

John Pierce

### WRS OFFICERS

#### Elected Officers

##### President

COL (R) John Pierce

##### First Vice President

COL (R) Brian Foley

##### VP Communications

CAPT (R) John Gallicchio

##### VP Development

Vacant

##### VP Membership

COL (R) George Turiansky

##### VP Patient Services

SGM (R) Dan Bullis

##### VP Programs

Vacant

##### VP Finance

Vacant

##### VP Projects

COL (R) S. Avery Davis

##### Secretary

Vacant

##### Treasurer

LTC (R) John Wetterau

#### Appointed

##### WRS Advisor

Mrs. Rose Mologne

#### Administrator

##### Editorial/Graphics/Design

Hermeline M. Taylor

#### Liaison Sports and Recreation

Carlton Kammerer

#### Office of Distinction

##### President Emeritus

Maj Gen (R) Enrique Mendez

##### President Emerita

COL (R) Janet Southby

#### Past President

COL (R) Joseph Konzelman

Two years ago no one could have imagined that this would be the fourth straight President's Message that I have begun with mention of the coronavirus. But here we are, the virus is still with us and unfortunately mutating with the Delta variant causing trouble. The great promise of the vaccines with 95% effectiveness hasn't quite panned-out as now they are talking about 65% effectiveness and the probable need for a booster. At the time of this writing (mid-September), the government recommendations on a booster have not been made and therefore we have not made a final decision on having our Holiday Gala as a face to face meeting. Earlier this year we had a successful virtual meeting and another one may be required for our holiday festivity. For more information as our planned date, December 5, 2021, draws closer stay tuned to our website: [www.walterreedsociety.org](http://www.walterreedsociety.org).

Again, we have sad news with the passing of two original and long-serving Society officers and Board members. Pete Esker, the long-time Public Affairs Officer at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, passed away in July 2021. Pete was a founding member of the Society and our first and long-time Secretary. He was still serving on one of our committees helping assess requests for assistance with Dan Bullis and others. Pete left clear instructions with this family that he did not want a memorial service or even an obituary published. In late August, Fred Brand passed away following a stroke. Like Pete, Fred was a true Society stalwart serving as our first president and serving on the Board pretty much continuously for our entire 25 year history. Most recently Fred was Vice-President for Development. You will find in this newsletter a remembrance of Fred and a short story about Fred's involvement in the establishment of the Society by long-time friend, John Radcliffe.

Recently the Society was fortunate to receive an anonymous donation of a large amount of stock. This donation is without question the largest in the history of the Society and we are most grateful. As is our policy the stock was sold and funds placed in our account. We are putting together a small group of Board members to evaluate how best to handle these funds. We continue to receive additional donations for our work; we are very appreciative of all those who support the Society's efforts.

This year is our 25th anniversary year. Starting with a handful of visionaries, our membership is now over 600. Thanks to our very generous donors and supporters, over the past two-and-one-half decades we have been able to donated over \$3.6 million to warriors, families, caregivers and to the facilities themselves at the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center, the current Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital. We have a new Society coin, featured later in the newsletter, to help us celebrate.

Congratulations and a sincere thanks to you all who have made this happen and who continue to make it happen for those who have served. Here's to the next 25 years and many more, Cheers!!!

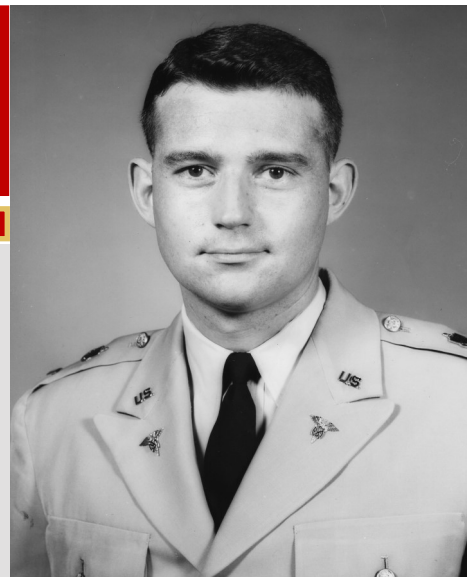


## Issue 20

### IN MEMORIAM




**WRS Founding President Fred Brand**  
**Colonel, MSC US Army (Retired)**



Fred C. Brand grew up in and attended high school and college in Wisconsin. After graduation from the University of Wisconsin (Class of '58), he was commissioned in the Army Medical Service Corps serving for over 26 years. Following his first assignment in Germany, Fred was assigned to Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) as assistant troop commander. He was selected to help start the Walter Reed Army Institute of Nursing (WRAIN) program. After the launch of WRAIN, he became a full-time student at George Washington University receiving a M.S. in Personnel Administration. Fred went to Vietnam in 1969 where he was assigned to the USARV Surgeon's Office as Assistant Chief, Personnel Division. Upon return, he held the same title at Letterman Army Medical Center. Next, he attended Command and General Staff College prior to returning to WRAMC for over 5 years as Adjutant and Assistant Chief of Staff for Administration. In 1977, he returned to Germany as Commander 47th Medical Battalion, 1st Armored Division. He also spent 3 years in Heidelberg as the Assistant Chief of Staff, Personnel at 7th MEDCOM and USAEUR Surgeon HQ. His last assignment was at Ft. Detrick, MD as Chief of Staff, Medical Research and Development Command. He retired from active duty on October 1, 1984. After retirement, Fred started a career in residential real estate eventually




becoming a broker and opening his own office. At 65, he greatly reduced his real estate activity and traveled extensively with his children to Eastern Europe and Central and South America. Much time was spent in Costa Rica in support of Ilar Muul, PhD and his Conservation Research Foundation, a non-profit fostering rainforest conservation, management, preservation and development. In 1996, he became a founding member and the first president of the Walter Reed Society. See following story by John Radcliffe. Through Fred initial efforts and his continued involvement over the past 25 years the Walter Reed Society has received and donated millions of dollars to wounded warriors, their families, and caregivers as well as items to enhance the patient experience at Walter Reed. Fred died on August 29, 2021 following a stroke. He is survived by two very much-loved children, Greg and Holly. 

## Issue 20

### REFLECTIONS

#### Remembering Colonel Fred Brand on WRS' 25th Anniversary

By LTC John Radcliffe, US Army (Retired)

In early 1996, Major General Ronald R. Blanck, Commanding General, Walter Reed Army Center, approached a couple of long-time friends in the hospital's main lobby and suggested we come to his office as he had an idea he wanted to discuss. Colonel Fred Brand and I were curious and accompanied him to the Command Suite where we learned of his vision for a "society" to preserve the legacy of Major Walter Reed and the institution that bore his name. Of course Fred and I agreed and we were off to work. The vision of a "Walter Reed Society" established to "Sustain the Legacy Beyond Excellence" was born and achieved through Fred's exceptional broad knowledge of administrative procedures, his tenacious resourcefulness and his strong sense of motivation. The long term success of the Walter Reed Society now in its 25th year of service is a direct result of the dedication of Fred Brand and others who believed in the dream.  — LTC Radcliffe served as the first Treasurer of the Walter Reed Society



#### The Walter Reed Society 25th Anniversary Coin

The Society's new two-inch, coin is silver — the traditional color of the 25th anniversary.



The center features the Swiss or Geneva Cross that represents medical assistance; the purple color represents the jointly staffed military medical facilities.

On the coin's obverse, centered on the cross is the image of Major Walter Reed surrounded by the dates of his life.

Around the outside of the Swiss Cross is the Society's name and motto, "Sustaining the Legacy Beyond Excellence."

On the coin's reverse, centered on the Swiss Cross is the Torch of Knowledge emblazoned with the letters "WRS" studded with stars.

Surrounding the torch — "25 Years of Service" and dates — 1996-2021.

Around the top — outside the Swiss Cross — our main focus, "Supporting Warriors Families Caregivers."

Circling around the lower portion — our location focus, "National Capital Region."



The purple in the coin images is not a proper rendition.



#### WRS Lapel Pin

The Society also has a new lapel pin that combines portions of both sides of the coin. Shown (left), it is one-inch in size.

## Walter Reed Society, Inc.

### NEW LEADERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

Brigadier General Jack M. Davis became Director of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in July 2021. He came to Walter Reed after serving as Commanding General, Regional Health Command Pacific. General Davis began his military career as an Armor Officer, then served in Special Forces before transferring to the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) in 1989. His initial AMEDD assignments were at Brooke Army Medical Center in the Medical and Surgical Section. After a tour as the Chief Nurse, Officer-in-Charge of the U.S. Army Health Clinic at Yuma Proving Grounds in Yuma, AZ, he attended the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD. After follow-on assignments at Brooke Army Medical Center and Camp Bullis, TX, he deployed to Iraq as Brigade Surgeon of the 17th Field Artillery Brigade in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. After redeployment and an assignment in Korea, he served as Chief of Nursing Operations, Clinical Services Division at the U.S. Army Medical Command at Fort Sam Houston, TX. He was then assigned to Darnall Army Medical Center, Ft. Hood, TX, as the Assistant Deputy Commander for Nursing. Then came assignment as Chief Nurse and Chief of Clinical Operations, 1st Medical Brigade, Fort Hood, TX, where he deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. After redeployment, BG Davis resumed his role as the 1st Medical Brigade Chief Nurse and Chief of Clinical Operations until his selection as Commander, 32nd Medical Brigade, Joint Base San Antonio-Sam Houston, TX. BG Davis served as the fourth Commandant of the Medical Education and Training Campus, Joint Base San Antonio-Sam Houston, TX. He was promoted to Brigadier General from that position in June 2019. BG Davis is also Chief, Army Nurse Corps.



Colonel Kathy Spangler became Director of Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital in June 2021. She came to Ft. Belvoir after serving as Commander of SHAPE and Brussels Healthcare Facilities from June 2019 - 2021. Following graduation with a B.S. in Nursing from Bellarmine College in Louisville, KY, she received her ROTC commission in the Army Nurse Corps in 1996. Early in her nursing career she served at Fort Carson, CO, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C., Ft Polk, LA, and Heidelberg, Germany. She also served in positions of increasing leadership at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C., Ft Bragg, N.C., and Ft Carson, CO. She deployed as Clinical Nurse Officer in Charge of ICU, 10th Combat Support Hospital, Camp Bastion, Afghanistan. Prior to her assignment at SHAPE and Brussels she was Director for Nursing of the DiLorenzo TRICARE Health Clinic, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., Commander of Andrew Rader Army Health Clinic, Ft Myer, VA and Director for Patient Care Integration, G-3/5/7, Office of the Surgeon General. Colonel Spangler holds a M.S. from the University of Maryland with an emphasis in Health Services Leadership/Management and Nursing Education and a Masters in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.



## Walter Reed Society, Inc.

### GOOD WORKS — IN ACTION AND DEED

#### In Action — Return on Investment

***A retired Army nurse made a very generous donation of over \$15,000 to the Walter Reed Society as a “return on the investment” the Army made in her. We share her letter below:***

Dear Colleagues, Friends, and Soldiers: I am a graduate of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Nursing (WRAIN) class of 1971. Without this incredible scholarship and the subsequent career I had in the Army Nurse Corps, I would never have been in the position I am now to provide a very small “return on investment” the Army made in me. I trust you will put this donation to its best use to help the Society carry on the mission and honor the memory of MAJ Walter Reed. Sincerely and gratefully, A WRAIN Graduate Class of 1971

The Walter Reed Army Institute of Nursing was a cooperative program between the Army and the University of Maryland. Between 1968 and 1978, 1,100 women and men graduated from the program and became commissioned officers in the Army Nurse Corps. The WRAIN program differed from many other nursing programs because it attracted students from across the nation including large numbers of males and African Americans.

#### In Deed — Health Information Management Scholarships — Eligible Applicants Apply

*By Brian Foley, COL MSC US Army (Retired)*

The WRS has been providing funding to the American Health Information Association (AHIMA) Foundation for Health Information Management (HIM) Scholarships to the spouses of active-duty military, veterans and their spouses, wounded warriors and their spouses and surviving spouses. Since 2015, the WRS has funded scholarships at the associate, bachelor's and master's levels. As of the time of this writing, the AHIMA Foundations scholarships application period has not closed. Currently there are 13 applications for WRS scholarship funding for this year. Applicants are: Surviving Spouse: 1 Active Duty Spouse: 1 Spouse of Veteran: 7 Veteran Military Service Member: 4.

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics cites medical records and health information technicians as one of the fastest growing occupations in the US. The WRS would like to have more applicants for these scholarships, therefore I am requesting that if you have the opportunity please educate prospective eligible applicants on the Health Information Management career field and the availability of these scholarships at the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) Foundation web site: [ahimafoundation.org](http://ahimafoundation.org). — **COL Foley serves as First Vice President of Walter Reed Society.**

Holiday Fundraiser  
2021

Given the current situation with COVID, it looks doubtful that we will be able to conduct any Holiday sales within the hospital buildings at Walter Reed or Ft. Belvoir. Therefore if you are planning on doing some of your Holiday shopping with WRS please plan on doing it on-line. **The earlier the better to avoid USPS anticipated delivery delays. Happy Holidays!**



## Issue 20

### READY TO TEE IT UP FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS



Golf Events Resume, Kerwin Steps Up and In for Vandy

Carlton Kammerer, former Washington Redskin and the WRS's Liaison for Sports and Recreational Activities, along with the good friend Vandy Miller spent years together encouraging wounded warriors to get out and play golf. Over the years they developed a relationship with the BUNZL Corporation who has sponsored many golfing events and donated proceeds to the Walter Reed Society. Their efforts took a double hit last year with the COVID pandemic forcing cancellation of events and with the death of Vandy. Fortunately Kerwin Miller CDR, US Navy (Retired) stepped in for his father; he and Carlton have hit the road again clubs in hand.

Shown above, WRS's Kerwin Miller and Carlton Kammerer receive a check from BUNZL York, PA following a golf event in York. Kerwin stands in front of a large picture of his late father, Colonel Vandy Miller, a long time Society member and golf participant who was remembered and honored by BUNZL at the follow-on banquet. BUNZL York Head Bob Plata and Bunzl Tourney Organizer George Boyd stand to the right with a check for another charity.



On a personal trip to Las Vegas, WRS member Kerwin Miller (left) took time to visit John Longenecker (right) to present him with a WRS coin and express appreciation for John's long time support of the Society. John is a great supporter of the Society and was a good friend of Kerwin's father COL Vandy Miller, Society board member who passed away earlier this year.



## Walter Reed Society, Inc.

### SERVICE AND SUPPORT FOR VETERANS

#### Walter Reed Society Provides Assistance

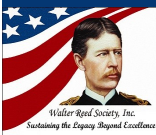
*By SGM (Ret) Dan Bullis*

The WRS received a request for assistance to provide a companion puppy for a Veteran who is in home hospice. It was one of the most logistically challenging requests we have received. Finding a healthy puppy is tougher than one would think, all of the local pet dealers charge between \$6-10K, because they can. I discovered that all of the entries on Craig's List are scammers with a great puppy photo only to discover they are not local and wanted an up-front deposit. I found puppies on a reputable sight and the family selected a cute little Snorkie. I traveled to Dillwyn, VA to purchase Rambo from a wonderful Amish family then travelled to Caret, VA to present the little guy to the Staff Sergeant and his spouse. They were delighted and very grateful. I returned home, after a 360 mile journey with great satisfaction that we could help another Soldier...and we were under approved budget.



The Water Reed Society was contacted by Ms. Angela Waller, SFC (Retired) who is among the 19 finalists in the Ms. Veteran USA contest scheduled to end on 11 October 2021 in Orlando, FL. Angela served a career as a laboratory technician in the US Army and now resides in Maryland. The sponsoring organization for this contest is Final Salute Inc, a 501 c (3) that focuses on assisting homeless female Veterans. American Legion Post 41 provided the space for Angela's fund raising event on September 19, 2021 and the Walter Reed Society provided a donation.

Dan Bullis, WRS VP, Warrior Care (left) and Angela Waller



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**MEMBERSHIP CONNECTIONS:** We continue to develop an electronic mailing list of our membership. Please share your email address and indicate interest in receiving our newsletter electronically.

**Are You a WRS Member? - Annual - \$25; Two Year - \$40; Five Year - \$100; Lifetime - \$500**



**WRAMC PRESERVATION STORIES NEEDED**

Stories from folks who worked at or lived near the old Walter Reed Army Medical Center are being collected for preservation. If you have stories you would like to share, please contact either: Rachel L. Davis at [info@theparksdc.com](mailto:info@theparksdc.com); or Maggie Downing at [mdowning@dhhistory.com](mailto:mdowning@dhhistory.com).

**NOTEWORTHY POST**

WRS UPDATED Contact Info

Mailing Address:

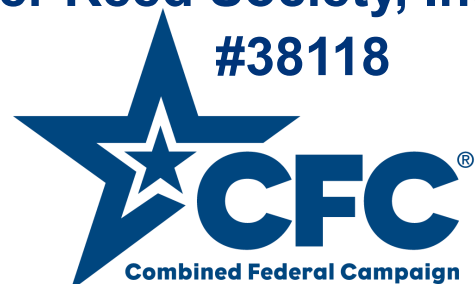
**8901 ROCKVILLE PIKE, BOX 303**

**Bethesda, MD 20889**

Email:

**[support@walterreedsociety.org](mailto:support@walterreedsociety.org)**

**Walter Reed Society, Inc.**  
**#38118**



**Giving Tuesday is November 30th — an annual day of online giving that celebrates the spirit of generosity. Donations can be made through CFC or directly.**

**Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is underway thru January 15, 2022. Federal government employees, retirees and new hires are eligible donors. Help us spread the word and ask all to consider WRS when making contributions. Thanks for your support!**