

ARMY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION HALL OF FAME CEREMONY AND SUMMIT PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

ARMY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP

Maj. Gen. Dee Ann McWilliams, USA (Retired) ***President, Army Women's Foundation***

Maj. Gen. Dee Ann McWilliams is president of the U.S. Army Women's Foundation. In 2013, the American Veterans Center recognized her outstanding contributions to women's service in the U.S. military with the Lillian K. Keil Award. McWilliams retired in 2011 as acting director of the Institute for National Intelligence for the Director of National Intelligence. Prior to joining the Institute for National Intelligence, McWilliams served 29 years with the Army, where she held a variety of human relations positions, commanding four companies, a training battalion, and a personnel brigade. In her career, McWilliams served as Director, Military Personnel Management, for the Department of the Army, developing policy and strategy for staffing, compensation and training for over one million soldiers. She also served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel and Installation Management in Europe, where she provided human resource and quality of life support to soldiers in Germany, Italy, Hungary, Kosovo, Croatia, Bosnia, Greece, and Egypt. She retired from the Army in March 2003.

Maj. Gen. Donna F. Barbisch, USA (Retired) ***AWF Board Member***

Maj. Gen. Donna Barbisch is a member of the board of the Army Women's Foundation and the president of Global Deterrence Alternatives, a consulting business focused on deterring terrorism and building capacity to manage disasters. Barbisch started her military career during the height of the Vietnam War as a private first class in the Army Student Nurse Program and rose to the rank of major general over a military career spanning more than 38 years, retiring from the Army in 2005. Barbisch is a distinguished fellow and affiliate faculty at the George Mason University Center for Critical Infrastructure and on the editorial advisory board of the AMA journal *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*.

Maj. Gen. Jeanette K. (Jan) Edmunds, USA (Retired) ***AWF Board Member***

Maj. Gen. Jan Edmunds is a member of the board of the Army Women's Foundation and an independent consultant specializing in strategic business planning for companies in the defense industry. She previously served as senior vice president for logistics for Cypress International, which she joined after a 32-year career as an officer in the U.S. Army. Prior to her retirement, she served as the assistant deputy chief of staff logistics at the headquarters of the Department of the Army, where she was responsible for logistics planning, policy formulation, and program development for an enterprise valued at approximately \$500 billion.

EVENT CO-CHAIRS

Lt. Gen. John M. "Mike" McDuffie, USA (Retired) ***Vice President, Americas Services Business Development, Microsoft Corporation***

Lt. Gen. Mike McDuffie joined Microsoft in 2006 after a distinguished career with the military. In his current role, he is responsible for North America services sales and business development for commercial and government clients and leads the company's Americas cyber security business. McDuffie is a retired lieutenant general with over 31 years experience in the U.S. Army and Joint assignments. Commissioned as an infantry officer in 1970, he graduated from Army flight training in 1971 and became an Army aviator and helicopter pilot. He flew attack helicopters in Vietnam, and later commanded three companies in the 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas. McDuffie also served two tours on the Army Staff, served as the J-4, United States European Command, and served two tours on the Joint Staff, JCS, culminating as the J-4, Joint Staff in his last assignment.

Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, USA (Retired)

President and Chief Executive Officer, Association of the United States Army

Gen. Gordon Sullivan is president and CEO of the Association of the United States Army, headquartered in Arlington, Virginia. Since assuming his position in 1998, Sullivan has overseen the transformation of the Association into a dynamic member-based organization that represents soldiers, families, and the defense industry. Gen. Sullivan retired from the Army after more than 36 years of service. He culminated his service in uniform as the 32nd chief of staff, the senior general officer in the Army and a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Fred Wacker

Director and Chief Operating Officer, The Home Depot Foundation

Fred Wacker currently serves as director and COO at The Home Depot Foundation. The Home Depot Foundation was created in 2002 and focuses its resources on supporting nonprofit organizations dedicated to improving the homes and facilities that serve disadvantaged families and individuals, with a special emphasis on veterans. Prior to joining The Home Depot Foundation, Wacker held positions as southeast regional director of the Fannie Mae Foundation, community investment officer and deputy director of community investment services for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta, and national director of neighborhood program development for NeighborWorks® America.

HALL OF FAME HONOREES

The 14th Women's Army Corps Band

The 14th Women's Army Corps (WAC) Band was America's last all-female military band. Over its nearly four-decade existence, the band gave visibility to women soldiers and served as an effective tool for recruitment. Activated in 1948, the band and its warrant officer bandmaster were welcomed the following year to WAC training center at Camp Lee, where they became an integral part of daily life, playing for parades, march-outs, graduations, receptions and dances. The band made hundreds of appearances annually around the country and in 1967 played at the White House when President Johnson signed the bill that removed restrictions on the careers of women in the military. In 1976 the band was integrated with male personnel and renamed the 14th Army Band.

SILVER STAR MEDAL RECIPIENTS

Ellen G. Ainsworth, 2nd Lieutenant, U.S. Army

56th Evacuation Hospital

2nd Lt. Ellen Ainsworth, United States Army, was awarded the Silver Star posthumously for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy while serving with the 56th

Evacuation Hospital at Anzio, Italy, on February 10, 1944. Ainsworth's gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty, without regard for her own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service.

Elaine A. Roe, 2nd Lieutenant, Army Nurse Corps 33d Field Hospital

Rita Virginia Rourke, 2nd Lieutenant, Army Nurse Corps 33d Field Hospital

2nd Lt. Elaine A. Roe and 2nd Lt. Rita Virginia Rourke of the United States Army Nurse Corps were each awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action on February 10, 1944, near Anzio, Italy. During a concentrated shelling of the 33d Field Hospital by heavy caliber enemy artillery, the entire hospital area was sprayed with shell fragments that killed two nurses and wounded other military personnel.

Mary L. Roberts, 1st Lieutenant, Army Nurse Corps 56th Evacuation Hospital

1st Lt. Mary L. Roberts, United States Army Nurse Corps, was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action on February 10, 1944, when the 56th Evacuation Hospital was heavily shelled by enemy artillery while Lt. Roberts was on duty as operating room chief nurse.

Sergeant Leigh Ann Hester, USA

Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester, United States Army, was awarded the Silver Star for exceptionally valorous achievement during combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on March 20, 2005, in Iraq. While serving as the team leader for RAVEN 42B in the 617th Military Police Company, Sgt. Hester led her soldiers on a counterattack of anti-Iraqi forces (AIF) who were ambushing a convoy with heavy AK-47 assault rifle fire, PRK machine gun fire, and rocket-propelled grenades. Her actions saved the lives of numerous convoy members.

Specialist Monica L. Brown, USA

Spc. Monica Lin Brown, United States Army, was awarded the Silver Star for extraordinary heroism while serving as a combat medic with the 4th Squadron, 73d Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82d Airborne Division, in action on April 25, 2007, during an enemy ambush in Jani Khel, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Spc. Brown displayed great courage in treating two wounded soldiers while under intense small arms and mortar fire.

FEMALE FIRST INDUCTEE

Command Sgt. Maj. Michele S. Jones, USA (Retired)

Command Sgt. Maj. Michele Jones was the first woman to reach the position of command sergeant major of the U.S. Army Reserve. She was the first female non-commissioned officer to serve in the highest enlisted position of a component of the U.S. Army, active or reserve, and was at one time the highest-ranking African-American female enlisted person in any branch of the United States military, as well as the highest-ranking enlisted African-American in the Army Reserve. She is currently director of external veterans/military affairs and community outreach for the office of President Barack Obama.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – ARMY WOMEN IN CONGRESS

Representative Tammy Duckworth

Tammy Duckworth represents Illinois' 8th congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives. An Iraq War veteran, Duckworth became one of the first Army women to fly combat missions during Operation Iraqi Freedom when she was deployed as a Blackhawk helicopter pilot for the Illinois Army National Guard. In November 2004 her helicopter was hit by a rocket propelled grenade. Duckworth lost her legs and partial use of her right arm in the explosion and was awarded a Purple Heart for her combat injuries. After her recovery she became director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs and later was appointed by President Obama to be Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs. She was elected to Congress in 2012 and continues to drill as a lieutenant colonel in the Illinois National Guard.

Representative Tulsi Gabbard

Tulsi Gabbard represents Hawaii's 2nd congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives. A captain in the Hawaii National Guard, Gabbard voluntarily deployed to Iraq in 2004 and served two tours of combat duty in the Middle East. Gabbard was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal during Operation Iraqi Freedom, was the first female Distinguished Honor Graduate at Fort McClellan's Officer Candidate School, and was the first woman to receive an award of appreciation from the Kuwaiti military. After returning from deployment Gabbard became a member of the Honolulu City Council. Elected to the House of Representatives in 2012, she is one of the first two female combat veterans, first Hindu and first female of Samoan ancestry ever to serve as a member of the U.S. Congress.

SPEAKERS, PRESENTERS & ACCEPTERS

Maj. Gen. Marcia Anderson, USAR *Deputy Director, Army Reserve*

Maj. Gen. Marcia Anderson is the senior advisor to the chief, Army Reserve on policies and programs for the U.S. Army Reserve, including force structure, congressional budget and appropriations process, manpower and personnel, and Army and Department of Defense matters. Anderson was the first African-American woman to wear the rank of two stars. As a citizen-soldier and attorney, she currently serves as a clerk for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Wisconsin.

Elisa Basnight, Esq. *Director, Center for Women Veterans, Department of Veterans Affairs*

Elisa Basnight is a veteran and attorney who serves as the primary advisor to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on programs and issues related to women veterans. She also serves as an ex-officio member on the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services and as the department's representative on the White House Council on Women and Girls. A graduate of the United States Military Academy, Basnight was the first African-American woman graduate from the state of Wisconsin. As a newly commissioned military intelligence officer, she received a Joint Chiefs of Staff appointment. Basnight served both overseas and in the United States on active duty with the U.S. Army and the U.S. Army Reserve.

Sgt. Major of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III, USA

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III was sworn in as the 14th Sergeant Major of the Army in March 2011. In this role, Chandler serves as the Army chief of staff's personal adviser on all enlisted-related matters, particularly in areas affecting soldier training and quality of life. He sits on a wide variety of councils and boards that make decisions affecting enlisted soldiers and their families and is routinely invited to testify before Congress.

Chandler has held a variety of leadership positions throughout his military career, ranging from tank crewman to command sergeant major. He has served in all tank crewman positions and has had multiple tours as a troop, squadron and regimental master gunner. Chandler is the recipient of numerous awards and decorations, including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, and Army Commendation Medal.

Gen. Richard A. Cody, USA (Retired)
Senior Vice President, L-3 Communications

Gen. Richard Cody is a corporate senior vice president and officer for L-3 Communications Corporation, a supplier of command, control, communications, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems. During his more than 36 years of military service, Cody served in six of the Army's combat divisions and as the 31st vice chief of staff, Army. A master Army aviator, Cody is rated in over 19 helicopters and has over 5,000 [hours] of flight time. He is the chairman of the board and national chairman for Homes for Our Troops, chairman of the National Trust for Wounded Warriors, and board trustee of the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund.

Representative J. Randy Forbes

J. Randy Forbes represents Virginia's 4th congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives. He began his career in private law practice serving small and medium-sized businesses and later served in both the Virginia General Assembly and state Senate. Elected to Congress in 2001, Forbes is chairman of the House Armed Services Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee. As a result of his work on behalf of the military, in 2009, Forbes became one of only a few individuals to have been honored with the highest civilian award conferred by both the United States Army and the United States Navy.

Lt. Col. Teresa W. Gerton (Retired)
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, Department of Labor

Lt. Col. Teresa Gerton serves as deputy assistant secretary for policy at the Veterans' Employment and Training Service of the U.S. Department of Labor. With 28 years of service as both an active duty Army officer and a civilian member of the Senior Executive Service, she has a broad range of experience in all aspects of defense resource and logistics management. Gerton's military career included a variety of staff and leadership positions, including serving as executive officer for the Army's largest battalion, a 1,200-soldier corps support maintenance battalion at Fort Hood. She also has served as a professor of economics at the United States Military Academy and as company commander of a 300-person direct support maintenance company in Germany.

Col. Ellen Haring, USAR
Senior Fellow, Women in International Security

Col. Ellen Haring is a senior fellow with Women in International Security, a global network

advancing women's leadership in the international peace and security field, where she directs the Combat Integration Initiative project. Her research and work focus on women and gender in the military. A West Point graduate and colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve, Haring has appeared on foreign and domestic news shows, lectured at universities and published articles in the scholarly press and mainstream media.

Leon Harris

News Anchor, ABC7/WJLA-TV

Emmy award-winning journalist Leon Harris anchors the 5 p.m. and 11 p.m. newscasts for ABC7/WJLA-TV. He came to Washington after 20 years at CNN's Atlanta headquarters, where he co-anchored CNN Live Today and Prime News, and hosted CNN Presents and American Stories. Harris has covered a wide variety of stories including the September 11 terror attacks, the Oklahoma City bombing, the Asian tsunami of 2004, the explosion and crash of TWA Flight 800 and the Los Angeles riots. He has interviewed presidential candidates and reported live from both the Republican and Democratic National Conventions.

Maj. Gen. Patricia Hickerson, USA (Retired)

Maj. Gen. Patricia Hickerson recently retired as the Army strategic account manager for CH2M HILL, a global consulting, design-build, operations and project delivery firm, which she joined after more than 30 years in the U.S. Army. Hickerson's last position with the Army was deputy chief of staff for personnel for the U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, Heidelberg, Germany. A talented musician, she commanded the 14th Army (Women's Army Corps) Band early in her career.

Pamela Johnson

Operation: GoodJobs 2.0 Program Specialist, Goodwill Industries International

Pamela Johnson serves as program specialist for the Operation: GoodJobs 2.0 program, which empowers military veterans with the tools they need to find employment, succeed in the workplace and permanently support their families. Johnson served 10 years in the Army National Guard, attaining the rank of staff sergeant. A former Olympic hopeful, she is an All-American, three-time Pac-10 champion, and NCAA national champion in track and field.

Jummy Olabanji

Reporter and Anchor, ABC7/WJLA-TV and News Channel 8

Jummy Olabanji is an Emmy award-winning reporter and anchor of Good Morning Washington and ABC7 News at Noon. A native of the D.C. area, Olabanji began her career as a news assistant in the Washington bureau of CNN and later spent several years working as a reporter and anchor at WTKR-TV in Norfolk and WCAV-TV in Charlottesville. An active member of the National Association of Black Journalists, she is an avid supporter of many community organizations and serves on the board of directors for the National Kidney Foundation.

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jeanne Y. Pace

Chief Warrant Officer Jeanne Pace currently serves as the commander and bandmaster of the 1st Cavalry Division Band. Pace is the longest serving female in the Army, having begun her military career in 1972, and is the last active-duty soldier to have served in the Women's Army Corps.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth O. Preston (Retired)

Director, NCO & Soldier Programs, Association of the United States Army

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston was the 13th Sergeant Major of the Army and currently serves as director of NCO & Soldier Programs for the Association of the United States Army. He retired from the Army after nearly 36 years of service. Prior to his appointment as sergeant major of the Army, he was the command sergeant major of Combined Joint Task Force 7 serving in Baghdad, Iraq.

Command Sgt. Maj. Cynthia A. Pritchett (Retired)

Liaison Officer/Strategic Planner, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies (NESA)

Command Sgt. Maj. Cynthia Pritchett joined the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies in February 2010 and is responsible for liaison between the center and the combatant commander, U.S. Central Command. Prior to joining NESA, Pritchett was on active duty with the United States Army. She served for over 36 years with the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps, where she attained the rank of command sergeant major. During her Army career, she was assigned to Afghanistan, Germany, Korea, Somalia and numerous U.S. states.

Brig. Gen. Gary Profit, USAR (Retired)

Senior Director, Military Programs, Walmart Corporation

Brig. Gen. Gary Profit is senior director of military programs for Walmart, where he directs enterprise strategy and programs to attract, develop and retain talent from military community constituencies for the global retailer. Profit's 31-year uniformed military career culminated in a capstone assignment as deputy chief, Army Reserve/deputy commander, U.S. Army Reserve Command for management, resources and support.

Brig. Gen. Linda L. Singh, USA

Assistant Adjutant General - Army, Maryland National Guard

Brig. Gen. Linda Singh serves as assistant adjutant general – Army for the Maryland National Guard and, as such, is the primary advisor to the adjutant general on Maryland Army Guard issues. She is responsible for supporting the formulation, development and coordination of all programs, policies and plans affecting the Maryland Army National Guard, a force of over 4,600 soldiers. General Singh also provides guidance and supervision of all training, personnel, logistics and other matters in relation to the Maryland Army National Guard. Prior to her current assignment, she served as the chief of the Afghanistan National Security Force Development Current Operations Cross Functional Team integrated into the International Security Assistance Force Joint Command Operations Support Center.

Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Nadja Y. West

Joint Staff Surgeon

Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Nadja West is the Joint Staff surgeon, at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. She serves as the chief medical advisor to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and coordinates all issues

related to health services among the combatant commands, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and the services.

A graduate of the United States Military Academy, she attended George Washington University School of Medicine and completed her internship and residency in family medicine at Martin Army Hospital, Fort Benning, Ga. and a second residency in dermatology at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center and the University of Colorado Medical Center.

Over the course of her military career, West has served as a staff family physician and officer in charge of the aviation medicine clinic at Blanchfield Army Hospital, Fort Campbell, Ky.; chief of the dermatology service at Heidelberg Army Hospital in Germany; division surgeon of the 1st Armored Division, Bad Kreuznach, Germany; and chief of the department of medicine and the dermatology service at 121st General Hospital in Seoul, Korea. She also commanded McDonald Army Community Hospital, Fort Eustis, Va. Prior to her current assignment, West served as the deputy chief of staff, G1/4/6, Office of the Surgeon General, Falls Church, Va.