



Annual Report 2018

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 continues to remain around the 650 number. 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 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 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 there is usually a teleconference call to discuss one 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, on line 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. Both activities were well attended and enjoyed by all as they learn 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. One newsletter this year was dedicated to appreciation and recognition of the Society's donors.

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.

As always, 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 submitted,

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

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.

Activities supported by your Society this year included:

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

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 approximately 650 members.

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

Treasurer

Donation income in 2017 showed a slight decrease. Corporate and individual contributions totaled \$184,081, which was a decrease of 3.4% from 2016. However, the WRS was still able to maintain its support of the wounded, ill and injured and their families.

Support of activities/services for wounded, ill and injured patients and their families was again a priority. During 2017, the WRS provided grants to approved requests in the amount of \$81,552. Our committees have been very proactive in letting the medical community know that the WRS can be very helpful in areas where funding is not normally available.

Also during 2017 the WRS was able to support requests from the staff at WRNMMC and Fort Belvoir Community Hospital (FBCH). Requests in the amount of \$39,157 were approved.

The WRS continued to receive substantial CFC donations from areas around the country as a result of the 2016 CFC Fall Campaign. Donations in the amount of \$9,976 were received in 2017.

The WRS investment portfolio has continued its rebound. Investments showed an overall growth of 6.2% in 2017. Initial review of the start of 2018 looks promising for continued growth of the investments.

Sales of the WRS collectible items continued strong in 2017 with an increase of 10.6% over 2016. Another new ornament was introduced along with the first ornament for the FBCH. The ornaments, stockings and afghans from WRNMMC, WRAMC and FBCH contributed to total sales of \$14,711.

John Wetterau, LTC US Army (R), Treasurer

Finance

The VP for Finance serves as the Chairman of the Finance and Investment Committee and shall have oversight of the Finance and Investment Committee's preparation of the annual budget of the Corporation.

The Finance Committee presented the 2018 and 2019 Annual Budget for Approval at the March 2018 meeting to the WRS Board for their final approval.

I can report the state of our finances is solid.

The previous fifteen months have continued to allow our Investment Mutual Funds to grow in a satisfactory manner. We believe with a conservative portfolio as mandated by above the WRS future is bright and growing ever stronger.

My appreciation to members of the Finance Committee, Fred Brand, COL, USA (Ret) and George Holborow, HMCS, USNR (Ret) for their outstanding support. In addition the assistance of the WRS Treasurer, John Wetterau, LTC USAR(Ret) has proved invaluable.

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

First VP

The external audit of the Walter Reed Society's 2016 financial statements was successfully completed in early 2017. The external audit of the 2017 financial statements is currently in process and should be complete sometime in the spring of 2018. All required 2017 WRS documents filings with governmental jurisdictions are in process of completion.

For several years the WRS has partnered with the American Health Information Association (AHIMA) Foundation, in providing Health Information Management (HIM) scholarships at the associate degree, bachelor's degree and master's degree level for veterans, their spouses and the spouses of active duty military members.

Thanks to the WRS's support of the AHIMA Foundation's Veterans Scholarship, the scholarship program has been able to flourish and provide educational support to a wider population of veterans and their spouses who are pursuing careers in Health Information Management. The Walter Reed Society has helped to expand the scholarship program from one scholarship recipient on an annual basis to upwards of six scholarships on an annual basis.

Since 2015 the Walter Reed Society has allowed the Foundation to award four scholarships for a total award of \$6,000. The Walter Reed Society has helped our scholarship program grow from 8 applicants to 21 applicants allowing the scholarship to grow in impact and to assist a greater number of professionals.

Brian Foley , COL US Army (R), First VP

Communication

Approximately 40 letters of thanks have been drafted for the WRS Board President to donors of over \$1,000 since the beginning of 2017. Scores of thank you notes from the Society have been sent to smaller donors as well.

At the invitation of the Target Corporation, a grant application to Target headquarters was drafted and the Society was given a \$2,000 award. The award was given on behalf of Target's Wisconsin Avenue store in Wheaton, which had recommended the Society for its work with Walter Reed Bethesda.

Maintaining and updating the Walter Reed Society's web site is an ongoing process. As examples, collectible items for sale have been added to the site, and shipping and handling costs have now been folded into the total price for each item. A separate page for the site has been added to recognize the Walter Reed Foundation, and that page contains a link to the project Mission M4 site which both the Society and Foundation are sponsoring. Mission M4 (Military MRI Minus Medication) is a project to provide military hospitals with video technology to relieve MRI patients of stress while they are undergoing their scans.

This year, a 1/6-page ad was designed and run in the Naval Support Activity Bethesda's The Journal of over an 8 week period. The purpose of the ad was to solicit members and donors and generally increase the Society's visibility.

John D. Gallicchio, CAPT (R), U.S. Public Health Service, V.P. for Communications

Projects Committee

In 2017 we donated \$39,157 towards projects, events, and other support to improved morale among staff and patients at WRNMMC and FBCH. Sizable contributions included the ongoing support of the Nutrition Support Division for themed meals; 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 Projects Committee dedicated countless hours towards communication and interaction with staff and the leadership at WRNMMC and FBCH. The reputation of the WRS has continued to improved 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), VP Projects Committee

Membership

Membership Statistics Since Annual Meeting May 2017

Current Total Member Count: 654

Renewals: 18

1 year - 4, 2 years - 11, 5 years - 3

New members: 7

New Honorary (Lifetime) 0, Other lifetime - 8, 1 year - 2, 2 years - 3, 5 years - 2

Deceased members removed from database and other members removed because of failure to respond to requests for renewal/returned mail - 14

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



FBCH Collectible

As has been our annual tradition, in 2017, we designed a collectible featuring the Pentagon 9-11 flag to honor our Nation in memory of the tragedies that occurred at the Pentagon, the World Trade Center, and Stonycreek Township, Pennsylvania, on September 11, 2001.

In addition, in support of the patients, staff, and visitors who desired a memento of their facility at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital (FBCH), a collectible with the image of the hospital was designed in conjunction with Ms. Gross, Patient Representative at FBCH. The WRS sold 228 of this collectible prior to the Holidays in December 2017.

A new Walter Reed Society collectible is in development. We hope that you will like it.

***Janet Southby, COL US Army (R) President, Emerita and Jim Gonyea, SGM US Army (R)
WRS Representative FBCH***

Patient Services/ Warrior/Family Support

The Walter Reed Society continues to aid and assist our recovering military members and families in coordination with the Soldiers and Family Assistance Center (SFAC) as well as direct coordination with Case Managers and other clinics. We provide assistance to those that are at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center for long recovery periods and experience unanticipated financial or family challenges. We interact with each request and are able to resolve most challenges within 36 to 48 hours.

We continued to be blessed with the support of many individuals and organizations that share our passion to assist our military members in need. Many are highlighted in the most recent edition of the Walter Reed Society newsletter and we are forever grateful to these patriots for their ongoing support that allows us to continue to serve our military hero's.

With the partnership of the Aleethia Foundation we continue to sponsor Warrior and Family appreciation dinners at American Legion Post 41 where patients and family members may enjoy a great meal, entertainment, and time away from the hospital.

Our mission of serving others continues and I am honored to be able to serve those in need with all of them being reluctant to even ask for help. We assure them that their service to our country and selfless service deserves our attention and assistance.

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