



HONORING SERVICE & SACRIFICE

The Flagpole

Fall 2018

The Newsletter of the U.S. Army Women's Foundation

YOU ARE INVITED!

MONDAY, 8 OCTOBER | 1300-1500 | WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER, DC - RM. 202B



SCREENING OF THE DOCUMENTARY
**"THE HELLO GIRLS:
THE STORY OF
AMERICA'S FIRST
FEMALE SOLDIERS"**

HOSTED BY AUSA-ILW
IN CONJUNCTION WITH:
U.S. ARMY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
MS. COKIE ROBERTS
JOURNALIST AND AUTHOR

PANEL DISCUSSION WITH:
MR. JAMES THERES
WRITER, DIRECTOR, AND EXECUTIVE
PRODUCER, *THE HELLO GIRLS: THE STORY
OF AMERICA'S FIRST FEMALE SOLDIERS*

DR. SHELDON HOCHHEISER
AT&T CORPORATE HISTORIAN

MS. ELLOUISE SCHOETTLER
STORYTELLER, PRODUCER, AND TELEVISION
HOST & PERFORMER

MS. CAROLYN TIMBIE
GRANDDAUGHTER OF A WWI FEMALE
SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR

PANEL MODERATOR:
DR. FRANCOISE BONNELL
DIRECTOR, U.S. ARMY WOMEN'S MUSEUM

REGISTER AT WWW.AUSAMEETINGS.ORG/2018ANNUALMEETING VISIT AWF AT WWW.AWFDN.ORG

JOIN US AS WE HONOR THE HELLO GIRLS- AMERICA'S FIRST FEMALE SOLDIERS

We would like to invite you to a professional development opportunity at the AUSA Annual Meeting on Monday, 8 October, 1300-1500, Washington Convention Center, Room 202B. The Army Women's Foundation, in conjunction with the Institute of the Land Warfare, is hosting an afternoon focused on the 100th Commemoration of WWI. First will be a keynote by Cokie Roberts, followed by a screening of the "Hello Girls" Documentary and a panel discussion.

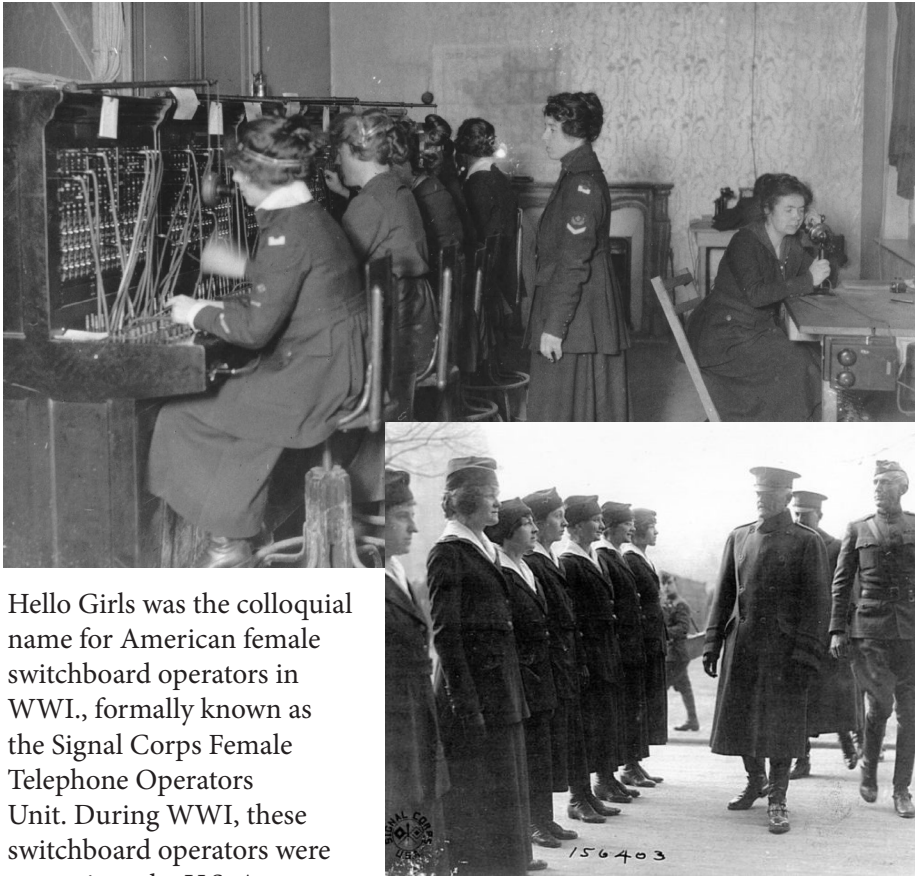
The "Hello Girls" were the 223 female US Army telephone switchboard operators who deployed to France and upon their return were denied veterans benefits and status. It was Cokie Roberts' mother, Congresswoman Lindy Boggs, who lobbied for legislation and was responsible for law to be signed in 1977 that would recognize these first female soldiers' service.

It will be an interesting educational event. It is free, and open to all. Remember to Register for the AUSA Annual Meeting.

SPONSORED BY:  **AT&T**



The first women soldiers of World War I.



Hello Girls was the colloquial name for American female switchboard operators in WWI., formally known as the Signal Corps Female Telephone Operators Unit. During WWI, these switchboard operators were sworn into the U.S. Army Signal Corps.

GEN John J. Pershing inspects the Signal Corps Female Telephone Operators Unit During WWI in France.

INSIDE THIS EDITION

AWF Invitation	1
From the President.....	2
Recommended Reading List	2
10th Annual Summit	3
From the Executive Director.....	4
Hall of Fame	4
Legacy Scholarships	5
AWF Speakers Bureau.....	6
Upcoming Events	6
Giving	6



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Thanks to your ongoing commitment to and support of the foundation, we have much to celebrate this year! First, we hosted our 10th Annual Summit and Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC in March 2018. It was an outstanding event (see pages x and y for the details) as we celebrated a decade of amazing women and honored the advancement of Army women. Our first summit started a decade ago through the vision and leadership of our Executive Director Peggy Trossen, and it continues to grow every year. To wit: we had over 300 attendees registered for the Summit and Hall of Fame Reception. Peggy, thank you for your leadership! A huge thank you also goes out to our Board Members and volunteers whose commitment and hard work ensure our programs’ success. We are also grateful for our stalwart partners who support us financially, and participate in our events. We could not complete our mission without the generous support of everyone!

In October, we will host a professional development program on The Hello Girls: The First Female Soldiers of World War I, at the AUSA Annual Meeting on 8 Oct 2018. Cokie Roberts is our keynote speaker! This is an inspiring and exciting event you will not want to miss!

We also continue to serve Army women and other supporters through social media – our new bi-monthly electronic newsletter, Facebook, and Twitter. If you are not signed up, please do so at <https://www.awfdn.org/join-the-flagpole-newsletter/> And we love to hear from you.

While there is much to celebrate this past year, we have a lot to look forward to next year when the US Army Women’s Foundation celebrates its 50th year anniversary. Wow! Think about that: A half a century ago in 1969, a group of women

started this organization, with the mission to preserve the history of women in the Army. It was this organization, later renamed the US Army Women’s Foundation, from which we have our strong roots. We are proud of our storied history as members of the Women’s Army Corps and look forward to celebrating this significant milestone. Please stay tuned for information about our 50th year anniversary event in March 2019.

The dream and vision that started 50 years ago continues! Your generous support and donations have brought us where we are right now. But more importantly, it will ensure our continued success into the future. Thus, we are excited to announce our 50-50-50 campaign in anticipation of our 50th anniversary. 50: We are asking current donors to increase their pledge by 50% this year. 50: We are seeking 50 new donors; that is, 50 new people or organizations who see the value of supporting women in the US Army. And finally, the 50 Circle – individuals and organizations who contribute \$50,000 or more. If you are interested in participating in 50-50-50, please contact me directly at amacdonald@awfdn.org

We do not go this way alone. Women need to continue to support each other. And we need to preserve and celebrate the role we’ve served in making the US Army what it is today. What an honor and a privilege to serve alongside a great company of sisters and brothers-in-arms.

I hope to see all of you in October at the AUSA Annual Meeting!!

BG Anne Macdonald, USA, Ret.
President, Army Women’s Foundation

AWF RECOMMENDED READING LIST

The Woman Who Smashed Codes: A True Story of Love, Spies, and the Unlikely Heroine Who Outwitted America’s Enemies, by Jason Fagone

Non-fiction, Published by HarperCollins

Jason Fagone chronicles the life of this extraordinary woman who played an integral role in our nation’s history—from the Great War to the Cold War. She helped catch gangsters and smugglers, exposed a Nazi spy ring in South America, and fought a clandestine battle of wits against Hitler’s Reich, cracking multiple versions of the Enigma m

The Hello Girls: America’s First Women Soldiers, by Elizabeth Cobbs

Non-fiction, Published by Harvard

This is the story of how America’s first women soldiers fought in the U.S. Army, helped win World War I, and earned the vote. Elizabeth Cobbs reveals the challenges they faced in a war zone where male soldiers welcomed, resented, wooed, mocked, saluted, and ultimately celebrated them. When the operators sailed home, the army unexpectedly dismissed them without veterans’ benefits. They began a sixty-year battle that a handful of survivors carried to triumph in 1979. With the help of the National Organization for Women, Senator Barry Goldwater, and a crusading Seattle attorney, they triumphed over the U.S. Army.

Women in Vietnam, by Ron Steinman

Published by T.V. Books

In one of the many great ironies of the Vietnam War, the United States government has no idea how many women actually served in Vietnam. In those days, record-keeping did not reflect a person’s gender, so the numbers vary from a low of 8,000 to a high of more than 12,000. Steinman’s oral histories cover every aspect of the female experience in Vietnam, and are powerful reminders of the extraordinary accomplishments of the women who served.

Refined by Fire, by Ruth VanDyke and Yvonne Doll

Historical fiction, Published by River Grove Books

This novel recounts the journey of 4 fictional young women, - Army Lieutenants and West Point Cadets - into a male-dominated army as they face the challenges of being accepted into an army that is struggling to integrate women. The novel shares the women’s uncertainty, frustration, and friendship, while accurately depicting the challenges both the active-duty lieutenants and academy cadets encountered in the United States Army of the mid-1970s. Refined by Fire is the first novel in the Guardians of Peace historical fiction series.

ARMY WOMEN’S FOUNDATION TENTH ANNUAL SUMMIT SPONSORS

The Army Women’s Foundation would like to thank all of our sponsors for their generous and continued support.

SUMMIT SPONSOR



COURAGE SPONSORS

HALFAKER & ASSOCIATES, LLC
JOHNSON & JOHNSON
KBRWYLE
LOCKHEED MARTIN
RAYTHEON

FREEDOM SPONSORS



PATRIOT SPONSORS

AMIE HOEBER
ARMY NURSE CORPS ASSOCIATION
FLUOR
GEICO

L3 COMMUNICATIONS

EAGLE SPONSORS

CALIBRE SYSTEMS
EMERGENT BIOSOLUTIONS
PENFED CREDIT UNION
SIERRA NEVADA CORPORATION
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

GUNNING GROUP LLC
JOHNSON CONTROLS FEDERAL SYSTEMS



GE AVIATION

EDUCATIONAL

TRIDENT UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL

MEDIA

MILITARY TIMES

LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS — MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The Legacy Scholarship program began in 2008 and since the initial launch of the program, the Army Women’s Foundation has awarded a total of 223 scholarships across 41 states and territories. In 2018 alone, we were able to award 33 scholarships totaling just under \$50,000. We are grateful to be able to assist Army women and their children in this pursuit of achieving their educational goals and dreams, but this is only possible through generous donations from our supporters. Here is what 2018 recipient SPC Erika Gamboa has to say about receiving a scholarship: “As I submitted my class schedule, I was not only excited to be a step closer to graduation but for once since starting the PhD program, I have been able to breathe a sigh of relief knowing that my classes will be paid in full. As I type these words, tears roll down my eyes because I know that for next year, I will be financially stable. I am truly honored and thankful to receive this award.” Visit www.AWFDN.org/Scholarships for more information and the online application.

2018 LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ARMY WOMEN



E4 Kathy Bidwell



Anastasia Cale



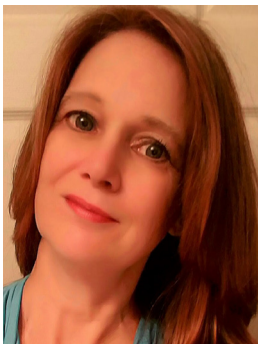
CPT Desiree Dillehay



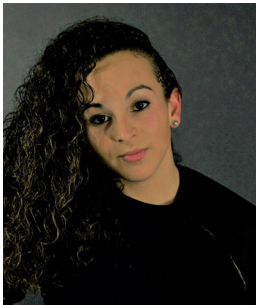
Angela Duffy



1LT Melissa Edwards



LTC Angela Ewing



SPC Miguelina Felix



SPC Erika Gamboa



SFC Beth Gilbertson



Christine Jensen



PV2 Elizabeth Kalabus



Jennifer Keizer



Megan Kennedy



Melanie Kwan



CPT Anny Novareyes



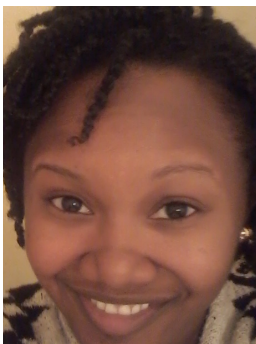
E5 Valerie Peralta



Lori Perez



SPC Heather Redwine



Anjalaya Robinson



MAJ Ludrena Rodriguez



SP4 Sylvia Santiago



SFC Nichole Smith



SGT Xiaoning Tang

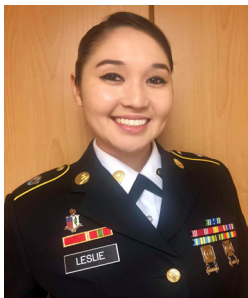


Monia Taylor

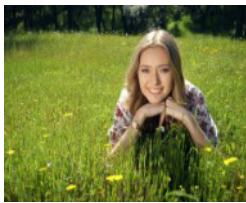


LTC Donna Voelkel

TRIDENT SCHOLARSHIP



SPC Ilaria Leslie



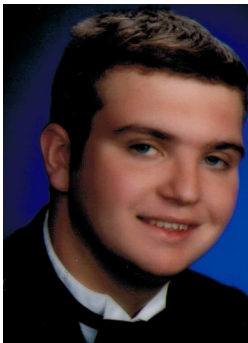
Grace Brassfield



Micaela Mersch



Joseph Giusto Jr.



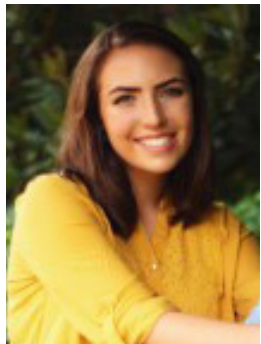
Jordan O'Hara



Sarah Herberger



Karina Rogers



Jillian Maynard



Julia Stoker

CHILDREN OF ARMY WOMEN

ARMY WOMEN’S FOUNDATION TENTH ANNUAL SUMMIT

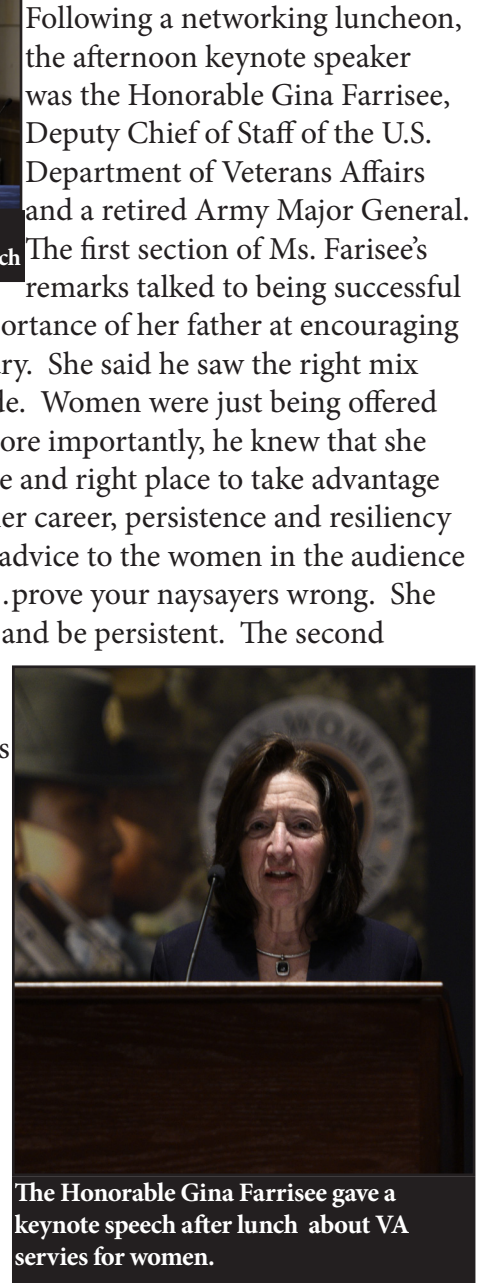
ARMY WOMEN: LEAD ~ NETWORK ~ GROW

Annually, in celebration of Women’s History month, the Army Women’s Foundation hosts its Summit and Hall of Fame Reception. In its tenth year, the Summit continues to gain momentum and build interest. With an awe-inspiring video and opening remarks from President BG Anne Macdonald, USA Ret., the Army Women’s Foundation’s 10th Annual Summit and Hall of Fame Reception convened March 12, 2018, at the U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC. This year’s theme, “Lead, Network, Grow” brought together military service members, veterans, leading veteran employers and more than 200 attendees.

The keynote speaker for the morning session was General James C. McConville, 36th Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, who discussed leadership and readiness and the impact of women in the U.S. Army, past, present and future. In his opening remarks, General McConville cited personal examples of remarkable women he had served with and stated that “we are great today because of women.” He addressed the progress of women in the combat arms branches, stressing they must meet the standards, and must be doing so because there are currently 600 women in Infantry, Armor and Field Artillery, 10 Ranger graduates and every Brigade Combat Team (BCT) in the Army has women assigned. General McConville quoted further statistics stating that women make up 17% of the total Army (174,000) with 71,000 on active duty. But added he would like to see the day we just look at qualifications and not gender. He discussed the Army’s move toward “talent management...the right person, at the right time, in the right job” leveraging the diversity of the force. He stated he believed that diverse teams were more creative and interactive and that the benefits of diversity will make the Army better in the future.



in the Army. She spoke of the importance of her father at encouraging his daughters to serve in the military. She said he saw the right mix of toughness, resiliency and attitude. Women were just being offered ROTC scholarships in 1972 and more importantly, he knew that she and her sister were at the right time and right place to take advantage of that opportunity. Throughout her career, persistence and resiliency were her monikers. Ms. Farrisee’s advice to the women in the audience was don’t take “no” for an answer...prove your naysayers wrong. She said challenge the misconceptions and be persistent. The second section of her remarks focused on the VA services for women. She began by stating that in war, bullets and IEDs do not discriminate by gender, and that’s why VA must be prepared to address the complex treatment needs women require. To amplify that statement, Ms. Farrisee quoted women veterans evolving statistics stating that in 1950, women were only 2% of the total military force. Today, women represent 15% of active duty military and 18% of the Guard and Reserve Force. Today, women represent over 2 million of the 22 million living Veterans. She also addressed the rising trend of women veteran suicide rates. The facts are that on average, 20 veterans die by suicide every day. Of



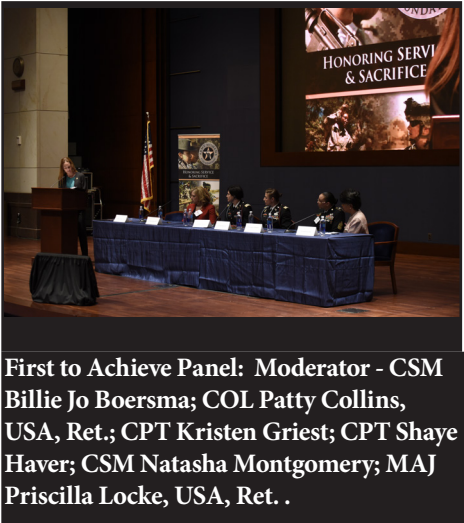
that 20, 14 are not receiving VA healthcare in the year of their death. Also female veterans commit suicide at two and a half times the rate of female civilians. In closing, Ms. Farrisee asked one thing from the audience. She emphasized too many women veterans don’t apply for benefits and services they’ve earned. She asked the audience to assist her in ensuring that they do. Also, she stated some women veterans don’t identify themselves as veterans. She said we have to change how we connect with our women veterans. Ms. Farrisee closed by saying she needed everyone to encourage women veterans to choose VA, an organization committed to treating and serving veterans the way they want and need to be served.

At the completion of Ms. Farrisee’s remarks, the Summit transitioned into the panel discussions. The first panel was introduced by AWF Director, Lt Col Isabelle Slifer, USAR Ret. The panel was entitled Leadership and Readiness - Boots to Business. The first panel was introduced by AWF Director, Lt Col Isabelle Slifer, USAR Ret. The panel was entitled Leadership and Readiness - Boots to Business. Distinguished panelists



included Jim M. Beamesderfer, Vice President of Veteran’s Initiatives at Prudential and 1991 West Point graduate; Ms. Marene Allison, Vice President of Worldwide Information Security, Johnson & Johnson and 1980 West Point graduate; COL Adam Rocke, USA Ret., Vice President of Military Engagement, FASTPORT and Ms. Tara Galovski, PhD, Director, Women’s Health Sciences Division, National Center for PTSD. The thread through most of the discussions on this panel was transitioning is a process and requires planning. Networking should be an ongoing process through the latter years of a military career. Panel members commented that soldiers need to learn to tell their story better to civilian employers citing that leadership is leadership anywhere and a much sought after trait. Also, veterans should look for “veteran ready” companies versus “veteran friendly” companies. They explained that “veteran ready” companies are trained to and prepared to deal with the unique challenges facing many veterans. Finally, they ended with emphasizing there are many organizations that support veterans and encouraged the audience to use them.

The second panel of the day was entitled First to Achieve - Army Women Leaders and Trailblazers that Paved the Way. Moderating this discussion was retired Army CSM Billie Jo Boersma, former Garrison Commander at Fort. Belvoir, VA. The panel was comprised of Army women who were “firsts” and included the first two women Army Rangers, CPT Kristen Griest and CPT Shaye Haver; COL Patty Collins USA Ret., U.S. Army Paralympian; MAJ Priscilla Locke, USA Ret., one of the first two African American Females to Graduate from West Point, Class of 1980 and CSM Natasha Montgomery, CSM of the Warrior Transition Battalion, Fort Belvoir, VA. The stories from these incredible, fearless women were inspiring to say the least. When discussing how they achieved their “first”, all panel members’ responses were similar, “Get comfortable with being uncomfortable”, “Build your mental toughness, make yourself do something hard”, “Get over the fear of the unknown,” and “Understand the importance of managing expectations.” The panelists all discussed the importance in their life and career of mentors who challenged them to be a better. They encouraged the audience to be mentors to young soldiers and to give back to the future generations.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy Autumn!

We are pleased to announce and invite you to some upcoming events this Fall, starting with our professional development program during AUSA. On Monday, 8 October at 1:00 in Room 202B in the Washington Convention Center, you can learn about the history of “The Hello Girls”, the first women soldiers who served as switch board operators in WWI. Then, come on down to Fort Lee, Virginia on Friday, 2 November to celebrate the grand Re-Opening of the US Army Women’s Museum. The new displays are beautifully done and honor both women and men who have served. On Veterans’ Day, Sunday, 11 November, 3:00 PM, WIMSA will host its 21st Annual Women In Military Service For America Memorial Veterans Day Ceremony at Arlington.

Our mission to honor and preserve the legacy of women who have served in our Army is an important one and I thank you, always, for your support of the Foundation and our programs. It is an honor to serve you.

Peggy Trossen
Executive Director, Army Women’s Foundation

ARMY WOMEN’S FOUNDATION HALL OF FAME

President BG Anne MacDonald opened the evening session at the Rayburn Congressional Building and introduced AWF Director COL Alice Demarais, USA Ret. to announce the Legacy Scholarship recipients for 2018. The Army Women’s Foundation awarded 33 scholarships to Army women and the children of Army women totaling \$49,750.

The Class of 2018 Hall of Fame inductees were MG Patricia Hickerson, USA Ret., who paved the way for Army women serving today; BG Malinda Dunn, USA Ret., USA Judge Advocate; COL Patricia Jernigan, USA Ret., for preserving Army women’s history; CW4 Petrice McKay-Reese, USA Ret., the only African-American woman to be designated a rigger warrant officer; CSM Evelyn Hollis, USA Ret., the first female African American Command Sergeant Major of a combat arms unit; Ms. Barbara Scroggin, the first All-Army women’s boxing champion; BG Anna Mae Hays, USA Ret. (posthumously), the first woman in the U.S. Armed Forces to be promoted to General Officer; and CW5 Mary Cara Smalley, USA Ret. (posthumously), the first Regular Army Warrant Officer and Aviator to achieve the rank of CW5.

Two groups were inducted into the Hall of Fame:

The first women Army Rangers:

- CPT Kristen Griest
- 1LT Shaye Haver
- MAJ Lisa Jaster, USAR;

The first women sentinels at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier:

- SGT Heather L. Johnson, USA
- SGT Danyell E. Wilson, USA
- SSG Tonya D. Bell, USA
- SGT Ruth Hanks, USA.

Finally, the Special Recognition of Champions went to the authors of the historical fiction series “Guardians of Peace”, Dr. Yvonne Doll, LTC, USA (ret) and Ms. Ruth VanDyke. This series chronicles the experiences of the first women to be commissioned through the Army ROTC program and the first women to attend West Point (read more about the first book in this series on page 2 in our AWF Recommended Reading List).



Patricia Parks, AWF President BG Anne Macdonald, USA, Ret., and CSM Philip Johndrow, USA, Ret.



2018 Legacy Scholarship winner 1LT Melissa Edwards is presented with her scholarship by



CSM Cindy Pritchett, USA, Ret. announces 2018 Hall of Fame Inductees CPT Kristen Griest and CPT Shaye Haver, First women Army Rangers



BG Anne Macdonald, USA, Ret. presents the Special recognition of Champions award to the authors of the Guardians of Peace Series: Dr. Yvonne Doll LTC, USA, Ret. and Ms. Ruth VanDyke, USA, Ret.



Army Women's Foundation
P.O. Box 5030 Fort Lee, VA 23801-0030

Phone: 804-734-3078

Email: info@awfdn.org
Web: www.awfdn.org

DID YOU KNOW.....

The Army Women's Foundation has a Speakers Bureau. Our Speakers Bureau continues to gain momentum. It provides an outreach to educate, inform, and share stories of Army women's amazing contributions. This year we supported speaking engagements at Fort Belvoir, VA; Fort Gordon, GA; Fort Leavenworth, KS; the Army and Navy Club in Washington, D.C. and the historic Chilton Club in Boston, MA. (See the picture below of Board Vice President, CSM Cindy Pritchett speaking at the US Army Cyber Center of Excellence on 23 August 2018.) We have already booked additional events in November, so stay tuned to more news on AWF's Speakers Bureau!



UPCOMING EVENTS

WOMEN'S MEMORIAL VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE, NOV. 11, 3:00 PM. (webcast live). Save the date! The 21st annual Women in Military Service for America Memorial Veterans Day ceremony will be held this year at 3 p.m., Nov. 11, 2018. The ceremony, one of the major observances in the nation's capital, is free and open to the public and will include formal military honors, a keynote address, veterans' remarks and a wreath laying.

8 October, 1:00 - Hello Girls Professional Development Program, Washington Convention Center, Room 202B

2 November - Grand Re-opening of US Army Women's Museum at Fort Lee, Virginia

March 11th – AWF 11th Annual Summit and Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

PLEASE LET US KNOW
HOW AWF MAKES A
DIFFERENCE FOR YOU

Where can we improve?
Email us at info@awfdn.org.

ARMY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION
Est. 1969 - Honoring Service and Sacrifice

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Council

Anne Macdonald, President
Cindy Pritchett, 1st Vice President
Mary Spring, 2nd Vice President
Donna Brock, Treasurer
Ruth VanDyke, Secretary

Members



Jayne Carson Alice Demarais
Walter Gunning Jenelle Roberts
Isabelle Slifer

FOUNDATION STAFF

Executive Director
Peggy Trossen (ptrossen@awfdn.org)

Director of Administration
Beth Spitzley (bspitzley@awfdn.org)

Bookkeeper
Leslie Rush (bookkeeper@awfdn.org)



SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION!

An annual contribution of \$25 or more entitles you and/or your Friend to receive our semi-annual newsletter, notices of events and reunions, and program updates.

Name: _____

Rank (if any): _____

Phone: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

directed as follows: (Check one, or if more than one, specify amounts for each.)

_____ Program Support & General Operations.

_____ Museum Support.

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Person to be Acknowledged: Method of Payment:
(Recipient of Friend's gift or next of kin for Memorial Fund)

Name: _____

Rank (if any): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Relationship to honoree: _____

☐ Check (payable to U.S. Army Women's Foundation)

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

Credit Card #: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Exp. date: _____

Verification Code: _____ (on back of card)

The U.S. Army Women's Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization and your contributions are tax deductible. Thank you for your support!
Mail or fax this form to: U. S. Army Women's Foundation / P.O. Box 5030 / Fort Lee, Virginia 23801-0300 / FAX: (804) 734-3077

The Flagpole is published by the U.S. Army Women's Foundation. Views and opinions are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of the Army or Department of Defense.
Managing Editor: Peggy Trossen; Editor: Beth Spitzley; Contributing Editors: Anne Macdonald, Jenelle Roberts, Ruth VanDyke, Cynthia Pritchett, April Booth
© U.S. Army Women's Foundation except where credit is otherwise noted.