



White

CAPS

The Newsletter for WAVES National

Still Something Special

VOL. XXXII NO.3

JUNE 2011

WAVES Provide Glimpse of Their Navy Lives

by Judy Lazarus – Associate Editor, Great Lakes Bulletin



Former WAVES Jo Adamson (l), Jan Roy, Carol Jung, Marie Benz (far right) and MCCA Rhonda Burke (Ret.) cut the cake at the Great Lakes museum following their participation in the Round Table Discussion at Naval Station Great Lakes. (Photo by Paul Engstrom)

Editor's Note: Jan Roy and Jo Adamson, representing WAVES National, attended Women's History Month Celebration at Great Lakes and participated in a Round Table Discussion. This event marked the second event in the year long celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Naval Station.

They paved the new path for women – these WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) who served in the U.S. Navy beginning in 1942.

Four WAVES veterans talked about their experiences in the service at a panel discussion led by MCCA (Ret.) Rhonda Burke at Ross Auditorium, March 29.

"We pay tribute to those who paved the way for women like myself," Burke said.

CAPT John Malfitano, Commanding Officer, Naval Station Great Lakes, welcomed speakers and guests, "To this, our second major Centennial event.

"Women are a vital component of our Navy and make indispensable contributions every day to our mission and operations," The CO said, adding that such was not always the case.

"At the turn of the 20th century, progressive social movements advocated women's rights, but it took the first global

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The President's Message

Ladies,

Tornadoes and fires and flooding! Such weather we have been having! I hope everyone is safe. Diana Parkison,

National Recording Secretary and a volunteer with the Red Cross, was deployed

to Alabama after the tornadoes went through there in April. We will hear more from Diana in the August issue as she was unavailable at press time.

We are doing very well on our Virtual Raffle and I hope everyone purchased their tickets! We have also partnered with two more companies for fund raising. The first is with Proud to Serve, a winery in California. You can call to place an order or order on line. The second company is VeteransPlus, a nonprofit that provides financial education to veterans and active duty. We can donate a used vehicle for WAVES National and 50% of the proceeds from the auction of that vehicle will be donated to us. In addition, the donor will receive a tax benefit in the form of a charitable deduction equal to the amount of the vehicle's auctioned sale price. See additional information in this issue.

Our webmaster has become increasingly busy with a growing young family and increased responsibilities and has had less time to donate to maintaining WAVES National's website. Bob Maillette has done an awesome job for us without payment,

and it was with reluctance I began searching for a new webmaster. Gaby Morrison, a new member, has offered to take on the responsibilities of our webmaster. You will meet Gaby as she introduces herself in her column in "From the Bridge." Thank you Bob for all your hard work and making us a known presence in the cyber world. We wish you well in your endeavors. Welcome aboard, Gaby!

Take a look at the listing of regional conferences and if you want to attend any of them, contact the appropriate person to register. You do not have to be in that region to attend the conference. As a WN member, you are welcome to attend any (or all) of them!

The Board of Directors will be meeting in Madison, WI, in late July for their Mid-Term meeting. Make sure you let your Regional Representative or one of the National Officers know of any concerns you would like to have addressed.

Additionally, we have a scholarship winner, Sydney Stimson, of Plymouth, MA. Her winning essay is in this issue. The judges had a difficult decision this

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WAVES Provide Glimpse ...

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war to give women the opportunity to prove themselves," he noted.

Twenty-three years after serving in World War I, women returned to general Navy service in August 1942.

"More than 80,000 WAVES served in World War II," the captain said, noting that WAVES boot camp came to Great Lakes in 1948.

"Today, 53,000 active duty women and more than 10,000 female reservists are serving in the Navy, comprising over 16 percent of the force," Malfitano said. "In addition, nearly 50,000 serve in a wide range of specialties as Navy civilians, and 95 percent of Navy billets are open to women."

Marie Benz, from New Berlin, WI, joined the WAVES on a dare in July 1945, which turned out to be two weeks before the war ended.

"You'll never do it," a friend said. "How much do you want to bet?" Marie replied. She went to the recruiting office during her lunch hour and signed up. It was a surprise to her parents.

Benz attended boot camp at Hunter College in NY, which became a Corps School with a nine-week course.

"It was exciting," she said. "I was stationed in Seattle for only a year. I loved it."

Carol Jung, from Prospect Heights, IL, who enlisted in the WAVES in August 1957 at the age of 19, found literature about the service in the post office.

"The Navy sounded pretty good to me," said Jung, who took business courses in high school. Most of her four years in the WAVES was spent at BUPERS in the office of the Director of the WAVES.

"She was the only captain in the WAVES," Jung said. "We even had a

The President's Message ...

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year as the essays were exceptional. Thanks go to Betty Hand, Scholarship Chairman, and her judges for a job well done! Bravo Zulu!

It's not too early to think about sponsoring the 2014 Convention. How about another cruise? Remember how much fun we had on our first ever Convention Cruise? If your region or unit is considering doing this, please let Ida Duffy know. Her contact information is on the National Officers and Staff page.

Our National VA Volunteer Services Representative, Harriett Howard, attended

A Recollection of D-Day, 50 Years Later

By Lucille (Walters) Sisson
Lieutenant, USNR (WR)

Editor's Note: Lucille wrote this in 1994. At the 67th Anniversary of D-Day this month, it seems appropriate to contemplate and remember another time when the world was in conflict.

In 1944, I was an ensign on the staff of the U.S. Naval Training School, Bronx, NY. One day, for some unknown reason and no prior alert, ALL of our personnel were ordered to fall into formation and assemble outdoors in a somewhat modest circular area surrounding the tall flag pole from which flew our beautiful American Flag. The flag defined the formal entrance to the Training School and the Administration Building.

At the appointed hour, all companies of the recruits in training, plus their staffs, came marching simultaneously from all directions towards the flag pole and the macadam road encircling it. Soon, we were all wedged in, to the point of crowding. This was unusual since the base had a spacious parade ground. The parade ground bordered a reservoir, had a generous reviewing stand and more than ample room to accommodate the large station band and the revolving body of recruits. However, it did not have a flag pole with Old Glory waiting to accept our hand salutes.

shower for her when she married an admiral. That was quite an honor for us. I was even able to attend her wedding."

The Navy wanted Jo Adamson to be a radioman, but she said, "No way," so the nursing school student applied for a special

Also unusual was the early hour of these strange orders. But, it was June 6, 1944, so you can guess that we were then informed of the already-in-progress Allied Invasion of France. As the enormity of this stupendously aggressive act by the largest naval armada in the history of the world began to register upon us, General Eisenhower's voice came over the loudspeakers. The General's now famous message to his men on the brink of their departure for battle moved us in a way that I am certain no one who was there has ever forgotten or will ever forget. I was not alone in experiencing feelings of pride, solidarity, support and of... dread! My memories today, in 1994, on the 50th anniversary of these landings, are still emotional and bring me to tears as I write. Never were there more heartfelt prayers than those we prayed collectively and individually to our Lord God on that day for the safety of our fellow Soldiers, Sailors, Coast Guard, Marines, and Merchant Marines, and for the success of their invasion. We prayed for the ending of the war, for our own combatants and loved ones, and especially for our beloved America.

Navy program which awarded a graduate degree at any college to individuals who graduated from Hospital Corps School at the top of their class.

She won a place in the program and graduated second in her corps school class.

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the annual VAVS meeting in April, in Cincinnati, OH. Harriett reports that Gladys Bemis, WN's nomination as the National Advisory Committee (NAC) Female Volunteer of the Year, was not selected. The honor went to Diana Wong, Albuquerque, NM, and was nominated by the Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW. My nomination of Harriett to the NAC Scholarship Committee was also passed over. We will try again next year. In the meantime, I know we have many deserving and dedicated members who volunteer at their VAMC. Please contact Harriett or myself

so we can start working on the nomination package for next year! It's never too early to start!

I know many members will be celebrating the 69th anniversary of the WAVES in July. Happy Birthday to all WAVES on 30 July 2011! Send in photos and stories of how you celebrated the anniversary and we will publish them in the October issue.

Until next time, stay safe and please keep our troops in your prayers.

Always Navy,

Dassa

2011 WAVES National Scholarship Recipient and Essay



Sydney Stimson
Scholarship Winner



Carolyn Prunier,
Sydney's grandmother

Sydney Stimson, from Plymouth, MA, is the granddaughter of Carolyn Prunier, a member and past president of Pioneer Valley WAVES, Unit 81. Carolyn served for three years as a radioman and was stationed at the Communications Station (NPG) San Francisco, CA, and the Communications Center, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, NH.

Sydney will be attending the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) and aspires to be a renowned oncologist. Sydney has many accomplishments, which include being a delegate of the Student Council since her freshman year of high school; senior editor of the yearbook club; working in the family business during the summer and school vacations, and raising more than \$4,000 for

victims of Hurricane Katrina. WAVES National wishes Sydney much success in all her future endeavors.

Essays are printed as written and have not been edited by White Caps Editor.

Today's Sea Service Women at War

By: Sydney Stimson

Susan B. Anthony once said, "It was we, the people, not we, the white male citizens; nor yet we, the male citizens; but we, the whole people, who formed the Union... Men, their rights and nothing more; women, their rights and nothing less." In today's world, the old stereotype of a man in uniform is incorrect. Today, there is an average ration of seven males to every three females serving in the armed forces. Although the men still outnumber the women in our forces, women play a significantly higher role in the service compared to even as little as fifty years ago.

As a retired member of the Marines, Amber Tilton knows what it is like to serve her country in one of the infamous places of the current news. Amber enlisted in the Marines when she was only twenty-three years old and signed her life away, well, at least the next six years of her life. That was it; she was a reservist for the United States Marines. When asked why she chose to enlist in the military, she simply said that college wasn't for her. She said that she had not previously done anything responsible with her life and she felt that enlisting was the only thing to do with her future and something to be proud of. She served four and a half months in Iraq at the air base called Alasad. She then went to Fal-

lujah for the remainder of the year to finish her time overseas.

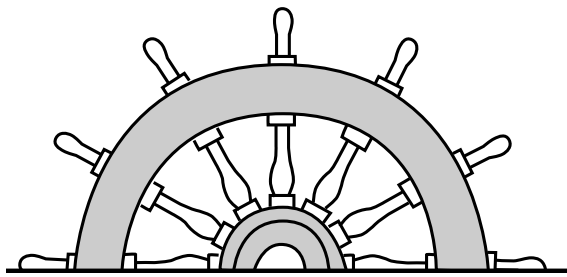
I couldn't imagine what would have gone through my head if I found out that I was going to be serving and fighting for my country overseas in Iraq. I had to know; I asked Amber what exactly went through her head, and what she was thinking when she found out she would be serving in notorious Iraq. Of course she was feeling the most common and natural feeling of nervousness and at first she even tried to find a way of getting out of her situation. But when she thought about it, she realized she needed to stick together with her troops and she said she even "felt confidence in numbers". When she continued to think about it, she was glad she was going over there, so she could see first hand what it was like and what was truly going on.

Amber stated that serving in Iraq has its pros and cons. When asked what the worst part about serving in the military was, she said it was knowing the reality of what goes on. "Knowing what goes on over there, makes you lose the naivety about the world. Babies are born and raised amidst complete chaos, so what's stopping it from happening here." When asked what the best part of serving in the military was, she slowly sat down and thought about her answer for a couple

minutes. She looked at me and told me the story of a little boy who was in a bright orange jumpsuit. He stood about four and a half feet high with a shovel at his side that towered over his head. He stood right next to a gigantic pile of dirt beside him. Without answering the question directly, I knew what her answer was. The best part of serving in Iraq was seeing the Iraqis who persevered through it all.

When she served over seas in Fallujah, she took the same path everyday to the area where she would check females entering back onto the town after it had been destroyed. This year's scholarship is named in honor of Navy Culinary Specialist 1st Class (CS1) Regina R. Clark who died June 23, 2005 while serving during Operation Iraqi Freedom. When I informed Amber of this, she got a very blank look on her face, as if she was about to cry. When I asked if she was okay, she told me very slowly that when her time serving over seas was done, she went back home. Regina Clark took over for her and traveled the same path that Amber did every day. Amber could have been the one in the car when the explosive device detonated nearby, killing everyone in the convoy vehicle.

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FROM THE BRIDGE

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Jo Adamson



WELCOME SHIPMATES: I have been trying to write this article for three days. I have never seen such diverse weather pounding our States as in the last two weeks: snow to the northern states and tornados to the south of me. Good luck and may God Bless all the people who lost their homes and family members. In my area, we are literally floating away. The Ohio, Mississippi, Missouri and all contributory rivers are up and over the banks, flooding everything in site. This is where we welcome assistance of our neighbors.

Jan Roy, the Regional Representative from Michigan, and I were welcomed with open arms at Great Lakes Naval Museum, March 29th to be part of a panel of four women who served at Great Lakes in the 50's and 60's. To be recognized and treated with such distinction was just great. I went through Corps School there in 1958 which was the only Corp School for women. The female CO of the Corps School and I had a long discussion regarding the last class to be graduated from the Navy Corps School in July of this year. The Navy and Air Force will have a combined medical school in San Antonio, TX. Oh, well!

I wish to welcome all of our new members. In the last edition of White Caps, I listed new members within the units and stated we have had an influx of MALs, also. I wish to extend our greetings and welcome aboard to: Mary Lu Fowler, Louisville, KY; Patricia Johnston, Anderson, SC; Mercedes Lantz, Issaquah, WA; Ruth Landry, Bellville, OH; Maryann Smith, Des Moines, IA; Linda Spencer, Nampa, ID; Sarah Young, Wooster, OH; Margaret Nuesse, Placentia, CA; Margaret Womble, Durham, NC; Linda Ritzler; Maureen Owens; Melba Glarusso; Frances Benson; Rose Lee Jackson; Rhonda Watson and Diane Mallery.

I also wish to welcome the new members that have joined North Coast WAVES, Unit 21 - Darlene Scott; Salt City Blues, Unit 80 - Mary Buttarro; Green Mt. WAVES, Unit 109 - Betty Roark; Nevada

Gems, Unit 146 - Dale Page; and, Tidewater Tidal WAVES, Unit 152 - Ann Borcheller, Gemma Adkins, Kim Gronniger, Caitlyn Groom, Susan Garrow and Dawn "Michelle" Ainsworth.

ATTENTION to all units and new MAL members: Make sure to state who your recruiter or what information was the cause for you to join WAVES National on all application forms submitted to the Treasurer. The Recruiting Incentive Contest Rules have changed. With the demise of so many units and the increase of members-at-large, it is necessary to revise the rules of the contest to award the person recruiting the most members the points for recruiting new members. The top 3 members having the most points will receive the incentive award of \$300.00 for 1st prize; \$200.00, 2nd prize, and \$100.00, 3rd prize. This change will also give our MAL's a chance. The guidelines for the recruiting contest will be in the next issue of White Caps.

Interest in our organization seems to be growing with the many functions our shipmates are becoming involved in. Spread the word as it is doing a great job.

REMEMBER: all you have to do is recruit one new member and we double our membership.

As a VAVS member representing WAVES National, I coordinated with the Marion VA to have their first All Women Veterans' Open House/Fashion Show taking place in Herrin, on May 26th. This VA has over 40,000 veteran patients and covers more square miles than any other VA in the U.S. They are responsible for Southern Illinois, Northern Kentucky, parts of Tennessee, Eastern Indiana and parts of Missouri. I hope to do my job and get some new members.

Our White Caps is a great tool for recruiting. If any members want to use them as a recruiting tool, I will be more than happy to send you a few to pass out. MALs, you can also use them as an incentive to get other members in your area and maybe even form a unit.

We have some States Directors whose terms are ready to expire and need to check with their RR and/or me as to what their status is if there is any question.

I'll sign off for now and wish God speed and good health to all our shipmates overseas in harms way.

TREASURER

Monica O'Hara



Renewal dues continue to trickle in. Over the past few months we have processed over 35 new members and 30 reinstatements. It would be wonderful if we could keep that momentum going with membership!

Unit Treasurers are reminded to submit the annual "Letter of Authorization" form to me by 15 June. Please refer to pages 3 and 14 of the Procedures Manual. This is an IRS requirement.

The following donations have been received for the General Fund: MALs: Doris Beaton, Ellen Carlson, Josephine Curtin, Mildred Flemming, Betty Hayter, Helen McAnally, Kathleen Pearson and Diana Weber. We also received 2 donations in memory of Lida Pearson (MAL).

Unit members and units: Sharon Woods, Cactus WAVES (#114); Bea Langston, Salt River Valley WAVES (#155); Tampa Bay WAVES (#55); Columbia River Ripples (#70); Redwood Empire WAVES (#77); Highlanders (#88); and SEM WAVES (#101).

The Scholarship Fund received donations from Bay Area WAVES (#3), Tampa Bay WAVES (#55), and WAVES AGO (#61). Northwest Florida WAVES (#52), Tampa Bay WAVES (#55), and Gulf Coast Dolphins (#56) sent donations for the Stained Glass Window Fund. Thank you all for your generous donations!

Exciting news... Donations can now be made online at our website. Check out this new feature that facilitates credit card donations to WAVES National in any of the three funds - General, Scholarship or Stained Glass Window. It is quick and easy! Tell your friends and family about this opportunity to support our organization. The donation button is on our website - www.womenofthewaves.com. All you need do is click on the donation button and follow the instructions.

RECORDING SECRETARY



Diana Parkisson

NO COLUMN FROM
DIANA THIS ISSUE.

Diana was on "active duty" and deployed to Hoover, AL with the Red Cross when we went to press. She anticipated being deployed for 21 days assisting the victims of the awful tornadoes that ripped through that area, leaving tragedy and devastation in their wake. Good job, Diana. We're proud of you and look forward to reading your report next time!

SHIP'S STORE



Patty Jo Parks

Break out the sun screen! Summer is here! Boy do I miss the snow!

Heads Up, Gals: As I replenish stock this year, I'm paying more for the same items. Hopefully, prices will NOT go up this year, but you will likely see a few increases NEXT year. So, don't delay! Stock up now on all your favorite WAVES National goodies.

PLEASE NOTE: Use the MOST RECENT White Caps order form. Your order may be delayed if the correct payment and/or shipping is not included.

How about something FREE for this issue's FINE PRINT SPECIAL: Buy two WAVES National Coin-style items (any combination of coins, medallions or keyrings) and get another FREE. That's three coin-style items for only \$20! (Limit of one free coin-style item per customer) Orders MUST:

- 1) Include payment for two WN Coin items (any combination);
- 2) Specify "FREE COIN" on the order form along with which coin-style item you want free; and
- 3) MUST be received by August 1, 2011.

Sea Ya, *Patty Jo*

BYLAWS CHAIRMAN



Cathy Gerolimos

I truly dislike being a broken record; however, here I am repeating myself. The good news is that it will be the last time you hear about this topic in 2011. This is last call for proposed changes to WAVES National Bylaws. Proposed changes must be received by me not later than July 15. I will be presenting your proposed change(s) to WN Board of

Directors at the Mid-Term Meeting at the end of July.

But, I must continue to repeat myself. Please include in your recommended change to WAVES National Bylaws the article, section, and paragraph that you wish to change or add, as well as a clear explanation for that change. Since I shall be your advocate for your proposed change, please explain in detail your purpose and/or intent so I can properly present your recommendation to the Board of Directors. To that end, please include your name, unit, and telephone number in case I wish to follow up with you.

So far, I have not received any suggestions. And, that may be a good thing. Keep in mind, time is running out.

I will be leaving for New York early in July. My mail is forwarded to me once a week. Certainly, if you think e-mail is best—you know where to find that information as well—on the National Officers & Staff page.

Until then...

HEARTSPRING PROJECT



Jeanne Hooper

First, our thoughts and prayers are with those who have been in the pathways of these recent deadly storms! I hope all our ladies have come through unscathed.

Totino's Pizza Rolls, Avery Labels and Land O' Lakes margarine/butter are some products you can add to the list of those that carry Boxtops for Education.

It's been awhile since our contributing units have been recognized, and there are quite a few. They are: Gateway WAVES, Unit #5; Heart of America, Unit #9; Sun-coast WAVES, Unit #15; Gulf Coast, Unit #27; Michigan, Unit #32; NWFL WAVES, Unit #52; Lake Country, Unit #74; Volunteer, Unit #94; Green Mountain Girl, Unit #113; Memphis Belles, Unit #151; and, Tidewater Tidal WAVES, Unit #152. Thank you also to MALs Betty Patrick, Edith Burnett, Johanne Walker and Doris McElroy. Each and every one of you is appreciated!

One last note; we received a nice note from Heartspring thanking us for the "amazing collection" of Boxtops and Tyson labels in response to the 700 Boxtops and 11 Tyson labels we sent in at the end of March. Thank you ladies – it could not have been done without you!

VOLUNTEER HOURS CHAIRMAN



Dulcie Davis

Hi Shipmates!

**REPORTS ARE DUE
JUNE 15!**

I hope everyone has been recording their hours and that we surpass last year's reported volunteer hours.

You may submit your hours by regular mail or by email.

I pray everyone is safe and that you will have a great summer.

Always Navy,
Dulcie

PUBLIC RELATIONS



Barb Sebring

I want to thank all of you that have sent in your money for the Virtual Raffle. I have especially enjoyed reading all the notes you have sent along with your checks. I have personally entered your name on every raffle ticket.

Now, on to the next fundraiser. Please see the flyer announcing our partnership with Proud to Serve Winery. They are located here in Northern California in a premiere wine producing area. I have personally tasted both the Cabernet Sauvignon and Sauvignon Blanc and can give the "Sebring" vote of approval to both. These wines are very drinkable alone or paired with food. When planning your summer parties and functions, think of this fundraiser. Please check out the web site and order a case or two. If you do not have access to a computer you may call 1-510-332-1034 to place your order. This is an on-going partnership and a win-win for everyone. You get great wine and WN gets a donation of \$2 per bottle.

Always Navy,
Barb

VA MEDICAL/HEALTH



Ruth Storck

The Women's VA Health Care Outreach Campaign has a lot of information for female veterans on the prevention and treatments available for a "silent disease" affecting one in two women over 50. Osteoporosis deteriorates bone tissue and reduces bone mass. Lack of calcium and phosphate minerals play an important part in causing osteoporosis.

Many women do not realize that menopause also plays a significant role in osteoporosis. Menopause is accompanied by lower estrogen levels. Women should begin to talk to their doctors before menopause begins. If women wait for symptoms, they may find it comes in a debilitating and painful fracture, many in the spine.

Osteoporosis prevention is a disease we should maintain from childhood. Many in the health field believe if we teach our children and grandkids the importance of calcium (Got milk?), minerals and hormones, we could prevent many painful episodes in later years.

As in most diseases of today, smoking increases your risk of bone mass loss.

Women with larger bodies have greater bone mass, but this doesn't prevent osteoporosis and can increase its symptoms. Therefore, it is important that women of all sizes work toward prevention of the disease. Spinal and bone fractures, pressure when moving in our joints, numbness, tingling, and weakness are all late signs of this silent painful disease. Conventional treatments include pain medications, bed rest, and external bracing. These are all long painful recoveries. For severe cases, acrylic bone cement can be injected into the spine to assist in stabilizing compressions caused by osteoporosis or spinal tumors.

If you think you are at risk for osteoporosis, your doctor can run several tests: a physical exam, x-rays, an MRI and bone scans all give a good picture of your bone mass.

These diagnostics will allow the VA health female wellness providers to plan a course of action for your circumstances. As always, the best information for you is to talk with your providers; ask questions; be active in your health needs and assist your body in preventing the problems you can prevent.

WEBMASTER

Gaby Morrison



Happy summer, Ladies.

Greetings from Virginia Beach, VA. Thank you for allowing me the honor of helping to maintain the WAVES National Website. Hopefully I can live up to my predecessor's dedication and service.

Personally, I don't like to talk about myself, but in the interest of your getting to know me, I'll share with you the short version.

After graduating from high school in Chicago, I enlisted in the Navy in August

1975 and went to boot camp in Orlando. After the first week, due to being 6 feet tall, I became not only the RCPO of the company but also the RCPO of the Drill Team. Because of that experience I was asked to do an additional 6 months in RTC Orlando as a Company Commanders Aide-ACC.

The next assignment was Radioman 'A' school in San Diego. Upon successful completion, I was assigned to NACOMMUNIT London, England, where I met my husband. We were a select group of Radiomen that worked in conjunction with the Crypto Community and instrumental in upgrading NACOMMUNIT from torn tape relay to an Automated Communication Relay Center.

In 1979, we were transferred to NTCC Sweepers Cove, Adak, AK, where I finished my enlistment of 6 years as Radioman 2nd Class.

For the next 12 years I was a stay at home mom with 2 children and had a small home business while my husband rode various ships in and out of Norfolk. In 1996, I went back to work and in the past 15 years I have been a Receiving Manager for a National Retail Chain, paid Tax Preparer, RMA Clerk for a local Computer Company, Practice Manager for a Psychiatric Practice, Operations Supervisor for CDL Driver Leasing Company and, presently, the Operations and Scheduling Manager for a local Building Maintenance Company.

So what do I know about websites? In 1973, I took a computer class in high school in FORTRAN. We wrote 24 programs in that semester which entailed punching your own cards and loading them into a terminal to make sure the program worked. That started my love/hate affair with computers. During my tour in London, the knowledge in computers helped my transition from teletypes to Optical Character Readers and Visual / Video Display Terminals. Over the past 10 years, I have had various personal websites and presently maintain my own business website.

In the spirit of being a "newbie," are there any ideas floating around? We have a WAVES National Forum that has little to zero activity. The WAVES National Guestbook is looking quiet.

"The Profiles of WAVES" – Ladies, you all have and are presently changing history. Where are your stories?

Is there anything you would like to see on the WAVES National Website?

I'm looking forward to hearing suggestions and ideas. Email me at

gabym@cox.net. Please make sure to put in the subject line of your email "WAVES National Website". Once again, thank you for allowing me the privilege of helping to maintain the WAVES National Website.

Smiles,
Gaby

NAME CHANGE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN



Barb Sebring

The Name Change Committee wanted to update everyone on the progress to date. We are still taking suggestions so if you have any ideas, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Please keep in mind that we are trying to update the name to attract younger members. We also must remember that we are open to all members of the sea services and try to include them in whatever name you submit.

Here are a few more suggestions: Oceania National; Oceania 7 National; Oceania VII National; Service Women of the Sea (SWOTS); Sea Service Veterans; Women Accepted for Voluntary Service (WAVS); Women of the Sea Services (retire WAVES National); Women Veterans – Sea-Air-Land Services; Women of Maritime Services – WMS, Navy – Marine-Coast Guard; W – Women, A – Active, V – Vital, E - Essential, S - Service – WAVES; W- Women, A –Are, V – Very, E - Exceptional, S – Seamen – WAVES. Thanks everyone and keep those ideas coming.

Ladies!

Help support the WAVES National fundraising effort by taking advantage of the following programs–

Enjoy the
Proud To Serve Winery program and savor fine wines while supporting the good works of WN. *See page 14.*

Help WN continue to be a force for helping your fellow veterans by donating your unwanted vehicle to the
Yellow Ribbon Coalition.
See page 16.



Please send all WN member Silver Taps information to Executive Secretary, Barb Turner (address on page 14)

WN MEMBERS

Florence Hayes..... USN Unit #9 (KS)	Mary R. Marsdale (Flynn) USN Unit #42 (CT)
Freda L. Turner (Bradford) USN/USCG .. Unit #15 (FL)	Margaret C. Vancini (Cole) USN Unit #81 (MA)
Gloria Weberg (Greengard)..... USN Unit #32 (MI)	C. June Smith (Goodman)..... USN Unit #56 (FL)
H. Barbara Pittelkow (Henderson) USN Unit #37 (MN)	Caroleigh Steinmetz (Byrnes)..... USN Unit #70 (OR)
Elsa F. Fabiszak (Fischer) USN Unit #39 (IL)	

WN FORMER MEMBERS

Velta Smythe..... USN Unit #5 (MO)	Marjorie Stiltner..... USN Unit #136 (VA)
Roberta Baker (Hooper) USN Unit #113 (VT)	Dr. Imelda Tobias USN Unit #56 (KS)
Marilyn E. Hildebran (Bouff) USN Unit #126 (CA)	Lida Petersen USN Unit #8 (CA)

Gone, but not forgotten!

ADVERTISING RATES AND GUIDELINES FOR WHITE CAPS

Barb Turner, WAVES National Executive Secretary

With revenue down in the WAVES National (WN) coffer, your board of directors voted to allow advertising in our White Caps, during the WAVES National 18th Biennial Convention held in Norfolk, VA in August. Perhaps you have written a book or own your own business or have a friend or business associate that would like to “get the word out” about their business. If this is as successful as we believe it will be, perhaps a small percentage of the profit from the ad could be contributed right back to WAVES National for the general fund. Think about it!

ADVERTISING RATES AND GUIDELINES:

Publication of advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product(s) and/or service(s) offered. Advertising deadline is the 1st of the month prior to publication of the White Caps. (See page 15 for publication dates). Any late or incomplete submissions may not be included in the next issue. All submissions for advertisement are subject to approval by the WAVES National Board of Directors. **Please follow the outlined size guidelines and submit all advertisements in 300 dpi, black and white, camera ready .jpg, .tif, or .pdf format. Submission of advertisements by e-mail is the preferred method.**

Size Length	Business Card (2" x 3.5")	1/4 Page (3.75" x 5.0")	1/2 Page (7.5" x 5.0")	Full Page (7.5" x 10")
1 Time	\$ 45.00	\$ 75.00	\$100.00	\$150.00
1 Year	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$600.00

WAVES National reserves the right to modify ads that do not adhere to these guidelines and is not responsible for any loss of integrity that results. For advertising inquiries, please contact the WAVES National President at: Dassa Carvey, 757-460-1021 or dassa@att.net

REGIONAL CONFERENCES

WAVES NATIONAL WESTERN REGIONS

JOINT CONFERENCE AND MEXICAN RIVIERA CRUISE 2011

Region I Representative Jeannie Dicks, Region II Representative Margaret Thorngate, and Region III Representative Linda Fulkerson have teamed up to present the Western Regional Conference 2011 aboard the Holland America ship ms OOSTERDAM out of San Diego, CA, 8-15 October 2011.

For conference registration, call your Cruise Director Lynne Pine at (619) 947-6936 or e-mail Lynne.Pine@Yahoo.com to receive the registration form that you will need to fill out and submit to her. To make cruise reservations, request special arrangements for medical or dietary needs, or opt out of mailings, call Lynndee King of Cruise Specialists at 1-800-544-2469 or e-mail LKing@CruiseSpecialists.com.

REGION VIII CONFERENCE New England

Plans are underway for a one day conference to be held 1 Oct, at the Holiday Inn, Enfield, CT.

There will be a luncheon with Dr. Linda Schwartz, Commissioner of CT Veterans Affairs, as guest speaker.

Information will be mailed to New England members, but all WN members are invited to attend. Contact Regional Representative Mary Ann Goodell, 20 Terry Rd., Berlin, CT, 06037, 860-828-3302 or m.goodell@att.net for additional information.

REGION IX CONFERENCE Appalachian

This is a shout-out to all the sea service women in the Region IX area. The time is approaching for our Regional Conference. It is scheduled for the 26-27 August, at the Adams Mark Hotel, located in central Buffalo.

Anyone outside Region IX wishing to attend, can contact Kayann Taylor, 315-834-6269.

REGIONS X AND XI FUN IN THE SUMMERTIME IN THE OLD SOUTH

Please join us for a joint Mid-Atlantic Region X and Southeast Region XI Conference in scenic Chattanooga, TN, Friday and Saturday, 22-23 July, 2011 at Country Inn & Suites. The room rate of \$89 is good for up to 4 people and complimentary hot breakfast. \$50 registration includes Saturday luncheon and train ride.

Contact Patty Jo Parks for registration forms, at 423-326-0839, or pattyjoparks@yahoo.com

REGION XII CONFERENCE Sunshine



Region XII, in conjunction with All Navy Women's National Alliance, is hosting our Regional/State Conference to be held in Orlando, FL, September 22nd through the 25th.

All sea service women are invited.

There will be a hospitality suite for all to gather in and swap a few sea stories and have a nibble!

Thursday afternoon we will host a two-way seminar with active duty women to see what we can do to make our organization more open to active duty personnel and recent retirees. Thursday evening's entertainment consists of a dinner theater for laughs and giggles.

Friday is packed with a golfing package and a meeting of all WN units in FL, followed by Unit Presidents and All Navy Women Directors party.

Saturday morning will have a seminar on various topics of interest to all. Saturday evening will be the banquet with guest speaker. Sunday will start with a breakfast brunch and a speaker.

We will then bid each other adieu for another year.

Stimson Scholarship Essay ...

(Continued from page 3)

When I asked Amber what it was like in Iraq, and how the culture in that country differed from what she grew up with her in America, she went on about how she would almost rather live there. She told me the story about how she was talking to a female Iraqi with a very unique style. She had on a jeweled bracelet and when Amber complimented the female on the bracelet, she simply took it off her wrist and gave it to her without even thinking twice about it. It was then that Amber realized that when you have so much less, and grow up in such lower standards of living, it made you tougher.

Past war history generally focused on males who served in the military. When I asked Amber what the difference between men and women serving in the military was, she didn't have a clear answer. She told me that she personally felt that there was a huge difference for a father and a mother to leave their child at home. She told me that it was a lot to take on being a woman serving in the military. She said that there is a lot of sexual tension between the men and women in order to get their minds off of what is going on around them and that being around the men made her "feel like the prey" and that the sexual tension itself "turns people raw." When Amber was promoted in her unit before all of her male friends were, they completely ignored her and refused to talk to her or acknowledge her in any way. Towards the end of our interview together, I asked Amber what her general feelings were about the reason she was serving over seas. She told me that when she was over there, she would seek out ways to believe in the mission – to make it seem like she wasn't wasting her time. She told me that although she believes in the Iraqi freedom mission and Iraqi freedom, she doesn't know if it was worth the effort, but she really hopes it will be worth it in the end. Even though she hates to admit it, she thinks the chance is low. She said to me, "Twenty years down the road, if Iraqis are free and live in a nice place, and we did help them to that, then that would be the only reward we will ever need."

(Continued to page 13)

FOAM OFF THE WAVES

ROADRUNNERS

Unit #4 (NM) – We have been absent from “Foam Off The Waves” for a while, but we are still going strong. We continue to meet most months, combining business and luncheons.

We support the New Mexico VAMC with volunteer time, gifts and comfort items as well as monetary donations.

Members are volunteer “docents” at the NM Veterans Memorial. The Albuquerque YWCA has recently opened a home for homeless women veterans to which our members will give volunteer time.

The twenty-sixth annual Tribute to Women in the Military - Past, Present and Future was held at Kirtland AFB in March as their Women’s History Month Celebration. This is a combined effort of women veterans and active duty in the area and we have always been very much involved. This year’s Annual Women Veterans’ Luncheon will be on November 4, hosted by our unit.



Unit members Carmela Blumenthal (c) and Emily Zander (r) attend the Tribute to Women in the Military, along with a WAC friend (l).

We are all very proud of our Associate Member, Diana Wong, who was selected as National VAVS Volunteer of the Year. Diana is an Air Force medically retired veteran. She was nominated by the VAMC for her work in assisting the Catholic Chaplain with Mass and other related duties. She is well known in the Veterans’ community as a dynamo of energy, ready to help anyone anytime.

We send prayers and sincere good wishes to all who have suffered loss in the prairie fires and tornados. We all hope for a speedy recovery in all these communities.

GATEWAY WAVES

Unit #5 (MO) – St. Louis has had its share of turbulent weather, like most

states, we have become tornado alley, with hail storms. Our thoughts go out to all the WN Family.

We welcome new member, Yolando Redington, Vietnam Era, Navy WAVE, who was a MAL and saw our information in White Caps.

For meeting information, contact Shirley Walz at 314-822-4249 or email: Sjwalz2002@yahoo.com.

KEYSTONE WAVES

Unit #6 (PA) – Unit members were guests at a dinner commemorating 68 years military service for NAS Willow Grove. The following day we attended the Disestablishment Ceremony for the Station, a very solemn occasion. We were shown a film outlining the official establishment in 1943 and the many changes and accomplishments through the years. The Final Flight Ceremony followed with Capt. Opatz ceremoniously saluting each pilot as each plane and helicopter took off for its final flight. Each pilot “dipped” his aircraft in a return salute.

We also attended a meeting and “Dining-In” of the Honorary First Defenders, open to all veterans, but hosted by the Navy this year. Special guest speaker was our own RADM Patricia Wolfe, who sent a special greeting to WAVES National. Elizabeth Robinson was oldest (wisest) veteran present and was escorted by a midshipman from Annapolis.



Elaine Robinson and RADM Wolfe share a moment at the First Defenders Dining In.

For meeting information, contact Harriet Stulmaker, 215-957-6659.

HEART OF AMERICA

Unit #9 (MO) – The new year brought many trials and tribulations not only for our unit but across the nation. We’ve had two members pass away; the weather seems to be out of control, and our nation grieves for those who have lost loved ones, their homes, and their livelihoods through floods and tornadoes. It’s our sincere wish that our sisters throughout WAVES National stay strong. Any

members who have been devastated with tornadoes or floods, our prayers are with you.

We are asking for your ideas to help build our membership and keep them interested. If you have had successes about what your unit is doing that might help us, please contact Michelle Batliner at 810-241-7451 or e-mail her at mbatliner@att.net. **For meeting information, please contact Michelle at the number or e-mail above.**

NORTH COAST WAVES

Unit #21 (OH) – WAVES National member Sarah Young, attached to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 26 in the Shorabak district, Kandahar province, Afghanistan. Keep safe, Sarah.



Sarah Young talks with a visiting Brig. General.

STARS AND STRIPES

Unit #36 (CA) – In April, we held our meeting at the 7 Seas Restaurant at Best Western.

We were apprised of the Navy dependents that had been evacuated from Japan to San Diego and in need of immediate support for meals, non-perishable food, personal items and paper goods. A vote was taken to coordinate and purchase needed items.

We were also saddened to hear of the demise of the Bay Area WAVES, Unit #3.

We donated money to the military museum for purchase of display cases for the women’s history room. Several members are serving on the board, so we have a voice in its creation. Also, some of the members have volunteered to help sew neck pillows for the troops going overseas. Roxanne Jones is coordinating the project to get patterns and information to the volunteers.

FLORIDA FIRST COAST

Unit #38 (FL) - Four members of the Unit attended the NAS Jacksonville Women’s History Month observance at NAS Jacksonville. The guest speaker was Commander Molly J. Boron, USN. Her next assignment is XO of the “Warm Eagles (VP-16), Jacksonville, FL.

FOAM OFF THE WAVES

BADGER

Unit #39 (WI) – Lupe Donovan, a member of our unit who served during the Korean Conflict, can say her family truly is a military one, with the granddaughter in the Navy, sister who served as a WAVE in World War II, another sister who was in the Air Force during the Korean Conflict, a daughter-in-law who served six years in the Army and a sister-in-law who was a Nurse in the Navy in World War II... What a great family this is!

Linda Harris is a member of our unit who now resides in Gulfport, MS, and attends meetings with Unit #150, Mississippi Mates. She is very impressed with the Armed Forces Retirement Home where meetings are held.

In March, five members traveled to Great Lakes for the Roundtable Naval Centennial event as guest of Mr. Bobby Ferguson, president of the Navy League of 5th Naval District. What a great day this was for all!



Marie Benz, Mary Buerger, Marion Demers, Doreen Mendenhall, Joan Hampton traveled to Great Lakes for Roundtable Discussion. The man in black is the limo driver, and the other gentleman is Bobby Ferguson.

For meeting information contact: Claire Krolick, peach@wi.rr.com.

MAINE

Unit #41 (ME) –



Marion Gray appreciates the cake made in her honor at a recent church function.

Unit member Marion Gray was surprised and honored to be recognized for her dedication in bringing music to Ridge Church. Many WN members remember Marion for her Sing-A-Longs at conventions.

CONNECTICUT YANKEES

Unit #42 (CT) – We've had good turnouts at our meetings after the long winter.

In March, we mourned the passing of long time member Mary Marsdale. At 96, she was our oldest member.

We welcome a new member, Ethel Doyle Moyer.

The 12th New England Regional conference will be held October 1, at the Holiday Inn in Enfield, CT. Enfield is conveniently located on the CT/MA border on Rt. 91. This is a one day event but we will cram as much into the day as possible. We will have a luncheon and Dr. Linda Schwartz, Commissioner of CT Veteran Affairs, will be our speaker. We hope all the other NE Yankees will be able to join us. A mailing is going out to all unit members and MALs. **For meeting information, contact Marie Walsh, 860-647-7753, or Barbara Crede, 860-665-8082.**

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WAVES

Unit #52 (FL) – WW II veteran member Teddy Walker recently traveled to Washington, DC, on this area's last Honor Flight. She enthused: "This was quite an experience for me."

Several members visited the newly rebuilt Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport, MS, to see two resident members: Ann Whittaker and Irene Smith. From all reports, the facility is beautiful and has all the required amenities; a few members submitted their application packages.

A dozen members received an in-depth tour of the Center for Information Dominance's (formerly Naval Security Group) Command Display (aka "museum"), NAS Pensacola. The extensive section devoted to WAVES was of particular interest, with some items having been donated by a member of our unit. **For meeting information, email Linda at NWFLWAVESUnit52@cox.net or call 850-476-6242.**

TAMPA BAY WAVES

Unit #55 (FL) – Barbara J. Maguire and I, Betsy Waddell were invited to attend a

Women's History Month Observance at NAS Jacksonville, 30 March. I must say that we both felt really special to be in the company of these outstanding Navy women. The guest speaker was CDR Molly J. Boron, who graduated from the Naval Academy in 1995. We were invited by LT Janine Curcio, and I would like to thank her for reaching out and offering the invitation.

Further, we met an impressive master chief, Master Chief Glaude, stationed at Fleet Readiness Center Southeast. Some of the ladies from unit 38, Florida First Coast WAVES, also attended. My hat is off to all those who planned and made this luncheon an event that both Barbara and I got to attend. Ladies, you impressed our group from earlier days!



(L-R) Margaret Wright, Unit 38 President; Jessie Dunbar, Unit 38; Betsy Waddell, WN 2nd VP and a member of Unit 88; BJ McGuire, Region XII Rep and Unit 55 President; CDR Boron; Joy Cassino, Unit 38; and Patricia Faunt, Unit 38, attend the Women's History Month Luncheon at NAS Jacksonville.

SAND DOLLAR WAVES

Unit #60 (FL) – We are fortunate to remain stable at 14 members and we appreciate the use of the facilities at the Bay Pines VA Medical Center for our meetings. For Easter, we delivered beautiful bud vases of flowers to the women patients at the VA. Thanks to Vivian Cunningham for chairing this event and to Shirley Walsh, Nellie Byrne and Betty Blair for helping with the distribution. Our May meeting was a social event on the Starlite Princess Luncheon Cruise on the Intercostals Waterway. Happy summer to all until we meet again in September. **For meeting information, email: Betty Blair at EBlair5043@aol.com.**

JERSEY SHORE WAVES

Unit #68 (NJ) - We held our regular meeting for the month of March at the VFW Post 6063 in downtown Toms River.

We celebrated our 24th anniversary as a unit on April 16 with a catered luncheon.

It's been an especially tough winter for us here at the Jersey Shore, but we

FOAM OFF THE WAVES

have not had to cancel even one meeting... these are some tough WAVES!

It has become recent tradition for us to light a candle at the beginning of each meeting, which is representative of members we have lost, yet remember. At the conclusion of each meeting, a Prayer is said, and the candle is extinguished. It is a comforting symbol, and assures us that they are still with us, at least in thought – and spirit.

LAKE COUNTRY WAVES

Unit # 74 (FL) – Dorothy White, “Whitie” Errair, National President of the WW II Flight Nurse’s Association, was our guest speaker recently. As one of the first flight nurses in WW II, she had many stories to tell and was most interesting. Many times the nurses went behind the lines to care for the wounded. Dorothy can still get into her uniform and she looked terrific in it.

Nina Gilfert, a columnist for a local newspaper, was our guest speaker in April. She told of her days living in Washington, DC, and activities at the USO during WW II.

We lost another member, Flora Ross. Flora was a Marine and is greatly missed.

Several of us visited Athena House, in Tampa. Tampa Crossroads, Inc., has developed a comprehensive Female Veterans Transitional Housing Program that provides housing and supportive services to address the specific needs of female veterans. These female veterans are in critical need of a safe, secure and therapeutic transitional environment which addresses the substance abuse, mental illness, domestic violence and trauma issues that contribute to their homelessness. The Athena House is funded by the VA, donations from businesses, private donations and by many civic organizations. They can be contacted by calling 813-248-8387, or www.tampacrossroads.com. They have many needs to be addressed. Please contact them.

SPACE COAST WAVES

Unit #75 (FL) – We again had the opportunity to participate in the Stand Down at the Cocoa Armory in March.

Donna Powers was the chairman of our contingent, with several of our members assisting on set up on Friday, and disbursing men’s and woman’s socks and underwear on Saturday. Over 275 homeless veterans were able to receive assistance from this annual Stand Down. There were several other veterans’ organizations in attendance, including VA medical and VITAS Hospice attendants to offer information and advice, offer haircuts and massages.

Volunteers were kept quite busy handing out boots, knapsacks and other military items, personal hygiene kits and food packets, as well as civilian clothing and refurbished bicycles.



Space Coast WAVES volunteer at the Annual Stand Down.

The unit is proud to support this annual effort to give a hand-up to our veterans facing rough times. **For information about our unit, please contact VP Pamela McRoy at 321-626-4546.**

REDWOOD EMPIRE WAVES

Unit #77 (CA) – Several unit members were acknowledged at the March meeting of American Legion Post 21 in Santa Rosa, their annual ceremony to honor women veterans. There were fewer attendees this year, probably due to the aging process! Two of our members are officers in that Post. Instead of a regular meeting in April, about 16 members went to a buffet luncheon in Petaluma. It was great to “chow-down” and socialize with our shipmates. By the next issue of White Caps, we hope to report a couple more new members. **For meeting information, contact Bettie Crandall at 707-838-4035.**

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY WAVES

Unit #86 (CA) – Carolyn Abagon, Unit President, was awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal by the Commanding Officer, Navy Operational Support Center, Port Hueneme, CA, CDR Dave Garcia, for her untiring service with WAVES National.



CDR Garcia and Petty Officer Carolyn Abagon.

WAVES OF THE WASATCH

Unit #93 (UT) - We were honored at the Salt Lake City Library in March in their “Remember World War II” series. Olive O’Mara was assigned to put the program together. A band played all of the old songs of that era, which brought back a lot of memories. Marge Campbell, Eula Kimber, Jo Neilan and Olive O’Mara were the key speakers and told of their experiences in WW II. There was a large crowd in attendance and they seemed to enjoy our “Sea Stories”.

FLATWATER WAVES

Unit #98 (NE) - Our first meeting of 2011 was April 9th at the Garden Cafe in Hastings, NE. Only five members and two guests were present. Three other members were at another cafe due to communication problems. Following the meeting, we had dessert at Lyla’s retirement home, and checked out her new apartment.



Kathy Howe, Elaine Rottmeyer, Marj Neill, Lyla Woodworth and Pat Hunsche visit in Lyla’s new apartment.

Due to the economy, we met on Saturday, June 11th, at Veteran’s Memorial Gardens, Antelope Park, Lincoln.

We have also begun to sew “Pillows for Patriots”.

SEM WAVES

Unit #101, MI - At our December meeting, we decided to disband our unit. This decision did not come easily but passed with a vote of 16 for and 2 against.

We plan to get together five times a year as a social group, in fact our first get together in March had 12 attendees including 3 friends of our group. Most of the former unit members have become

FOAM OFF THE WAVES

MAL's so there is still a caring spirit for the WAVES. Our treasury was divided between three charitable groups including WAVES National.

ALAMO

Unit #103 - The Navy Officer Recruiting Command at Fort Sam Houston invited Alamo WAVES to help celebrate National Women's History Month. President Sue D'Ambrosio represented the unit, accompanied by her husband. She shared some of the members' stories and a few personal accounts as a "Corps WAVE."

It was fun to tell a little history about "Navy WAVES" with those currently on active duty. Sue touched on women's Naval Service from the Civil War to the World Wars and training at Hunter College, Nurse-POWs in WW II, and the routine work of unit members, relaying what it was like to work in the Fleet Post Office in DC, as well as working as an aviation machinist mate (Instrumentation) in South Texas.

Recruiters learned that WAVES helped to build and then operate code-breaking machines, thereby helping to end U-boat attacks on shipping in the Atlantic. From our time to the present with its recent rescue missions in Haiti and Japan and female corpsman working with Marines in Afghanistan, our sea service women are and have always been, "a force for good."

CDR Nora Perez also addressed the group, sharing high spots from her Navy career. Her enthusiasm for recruiting and training highly qualified medical professionals in various specialties is contagious. Nora's leadership is very important as those folks will then train corpsmen and medics for all the military services, right here at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio.



CDR Perez and Sue D'Ambrosio at Navy Day at the Alamo, during San Antonio's Fiesta Week.

Every woman who has served her country should be proud of today's sea service women.

Sue shares the Navy Officer Recruiters' "Thank you for your service. All of you have helped pave the way."

PASCO WAVES

Unit #104 (FL) - The IHOP Restaurant on U.S. 19 in New Port Richey will be our meeting place for another year.

At a recent meeting, we remembered our dear member, Mary Jane Gumbiner with a memorial service.

Summer vacation will find some of us visiting other states while others will be out of the country. Right now, we're all enjoying the quiet of Spring, but we can hear the threat of hurricanes just around the corner. YIKES! It's that time of year again for Floridians! **For information meeting information, call us at 727-863-1928, 727-943-0265 or 727-846-9238.**

GREEN MT WAVES

Unit #109 (VT) - Our 93 year old Coast Guard member, Helen Doxsee, has just returned to Vermont after spending the winter playing golf in Florida.

Jane McCauley and Helen McCarthy recently attended a gathering at the Vermont State House in Montpelier. The Governor spoke, honoring all women Veterans for their time in the service.

Two new members have recently joined our unit. Welcome aboard to Charlene Coon and Betty Roark!

CACTUS WAVES

Unit #114 (AZ) - Several members visited the AZ VA Home in April, and presented two Quilts of Valor from Quilting Ladies of Apache Junction, AZ. We also attended the Military Women's Conference the end of April and the Phoenix Area Women's Veterans' Luncheon in May. We will be celebrating the WAVES 69th Birthday on 30 July.



Shirley Krabbe, Lynn Engles, Geri Nelson, Sue Cunningham, Barb Meegan, and Sharon Woods presented two quilts to the AZ VA Home.

TRIANGLE SEAGALS

Unit #144 (NC) - LT Christine Milam, a member of our unit, presently serves as a Veteran Affairs Chaplain at the Durham Medical Center.



Chaplain Milam participated in the Women's History Month Observance at the Medical Center. Chaplain Milam, born in the Cavite, Philippines was commissioned as an ensign in 1981. A reserve officer, Milam was recalled to active duty for Operation Desert Storm in 1991. She retired from the reserves in 2000.

TIDEWATER TIDAL WAVES

Unit #152 (VA) -



Maggie Lowrance has a personal visit from Jim Smith, a.k.a. "Elvis", during one of his visits to entertain residents at Maggie's health care facility.

One of our members, Judy Perry, asked Jim "Elvis" Smith to entertain residents at Atlantic Shores, a retirement community for seniors. Another member, Maggie Lowrance, was unable to attend the show and had a personal visit from Elvis. Jim's parents were both in the Navy.

Several unit members participated in Women's History Month by speaking at seven local commands, keeping our history alive. The theme for this year was "Our History is Our Strength" and attendees enjoyed hearing about the trials and tribulations women experienced in the "good old days!" They learned of all the changes that have taken place, as well as realizing some things haven't changed that much.

FOAM OFF THE WAVES



Libby Morrison shows the audience at Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC) a photo of herself when she joined the Navy.

WAVES Provide Glimpse ...

(Continued from page 2)

"I attended Field Medical School in Camp Pendleton," said Adamson, who was one of the first women in SAR (Search and Rescue) and was the first female reservist at Whidbey Island, WA.

She enjoyed every bit of it. "I did want to go overseas," she said.

"I got a chance to go abroad when I was 50, but then I told them 'Forget it.'"

Jan Roy, who came from "a very straight-laced background," said she kept thinking, "I've got to get out of this town," so she left Holland, MI, to join the WAVES.

"The Navy was really my only choice. I wasn't interested in the other services," she said. She enlisted in August 1963 during the Vietnam Era.

Roy was in accounting at first, as a YNSN, and then went to Naval Justice School to be a court reporter.

She spent a total of 27 years on active duty and in the reserves.

Benz said she was a more secure and a happier person when she came out of the Navy than when she went in. "I used the GI Bill and became a teacher. This never would have happened otherwise."

She is interested in seeing the opportunities afforded to women in the service at the present time.

"It warms the cockles of my feminist heart when I hear the stories about the young Navy women of today," Benz noted.

Jung believes that speaking up may have led to her election as an alderman from Prospect Heights.

After she left the military, she wanted

Commands we visited included Navy Expeditionary Combat Command, Naval Computer & Telecommunications Area Master Station Atlantic, Joint Forces Command and Fleet Forces Command, Navy Operational Support Command, and Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility, Virginia Capes (FACSFAC VACAPES). It's hard to determine who enjoyed it more – the audience or us! We even met a female F-18 fighter pilot!

Sandie Tollet, one of our newest members, gave birth to a boy, Preston, on March 31. Congratulations, Sandie, on the newest sailor to join the Fleet! Sandie is attached to Headquarters, Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, Norfolk, and is a master at arms first class petty officer.

to buy a condo but that wasn't available for single women.

"I got a mortgage through the VA," she said. "When there were problems, I spoke up."

Jung's post WAVES' career also led to her selection as citizen of the year and a position as acting city clerk. She continued to volunteer for her city.

"I enjoyed my experiences in the WAVES," said Adamson, adding that "The Navy had to boot me out for age."

She was the only woman at leadership school and was the only female in her squadron. "Some of the men didn't like having a woman there," she explained.

After the service, Adamson obtained two degrees, one in nursing and one in hospital administration and worked in television.

"I would love to be a Navy woman, now," Adamson said. "They can do so many more things."

"I went aboard ship but never left the pier," Roy said.

Her service included being attached to the Seabees as a legalman. She was the only senior enlisted person in the chief's mess. "It was a little intimidating but I held my ground," she said. "That was the only place where I was the only female."

Roy is very glad to see women in senior positions, now. "Women are getting much bigger jobs in the Navy now than in past years," she observed.

After leaving the service, Roy organized WAVES National's first unit in MI. "We're declining in membership but not in spirit," she emphasized.

FOX CITIES

Unit #153 (WI) - Our recent challenge via White Caps, to see if our member, Frances Burstein, 94, is the oldest active member of WAVES National was answered by Marsha Leslie, daughter of Esther Leslie McKay, Columbia River Ripples, Unit 70, Portland, OR, informing us her mother is very active at 96.

We were saddened to lose Valerie Flanagan, of our unit, who passed away at King Veteran's Home, Waupaca, WI. She was given a military funeral at King. Our unit will be holding a Memorial Service at our May meeting.

Stimson Scholarship Essay ...

(Continued from page 8)

I asked Amber that if she was asked to, would she serve again and she said she would if she didn't have her family. She said it would be too much to risk with her husband of five years, her daughter, Alexa, and another child on the way.

Women have just as much of an impact and role in the military and armed forces as men do and maybe even more. They do everything that the men do yet they still have to deal with the discrimination from the news, media, and people about their gender. I have much faith that women can and will continue to surprise our world, especially, today's sea service women at war.

DOES THE VA OWE YOU MONEY?

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has over \$33 million in unclaimed money dating back to WW I. The monies include unclaimed life-insurance policy payments, dividend checks and refunds. To find out if the VA owes you money, visit the VA's Unclaimed Insurance Website <https://insurance.va.gov/liability/uf-search.htm>. You will need as much of the following information as you can provide: the veteran's first name, middle name, last name, date of birth, and date of death. You can also call the toll-free phone number 1-800-669-8477.

NAUS Note: The unclaimed funds search does not include SGLI and VGLI policies for those in service from 1965 to the present. Please do not use this search feature if you are a SGLI or VGLI policy holder.



We have an exciting new fundraiser!! We've partnered with Proud To Serve Winery to raise money, on an ongoing basis, to support the programs of WAVES National.

If you're a wine drinker, include this wine in your supply and effortlessly, help raise much needed funds. These wines have collectible labels so they also make great gifts! Please join a Wine Club for WAVES National.

Proud To Serve Winery will donate \$2 per bottle of wine and \$1 per merchandise item sold to WAVES National.

Dassa Carvey

President

WAVES National



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2007 Cabernet Sauvignon

2007 Sonoma Valley Cabernet Sauvignon has a lush and inviting deep reddish purple hue with an aroma of a fruit bowl of berries including boysenberry, raspberries and blackberries. Subtle hints of vanilla, licorice and cherry cola round out this layered and complex wine. The wine was aged in American

2009 Sauvignon Blanc

The fruit for our 2009 Sauvignon Blanc was stainless steel fermented with native yeasts, and aged in stainless steel for nine months. The finished wine exhibits a delightful crispness with exceptional flavors of pineapple tempered with summer peach, and finishing with a crisp twist of lemon.

Women's History Month Observed

By Anne Korff, Tidewater Tidal WAVES, Unit 152



Anne Korff

On Thursday, March 10, I was the Women's History Month guest speaker for the Ft. Monroe Army Officers and Civilian Spouses Club, Hampton, VA.

More than 50 women attended the luncheon and all but two of them were active duty Army wives. The two were wives of recent Army retirees.

None of the women knew what the acronym "WAVES" stood for or what the difference was between WAVES and current women in the Navy.

During the 20 minutes allotted to me, I gave them a verbal picture of how women were viewed by society in general in the 1940's and 1950's. This helped them understand what a challenge it was for women to leave their homes and enlist in the military during that time.

Dwelling on my own personal experiences, I told them about the absolutely gorgeous Marine Colonel who accepted our oath of service, followed by the stark realization that Navy life was not going to include that gorgeous Colonel or interaction with any other men for quite a while.

Boot camp was a challenge and a time when many of us really grew up, I explained. Instant unquestioning obedience to rigid rules was a stumbling block

for many new recruits but we did stumble through the training, I assured the audience. Even though some of us were homesick and scared and bit back tears in our bunks at night wondering if we had made a huge mistake by enlisting, we survived. We helped one another through tough times and learned that we were stronger when we functioned as a unit rather than as individuals. "Shipmates Stand Together" became our motto.

Although Navy nurses went to sea, only shore ratings were open to the WAVES. However, there were many opportunities for interesting jobs for us as well as the chance for furthering our education. All of this happened while we were performing a vital service for our country – we were releasing men from shore duties so they could go to sea to fight for our freedoms.

Civilian perceptions of WAVES and other women in uniform varied according to the duty stations we were assigned to, so I gave the Army wives both positive and negative examples of the treatment we received whenever we left our bases and ventured into town.

I also talked about our general living conditions and our day-to-day lives. It made me smile when the Army women asked, "Are you sure?" to my statements about pregnancy. They found it hard to believe that being pregnant automatically meant an honorable discharge from service. Maternity uniforms, I assured them, were not part of the WAVES gear!

Because the theme of this year's Women's History Month was about the strength we gained from one another, I emphasized that and saluted them for supporting one another and for honoring the lives of the women who accepted challenges of the times in which they lived.

I urged the Army women to face their own challenges with courage, to support one another in tough times as well as good ones. I reminded them that the way in which they face today's challenges will be the examples on which their daughters rely for their own strength in the future.

WAVES National Has Presence at SSLA Symposium

Lynne Pine spearheaded the WAVES National booth at the Sea Service Leadership Association (SSLA) 24th annual Women's Leadership Symposium, 15-16 March, in San Diego. Lynne signed up new members and made contact with several other sea service women.

With a theme of "Connect, Empower, Succeed," this year's symposium focused on education and career development and provided networking and mentoring opportunities for active, Reserve and civilian members of the sea services. Key events included panels on women in nation building, workshops on professional development, health and financial issues, dual-military couples and work-life integration discussions.





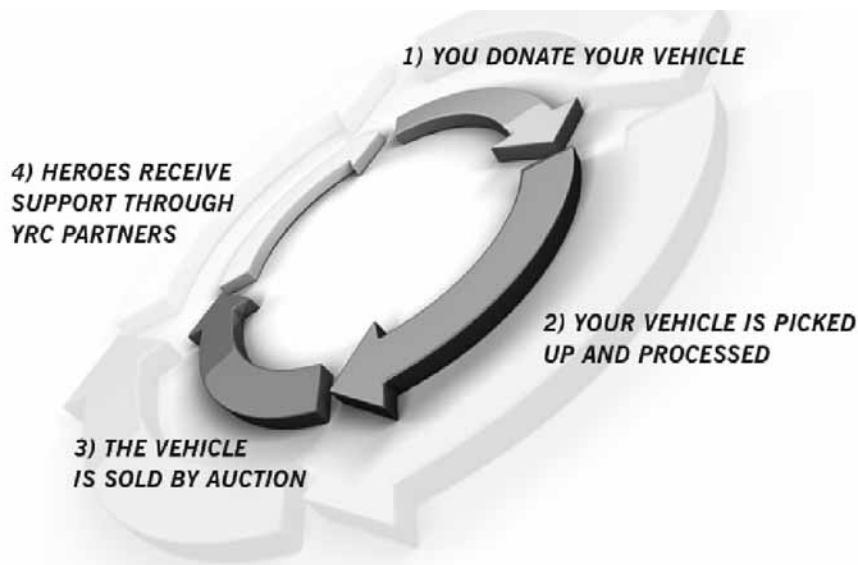
WAVES National (WN) has partnered with VeteransPlus and their Yellow Ribbon Program as a fund raiser. WN will receive 50% of the proceeds from each vehicle auctioned on behalf of WN.

If you have a vehicle to donate, whether it is a car, truck, motorcycle, boat, personal watercraft or even an aircraft, contact VeteransPlus at www.yellowribbonvehicles.org or call 877-751-8080.

The Yellow Ribbon Vehicle Program solicits the donation of motor vehicles, including cars, trucks, motorcycles, boats, personal watercraft and even aircraft from the public for the benefit of the member organizations. VeteransPlus will arrange to have the donated vehicle picked up within 24 hours or less and delivered to auction. In exchange for vehicle donations, the **donor will receive a tax benefit** in the form of a charitable deduction (1098C) equal to the amount of the vehicle's auctioned sale price.

The Yellow Ribbon Coalition is comprised of non-profits who share a common cause: Supporting Service members, Survivors, Veterans and their families. Through your vehicle donation you are demonstrating your commitment to do the same. While many Americans may not have money to donate, our vehicle donation platform allows used and old vehicles like cars, trucks, motorcycles, boats, jet skis, farm equipment and construction equipment to be turned into cash for the partner organizations and their missions.

By participating in The Yellow Ribbon Vehicle program, you can take pride in knowing you are supporting our military service members and veterans by providing them with financial assistance, employment services, housing assistance and more.



www.yellowribbonvehicles.org or call 877-751-8080.

WAVES Tell How It Used to Be

Jan Roy, Past WN President and Region VII Representative



Jan Roy and Jo Adamson visited the RTC Chapel when they participated in the Round Table Discussion as part of Women's History Month Observance and Centennial Celebration at Great Lakes. (Photo by Paul Engstrom, Great Lakes Bulletin)

I was invited to participate in a Navy women's panel discussion to be held at the Naval Station Great Lakes, the end of March. Since I had drilled there for a year and a half and didn't live that far away, I gladly accepted the invitation.

I arrived at the base on Sunday afternoon, got a base pass (even though I discovered the next day I didn't have a current registration with me) and checked in at the BOQ where I met up with Jo Adamson, WN 1st Vice President. We both had very nice quarters there, provided by the Navy League.

Monday was a free day, so Jo and I did some shopping and drove around the base to see what changes had taken place since we had last been there

Tuesday was our busy day. We checked in at the Navy Museum where we met Director Jennifer Searcy, Curator Theresa Gonzales, MCCA Rhonda Burke who had recently retired from the Navy and who was the moderator at the panel discussion that afternoon and Carol Jung, past member of the Illini Mariners, WN Unit #111, in IL (disestablished in 2004).

We toured the museum people and then a tour guide who took us around the base and over to the RTC Chapel to see our stained glass window. This is the first opportunity I have had to see it. It is located in a very conspicuous place as you enter the Chapel and one where visitors can easily observe it. The window is beautiful and one of which we can be very proud.

The panel discussion was held at Ross Theatre on the naval station. I was pleased to see a lot of young active duty military members there, as well as officers and other dignitaries, along with a contingent of ladies from the WN Badger, Unit #39, in WI. They were driven from Milwaukee in a white limousine, compliments of the Navy League from that area. I immediately convinced Marie Bentz to be part of the panel as one of the panel members had to cancel and the panel was down to three members.

MCCA Burke asked us several questions; i.e., why did you join, what was your most memorable experience, what opportunities do today's Navy women have that we didn't, did we hold any positions as the first Navy woman, etc. There were some humorous sea stories told by those involved. I actually said there were a few things women have to do today that I wouldn't want to do such as going to sea, going through boot camp at frigid Great Lakes (even though Bainbridge wasn't that warm either – especially from November through February), having to serve in dangerous places such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, etc. It's a totally different Navy now than it was when most of us served.

Jo was able to provide info on forming a WN unit at Great Lakes to a young female sailor as well as to MCCA Burke, and I also provided my encouragement to both of them and said I'd be happy to come back to visit the group who might be interested to help them in forming a unit. Hopefully, they will be able to form a unit, since there are so many women serving at Great Lakes. The museum offered their board room as a meeting place. Let's hope this happens.

After the panel discussion ended, I talked to a few young male sailors and asked if they were bored and was told that they thoroughly enjoyed our stories from the past.

It was a great experience except for the drive through Chicago at rush hour and I am glad I had the opportunity to participate. We were treated like VIP's.

I hope some of you will be able to visit the museum and enjoy the pictures taken and read some of the stories told by those of us who were on the panel. I also want to thank Marie for being willing to participate on the panel at the last minutes. I knew I could count on her!!

RDML Stosz First Woman to Lead a Military Service Academy



RDML Sandra L. Stosz
(Official USCG Photo)

The Coast Guard has named RDML Sandra L. Stosz as the Academy's next superintendent; replacing RADM J. Scott Burhoe when he retires this summer. Admiral Stosz is a 1982 graduate of CGA, has 12 years of sea duty, is the first woman graduate of the Coast Guard Academy to be promoted to Flag rank, and is currently the Coast Guard's Director of Reserve and Leadership. She will be the first woman to lead a U.S. Military Service Academy. The Coast Guard was the first Service to admit women as cadets at its academy in New London, CT, in 1976.

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Miscellaneous Information:

1. **Conventions are biennial.**
2. WHITE CAPS is published six times a year: Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct., and Dec. **Items for publication must be received by the 1st of the month before publication.**
3. **National Dues: \$15.00 for the calendar year - 1 January to 31 December, submitted to the National Treasurer. Unit members submit to Unit Treasurer; Members-at-Large, submit directly to the National Treasurer.**
4. **When dues have been paid by new members, membership cards will be issued to Unit Treasurers and individually to Members-at-Large. Current members who pay dues will not be issued another membership card. LIFE members will be issued a permanent LIFE membership card.**
5. All changes of address must be forwarded to the Exec. Secretary sixty days before moving, if possible. There will be no re-mailing of WHITE CAPS unless the member forwards \$7.50 to Monica O'Hara, Treasurer.
6. You may submit your White Caps articles via e-mail to Gale Wursthorn, navygj@sbcglobal.net and a copy to Dassa Carvey, Dassa@att.net

Submit Date	Publish Date	Issue
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1 Sep 2011	Oct 2011	Oct
1 Nov 2011	Dec 2011	Dec
1 Jan 2012	Feb 2012	Feb
1 Mar 2012	Apr 2012	Apr
1 May 2012	Jun 2012	Jun

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