

Walter Reed Society, Inc. Newsletter

ISSUE 6

NOVEMBER 2014

SFAC Assists Wounded Warriors Through Trying Times

By Nick Minecci
USAG Public Affairs

Navigating the military health care system following injury or illness may present a seemingly impossible mountain to climb for many Soldiers and their families. In order to assist during this time, the Army created Soldier and Family Assistance Centers; comprehensive, centralized coordinating offices that provide a variety of services to assist Soldiers and their families with administrative and personal needs during their stay at Warrior Transition Units.

According to Christopher Watson, director of the SFAC at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, “[The SFAC] is there to provide tailored support services and act as an information broker and clearing house for our Warriors in Transition and their families. We are here to assist them in any way we can when they are making life-changing decisions as they transition back to duty or to civilian life.”

Watson said the SFAC provides a comfortable, friendly, one-stop center with a lounge that provides sofas, TV, games, computers with internet service, and snacks for people that need a place to unwind, or wait to speak to a counselor.

With a staff of approximately 20 people, the SFAC helps Wounded Warriors and their families with everyday needs that the military doesn’t provide, as well as a conduit for assistance from the Fisher House Foundation, Yellow Ribbon Fund, Walter Reed Society and other organizations that assist the Wounded Warriors.

“For example, if a Soldier or the family needs money to pay bills back home, they can apply through us to the Walter Reed Society, after seeking help from the Army Emergency Relief and other organizations” Watson said.

The goals of the SFAC, according to Watson, are to provide assistance to 100 percent of the Warriors in Transition that are assigned or attached to the WRNMMC Warrior Transition Brigade and their family members; to co-sponsor events in support of the Warriors in Transition; to establish links with outside organizations to support the

Warrior in Transition and family members; to in-process 100 percent of all Warriors in Transition that are assigned or attached to the WTB; to market the SFAC program to allow the community to fully understand the support that is being provided; maintain a database of quick access programs that can assist with lodging, taxi services, rental vehicles and airline flights, and; maintain the Client Tracking System; and to account for the SFAC support provided to the WIT and their family members.

“We are here to assist the men and women who have sacrificed so much for our nation, and to help their families through some very difficult times. My goal, and the goal of everyone here, is to make sure these heroes get all of the help they need and make this process as easy as possible,” Watson said.

For more information or a referral for the SFAC, call [\(301\) 400-0208](tel:3014000208).

WRS Holiday Gathering

You are cordially invited to the Annual WRS Holiday Gathering to celebrate the New Year. Come enjoy hors d’oeuvres, socializing, and fun activities.

When: Sunday, January 11, 2015

Time: 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Where: Fort Myer Officers’ Club
124 Jackson Ave. JBM-HH, VA
Abrams-Chaffee Rooms (2nd Floor)

Cost: \$30

RSVP: By January 5 by calling (301) 571-1580 or email walterreedsociety@verizon.net

You may either pay at the door or **mail a check payable to:**

Walter Reed Society

8901 Wisconsin Ave. #303

Bethesda, MD 20889-5600

In case of inclement weather, call

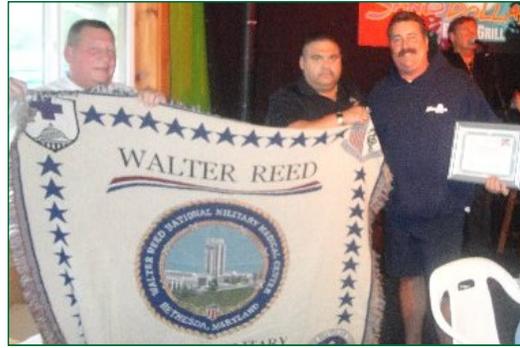
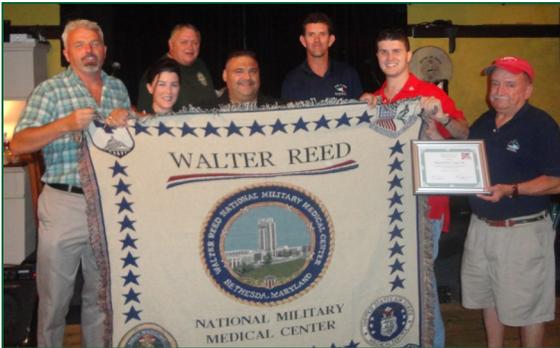
(301) 571-1580.



Don’t forget to purchase your Holiday ornament for \$15 by using the contact information above.



WRS Acknowledges Charitable Donors



Cape Cod Veterans Inc., presented the Sons of Erin in Massachusetts with a WRS afghan and plaque for their support of wounded warriors (top left). They also presented a afghan and plaque to Terry O'Donnell owner of Sand Dollar Bar and Grill, Massachusetts, for his support of wounded warriors (top right).



(Middle right) Bob Plata, a regional CEO of BUNZL (L), meets with Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Clark, Director of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (middle); and Charles Eggelston, a three time Purple Heart recipient at the BUNZL golf tournament in Richmond, Virginia. BUNZL is a long-time supporter of WRS and has donated tens of thousands of dollars in support of wounded warriors.

ManTech, International, donated \$1,840 to the Walter Reed Society during the Links at Gettysburg golf outing in support of wound warriors. (L to R) Members of the Salute Military Golf Association; Steve Devires, Jonathan Burr, Chris Bowers, Steve Ogletree, and Carlton Kammerer, Liaison, Sports and Recreational Activities, WRS.



General Manager John Joyce; Carlton Kammerer, Liaison, Sports and Recreational Activities, WRS; Tony Mann; and Col (Ret) Vandy Miller, VP of Programs, WRS, were all participants at a golf outing in New England where BUNZL donated \$1,500 to WRS.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Command Ball—An Evening of Elegance

WRNMMC/USU will hold the 2014 Holiday Ball at the Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC., on Friday, Dec. 5. Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner/entertainment 7 p.m. to midnight. For tickets contact CPT Laura Manzo at laura.l.manzo.mil@mail.mil or (301) 400-3802.

WTOP Radio and Select Auto

Listen to WTOP 103.5 FM, 107.7 FM, and 1500 AM for their support of Veterans as they appeal for funds on behalf of the Walter Reed Society that will be matched up to \$10,000 by Select Auto. Both WTOP and Select Auto are long-time, loyal supporters of WRS. Please visit www.walterreedsociety.org for more information about the fundraiser.



Society Appreciates Webmaster

Lyn Albrecht is the Webmaster for the Walter Reed Society. Starting in May 2003 at the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center, and currently at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, she has been employed by the Deployment Health Clinical Center (DHCC) as a writer and editor.

Although never a member of the military, Albrecht has ties with the Army and Air Force.

“My grandfather was in the Army Medical Corps in World War I. At that time, you didn’t even need a medical degree to be a physician. He was a surgeon in his twenties who was sent on one of the last troop ships to Europe,” she said. “More than half the Soldiers on his ship died of influenza during the voyage, and my father remembered how my grandfather described how they would go from being hale and hearty young men to turning blue and dying within 12 hours. By the



Lyn Albrecht

time the ship arrived, the armistice had been signed.”

Albrecht was born at Chinook Air Force Base in Rantoul, Illinois. “My parents used to joke that I cost five dollars,” she said. After completing high school in Michigan she received a bachelor’s degree in anthropology from Princeton University and a master’s of science in computer science from Oakland University.

Albrecht then moved to Maryland where she worked for the IBM Federal Systems Division writing software for the command and control and telemetry processing of Air Force Satellites, the GPS satellite system, and NASA’s space shuttle program. She also worked for nearly 20 years at General Electric Information Systems, the National Institutes of Health before landing a position at DHCC.

“I’m not a doctor or a nurse. I can’t provide hands-on care to the wounded service members, but I am a writer with an IT background, so in my own little way, I like to think I am helping. My support of such a worthwhile organization as the Walter Reed Society means a lot to me.”

WRS Recognizes Life-Time Supporter

The purchasing of a holiday ornament led to a lifetime membership and life-long support of the Walter Reed Society.

Being the namesake of the place where Col. George Turiansky M.D., was trained and served as a faculty member made his decision to become a member, and now, VP of Membership of WRS much easier. Colonel Turiansky grew up in South Orange, New Jersey, near Seton Hall University and attended Rutgers University before matriculating to the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and graduating in 1985. He then went on to complete a dermatology residency at the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center and served as a faculty member for several years. Colonel Turiansky is in his 30th year of service with the Army and is currently the Assistant Chief, Medical Readiness, Healthcare Operations, at the Office of the Surgeon General, Falls Church, VA.

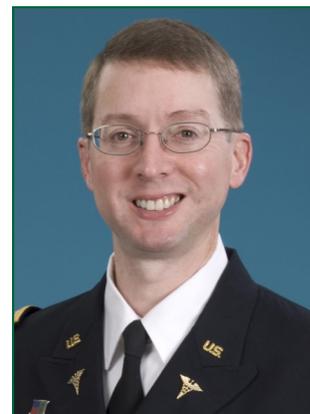
“I joined the WRS as a major when I was a junior dermatology teaching faculty member at WRAMC. One day I was purchasing holiday ornaments at a WRS dis-

play table at WRAMC and I decided that I should become a member – the namesake society of the hospital where I trained and was assigned many years as a faculty member,” he said. “I had interactions with several WRS members, including Mrs. Rose Mologne, to learn more about the Society and was impressed with the assistance they gave to service members and their families in need and projects the society supported. I obtained a membership pamphlet and decided to become a lifetime member.”

Colonel Turiansky shares the sentiments with so many others when speaking about WRS. He feels that WRS and its board are truly devoted to preserving the legacy and renowned international reputation of Walter Reed and the institution named in his honor. The Society sponsors events, projects, and goods that enhance both patient care services/environment and the welfare and morale of service members and their families, including wounded warriors and staff at the WRNMMC. “I wanted to be an integral part of such a worth-

while and wonderful organization.”

Colonel Turiansky has also served as the deputy director of the National Capital Consortium (NCC); the NCC dermatology residency program director; chief, Outpatient Clinic and Emergency Room physician, at Fort Dix, New Jersey; and research dermatologist, Division of Retrovirology, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, to name a few. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Dermatology and a fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society.



COL George Turiansky

With Sadness

It is with great sadness that a long-time member and friend, of WRS, COL (Ret) Elizabeth Finn, AN, died Oct. 21. The dates for

her and COL Betty Antilla’s interments at Arlington National Cemetery are pending.



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The WRS Officers

Elected Officers

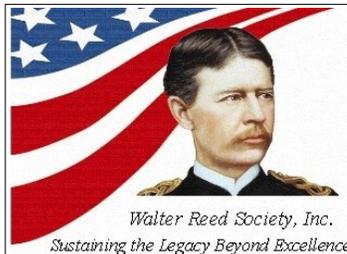
President, *COL (Ret.) Joe Konzelman*
First Vice President, *COL (Ret.) Allan Glass*
VP of Communications, *Mrs. Terry Foley*
VP of Development, *COL (Ret.) Fred Brand*
VP of Membership, *COL George Turiansky*
VP of Patient Services, *SGM (Ret.) Daniel Bullis*
VP of Programs, *COL (Ret.) Vandy Miller*
VP of Finance, *MCPO (Ret.) John Frankenburg*
VP of Projects, *LTC (Ret.) Linda Anderson*
Secretary, *COL (Ret.) Fred McLain*
Treasurer, *LTC. (Ret.) John Wetterau*

Appointed Positions

Advisor to the Society, *Mrs. Rose Mologne*
Webmaster, *Ms. Lyn Albrecht*
Historian, *COL (Ret.) John Pierce*
Administrative Assistant, *SFC (Ret.) Debra Washington*
Liaison Sports and Recreation, *Carlton Kammerer*
Newsletter, *TSgt (Ret.) Andre Nicholson and*
DAC (Ret.) Peter Esker

Office of Distinction

President Emeritus, *Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Enrique Mendez*
President Emerita, *COL (Ret.) Janet Southby*



Title of Publication: Walter Reed Society Newsletter

Address:

Walter Reed Society, Inc.
8901 Wisconsin Ave. #303
Bethesda, MD 20889-5600
Phone: (301) 571-1580

Frequency of Publication: Semiannual

Submissions: Submissions can be sent to

www.walterreedsociety@verizon.net. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Walter Reed Society, Inc. unless otherwise indicated.

NEWSLETTER TO GO ELECTRONIC – In the future, we may consider an electronic newsletter to save printing and mailing expenses, especially for members who prefer electronic communications. In the meantime, we still need your email address for limited, special announcements to distribute information in a more timely manner. Please send your email address to us at walterreedsociety@verizon.net. We promise not to share it, sell it or otherwise misuse it. Thank you!