



*Walter Reed Society, Inc.*

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## **Annual Report**

**June 6, 2014**

The Walter Reed Society is a tax-exempt 501[c] [3] organization incorporated in the District of Columbia [EIN 52-1961196]. It was organized exclusively for charitable purposes in 1996 to benefit Walter Reed Army Medical Center [WRAMC] and its educational, patient treatment and research activities. In 2011 the Society transferred its activities to Bethesda, Maryland to support the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center [WRNMMC].

Membership continues to grow and now total 735 persons. All friends of the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center, National Naval Medical Center, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences are welcome and encouraged to join us.

The Society has assumed the mission of assisting service members being treated at WRNMMC and their families in response to unmet needs during their care at the medical center. We also sponsor activities and fund projects and goods that enhance patient care services and support the welfare and morale of service members and other staff at Walter Reed. All this is accomplished through membership and the generous support of corporate and private donors.

The Board of Directors is elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting. Board meetings are held every two months at American Legion Post #41, Silver Spring, Maryland. All Board members are volunteers and serve with NO remuneration for the many hours spent conducting Society business on line and by teleconference. Two positions on the Board are currently vacant. Any members interested in serving on the Board are urged to contact the President or the Society office.

We owe special gratitude to the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center personnel for their collegiality and support; the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences for their support and use of their facility; the American Legion Post 41 for use of their facilities for our meetings and monthly dinners for Warriors and their families in conjunction with Helping Hometown Heroes organization. We look forward to new alliances with organizations having similar missions such as the Oakleaf Club. Special thanks to COL[R] Janet Southby, President Emerita for continuing outstanding support, advice and overall excellence in service to our Society and our beneficiaries.

Respectfully,

*Joseph Konzelman*

Joseph L Konzelman, DDS

COL, US Army [Ret]

President, Walter Reed Society, Inc.

## COMMITTEES AND ACTIVITIES

### SECRETARY'S REPORT-COL (Ret) Fred McLain

This year, your Board of directors continued their active participation in events, projects, and activities surrounding the care of the Wounded Warriors, the staff that cares for them, and the facility where the magnificent care takes place. Our leaders met with the new Director to obtain his guidance and support, and received a very positive response, as well as some ideas about how we can help.

Our committees continue to honor and support grant proposals within their spending authority, reporting these activities to the Board. Larger projects and proposals come to the Board for consideration, where they are discussed and most often approved. We will consider and support any rational proposal that directly (and sometimes indirectly) supports the Wounded Warriors or the staff that provides their care.

Activities supported by your Society this year included:

- Refreshments for professional meetings in the facility
- Event tickets for Wounded Warriors
- Refreshments for ceremonies that include the Warriors or the staff
- Support to the command organization day
- Funding for special items for hospital holiday meals
- Support for a program called Life Skills Transition for Wounded Warriors, which assists them in successfully returning home
- Support to Resiliency Week at the facility, and
- The pediatrics parent council staff appreciation event

Requests for larger sums approved by the Board included golf outings for the Wounded Warriors, monthly Wounded Warrior dinners under the Helping Hometown Heroes program, and one of my favorites, a significant number of iPods for the Wounded Warriors when it was demonstrated that use of these devices is clinically beneficial for certain types of injuries.

The Society continues to receive membership applications, some at the Life Member level, and typically, we will approve one to five new members at each of our Board meetings. At this time, we currently have 735 members.

In summary, we continue to play an active role in the support of the Wounded Warriors, the staff that cares for them, and the facility that houses their world class medical and health care.

**Audit Committee-** COL [R] Allan Glass, First Vice President and Audit Committee Chair

The audit of the 2013 financial statements was successfully completed. All required tax forms for the federal government and the state of Maryland were filed (WRS is a tax-exempt charity and does not have to pay income tax to the Federal Government or the State of Maryland, (though WRS does collect and remit Maryland sales tax on the sales or WRSs memorabilia).

All documents necessary to maintain the ability of WRS to solicit charitable contributions in Maryland, DC and Virginia were submitted.

Two vacancies on the WRS board were created when John Frankenburg and John Gaal moved out of the area.

**Historic Committee-** COL (Ret) John Pierce

The DC preservation review board voted on April 14, 2014 to add the WRAMC campus to the DC inventory of historic sites and will forward the nomination for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, which is maintained by the National Park Service. Nationwide, there are about 85,000 locations on this list. A higher level designation is a National Historic Landmark (2,500 nationwide) or a National Historic Landmark District.

The portion of the WRAMC site that is going to DC government will be under the protections of the DC Historic Preservation Act from the minute it transfers. Eventually, the firm that is preparing the master site development plan will bring their draft to the DC Historic Preservation review board for conceptual approval. This could be a year or more down the road.

Once the campus is on the national register of historic places the portion of the site controlled by the Department of State will fall under the purview of Section 106 of the national historic preservation act. Proposal for action by state will trigger the 106 process to identify, assess, and mitigate adverse effects on historic resources, such as tearing down the AFIP building, which is clearly in their plan.

**Projects Committee-** LTC [R] Linda Anderson, VP Projects

The Projects Committee, Linda H. Anderson, Chair, Sharon Feeney-Jones, and Ricardo (Ric) Alcantara have been instrumental in researching, supporting, and recommending projects that have broadened the presence and legacy of the WRS while greatly impacting the overall morale,

welfare, and healthy outcomes of the Wounded, Injured, and Ill (WWII) service members in addition to over 7000 military and civilian staff at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. Highlights of the year included support of over \$10,200.00 in grants to the Resiliency and Psychological Health program that offers coping skills, relaxation therapy, and resources for a health body and spirit for over 4000 employees who continue to seek productive methods for coping with illness, injury, and the ongoing stress of the transition of Walter Reed Army Medical Center and National Naval Medical Center – Bethesda, into the world class, tri-service health care facility that it has become.

In keeping with the spirit of promoting high morale, the committee recommended a donation of \$14,000 to Nutrition Care Division in order to provide decorations and enhancements to theme meals throughout the year. The preparation and presentation of food services during the holiday season and on special occasions such as the Army and Navy birthday celebrations made a visible impact on intangible areas of pride, morale, and positive attitudes while greatly enhancing the usage of the dining facility.

Additionally, significant contributions were made in support of programs such as, the Stages of Healing, the Research and Innovation Symposia, Case Management Week, the Life Skills Transition Program, Fort Belvoir's Organization Day, and several smaller projects that broadened the footprint of the WRS. During calendar year 2014, the Projects Committee recommended over \$80,000 in contributions towards programs that were highly effective in improving resiliency and providing resources for healing. All projects were well received by the Command, patients, and staff.

### **Warrior/Family Support Committee-SGM [R] Dan Bullis, VP Patient Services**

During this past year, the Walter Reed Society continues to be actively involved in close coordination with the Soldier and Family Support Center in assisting our Wounded Warriors and family members that are experiencing financial and other challenges as a result of their deployment. These challenges may range from an entire family relocating to Walter Reed to assist a spouse/fiancé, or battle buddy arriving to assist in the recovery, or other issues that are the result of the normal rhythm of life being disrupted.

We continue to assist individuals with financial support for a host of validated needs and to sponsor individuals in various noteworthy sports events or travel that assists them with a full integration. In addition, the Walter Reed Society is proud to have individuals like Mr. Mike Haji of Select Auto Imports and Mr. Ed Helminski (and staff) of Exchange Monitor Ink that provide ongoing support with fund raising activities to assist us in our mission of assisting our Wounded Warriors.

Our Society Members are ever vigilant in referring individuals in need to our committee for evaluation and resolution of the challenges. Additionally, our support of the monthly Wounded Warrior/Family Appreciation dinners also provides an avenue through which individuals can request assistance. All and all the Walter Reed Society's support to our recovering Warriors continues to be responsive and relevant to the needs of our troops.

**Programs Committee**

COL [R] Vandy Miller, VP Programs and Rose Mologne, Society Advisor co-planned the annual holiday membership gathering at the Officers Club, Ft Myer and the annual business meeting at the Uniformed Services University . Both activities were well attended and enjoyed by all as they learn about current activities; futures plans and promote our organization.

**Communications Committee**

Andre Nicholson, PhD and Peter Esker prepared two newsletters to keep Society members and friends apprised of our current activities and plans. The most recent issue featured biographies of two long term dedicated members: Former Treasurer John Frankenburg and Society Liaison for Sports and Recreation, Carlton Kammerer.

**Treasurer's Report- LTC [R] John Wetterau**

Donations income in 2013 decreased slightly from that in 2012. Corporate and individual contributions to the Society totaled \$233,413. Because of decreased demand, support of activities, services and Warrior patients/families during 2013 was much lower than in 2012.

A total of \$97,718 was distributed in 2013 which has enabled the society to total over \$2.3 million in assistance since 2004. At year's end, the net assets were \$1,6 million.

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The Society's investment portfolio with UBS Financial Services, Inc. showed growth during 2013. The value of the portfolio was nearly \$1.2 million at the end of the year.