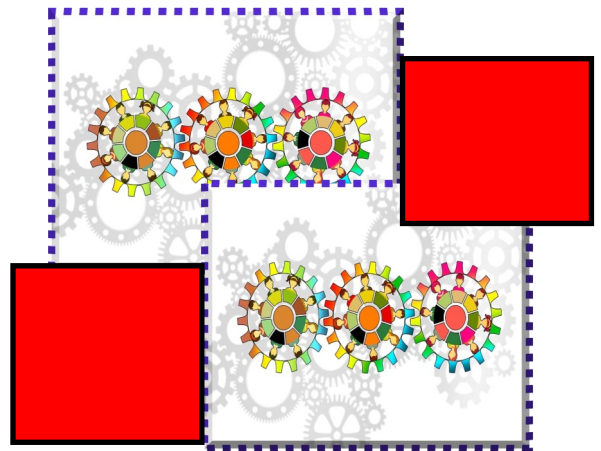


# Walter Reed Society, Inc.

## ANNUAL REPORT 2020



***Walter Reed Society, Inc. is a tax-exempt 501[c] [3] non-profit charity founded in 1996***

WALTER REED SOCIETY, INC. IS A NON-FEDERAL ENTITY. IT IS NOT A PART OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OR ANY OF ITS COMPONENTS AND IT HAS NO GOVERNMENTAL STATUS.

# PRESIDENT: Year In Review

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. Every other month or as needed a teleconference call is held to discuss a particular topic of interest or need. All board members are volunteers and serve with NO remuneration for the many hours spent conducting Society business at meetings, online and by teleconference. Any members interested in serving on the Board are urged to contact the president or the Society office.

COL (R) Vandy Miller, VP Programs and Rose Mologne, Society Advisor co-planned the annual holiday membership gathering and the annual business meeting both at the Uniformed Services University. Colonel Rodney Gonzalez, Chief of Staff at WRNMMC spoke at our annual meeting in 2019 and Dr. Richard Thomas, president of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences spoke at our Holiday Gathering. Both activities were well attended and enjoyed by all as we learned about current activities, future plans and promotion of our organization.

Two newsletters are prepared each year to coincide with the Society's meetings to keep members and friends apprised of our current activities and plans. We are making an attempt to put together an electronic mailing list for those members who prefer to get their newsletter electronically.

During this year the Society began planning for a reunion on the grounds of the historic Walter Reed Army Medical Center. At this writing the planning is well underway but it is unknown what effect the coronavirus pandemic will have on the event.

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 Wounded, Ill, or Injured and their families in conjunction with the Helping Hometown Heroes organization. We look forward to continuing to work with all organizations with a similar mission to ours.

Again we owe special thanks to COL(R) Janet Southby, President Emerita for continued outstanding support, advice and overall excellence in service to our Society and our beneficiaries.

I must acknowledge the departure during this past year of Debra Washington after many years of service as our very capable administrative assistant; best wishes to Debra for a healthy and enjoyable retirement. As Debra leaves I am very pleased to recognize Hermalene Taylor who has joined the Society as our administrator. She brings great experience and energy to the position and we very much look forward to working with her.

I also want to recognize SGM (R) Jim Gonyea who has stepped down as the WRS Liaison to Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital (FBCH) after serving in this position for 11 years. He has been replaced by SGM (R) Dan Bullis. SGM (R) Gonyea joined the WRS in 1996 as one of the Society's first 100 members. He also served the Society as Treasurer from 1998 to 2011.

**John R. Pierce, COL, MC US Army (R), President**

## About WRS

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 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 is strong at 665 members. Anyone is welcome to join the Society especially 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.

The Society has assumed the mission of assisting service members being treated at Walter Reed 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 of this is accomplished through membership and the generous support of corporate and private donors.

The Society adopted a new mission statement at its annual meeting in 2019 through vote of the membership in attendance. This new mission statement expands the Society's mission to include military health care facilities in the National Capital Region (NCR) as well as collaborating with non-profit partners in the NCR.

## WRS: New Mission

- ◇ Support activities and fund projects/programs to benefit service members and staff at WRNMMC particularly if associated with education, treatment or research. Similar projects/programs at other military health care facilities in the Defense Health Agency National Capital Region Military Health System may be supported as deemed appropriate by the WRS board of directors.
- ◇ Provide good stewardship of the funds donated and grants awarded to assist service members and/or their family members, which are intended to provide them with help with unexpected financial needs and to provide them with specially identified equipment and services related to patient care at WRNMMC or aftercare when other resources are not available.
- ◇ Collaborate with other non-profit organizations operating within and supporting the WRNMMC patient population and related populations at MTFs in the National Capital Region in assisting service members or their families as deemed appropriate by the WRS board of directors. Collaborate with the Walter Reed Foundation in similar endeavors as approved by the WRS board of directors.
- ◇ Seek to preserve the legacy of Major Walter Reed, the military physician and the institution named in his honor by involving and communicating with the membership and friends of WRAMC/WRNMMC through educational activities, the newsletter, the website, and the expanded utilization of social media platforms.

## Reports: Committees and Activities

### Secretary

This year, the Board of directors continued active participation in events, projects, and activities surrounding the care of the wounded, ill, and injured patients, the staff that cares for them, and the facility where the care takes place. Our officers met with hospital leaders to obtain guidance and support, and to receive 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 supports the patients, their care givers, or the health care staff that provides their care.

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

***Fred McLain, COL US ARMY (R), Secretary***

#### Your Society-supported activities this year:

- ◇ iPads for Wounded Warriors who suffered brain injuries
- ◇ Event tickets for patients
- ◇ Financial support for care givers
- ◇ Funding for special items for hospital holiday meals
- ◇ Refreshments for professional meetings, ceremonies that include patients or staff, and support to command organization day

### Treasurer

Donation income in 2019 showed a continued decrease. Corporate & individual contributions totaled \$146,388, which was a decrease of 13.3% from 2018. However, the WRS was still able to maintain its support of the wounded, ill & injured soldiers and their families.

Support of activities/services for wounded, ill & injured soldiers and their families was again a priority. During 2019, the WRS provided grants to approved requests in the amount of \$35,639, which was an increase of 32.7% from 2018. Our committees have been very proactive in letting the medical community know that WRS can be very helpful in areas where funding is not normally available.

Also during 2019 WRS was able to support requests from the staffs at WRNMMC and Fort Belvoir Community Hospital (FBCH). Requests in the amount of \$42,725 were approved. WRS continued to receive CFC donations from areas around the country as a result of the 2018 CFC Fall campaign. Donations in the amount of \$1,685 were received in 2019.

WRS investment portfolio mirrored that of the general population. Investments showed an overall increase of 8.3% in 2019. Initial review of the start of 2020 looks promising for continued growth of the investments.

Sales of WRS collectible items showed a decrease of 10.6% from 2018 to 2019. Another new ornament was introduced in 2019. The ornaments, stockings and afghans from WRNMMC, WRAMC and FBCH contributed to total sales of \$10,162.

The external audit of the Walter Reed Society's 2018 financial statements was successfully completed in 2019. The external audit of the 2019 financial statements is currently in process and should be complete sometime in the summer of 2020. All required 2019 WRS documents filings with governmental jurisdictions are in process of completion.

***John Wetterau, LTC US Army (R), Treasurer***

## Reports: Committees and Activities

### First Vice President

#### Walter Reed Society Health Information Management Scholarships

**Better Health Information = Better Health.** The Walter Reed Society (WRS) is strengthening this concept by providing funding 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 provided funding to the American Health Information Management (AHIMA) Foundation for seven scholarships for those at the associate, bachelor's and master's level. In 2019, there were five applications for the HIM scholarships and one awarded. The scholarship recipient was a Navy spouse enrolled in an Associate Degree Program at Tidewater Community College in VA which will allow her to sit for the examination to be credentialed as a Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT).

**Brian Foley, COL US Army (R), First Vice President**

*"..Thanks [to] WRS and donors for their generosity, effort and encouragement. The opportunity inspires personal growth and professional success." —Navy spouse scholarship recipient*

### Finance

The VP for Finance serves as the Chairman of the Finance and Investment Committee and has responsibility for oversight of the Finance and Investment Committee's preparation of the annual budget of the WRS.

#### **I can report the state of WRS finances is solid!**

The previous twelve months indicate adjustments in giving by our supporters. The Finance Committee believes this is a result in the recent tax code changes. This is consistent with what many charitable organizations are experiencing.

Conversely requests for support of the wounded, ill or injured has decreased. This is due to decrease in patients at WRNMMC and Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital. In addition, VP Patient Services Dan Bullis, SGM, USA (Ret) ensures all requests for wounded, ill or injured support are fully vetted prior to the board of directors vote.

We believe with a conservative portfolio as mandated by WRS By-Laws further points to long term stability for WRS in the out years. Finally, the outstanding leadership of the WRS board of directors has made this solid financial future possible. My appreciation to members of the Finance Committee, Fred Brand, COL, USA (Ret) and George Hollborow, HMCS, USNR (Ret) for their support. In addition the assistance of WRS Treasurer, John Wetterau, LTC, USAR(Ret) has proven invaluable.

**John Frankenburg, MCPO US Navy (R), VP for Finance**

## Reports: Committees and Activities

### Programs

I am again happy to report that we organize a program for our Annual Meeting and Holiday Gathering each year. At our 2019 Holiday Gathering, Dr. Richard Thomas president of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences spoke to us about the proposed changes for the military health system. Unfortunately our Annual Meeting scheduled for May 2020 has been postponed because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Another Program activity that we are still heavily involved in is accompanying Warriors to invited golf outings during the golf season. Several major companies extend invitations to our Warriors as their contribution to the Society. My primary co-Workers for both of these activities are Mrs. Rose Mologne for the Annual Meeting/Holiday Gathering and Mr. Carlton Kammerer for our golf outings.

### ***COL Vandy Miller US Army (R) Vice President for Programs***



### Communications

Much of the effort this year amounted to “housekeeping” and maintaining the Society’s website ([walterreedsociety.org](http://walterreedsociety.org)) so that timely information about WRS activities could be posted. The Society’s annual meeting scheduled for May 3 had to be cancelled due to the epidemic. The planned reunion of friends, administrators, and caregivers of the historic Walter Reed Army Medical Center is still on for October 4 and we have our fingers crossed. Information about this event on the grounds of the historic Walter Reed Hospital is posted on our website. Other housekeeping activities involved posting new ornaments and collectibles with a Walter Reed Hospital theme for sale, and posting the Society’s November and April newsletters.

This year the Board of Directors voted to revise the Society’s mission statement to give financial and other assistance, as deemed appropriate by the Board, to other military medical facilities in the National Capital Region while still maintaining its primary focus on Walter Reed Bethesda. The Society’s mission statement can be found on our website.

The Board of Directors are extremely grateful to the many donations we received this year. All donors receive a thank-you on behalf of the Society and the WRS President personally sent approximately 26 thank-you letters to donors of over \$1,000. All contributions are recognized with a note from the Society acknowledging the donations and the 501(c)3 IRS status of the Society.

Feel free to visit our website at [www.walterreedsociety.org](http://www.walterreedsociety.org).

***John D. Gallicchio, CAPT (R), U.S. Public Health Service  
Vice President for Communications***

## Reports: Committees and Activities

### Projects Committee

In 2019 we donated \$42,725 towards projects, events, and other support to improved morale among staff and patients at WRNMMC and FBCH. This represents a decrease in support provided during 2018 but is an increase over 2017. Contributions again included ongoing support of the Nutrition Support Division for themed meals; the WRNMMC Nurses Association, the Stages of Healing music therapy program for patients, staff, and visitors; Occupational Therapy's drone project to improve dexterity, attention to detail and cognitive critical thinking ability, support for art glass, wood working, and numerous morale welfare projects. The Society has also provided grants to the American Red Cross station at WRNMMC to support some of their programs.

The Projects Committee (Jan Southby, Cindy Frankenburg and myself) dedicated countless hours towards communication and interaction with staff and the leadership at both WRNMMC and FBCH. The reputation of the Society continues to grow through service and dedication. The Projects Committee played an important role in enhancing that perception and preserving the legacy of Walter Reed.

*Linda Anderson, LTC US Army (R), Vice President Projects Committee*

### Membership

Membership Statistics Since Annual Meeting May 2019

<b>CURRENT TOTAL</b>	<b>665</b>	
<b>RENEWALS</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>(2 years - 9)</b>
<b>NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>18</b>	
<b>NEW HONORARY (LIFETIME)</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>OTHER LIFETIME</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>ANNUAL</b>	<b>8</b>	
<b>2 YEAR</b>	<b>9</b>	
<b>5 YEAR</b>	<b>8</b>	

*George Turiansky, COL US Army (R), VP, Membership*



## Reports: Committees and Activities

### Patient Services/ Warrior/Family Support

We continue to serve military members and their families at both WRNMMC and Ft. Belvoir including throughout the Washington, DC area. Early in the year we continued to coordinate our assistance with The Soldier Family Assistance Center (SFAC) at Walter Reed - Bethesda. This office has now relocated to Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital and we continue our expanded relationship with that office. Our assistance to those in need continues and we are continuing our assistance and outreach as our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and family members are identified.

We continue to support the monthly Friday night dinners that allows patients and families with an opportunity to leave the hospital and enjoy dinner and entertainment in a friendly off-base environment. The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) are now coordinating these dinners and we are enjoying our relationship with them. It is very rewarding to assist those in need and it is also very obvious that our proud military population is sometimes reluctant to ask for assistance, so we are ever diligent in coordinating our assistance with the many offices, clinics and case workers who are in daily contact with our heroes. Special thanks to those who assist in evaluating requests for assistance: Jim Gonyea, Jan Southby, Fred Brand and Pete Esker.  
In Service,

**Dan Bullis, SGM US Army (R), Vice President  
Patient Services/ Warrior/Family Support Committee**

### 2019 Collectible

As has been our annual tradition, the Society designed a collectible for the holidays. This year,



Dan Bullis proposed coordination with Wreaths Across America. As she has done for several years, Jan Southby was responsible for the design. The collectible sold well including 250 purchased by the Wreaths Across America organization.

**Janet Southby, COL US Army (R) President, Emerita**