

## **Annual Report 2019**

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 about 640 members. 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. COL Jason Wieman, USA, Director, Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, was our speaker at the annual meeting in May 2018. MG Ronald Place, USA, Director of the Defense Health Agency National Capital Region spoke at the December 2018 meeting. 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 appraised of our current activities and plans. We are making an attempt to put together an electronic mailing list for those members who would prefer to get their newsletter electronically.

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.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Pierce, COL,MC 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 at WRNMMC and FBCH 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 families and care givers, or the health care staff that provides their care.

Activities supported by your Society this year included:

- Financial support for patients and care givers when government resources not available
- Refreshments for ceremonies that include both patients and/or staff at WRNMMC and FBCH
- · Refreshments for numerous professional meetings in the facility
- Funding for special items for hospital holiday meals
- · iPads for Wounded Warriors who suffered brain injuries
- · Support of educational opportunities for staff
- · Collaboration with other organizations such as American Red Cross and Oakleaf Club

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 640 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 2018 showed a continued decrease. Corporate & individual contributions totaled \$168,781, which was a decrease of 8.3% from 2017. However, the WRS was still able to maintain its support of the wounded, ill, and injured soldiers and their families.

Support of activities/services for wounded, ill, and injured soldiers and their families was again a priority. During 2018, the WRS provided grants to approved requests in the amount of \$26,850. Our committees have been very proactive in letting the Walter Reed medical community know that the WRS can be very helpful in areas where funding is not normally available.

Also during 2018 the WRS was able to support requests from the staffs at WRNMMC and Fort Belvoir Community Hospital (FBCH). Requests in the amount of \$64,037 were approved.

The WRS continued to receive CFC donations from areas around the country as a result of the 2017 CFC Fall campaign. Donations in the amount of \$3,129 were received in 2018.

The WRS investment portfolio mirrored that of the general population. Investments showed an overall decrease of 1.9% in 2018. Initial review of the start of 2019 looks promising for a rebound to continued growth of the investments.

Sales of the WRS collectible items also showed a decrease of 22.7% from 2017 to 2018. Another new ornament was introduced in 2018. The ornaments, stockings and afghans from WRNMMC, WRAMC and FBCH contributed to total sales of \$11,368.

John Wetterau, LTC US Army (R), Treasurer

#### Finance

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

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 WRS finances is solid.

The previous twelve months have continued to allow our Investments in Mutual Funds to result in growth again this year. We believe with a conservative portfolio as mandated by WRS By-Laws further points to a stable financial picture in the out years.

My appreciation to members of the Finance Committee, Fred Brand, COL, USA (Ret) and George Hollborow, HMCS, USNR (Ret) for their outstanding support In addition the assistance of the WRS Treasurer, John Wetterau, LTC USAR(Ret) has proved invaluable. Finally the outstanding leadership of the WRS President and the Board of Directors has made this bright future possible.

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

#### First VP

The external audit of the Walter Reed Society's 2017 financial statements was successfully completed in early 2018. The external audit of the 2018 financial statements is currently in process and should be complete sometime in the spring of 2019. All required 2018 WRS documents filings with governmental jurisdictions are in process of completion.

The Walter Reed Society (WRS) has provided funding to the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) Foundation for scholarships in Health Information Management aimed at the spouses of: Active Duty military personnel, Veterans and their spouses, and Wounded, Ill and Injured (WII) and their spouses. These scholarships were established in 2015 with the first award made in 2016.

A total of six (6) of these scholarships have been awarded:

- 3 Associate
- 2 Bachelors
- 1 Masters

These scholarships had been bestowed on this target population in six different states: Arizona, Indiana, Michigan, New York, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

The WRS was invited to the 2019 AHIMA Advocacy Summit in Washington DC where the WRS presented the AHIMA Foundation with a check for \$12,000 to support these scholarships

"The Walter Reed Society's generous donation has allowed the Foundation to stay true to our mission of expanding educational opportunities for all and especially for our veterans." says, Keith D. Terry, Interim Executive Director of the AHIMA Foundation

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

## **Programs**

I am happy to report that we organize a program for our Annual Meeting and Brunch each year. Our 2019 Program will include Guest Speaker COL Rodney Gonzales, Interim Director, Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital and Chief of Staff, WRNMMC. We also have invited as a guest Gold Star Mother, Ms. Tamela Bassard from Memphis,TN who works with Wounded Warriors. Another Program activity that we are 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 these activities are Mrs. Rose Mologne for the Annual Meeting/Brunch and Mr. Carlton Kammerer for Golf Outings.

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

#### **Communications**

The WRS president continues to send individual 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 status of the Society.

We are pleased to report that during the last quarter we have upgraded the Society's website to improve the security for our donors and those who simply want to browse or purchase a gift. While there is no indication that our site has ever been hacked, we want our supporters to feel as secure as possible. The upgrade involved migrating the site from "http" to "https." As you probably know, that designator appears at the beginning of your search line when you access a website. Apparently, the "s" stands for "secure." Since we are not computer experts, our website contractor took on the task of doing the rather complicated upgrade. The first sign that we needed an upgrade was a report that a user was having a difficult time accessing our site when they used a search engine, such as Google. We then learned that large-scale search engines can block access to certain sites if the site's security is not upgraded. While we still have a lot of work to do in updating the information on our site, we can rest easier that its security is up to high standards. Feel free to visit our website at <a href="https://www.walterreedsociety.org">www.walterreedsociety.org</a>.

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

**Projects Committee** 

In 2018 we donated \$64,037 towards projects, events, and other support to improved morale

among staff and patients at WRNMMC and FBCH. This is a 64% increase over 2017. 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 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), VP Projects Committee

**Membership** 

Membership Statistics Since Annual Meeting May 2018

Current Total Member Count: 637

Renewals: 15

2 years - 15

New members: 24

New Honorary (Lifetime) 0, Other lifetime - 10, 1 year - 0, 2 years - 10, 5 years - 4

Deceased members are removed from the database and other members removed because of

failure to respond to requests for renewal/returned mail - 15

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

# 2018 Collectible

As has been our annual tradition, in 2018, we designed a collectible featuring the National Capital Region Military Health System. The collectible honors those who serve and are cared for in the system's medical facilities.





#### God Bless the USA

This collectible honors those who serve and are cared for in the Defense Health Agency National Capital Region Military Health System:

Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda, MD Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, Fort Belvoir, VA

Andrew Rader Army Health Clinic,

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Arlington, VA

DiLorenzo TRICARE Health Clinic, The Pentagon, Washington, DC

Dumfries Health Center, Dumfries, VA

Fairfax Health Center, Fairfax, VA

Fort McNair Army Health Clinic, Washington, DC

Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling Clinic, Washington, DC

Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center, Fort Meade, MD

Malcolm Grow Medical Clinics and Surgery Center, Joint Base Andrews, MD

Naval Health Clinic Annapolis, Annapolis, MD

Naval Health Clinic Quantico, Quantico, VA

We are considering the development of a new collectible for this year but have not made a final decision.

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

#### Patient Services/ Warrior/Family Support

The Walter Reed Society continues to be very active with assisting our wounded, ill, and injured and coordinates this outreach with the Solider Family Assistance Center and other departments at Walter Reed Bethesda. We also continue to support monthly dinner events for recovering service members and families in coordination with the Aleathia Foundation and the American Legion Post 41. Based on the feedback we receive these outings are extremely well received by the families. We also continue to assist service members that return to WRNMMC for adjustments to prosthetics months and years after their initial treatment. We are also very grateful to

individuals and organizations that have established annual fund raising events that promote our work and help us continue to provide the much needed assistance.

Our mission of serving others continues and I am honored to be able to serve those in need with almost 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