didn't even realize it!

These two women have left our ranks and are now with our Supreme Commander. Fair Winds and Following Seas to Marilyn Bosley and Midge Halastik. You are forever in our hearts.

*The Wild West is calling!*

**MWAN 2022 National Convention**  
**Save the Dates: 22-24 Sep 2022**  
 Reservation & hotel details will be in your  
**Call to Convention**  
 Set to arrive in your inbox/mailbox Next Month!



**About the climate in Phoenix...**

By Martha Alderman, Region 3 Representative

Hello sister military women. So, you're planning to attend the 2022 MWAN National Convention? Yippee!! My unit, Salt River Military Women #155, is hosting, and we're planning a great return to this terrific event.

As you know, the convention is being held later in the year than usual. That's because Phoenix is located in the Sonoran Desert, and we're hoping it will be a little cooler at that time.

As a native of Phoenix – and, no, we are NOT “Phoenicians” – I'm providing a few things about our weather you need to know:

- ☀ Even though your calendar shows September 22<sup>nd</sup> is the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Autumn, that, frankly, doesn't mean much to us desert natives. The average high temp is 100 degrees with most days at about 90 degrees. The average low is 78 degrees, and it never dips below 60.
- ☀ Our days are long, so it's hot for several hours.
- ☀ In September, we average less than three days of rain, and the average humidity is 36%. Our summer wet season winds down at that time of year, so we may have a dust storm and/or a thunderstorm, during which the weather is, well, dusty and sticky as well as hot.
- ☀ Because of unremitting urban sprawl, our air quality is also poor most of the time, and high pollution advisories are commonly issued, especially for those with respiratory issues.
- ☀ Carry water with you always; use sunscreen if outside for even a short time; wear a hat, and perhaps even a mask (to keep out the dust particles) when you are outside.

Definitely come join us, and have fun, but plan accordingly and stay healthy. See you in September!



**MWAN National/Regional Elections will be conducted by U.S. Postal Service using a ballot printed in the June 2022 issue of Military Women's Bulletin. Nominees and their respective offices follow.**

# MEET THE 2022 ★ CANDIDATES

## ★ Nominee for President ★

### GinaMarie Doherty

Serving as a member of Military Women Across the Nation (MILWOMEN) since 2000, I have held the offices of National Secretary, Alternate Regional Representative and currently, National Vice President for Unit Liaison. Working with my sisters is what I enjoy the most.



I'm a charter member and treasurer of New England Military Women Unit 158. Returning to school to use my GI Bill, I am a full time Gerontology student with an internship in the Alzheimer's Association. I serve as an officer with the DAV, American Legion, VFW, and VFW Auxiliary. I earned a Master's Degree in Management in 2012. I spend my spare time volunteering with veterans, servicemembers, and their families. My husband Stephen and I have two grandchildren, Brandon/15 and Dylan/1).

## ★ Nominee for Vice President, Membership★

### Debbie Crutchfield

I served in the Navy from 1969-1992 retiring as a Chief Personnelman. After the Navy, I taught public school from 1997-2001, followed by 11 years of teaching Pre-K at my church where I still substitute teach.



I joined WAVES National in 1982 and have served as National Recording Secretary (1992-1994 & 2018-2020) and Executive Secretary (1994-1996). I've been a member of six units in different states, and am currently a member of Triangle Military Women #144 in North Carolina. I've also served as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President in several units. I also handle fundraising for a Bainbridge WAVES Reunion group. I've had plenty of experience in this organization and I would like to serve as your VP for Membership.

## ★ Nominee for Vice President, Unit Liaison★

### Renee Chisholm

I live in Chattanooga, TN, with my precious little dog, Sasha. My hobbies are sewing, gardening and crafting. I served in the U.S. Army. I have two daughters and three grandchildren. As a member of New Covenant Fellowship Church, as well as several veteran's organizations, I try to live a life of service.



I serve as President of TriState Women Veterans Unit 157, and am also a member of Vietnam Veterans of America and the American Legion. In my church, I serve as a greeter and with the music ministry.

I look forward to serving MWAN on the Board of Directors where together, we can move forward into the future.

## ★ Nominee for Vice President, Finance★

### Sherry Hill

I am Chief Warrant Officer Sherry Hill, Retired USNR (CWO3). I'm a member of MWAN Stars and Stripes Unit 36 located in San Diego County and former Treasurer. For our mission we make neck pillows for the troops and we deliver them to the USO at the San Diego Airport. You may have seen the article about us recently. We have several Honorary Members that help us out as well, and we hold stuffing and stitching parties independent of our regular meetings.



In the civilian world I retired as a Special Agent GS-13 for the Department of Treasury Criminal Investigation Division, where I worked tax and money laundering cases. If elected I look forward to learning the job. Thank you for your time and take care.

## ★ Nominee for Region 1 Representative★

### Lynne Pine

I'm a retired U.S. Navy Mustang Lieutenant Commander and former Yeoman Senior Chief Petty Officer, I joined the Navy in 1980 from Klamath Falls, Oregon, and served in various duty stations in the U.S. as well as overseas and aboard an aircraft carrier. Upon retiring in 2007, I held numerous director positions with the civil service until I moved to California where I became a defense contractor.



I have an MBA and several bachelor's degrees, as well as numerous professional certifications. I'm actively engaged with my civilian and military community, serving as an AARP Driver Education Instructor, MILWOMEN National Webmaster, MILWOMEN Stars & Stripes Unit 36 Secretary, and Secretary for Rotary International's Fellowship for Cruising Rotarians.

## ★ Nominee for Region 3 Representative★

### Martha Alderman

I've been a member of MWAN for 10+ years in Cactus WAVES #114 and then Salt River #155. I'm currently unit vice president, having held all offices 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 now a volunteer American Legion Service Officer. 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, and enjoy camping, kayaking, hiking, cooking & travel. I have a great life!



# MEET THE 2022 ★ CANDIDATES

## ★ Nominee for Region 4 Representative★

### Annette Dunseth

I was transferred to MWAN from Wave's National. The last conference I attended was a cruise from Galveston, Texas, to Jamaica and Mexico. with my daughter, Beth and her children; Jessica, Kamara and Jordan. Jen, my youngest daughter, has one daughter, Riley. Jessica has two girls, Kaiya and Paisley; Kamara has a baby girl; Jordan lives in Kingston, TN, and has a son, Lucas, and daughter, Ella. Riley is in her Senior year at Minot State.



I was active Navy for almost 15 years. I then joined the Naval Reserve; transferred to the Army National Guard, and then to the Air National Guard. I retired from the Air Force Reserve. I've always loved dancing, read, crochet, family history research, and travel: I have visited of all 50 United States!

## ★ Nominee for Region 6 Representative★

### Jouay Koppari

I retired from the Navy in 1992 after 22 years of service. My duty stations included basic training at Bainbridge, MD; school in San Diego, CA; multiple tours as a company commander at Recruit Training Command in Orlando, FL, as well as service in Hawaii (3 years); London, England (3 years), and Panama (1987-1989).



I joined WAVES National (now MWAN) in 1992. I became president of Military Women of Tampa Bay Unit 55 in 2015, and Region 6 Representative in 2016.

I'm kept company by three extremely cute Italian Greyhounds; Signore Truman (15), Faun (8), and Coltrane (8).

## ★ Nominee for Region 7 Representative★

### Ginger Daniels

I spent my three-year, Navy tour at NAS Corpus Christi, Texas - 205 miles from the barracks to my home – and, I loved almost every minute of my Navy experience. Discharged in 1967 as an E-5, I returned to school where I completed my bachelor's in Secondary Education and began a master's program. About half way through, I married a career enlisted soldier I'd known since I was 13 years old.

I became a life member of WAVES National/MWAN in 2006 but have never been a unit member. I've served as a State Director, Regional Representative and am currently serving as the National Secretary (formerly Executive Secretary).

I'm mother to a son and two daughters. One daughter was in the Coast Guard and the other was in the Army. I was widowed when my husband died from Agent Orange complications.

I'm retired from civil service with the Department of the Army, the state of Oklahoma and the Census Bureau. When not working on MWAN projects I volunteer at the Shattuck Windmill Museum and Park.

## ★ Nominee for Region 8 Representative★

### Gloria Wix

I was in the Navy for almost four years during the Vietnam War and went to boot camp in Bainbridge, MD. After graduating, I was stationed there several months before transferring to NAS Pensacola, FL. My final duty station

was in Long Beach, CA, as a E-4 Yeoman, processing sailors and marines for duty in Vietnam. Discharged in 1966, I worked in administrative and secretarial positions for several years, then in the civil service for 20 years in Iwakuni, Japan; Oceanside, CA, and Washington DC.

I've been a life member of WAVES National/Military Women Across the Nation since 2007 and have held several positions in both organizations: Unit 94 President (4 years), National Chaplain (4 years), National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (2 years), and National 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (2 years).

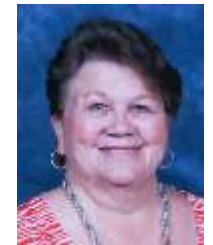


## ★ Nominee for Region 9 Representative★

### Michele Batliner

I joined the Navy at 18 and attended boot camp in Orlando, FL. After Radioman training school in Bainbridge, MD, I was ordered to NAS Bermuda where I met and married a Marine. I resigned from the service and followed my husband to California, where I began my federal employment. After we separated, my daughter and I moved to Kansas City, MO, and I resumed my federal employment as the first woman carpenter in the region.

I joined the Naval Reserve NATO unit which 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 and 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!!!

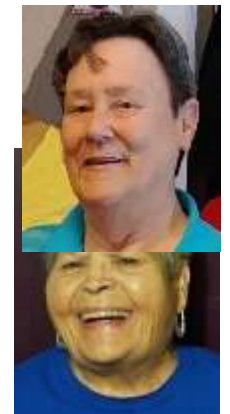


## ★ Nominee for Region 10 Representative★

### Beth Wingfield

I joined MWAN in 2015 and am a Charter Member of TriState Women Veterans Unit 157. I'm also very active with The Forty and Eight, a veterans' organization committed to charitable and patriotic aims. Founded in 1920 by American veterans returning from France, it was originally an arm of The American Legion, but became an independent veteran's organization in 1960. I am also active as a musician in Dalton, GA, and Chattanooga, TN, where I'm a member of the Chattanooga Clarinet Choir.

I joined the Army in 1980 and was honorably discharged in 1985 for a medical condition. I served as a clarinetist in two Army bands; one at Fort Clayton, Panama, the other, at Fort Bliss, TX. I'm currently serving as Region 10 Representative and look forward to another term.



[Meet the 2022 Candidates continues on Page 6.](#)

# MEET THE ★ CANDIDATES

(Continued)

## ★ Nominee for Region 11 Representative ★

### Jennifer Baun\*\*

I am a Director of Managed Care for the Albertsons Companies and have been involved with managed care for more than 25 years.

A Navy veteran, I attended bootcamp at RTC Orlando, FL, followed by Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare School in Norfolk, VA, and became an Ocean System Technician Analyst, serving as part of the Integrated Underwater Surveillance System.

I'm currently president of Northeast Ohio Women Veterans Unit 21; a life member of AMVETS Post 44, a member of American Legion Post 301; a member and Past Commander of the United Veterans Council of Greater Youngstown; serve on the Ohio Department of Veterans Services Women Veterans Advisory Committee, and was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame in 2015.

\*\*If elected, Jennifer has volunteered to serve concurrently as Region 5 Representative.



## ★ Nominee for Region 12 Representative ★

### Dassa Carvey

I enlisted in the Navy in 1963 and served as an E-5 Journalist at NAS Pensacola, FL. As a military wife I served as OMBUDSMAN while pursuing my career as a budget analyst for the Navy. I retired in 2006 with some 35 years of active duty and civil service.

I joined WAVES National in 2000 and have served in numerous positions; Official Convention Photographer (3 years); National Public Relations Chair (2 years); Stained Glass Window Chair (4 years); National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (2 years); 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (2 years), and WAVES National/MWAN President (6 years). I chartered Tidewater Tidal WAVES Unit 152 (now Military Women of Tidewater) in 2002 and served as unit president for 2 years.

I volunteer as Deputy VAVS Representative at Hampton VAMC; as secretary of A.G. Horton, Jr., Memorial Veterans Cemetery Wreath Society in Suffolk, VA, as well as volunteering with my local civic league and police precinct.



## ★ Nominee for Region 13 Representative ★

### Alicia Rodriguez

Upon completion of Navy boot camp and electrician training, I was assigned to the USS Simon Lake (AS-33) in La Maddalena, Italy. While on active duty, I earned my bachelor's and master's degrees in Business Administration. I'm a military-certified Small Arms Instructor, and obtained my Black Belt Six Sigma certification from Tourou International University.

I joined MWAN in 2015 and am a member of New England Military Women Unit 158, where I've served as their Volunteer Hours Chair. I have a son, Steven, 11, and am the proud daughter of Carlos Rodriguez and Leticia Desfassiaux.



The following proposed MWAN Bylaw amendment will be presented at the 2022 National Convention for your approval or disapproval. Please become familiar with this proposal so you will be able to discuss and vote on it.

The current MWAN Bylaw reads:

### ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS

#### Section 1. Officers.

D. Elected officers of MWAN shall hold no other elected office concurrently at the National or Regional level.

**Proposed Amendment:** Insert "MWAN" before "elected office..."

**Submitted by:** 2021 Midterm BOD

**Reason:** To differentiate between MWAN elected office and any non-MWAN civic, municipal, state or national office the member may hold.

If approved, the amended MWAN Bylaw would read:

### ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS

#### Section 1. Officers.

D. Elected officers of MWAN shall hold no other MWAN elected office concurrently at the National or Regional level.



## ★ Region Rep Candidates Needed! ★

MWAN has 13 regions so no one representative will have too much territory to cover. However, this means we need 13 representatives to act as member points-of-contact.

We still need two more 2022-2024 representative candidates to support the following areas: **Region 2/** Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and **Region 5/** Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin.

As a minimum, the position duties included reaching out to MWAN members to let them know they are remembered. You also will have a vote on national MWAN issues. There's no limit to the activity you may choose to pursue as a region representative: Traveling to meet your constituents, establishing new units, soliciting the region for input on concerns and questions members may have, etc.

A couple of our other regional representatives have volunteered to oversee these regions until representatives can be found. We are, of course, indebted to them for their selfless offer, but with a thousand members nationwide, they should not have to do 'double duty'.

If you have a couple hours each month to provide support to our sister members, please contact Nomination Committee Chair GinaMarie Doherty at (401) 500-1721 or [unitliaison@milwomen.org](mailto:unitliaison@milwomen.org).



# Sound Off!

## MILITARY WOMEN OF TAMPA BAY

**Unit #55 (FL)** – Military Women of Tampa Bay has been busy. James A. Haley VA Hospital decided again this year to do a "virtual" Veterans' Day message in lieu of its annual parade. MWTB55 wanted to do more than just wave flags and say "Happy Veterans' Day." It was decided to submit a series of photographs that was a tour of Tampa with Military Women of Tampa Bay.



Gold Star Families Memorial at Tampa Riverwalk (left to right): Cathy Gerolimatos, Cookie, Connie White, Jouay Koppari.



Fallen Heroes Memorial in Ybor City, Tampa (left to right): Jouay Koppari, Cathy Gerolimatos, Connie White.



War Dog Memorial, Vietnam War Memorial, Veterans' Memorial Park, Tampa (left to right): Cathy Gerolimatos, Cookie, Denise Finlay, Sophia.

The tour included sites/locations at Tampa's Riverwalk, Veterans' Memorial Park, Ybor City (including a piece of Cuba) and MacDill AFB.



Isla de Cuba, Ybor City, Tampa (left to right): Cathy Gerolimatos, Jouay Koppari, Connie White. Duck names were not provided.

Stops along the tour included John F. Kennedy Statue located at the entrance to University of Tampa and other locations along Riverwalk Tampa. In Ybor City, stops included the famed Columbia Restaurant, World Trade Center Memorial, Immigrant Statue and Mayor Nick Nuccio statue, 1st Latin Mayor of Tampa. At Veterans' Memorial Park, stops included World War I, World War II, Vietnam and Iraq War Memorials.

The tour stops were scheduled over three different days. The photographs tell the story. And these are only a few.



Iraq War Memorial, Veterans' Memorial Park Tampa (left to right): Jouay Koppari, Irene Raposa, Connie White, Cathy Gerolimatos, Cookie, Roberta Troxell, Denise Finlay, Sophia, and Harriett Montoya.



MacDill AFB Community Park (left to right): Roberta Troxell, Jouay Koppari, Harriett Montoya, Connie White, Cathy Gerolimatos

**(MILITARY WOMEN OF TAMPA BAY continued on Page 8)**



# Sound Off!

## MILITARY WOMEN OF TAMPA BAY (continued)



Special Operations Memorial (left to right): Cathy Gerolimatos, Harriett Montoya, Jouay Koppari, Roberta Troxell, Connie White.

## SALT CITY WOMEN VETERANS

**Unit #80 (NY)** – While our unit membership may be small in number, our hearts and drive are immeasurable! And, our group experience spans the decades from WWII to present day, including to honorary members from the Civil Air Patrol! They are our newest attendees and the questions flow about what we actually do.

Of course, COVID put a damper on several activities, and caused various groups to cancel participation plans for the Central New York Veterans Day Parade. But, luckily for us, our unit was able to step in and serve bagels, donuts and coffee at the event. That brought a lot of attention to folks that our women veterans unit exists!

Three of our members have already been on Honor Flight, Syracuse, and two more are putting their applications in for future flights.



Pictured (left to right): Becky Ross, Amy McCracken, Jill Iocolano, Evelyn Disinger & Robin Searles

Just as our membership recruitment program was kicking off late last year, we asked, "What is the mission going to be for the holidays?" The result was to provide warm, handmade gifts (afghans, blankets, scarves, mittens and hats) as well as new sweatshirts to veterans in the medical center. Additionally, unit members wrote personalized holiday cards for each veteran. We are committed to our communities, and continue to provide support to local charitable organizations.

## SALT RIVER MILITARY WOMEN

**Unit #155 (AZ)** – Our holiday party in December was attended by 16 members. We sang carols, told stories about family traditions/memories, exchanged gifts, raffled several prizes, had a great lunch at an Irish pub, and thoroughly enjoyed each other's company. That, of course, was the BEST part!

Many of us joined other women veterans on January 9<sup>th</sup> for a luncheon hosted by past presidents of the American Legion Auxiliary in Apache Junction. We've attended in previous years, but missed it in 2021. It was nice to again enjoy the "normal" activities and pleasures of seeing each other in person.

Of course, we are staying busy as beavers planning the 2022 Convention. Hope to see you ALL there!!



Standing (left to right): Gabe Forsburg, guest Sue Danish, Unit Secretary Lizz Levy, Sandy Breeze, Wilma Merket, Unit Vice President Martha Alderman, Unit Treasurer Georganne Bickle, Cecilia Clint-Echeveste, Beth Anne Whiting, Margaret Waldron & Terry Taylor. Seated (left to right): Guest Barbara Hoogendoorn, Lori Elander, Unit President Shirley Crawford, Unit Historian Diana Green, Unit Sunshine Committee Chair Kitty Bickle & Deborah Ekstrom.

## TRISTATE WOMEN VETERANS

**Unit #157 (TN)** – In December Unit Vice President Renee Chisholm (at left) was elected unit president. Our immediate past president stepped down due to some family obligations.

We've had a great start to 2022 by welcoming three new members! Army veteran Kathleen Bowden joined our ranks in February, followed a couple weeks later by Air Force veteran Susan Galloway who tracked us down through a five-year-old newspaper article she found online!



Unit 157 members at February 2022 luncheon: Seated (left to right): Beth Wingfield, Gloria Gray, Renee Chisholm & Carla Bell. Standing (left to right): Deborah James, Deborah Kendrick, new member Kathleen Bowder, Danette Skyles, Zaida Ringheimer, Diane Howard, Patty Parks, Cecilia Desilets & Janet Duncan.



Unit Treasurer Patty Parks was invited to speak at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, Veteran & Military Affairs-sponsored Women Veterans Luncheon, where she met active-duty Army Guard member Charlotte Bossy. Charlotte immediately became a five-year member using the Promotional Membership for Military Women on Active Duty (application available in MWB December 2021 issue).



Patty Parks receiving a "Thank You" plaque from UTC Veteran & Military Affairs staff member Felipe Holden and his coworkers (left to right) Imara Doze, Akiya Brown and Lewis Green.

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE, FLORIDA

Greetings from Lakeland! We are an up-and-coming unit of amazing military women veterans located in the heart of central Florida. We may be small (not large enough to be an official chartered unit yet), but our hearts are big, and our goals are high. Lakeland is located between Tampa and Orlando.



Pictured are those who attended the 'Lakeland Royal Swans' inaugural meet and greet in January (left to right): Shelly Ross Mays, Rhonda Bjarnason, Caroline Grimsley & Kathleen VanMiddlesworth. MAL Karen Warren plans to join the unit but was unable to attend the first gathering.

Meetings are set for 11am on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month at various locations, with our April gathering set specifically for the 23<sup>rd</sup> at a location yet to be determined.

If you, or anyone you know, may be interested in joining our future unit, please have them contact Kathleen at [KDVanM@gmail.com](mailto:KDVanM@gmail.com) or (863) 738-4487.

### MEMBER-AT-LARGE, FLORIDA

Joy Casino continues to keep her community aware of military women, and has a great time doing it. Wearing one

# Sound Off!

of her hand-made shirt dresses adorned with turquoise fabric featuring the Jacksonville Jaguars football logo, Joy was honored as Veteran of the Game on December 16<sup>th</sup> in Jacksonville during a Jaguars game.

As if her presence wasn't enough to excite the crowd, Joy was also pictured in her Navy uniform on a full-sized electronic billboard above the stadium.



WWII Navy veteran Joy Casino.

The day after this honor, she was interviewed by the local news station. Her future plans include an Honor Flight to Washington, DC, in May. At 98 years young, Joy has no plans to slow down!

## Share your story & ideas!

How are you or your unit supporting our sister and brother veterans? Volunteering in your community? Sharing military women's history?

Submit your news and photos for publication in Military Women's Bulletin. Your activities will provide ideas and opportunities for others across the nation!

Send your article (in MSWord format) & photos (as JPG or PNG attachments) via email to [editor@milwomen.org](mailto:editor@milwomen.org)

### PDF documents cannot be used.

**Bulletin Deadlines** are: January 1<sup>st</sup> for February issue; March 1<sup>st</sup> for April issue; May 1<sup>st</sup> for June issue; July 1<sup>st</sup> for August issue; September 1<sup>st</sup> for October issue; November 1<sup>st</sup> for December issue.

# MWAN National Officers & Staff 2020-2022

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## 2020-2022 Regional Representatives

REGION 1: California, Hawaii, Nevada

Representative: **Lynne Pine**, 507-400-9111/CA  
[RR1@milwomen.org](mailto:RR1@milwomen.org)

REGION 2: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington

Representative: **Caren McCurdy**, 503-679-7429/WA  
[RR2@milwomen.org](mailto:RR2@milwomen.org)

REGION 3: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah

Representative: **Martha Alderman**, 623-810-9328/AZ  
[RR3@milwomen.org](mailto:RR3@milwomen.org)

REGION 4: Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming

Representative: **Annette Dunseth**, 701-509-5412/ND  
[RR4@milwomen.org](mailto:RR4@milwomen.org)

REGION 5: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin

Representative: **Michele Batliner**, 816-315-9229/MO  
[RR5@milwomen.org](mailto:RR5@milwomen.org)

REGION 6: Florida

Representative: **Jouay Koppari**, 813-684-1668/FL  
[RR6@milwomen.org](mailto:RR6@milwomen.org)

REGION 7: Oklahoma, Texas

Representative: **Sue Gunnell**, 281-712-1984/TX  
[RR7@milwomen.org](mailto:RR7@milwomen.org)

REGION 8: Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi

Representative: **Michele Batliner**, 816-315-9229/MO  
[RR8@milwomen.org](mailto:RR8@milwomen.org)

REGION 9: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska

Representative: **Michele Batliner**, 816-315-9229/MO  
[RR9@milwomen.org](mailto:RR9@milwomen.org)

REGION 10: Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee

Representative: **Beth Wingfield**, 706-508-5612/GA  
[RR10@milwomen.org](mailto:RR10@milwomen.org)

REGION 11: Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia

Representative: **Jennifer Baun**, 314-803-8643/OH  
[RR11@milwomen.org](mailto:RR11@milwomen.org)

REGION 12: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland,  
New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia

Representative: **Hortense Toliaferro**, 215-327-7384/NJ  
[RR12@milwomen.org](mailto:RR12@milwomen.org)

REGION 13: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New  
Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

Representative: **Michele Diamond**, 401-824-6786/RI  
[RR13@milwomen.org](mailto:RR13@milwomen.org)

## MWAN Regional Map



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



# MWAN Supply Locker

**APRIL 2022**

**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)
- Honor-Courage-Sacrifice Veterans Pin \$5 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 \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
(USAF, USMC, ARMY, USCG, VETERANS)
- US Vet Stars/Stripes Lapel Pin \$9 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_
- Honoring Women Veterans Pin \$6 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

**★ SHIPPING COST ★**

Up to \$40 = **\$9**; \$41-\$100 = **\$17**; \$101 & above = **\$20**

Check/MO #: \_\_\_\_\_ **No Phone Orders**

**MWAN CLOTHING ITEMS**

- Neck Tabs, Black w/Velcro        \$12 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_
- Garrison Caps (includes patch) \$24 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
    Sizes: 21, 22, 23, 24, 25
- MWAN Visor                            \$15 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_
- MWAN Ball Cap                        \$15 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_
- MWAN T-Shirt                         \$17 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
    Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL
- MWAN Polo Shirt                    \$32 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
    **Gray or White**    Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL
- MWAN Jacket                         \$33 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
    Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL
- MWAN Sweatshirt                    \$24 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 \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

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 (4 each)                \$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\*\*)

**Subtotal:**                            \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**★ ADD Shipping ★:**                \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL DUE:**                         \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**❖ New Supply Locker Officer Needed ~ Contact Linda Coffield (info below) for details ❖**

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

**\*\*USE ONLY CURRENT ORDER FORM\*\***

**NOTE:** MWAN Ladies White Dress Shirt **RUN SMALL** (Ladies cut).

POLO Shirts are unisex, sizes run larger; I suggest you order a size smaller.



[www.milwomen.org](http://www.milwomen.org)

# Silver Taps

## U.S. Navy

Milda M. (Simmons) Halastik	009/MO
Ruby (Caudill) Gilliam	021/OH
Geneva L. (Pitzrick) Woods	052/FL
Vera (McGilvery) Allcroft	056/VT
Dorothy J. "Dottie" Carter	094/KY
Patricia Long	094/TN
Veronica (Lenox) Cotariu	MAL/CA
Willie (Yates) Urquhart	MAL/FL
Marjorie A. Rugen	MAL/MA
Syble L. (McCormack) Self	MAL/MO
Jane (Coffitt) Baroody	MAL/PA
Constance "C.J." Bonar	Former Member/FL



*Gone,  
 but never forgotten*

## February Silver Taps Correction

*Due to human error, Annette Wiechert was reported in the February Silver Taps. Annette is alive and well with her family in Nebraska. We deeply apologize to Annette for the mistake and the sorrow it caused her family and many friends.*

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](mailto: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](http://www.milwomen.org)