

MILITARY Women's BULLETIN



In this issue...

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Officer's Call | → 2 |
| Units Sound Off | → 3-5 |
| National & Regional Candidates | → 6-8 |
| Election Ballot | → 9 |
| Contact Details | → 10 |
| Supply Locker Order Form | → 11 |
| Silver Taps | → 12 |

VOLUME MMXXIV, #3

JUNE 2024

2024 MWAN National Election & Ballot

Historically, MWAN's national officers have been elected via mail-in ballot by membership during even-numbered years. The Official 2024 National Election Ballot is located on Page 9 of this bulletin. Additionally, photographs and biographies for all 2024 candidates are printed in this issue on pages 6-8. Please read the 2024 MWAN National Ballot Instructions very carefully to make certain your ballot is valid.

Each MWAN member is permitted to cast a total of five (5) votes on the national ballot: One vote for each of the four (4) national offices, and one (1) vote for a single Regional Representative. It is recommended members select a Regional Representative candidate in the region where the member lives.

Members receiving the bulletin by e-mail are expected to print the official ballot for submission via postal mail. Ballots submitted via E-mail will not be accepted.

Ballots shall be mailed in a regular envelope, with your MWAN ID# written on the front, upper left corner of the envelope, instead of a return address.

Your **MWAN ID# IS MANDATORY and MUST BE WRITTEN ON YOUR BALLOT**. Ballots submitted without an MWAN ID# will not be counted. Multiple ballots with the same MWAN ID# will not be counted.

If you do not know your MWAN ID#, there are several ways it may be obtained. If you receive your bulletin by mail, your MWAN ID# is on the mailing label. Your MWAN ID# is also on your member card. It may also be obtained from your Unit Treasurer; or by contacting the MWAN Secretary (contact information on Page 10).

Only votes recorded on the Official 2024 National Election Ballot will be counted. Votes submitted via email, Text, by phone or written on anything **other than** the 2024 National Election Ballot will not be counted.

BALLOTS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN JULY 31st, 2024.

An individual not affiliated with MWAN has volunteered to count the 2024 National Election Ballots. Please mail your completed ballot to: Sandra Pinsonault, P.O. Box 24, East Dorset, VT 05253.

Ms. Pinsonault will be provided with a list of MWAN identification numbers ONLY for all members who are in good standing as of July 1st, 2024. To be in "good standing" a member must be a life member, or her dues must have been received by the VP for Finance by July 1st, 2024.

Election results will be announced at the 2024 MWAN National Convention in Warwick, RI. If there is any question about the validity of the 2024 election ballot count, a committee of non-candidate members present at convention will be formed to review the submitted ballots. And, once again:

PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

PUT YOUR MWAN ID# ON YOUR BALLOT

PLACE 1ST CLASS POSTAGE ON THE ENVELOPE

MAIL BALLOT NO LATER THAN JULY 31ST, 2024



There's still time to reserve your spot at Convention!

Registration is still open for you to help celebrate our 45th Anniversary at the MWAN 2024 National Convention in the beautiful ocean state of Rhode Island, September 23rd -25th!

More details along with the registration form are available at MilWomen.org. Just click on the "Breaking News" tab.

If you don't use the internet, then give a call to Convention Chair Lynne Pine at (507) 400-9111, or send an email to Lynne@MilWomen.org.



→→ Don't Forget! ←←

**August Bulletin Input DUE 1 July
Region Rep Status Reports DUE 1 July
Volunteer Hours DUE 1 July**

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

Presidential Ponderings

by GinaMarie Doherty, National President

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the 2024 MWAN National Convention in Rhode Island this September. Please make your reservations now and join us to conduct our required business and for the special tour to the one and only Naval War College in the nation. Our Convention Chair Lynne Pine has done a wonderful job planning and executing this year's Convention. We are destined to have a great time. The weather will be perfect for a light jacket or sweater.

There's also a chance for you to recognize current members' accomplishments and/or honor our departed sisters with a personal advertisement in the convention program. Check out the Call to Convention in the April bulletin and make your reservations today!

It's also not too early to think about where we will hold the 2026 National Convention. Plans begin at this year's convention. So, if your unit or a group of MALs is interested in hosting that convention, please contact the Time and Place Chair Patty Koppari (contact info on Page 10).

Most importantly don't forget to VOTE for your national and regional MWAN officers. Remember you must provide your member number on your ballot (Page 9). If you are unsure of your member number, please reach out to MWAN Secretary Sheri Carrington (contact info on Page 10).

May you all enjoy a GREAT Women Veterans Day.

Supply Locker Convention Special!!

by Linda Coffield, Supply Locker Officer

Planning to attend Convention in Rhode Island? Here's a deal for you! **NO shipping charge** if you pick up your order, **AND** you get **10% off** the total cost of your Pre-Order!

How, you ask? **Pre-Order** your items on this year's April, June, or August MWB Supply Locker Order Form, and your items will be brought to you at the Convention! Simply mark the order form across the top with, "**MWAN CONVENTION 2024**," and, instead of a Shipping Charge, write in **FREE!** Pre-orders **must be received no later than September 5th, 2024 to be eligible.** See you in Rhode Island!!

Officers' Call

Volunteer Service Hours

by Karen Albert Warren, Volunteer Chair

This year has flown by. This is a friendly reminder to start getting your volunteer hours together. We are all busy working in our communities, so do not forget to report your hard work. As a non-profit organization, MWAN must collect and track volunteer time. Your hours are needed.

Track hours from 1 June 2023 to 31 May 2024. Please use the Volunteer Service Hours form which is on pages 54-55 of the MWAN Procedures Manual/2016. (The PM is on our webpage at MilWomen.org under the "Governing Docs & Forms" tab.) Your hours should be divided into three categories: VA hours, Community Veteran Support, and Community Service Support.

Unit members shall submit your completed forms to your unit president or hours coordinator, who will compile unit hours and submit them. MALs may submit their forms directly to me (contact info on Page 10).

★ ★ ★ Women Veterans Day ★ ★ ★

Celebrated on June 12th, it marks the anniversary of President Truman signing the Women's Armed Services Integration Act in 1948. The act enabled women to serve as permanent, regular members of the armed forces. Prior to this law, women - with the exception of nurses - served in the military only in times of war.



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 Finance@MilWomen.org for details.

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ MWAN ID # _____
NEW Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____ Effective Date: _____

Mail to: Maura Mooney, VP for Finance, 228 Goldman Lane, Petaluma CA 94952-3682

OR send via E-mail to: Finance@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 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.

Sound Off!

KEYSTONE WOMEN VETERANS

Unit #6 (PA) - As winter is winding down, we have been discussing how we can help our female veterans, especially those who need material help.

Ruthie Severino attended her annual Hospital Corpsman Reunion held this year in Jacksonville, FL. She attended a Rescue Surface Swimmers School and witnessed a surface rescue as part of an exam for the Navy enlistees. Very interesting was the Entomology Center where disease control is studied, specifically diseases caused by bugs, animals, or insects. Another stop was the Naval Hospital where she had lunch with the corpsmen. Ruthie thought it was strange that all the corpsmen working in the hospital wore fatigues and boots.



During veteran's week, Ruthie, Louise Manz, and Pat Miller attended a women veteran's lunch hosted by Coatesville VA Medical Center as a tribute to military women. The highlight of their experience was the Freedom Medal Awards dinner. Unit 6 Vice President Tina Crowding was an Honoree Recipient for her dedication to our country. Tina enlisted in the Navy in 1974 and was assigned to various locations, including Pearl Harbor, HI, Barber Point, HI, and aboard a ship deployed for five months in the Persian Gulf. Her final duty station was the Philadelphia Naval Brig. Tina retired after 20 years in the Navy at the rank of Storekeeper First Class (E-6).

We can't forget the 55-vehicle, escort convoy for "Wreaths Across America" to Arlington National Cemetery, which made its only stop in Pennsylvania, at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial in Newtown Square. The convoy started in Maine and travels to Arlington where some two million wreaths are placed on veterans' graves. Pat Sherwood traveled to Arlington with her family to help place the wreaths.



Ruthie and husband Sal attended his ship's reunion (USS Valley Forge) in New Orleans where they explored all the pavilions of the National WWII Museum.

Our final meeting of 2023 was at Casey's in Newtown Square, where 2024 dues were collected. Our first meeting of 2024 was held on Armed Forces Day. **Contact Ruthie Severino at 610-356-8956 for more information.**

REDWOOD EMPIRE MILITARY WOMEN

Unit #77 (CA) - We welcomed four new members in January: Cheryl Kabanuck/Army, Darlene Brady/Army, Laura Christensen/USMC, and Carol Norick/Army NC.

Several members attended an event February 29th at the Yountville Veterans Home marking Black History Month. We were honored guests on March 22nd at USCG TRACEN Petaluma, celebrating Military Women's History Week, where we enjoyed a luncheon at the Chief Petty Officers' Dining Hall.

On May 5th several members attended the "Hello Girls" musical production in Sonoma County. The play chronicles

the story of WWI American service women who served as bilingual telephone operators on the front lines in Europe. It was a wonderful event, and the cast recognized the women veterans in attendance.

Several members have made plans to attend the 2024 Convention in Providence this September. We are looking forward to seeing you all this fall.



Yountville Veterans Home attendees above are (L-R) Lindsey Sin, Leslie Fuller, Emily Sousa, Cheryl Kabanuck, Xochill Rodriguez Murillo, Rose Nowak, Maura Mooney, Patricia Jackson-Kelley, USAF/USA/USN, Res., Kate O'Hare Palmer & Dedrick Waterford.

OCEAN STATE

Unit #118 (RI) - In January several unit members attended a memorial service for the Four Army Chaplains who lost their lives during WWII on the troop transport ship, the USS Dorchester. On March 16th we hosted a tea for the women veterans in the Bristol Veteran's Home and conducted an informational session for MWAN members along with other women veterans regarding veteran benefits. There was an American Legion Service Officer in attendance as well as representatives from the VA to educate attendees and answer questions about benefits. The program was very well attended.

On March 28th, there was a Vietnam Veteran Observance Ceremony at the Rhode Island State House which was attended by several unit members. At our April 20th unit meeting, we discussed a schedule for upcoming activities during the summer and early fall.



Pictured are Unit 118 secretary Sharron Zapor (left) and Unit 118 Vice President Gretchen Vierling-Cutlip (right) who both spoke at the RI State House honoring Vietnam Veterans Observance Day.

In May there were several events planned for Memorial Day including parades and a wreath laying ceremony at the Women's Veteran Memorial in the Exeter Veterans Cemetery. We'll report on those events in the next bulletin.

We're reminding everyone to keep updated on events planned for the MWAN convention here in Rhode Island this September. We have a beautiful state, and you will not be disappointed if you attend. See you then!

Sound Off!

MEMPHIS BELLES

Unit #151 (TN) – February 2024 found the Memphis Belles members conducting a bake sale during one of the Saturday night dances at the Kickin’ Pony. We made enough money to cover at least two months of Coffee Carts at the local VA Hospital. The few leftover items were donated to the local museum to use as snacks for the Veteran of the Month program. Several of our members participated in Trivia Night at our local museum, an ongoing fundraiser for the museum’s expansion project.



Unit members (L-R) Sami Phillips, Becky Dickinson & Jean Jungkans with “the goodies” at the Kickin’ Pony bake sale.

MILITARY WOMEN OF TIDEWATER

Unit #152 (VA) – In January we enjoyed our annual Christmas Party. This year’s theme was masquerade and it was a huge success. Our party is deliberately after the holidays because December is so busy with family and other holiday gatherings. Our silent auction is always fun and interesting. Members of our unit bring in items that are gently used, new, or handmade to donate. We always have some amazing items, however, each year the coveted pound cake, made by Phyllis Lightfoot, is always the biggest money maker.



Party attendees above are (L-R) front row: Geraldine Rivera, Bobbie Waldron, Phyllis Lightfoot, Sheila Jessen, Maggie Cobb & Cathy Schweitzer; back row: Lesli Carpenter, Kelly Armon, Betty Hand, Jo Heimerl, Martha Kastler, Suzanne Davis, Jennifer Sherman, April Maletz, Alesia Thorton-White & Trish Hubbard.

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

SALT RIVER MILITARY WOMEN

Unit #155 (AZ) – Unit members represented our community at the Veteran Stand Down in Phoenix, Mar 21st-22nd. Information on the local unit and national organization were shared with all attendees and veterans were gifted neck pillows and blankets.

Pictured below are members tying blankets while others stuff neck pillows. There’s something for everyone to do! Names were not provided.



On April 25th we hosted our annual baby shower and fundraiser to help support Veterans First LTD and the Maternity Outreach for Veteran Families. This event was started several years ago by two of our unit members, and it is now our ‘pet project’.

We enjoyed guessing the gestation period for multiple animals; different types of feces or ‘scat’ for various animals, and making as many words as possible out of the letters in “maternity”. Prizes were given to the winner of each category and members enjoyed having this time to gather for a common mission supporting other veteran organizations.



Attendees at the annual baby shower. Names were not provided.

At our June meeting, we’ll elect new officers before taking a hiatus in July and August. Even on hiatus, we’ll gather to celebrate the establishment of the Women’s Army Corps or WACs (July 1st, 1943), the birth of Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service or WAVES. (July 30th, 1942), and, of course, we’ll celebrate the anniversary of our unit which was chartered on Aug 26th, 2010. Finally, a few of us plan to attend the MWAN National Convention in September. Yep... party, Party, PARTY!

Make Your Reservations NOW!
2024 MWAN National Convention
is only three months away!!

NEW ENGLAND

Unit #158 (RI) – At our recent meeting, members honored Prisoners of War and Missing in Action servicemembers by setting up a POW-MIA table.

Pictured below are (L-R) Jacke Burch, Michele Diamond, Suzanne Heiermann, Connie Rix, GinaMarie Doherty & Christine Tron.



We enjoyed celebrating military women with Princess Elsa™ and Belle™ at VFW Post 183 in Warwick.



Names were not provided for those pictured above.

LAKELAND ROYAL SWANS

Unit #159 (FL) – We'd like to remember our sister-in-arms, Jean (Lane) Burnett. We never got a chance to meet Jean, but she had been a member of MWAN since 1989. During a 'sister check' in January, we learned she had passed away in October 2018. She was transferred to Unit 159 from MAL status upon our recent chartering. Her family told us Jean was very proud of her service and loved reading her Military Women's Bulletin. She was 94 at her passing.

Unit members continue to participate in local veteran breakfasts, lunches, and our monthly veteran's council meetings, all of which are great places for camaraderie and networking. We also provide transportation on a regular basis for each other for appointments at the James A. Haley VA Hospital (JAHVA) in Tampa.

One of our chartering goals was to host a Wreaths Across America (WAA) event at the Lakeland Veterans Memorial Park. We are ecstatic to announce the City of Lakeland has granted our request to host our first – and Lakeland Veterans Park's first - WWA event this December! The first of many, that is!

For more information about our meetings, please leave a message for Kathleen at (863) 738-4487 or send an email to MilitaryWomenLakeland@gmail.com.

Sound Off!



January meeting attendees pictured above are (L-R): Gwen Pipkin, Grace Tate, Lorraine Peaslee, Connie White, Pat Watson, Karen Warren & Kathleen VanMiddlesworth (kneeling).



February meeting attendees pictured above are (L-R): Linda Osborn, Pat Watson, Grace Tate, Lorraine Peaslee, Mary Grubb, AJ Burr, Kay Shelby, & Kathleen VanMiddlesworth (kneeling).

MEMBER-AT-LARGE, Missouri

Ann Puck donated items and participated in the Kansas City VA Baby Shower for women veterans. Ann (center) is pictured below with Gale (left) and Kennendra (right) who are VA volunteer services employees. Great job, Ann!



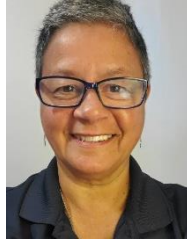
MWAN National/Regional Elections will be conducted by U.S. Postal Service using a ballot printed in the June 2024 issue of Military Women's Bulletin. Nominees and their respective offices follow.

MEET THE **2024** 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, National Vice President for Unit Liaison, and currently President. Working with my sisters is what I enjoy the most. I'm a charter member and treasurer of New England Military Women Unit 158.



I am employed full time with the Federal Government as a Personal Property Counselor on board Naval Station Newport. 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 and Dylan).

★ 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), Executive Secretary (1994-1996), and VP for Membership (2022-2024).



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 continue to serve as Membership Vice President.

★ Nominee for Vice President, Unit Liaison ★

Beth Wingfield

I joined MWAN in 2015 as a Charter Member of TriState Women Veterans Unit 157. I'm very active with The Forty and Eight, a veterans' organization committed to charitable and patriotic aims. I also serve with the Tennessee Valley Healthcare Service, and the Veterans Community Partnership panel as a resource to help women veterans in need. I am also active as a musician in Georgia, where I'm a member of the Dalton



Whitfield community Band and the Dalton First United Methodist Church Choir.

I joined the Army in 1980 and was honorably discharged in 1985 for a medical condition. I worked as a clarinetist and sound engineer in two Army bands; one at Fort Clayton, Panama, the other at Fort Bliss, TX. I currently serve as Region 10 Representative but I look forward to serving as the Vice President for Unit Liaison.

★ Nominee for Vice President, Finance ★

Maura Mooney

I'm originally from Virginia, and prior to my enlistment, I worked as a Licensed Vocational Nurse including operating room positions. I served in the US Navy from 1981-2001, retiring as an Hospitalman Chief, SCW (*SeaBee Combat Warfare*). I served at various duty stations in the US as well as overseas. I earned my master's in Public Administration in 2007 from University of San Francisco.



Since retiring from the Navy, I've held several healthcare positions in Virginia and in Petaluma, CA until my 2022 retirement. I currently enjoy relaxing with my two cats, hiking and traveling. I'm a member of American Legion Post 28 and Women Veterans Coalition, and regularly served on the annual Veteran's Day Parade and Memorial Day Event committees. I currently serve as MWAN VP for Finance and look forward to continuing for another two years.

★ Nominee for Region 1 Representative ★

Lynne Pine

I'm a retired US 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 US as well as overseas, and aboard an aircraft carrier.



Upon retiring in 2007, I held numerous director positions in 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 and Region 1 and 2 Representative, MILWOMEN Stars & Stripes Unit #36 Secretary/Treasurer, and as a Chula Vista City Commissioner for Veteran Affairs.

Continued on Page 7 → → →

MEET THE **2024** ★ CANDIDATES

★ Nominee for Region 2 Representative★

Patricia Hutchinson

I joined the Navy in 1975 and attended boot camp in Orlando. I then went to Pensacola and attended Cryptologic Technician A-School and C-school. My first duty station was NSGA Clark AFB, Philippines. I then transferred to NAVCAMS EASTPAC, Wahiawa, HI, where I joined my husband who was on sea duty. I was an E4 when discharged in 1978, one month before the oldest of my five children was born. Our Navy family was stationed in New Jersey, Florida, Virginia and North Dakota. I joined WAVES National (*now MWAN*) in 2012, and have lived in Puyallup, WA, for the past four years. I enjoy baking, reading and spending time with my family, especially my 17 grandchildren. I look forward to serving as Region 2 Representative.



★ Nominee for Region 3 Representative★

Martha Alderman

I've been a member of MWAN for 12+ years in Cactus WAVES #114, and now Salt River #155. I 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, and I'm always part of the planning committee because I just love being with so many women veterans. I'm currently the Region 3 Representative and look forward to serving another term. My husband & I are "child free," but we have fur babies, and enjoy camping, kayaking, hiking, cooking & travel. I have a great life!



★ Nominee for Region 4 Representative★

Annette Dunseth

I was transferred to MWAN from WAVE's National. The last conference I attended was the 2014 cruise from Galveston, TX, to Jamaica and Mexico, with my daughter, Beth and her three children. Jen, my youngest daughter has one child. I have 5 great grandchildren. I served as a Storekeeper in the 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, reading, crochet, family history research, and travel: I have visited of all 50 United States! I currently serve as Region 4 Representative and look forward to another term.



★ Nominee for Region 5 Representative★

Monica O'Hara

I was born in northwestern Minnesota. I enlisted in the Navy in 1972 in Minneapolis, MN. I served in various duty stations in the US as well as overseas and aboard the USS Acadia (AD-42). My second duty station was recruiting in North Dakota and Minnesota for five years. I was a Senior Chief Personnelman and commissioned in 1988. I retired in 1999 as a CWO4 (Ship's Clerk). I then worked at the National City Public Library, retiring in 2008. I am a Life Member of MWAN and a member of San Diego Stars & Stripes Unit 36, since 1997. I am also a member of the American Legion, Fleet Reserve Association and MOAA. I served as MWAN Treasurer 2010 – 2018. My husband and I live in San Diego part of the year and a small town in northwestern Minnesota the rest of the time.



★ Nominee for Region 6 Representative★

Kathleen VanMiddlesworth

I am a retired Navy Chief Legalman, having served from 1979 to 1999 in various US and overseas commands, as well as aboard the USS Yosemite (AD-19). During this tour, I served as the first Enlisted Legal Officer and Safety Observer of the first all-women gun crew of a 50-caliber machine gun, and was baptized in the Jordan River. Following the Navy, I worked as a workers' compensation paralegal, until retiring in 2023. I'm also a wife, mother of five, grandmother of 11, and (*very young*) great-grandmother of three.

I joined MWAN Unit #55 in 2015, and initiated a few 'Meet & Greets' in the Lakeland, FL, area. By the fall of 2022, Lakeland Royal Swans Unit #159, was officially chartered. I look forward to sharing MWAN with others, and lighting some fires in the hearts of other women veterans to start new units throughout Florida: Social media can be amazing!



★ Nominee for Region 7 Representative★

Erika Westbrook

I serve as the Veteran Services Coordinator at Newport Mental Health, and am an avid veteran advocate and volunteer. I joined the VFW Auxiliary on the eligibility of my father, who served in Vietnam. I was elected as VFW Auxiliary Department President of Rhode Island in 2022; am a life member of VFW Post 916, and have served as Auxiliary President since 2019. I also served as Department Legislative Chair for the Auxiliary, and as executive director of The Curahee Project, whose mission is to bring awareness of the veterans and servicemembers suicide epidemic and lack of access to mental healthcare. I served in the Marine Corps at NAS Millington, TN, as an Aviation Ordnanceman. I earned a Bachelor's degree in Psychology while working as a corrections officer, and facilitated a weekly group for incarcerated veterans. I enjoy wild game dinners and attending renaissance festivals in garb.



[Meet the 2024 Candidates continues on Page 8.](#)

MEET THE 2024 CANDIDATES

(Continued from Page 7)

★ Nominee for Region 8 Representative★

Denise Duke

I served in the Navy from 1978-2000. I entered as a Seaman Recruit and retired as an LDO Lieutenant. I have been actively involved with MWAN in a variety of roles. First serving as the WAVES National Historian. I kept track of organization events for 8 years. I have been a VA Volunteer for 15 years at my local VA in Tuscaloosa, AL and representing MWAN. I served as the MWAN VAVS Rep for 2 years. I have served on many nominating committees over the years as well. This was my greatest challenge. I love the sisterhood our organization provides and I look forward to serving as a regional rep to help our sister veterans to stay in touch!



★ Nominee for Region 9 Representative★

Michele Batliner

I joined the Navy at 18 and attended boot camp in Orlando, FL. After Radioman training in Bainbridge, MD, I transferred 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 federal employment as the first woman carpenter in the region. I joined the Naval Reserve NATO unit (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★

Patty Parks

I have been a member of MWAN (formerly WAVES National) for some 35 years, and have served in many local, state, regional and national offices. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve you as Region 10 Representative, if you'll have me. My military service began in December 1974, and other than a few months of broken service, continued until my Navy retirement in December 2003 to Ooltewah, TN.



I love traveling, especially when I have the opportunity to visit and support my service sisters. In addition to MWAN, I volunteer with Welcome Home (a hospice for the homeless); area senior centers, as well as numerous veteran, research, and historical preservation programs with my Daughters of the American Revolution chapter. My hobbies include studying US history, crochet, travel (especially by train) and family history research.

★ Nominee for Region 11 Representative★

Jennifer Baun

I recently retired as a Director of Managed Care for the Albertsons Companies and have been involved with managed care for more than 27 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. I am currently serving as Region 5 and 11 Representative.



★ 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 Touro 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 am currently serving as Region 13 Representative. My son Steven is 14, and I am the proud daughter of Carlos Rodriguez and Leticia Desfassiaux.



★ Candidate Needed! ★ for Region 12 Representative

MWAN has 13 regions so no one representative will have too much territory to cover. We still need one more 2024-2026 representative to cover Region 12, which includes Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. If you live in one of these states, please consider stepping up to lead your sisters!

As a minimum, the position duties include reaching out to MWAN region members at large 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.

If you have a couple hours each month to provide support to our sister members, please contact Nomination Committee Chair Monica O'Hara at (619)507-0572 or plainsman9@cox.net.

OFFICIAL 2024 NATIONAL ELECTION INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

- Votes must be recorded on the MWAN Official 2024 National Mail-In Ballot. Members receiving the bulletin by e-mail are expected to print out the official ballot for submission.
- Place an "X" on the line in **FRONT** of the selections you make. Vote for 1 (one) candidate each for President, VP Membership, VP Unit Liaison and VP Finance. Vote for **ONLY 1** (one) candidate for Regional Representative. It is recommended you select a candidate in the region where you live.
- If you desire to write-in a candidate, write her name on the blank line to the RIGHT of the appropriate office. Votes for non-qualified, write-in candidates will be considered **INVALID** and will not be counted.
- Ballots with multiple votes for any one office will be considered **INVALID** for that office and the votes will not be counted.
- Write your MWAN ID number at the bottom of the Ballot **AND** in the Return Section of your envelope.

Mail your completed ballot to:

Sandra Pinsonault, PO Box 24, East Dorset, VT 05253

BALLOTS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN JULY 31, 2024



Military Women Across the Nation

OFFICIAL 2024 NATIONAL MAIL-IN BALLOT



Select **ONE EACH** President, VP Membership, VP Unit Liaison & VP Finance

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| ___ PRESIDENT, GinaMarie Doherty | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ VICE PRESIDENT MEMBERSHIP, Debbie Crutchfield | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ VICE PRESIDENT UNIT LIAISON, Beth Wingfield | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ VICE PRESIDENT FINANCE, Maura Mooney | OR Write In: _____ |

Select **ONLY ONE** Regional Representative from the following list:

Note: *It is recommended you select a candidate in the region where you live.*

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| ___ REGION 1 REPRESENTATIVE, Lynne Pine | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 2 REPRESENTATIVE, Patricia Hutchinson | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 3 REPRESENTATIVE, Martha Alderman | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 4 REPRESENTATIVE, Annette Dunseth | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 5 REPRESENTATIVE, Monica O'Hara | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 6 REPRESENTATIVE, Kathleen VanMiddlesworth | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 7 REPRESENTATIVE, Erika Westbrook | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 8 REPRESENTATIVE, Denise Duke | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 9 REPRESENTATIVE, Michele Batliner | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 10 REPRESENTATIVE, Patty Parks | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 11 REPRESENTATIVE, Jennifer Baun | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 12 REPRESENTATIVE, No Candidate | OR Write In: _____ |
| ___ REGION 13 REPRESENTATIVE, Alicia Rodriguez | OR Write In: _____ |

WRITE YOUR MWAN ID # HERE: _____ ★ YOUR MWAN ID# IS MANDATORY

VOTES SUBMITTED WITHOUT YOUR MWAN ID# WILL NOT BE COUNTED.

MULTIPLE BALLOTS WITH THE SAME MWAN ID# WILL NOT BE COUNTED.

★ **Obtaining your MWAN ID#:** Your MWAN ID# is on your member card. If you receive your bulletin by mail, your MWAN ID# is on the mailing label. Your MWAN ID# may also be obtained from your Unit Treasurer; or via e-mail from: Finance@milwomen.org

YOUR BALLOT MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN JULY 31, 2024

MWAN National Officers & Staff 2022-2024

President

GinaMarie DOHERTY
Middletown RI
401-500-1721
President@MilWomen.org

VP for Membership

Debbie CRUTCHFIELD
Lexington SC
803-348-2789
Membership@MilWomen.org

VP for Unit Liaison

Patty PARKS
Ooltewah TN
423-987-0405
Unitliaison@MilWomen.org

VP for Finance

Maura MOONEY
Petaluma CA
707-547-7745
Finance@MilWomen.org

Secretary

Sherri CARRINGTON
Waterford CT 860-822-7287
Secretary@MilWomen.org

Supply Locker Officer

Linda COFFIELD
Atoka TN
901-488-4153
Supplies@MilWomen.org

Bylaws Chair

Sherri LESLIE
Middletown DE
302-898-1895
Bylaws@MilWomen.org

Bulletin Editor

Patty PARKS
Ooltewah TN
423-987-0405
Editor@MilWomen.org

Webmaster

Lynne PINE
Chula Vista CA
507-400-9111
Admin@MilWomen.org

VACDCE National Rep

LeSans ALEXANDER
Dover DE
302-943-2583
VAVS@MilWomen.org

Volunteer Hours Chair

Karen WARREN
Lakeland FL
863-738-7911
VolHours@MilWomen.org

Scholarship Chair

Barb TURNER
Pace FL
817-733-7034
MWANScholarship@MilWomen.org

Public Relations Chair

Audrey MACLEOD-PFEIFFER
Middletown RI 401-847-2158
PR@MilWomen.org

Chaplain

Patty KOPPARI
Palm Bay FL
321-723-1697
Chaplain@MilWomen.org

Time & Place Chair

Patty KOPPARI
Palm Bay FL
321-723-1697
Time.Place@MilWomen.org

HerStorian:

Patty PARKS
Ooltewah TN
423-9870405
HERStory@MilWomen.org

2020-2022 Regional Representatives

REGION 1: California, Hawaii, Nevada

Representative: **Lynne Pine**, 507-400-9111/CA
RR1@MilWomen.org

REGION 2: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington

Representative: **Lynne Pine**, 507-400-9111/CA
RR2@MilWomen.org

REGION 3: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah

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

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

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

REGION 5: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin

Representative: **Jennifer Baun**, 314-803-8643/OH
RR5@MilWomen.org

REGION 6: Florida

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

REGION 7: Oklahoma, Texas

Representative: **Martha Alderman**, 623-810-9328/AZ
RR7@MilWomen.org

REGION 8: Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi

Representative: **Beth Wingfield**, 706-459-5729/GA
RR8@MilWomen.org

REGION 9: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska

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

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

Representative: **Beth Wingfield**, 706-459-5729/GA
RR10@MilWomen.org

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

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

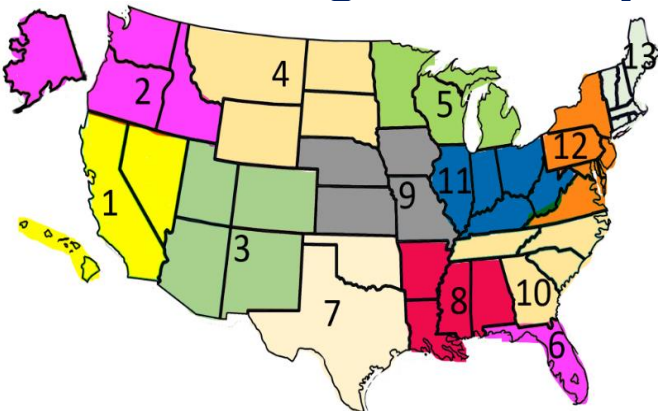
REGION 12: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland,

New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia
Representative: **Dassa Carvey**, 757-363-3059/VA
RR12@MilWomen.org

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

Representative: **Alicia Rodriguez**, 401-924-2589/RI
RR13@MilWomen.org

MWAN Regional Map



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

ONLY USE CURRENT ORDER FORM

MWAN Supply Locker

JUNE 2024

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 _____ = _____
- USN Women Veteran \$6 X _____ = _____
- Patches: Navy Flag or Services \$4 X _____ = _____
(USN, USAF, USMC, USCG, ARMY)
- American Flag Patch (3½"x2") \$4 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 _____ = _____
- Veteran American Flag Pin \$5 X _____ = _____
- Freedom Forever Eagle Pin \$5 X _____ = _____
- US Flag & Service Flag Pin \$4 X _____ = _____
(USN, USAF, USMC)
- 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, USCG, VETERANS)
- US Vet Stars/Stripes Lapel Pin \$9 X _____ = _____
- Honoring Women Veterans Pin \$6 X _____ = _____
- Poppy Flower Lapel Pin \$5 X _____ = _____

MWAN CLOTHING ITEMS

- Neck Tabs, Black w/Velcro \$12 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Visor \$15 X _____ = _____
- MWAN Ball Cap \$15 X _____ = _____
- MWAN T-Shirt \$18 X _____ = _____
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL
- MWAN Polo Shirt \$36 X _____ = _____
Gray OR White Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL
- MWAN Jacket \$36 X _____ = _____
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL
- MWAN Sweatshirt \$28 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 _____ = _____
- MWAN Playing Cards \$10 X _____ = _____
- Canvas Key Chain/Stars & Stripes \$6 X _____ = _____
- 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 \$6 X _____ = _____
- 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**)

Merchandise SUBTOTAL . \$ _____

****Shipping Costs****

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

ADD Shipping Charge . . \$ _____

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Check/MO #: _____

NO PHONE ORDERS

Make checks/Money Orders payable to **MWAN SUPPLY LOCKER**

Mail check with Order Form to: Linda Coffield, 95 Vernon Street, Atoka, TN 38004-7771

Questions? Call: (901) 488-4153 or Email: LindyC1951@gmail.com

****See my article on Page 2 of THIS Bulletin for A Convention 2024 SPECIAL!**

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

Silver Taps

U.S. Navy

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Lula B. (James) Vomhoff | 155/AZ |
| Regina D. (Podolski) Terrazas * | MAL/CA |
| Zora (Youngblood) Elwood | MAL/FL |
| Dorothy (Rotker) Greenberg | MAL/FL |
| E. Elizabeth (Parr) Harness | MAL/IL |
| Eva P. (Hallowich) Downs | MAL/MS |
| E. Jacqueline Haslam | MAL/MS |
| Marian E. (Green) Ritchie | MAL/MS |
| Evelyn 'Ann' (Triplett) Whittaker | MAL/MS |
| Bernice (Sains) Freid | MAL/NY |
| Ruth E. (Redmayne) Welch | MAL/NY |
| Anna (Campbell) Buss | MAL/OH |
| Lois J. (Ireland) Kelly | MAL/PA |



*Gone,
 but never forgotten*

U.S. Coast Guard

Laura Marie (Nuss) Rokey MAL/AK

MAL = Member at large * Denotes Charter Member of WAVES National

Submit all MWAN member Silver Taps info to Patty Parks, 6920 Sawtooth Dr., Ooltewah TN 37363 or HerStory@MilWomen.org

MEMBER-AT-LARGE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

PLEASE PRINT

(Dues period 1 January to 31 December)

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:

Maura Mooney, VP for Finance, 228 Goldman Lane, Petaluma CA 94952-3682

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