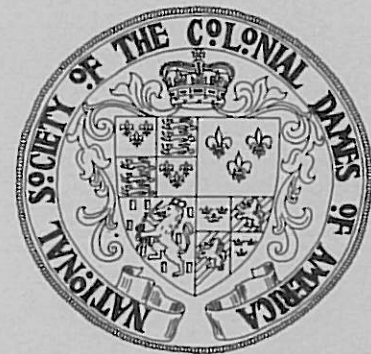


Dumbarton House in Wartime

Dames in Uniform

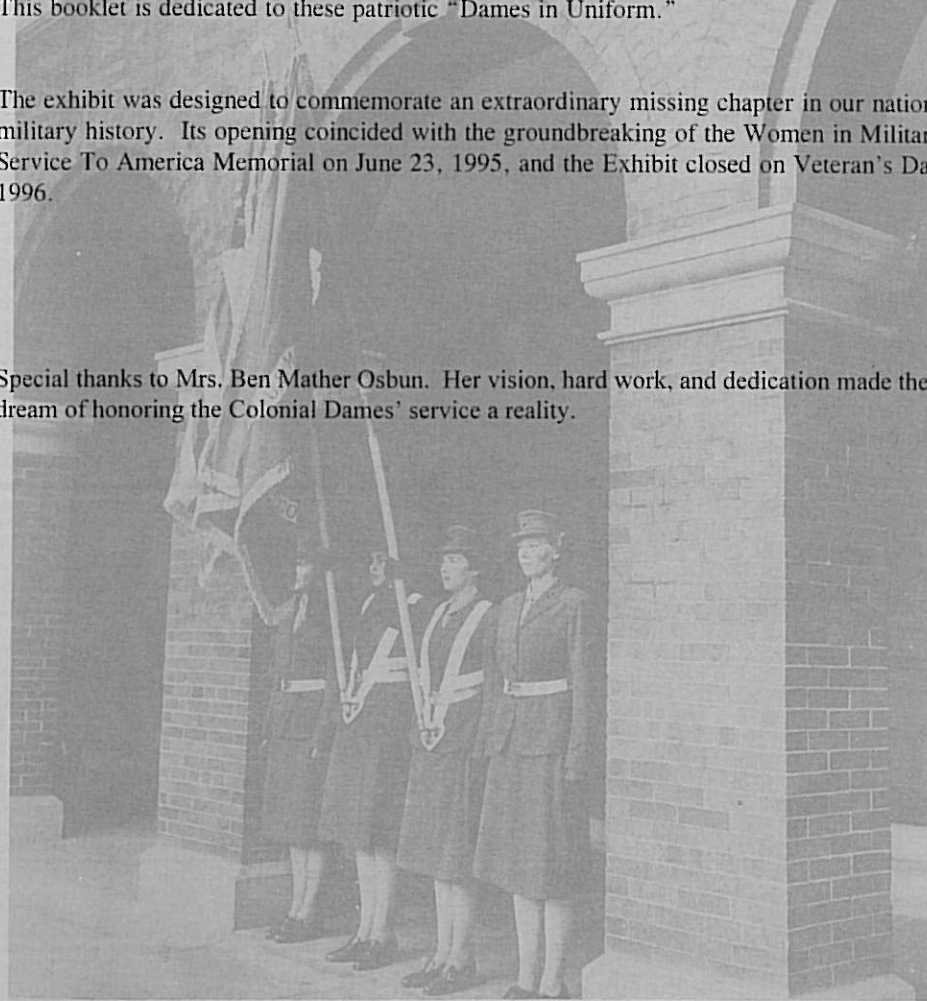


DAMES IN UNIFORM

For over a hundred years since the founding of The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in 1891, the Dames have taken as their mission the promotion of an appreciation of America's history. In periods of war, however, the Society has demonstrated its strong sense of patriotism through significant contributions to the war effort. Additionally, hundreds of its members have volunteered for wartime service. From the Spanish American War, through two World Wars and the conflicts in Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm, Dames have donned the uniforms of the Armed Services or the American Red Cross to serve their country. This booklet is dedicated to these patriotic "Dames in Uniform."

The exhibit was designed to commemorate an extraordinary missing chapter in our nation's military history. Its opening coincided with the groundbreaking of the Women in Military Service To America Memorial on June 23, 1995, and the Exhibit closed on Veteran's Day of 1996.

Special thanks to Mrs. Ben Mather Osburn. Her vision, hard work, and dedication made the dream of honoring the Colonial Dames' service a reality.



Spanish American War

During the Spanish American War the Dames inaugurated the tradition of outfitting hospital ships in times of war. After the Navy acquired *Solace* from the Cromwell Steamship Lines in 1898, The National Society contributed more than \$18,000 to help convert her to military use. The ship carried wounded and ill servicemen from the Caribbean theater back to the United States until the war ended.

After the war the Dames raised money to erect a monument in Arlington National Cemetery as a memorial to the soldiers and sailors who gave their lives for their country. The monument, a 44-foot tall Corinthian column of granite supporting a globe and eagle with wings outstretched, was dedicated in 1902 on the eve of Cuban independence. It was the first monument ever built in the Cemetery by a women's organization.

Text of inscription of original plaque place in 1902.

To the Soldiers and Sailors
of the United States
who gave their lives for their country
in the War of 1898-99 with Spain.

This monument is dedicated
in sorrow, gratitude and pride
by

The National Society
of The Colonial Dames
of America
in the name of all
the women of the nation
1902

The plaque added in 1964 is inscribed with the text below

To the Glory of God
and
in Grateful Remembrance of the
MEN AND WOMEN
WHO IN THIS CENTURY
GAVE THEIR LIVES
THAT LIBERTY MIGHT LIVE

WORLD WAR I

Following the tradition established during the Spanish American War, the Society contributed money to help outfit three hospital ships for the Navy. The Society raised \$50,000 for **Comfort, Mercy, and Relief**. **Mercy** and **Comfort** were acquired from the War Department in the first months of the war and served in the New York and Norfolk areas respectively before making several cruises to Europe to bring back wounded soldiers.

Construction of **Relief**, the first Navy hospital ship built from the keel up, began in 1917 but was not completed until after the Armistice. The ship had an illustrious career through World War II.



MISS ANNIE WHEELER
(1868-1954)

Miss Annie Wheeler served as a nurse with the American Red Cross in World War I. During the Spanish American War she followed her father, General Joseph Wheeler, to Cuba where Clara Barton placed her in charge of a hospital. She served again with her father as a nurse in a military hospital during the Philippines Insurrection of 1900. When the United States entered World War I she traveled once more overseas to work in hospitals in England and France. After the Armistice she returned to her native

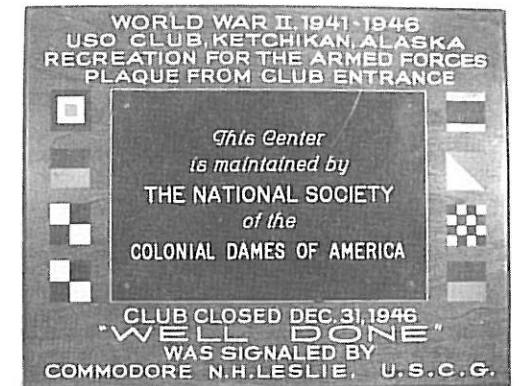
Alabama where she dedicated her life to helping others.

DUMBARTON HOUSE DURING WORLD WAR II

Only a month after the United States entered World War II The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America offered Dumbarton House to the District of Columbia Chapter of The American Red Cross. The Red Cross gratefully accepted the offer, and part of the house was quickly turned into classrooms where 750 students were trained between 1942 and 1945. In other rooms seamstresses sewed garments for the war effort, and volunteers packaged surgical dressings which totaled over 200,000 before the end of the war.

USO CLUB IN KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America contributed almost \$150,000 to maintain recreational facilities for servicemen in the USO Club at Ketchikan, Alaska. State societies across the country shipped boxes of supplies such as books and cameras. The California Society gave an annual Christmas dinner. During the operation of the club between 1941 and 1946 the Dames provided good food, recreation and entertainment for nearly a million servicemen who passed through the club during the war.



COLONIAL DAMES' SERVICE IN WORLD WAR II

Immediately after the United States entered World War II, the Dames, as they always had,

responded to the call of their country.

Dumbarton House was turned over to the Red Cross for wartime activities. The National Society supported a USO Club in Ketchikan, Alaska, and all the State Societies sponsored special projects in their communities. Dames across the country joined the Armed Forces, including the U. S. Public Health Service; the Civil Air Patrol; and, the American Red Cross. Two such women were Colonel Ruth Cheney Streeter and Captain Mildred McAfee Horton who headed the newly formed Marine Corps Women's Reserves (USMCWR) and the (WAVES), respectively. The wartime contributions of its members reflect the high degree of patriotism which has always been the hallmark of The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America.



Except for nurses, women had no permanent role in the U. S. military before 1942. On May 15, 1942, Congress passed legislation for the creation of the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC), giving women temporary military status that was to last as long as the war. On July 30, 1942, the Navy bill was signed and the Navy Reserve began accepting women into the WAVES, short for Women Accepted for

Volunteer Emergency Service. The Marine Corps Women's Reserve was authorized under the same law as the Navy Reserve and they would be known as marines with no acronym. Four months later, in November 1942, legislation passed for the Coast Guard to organize their women reserves, the SPARS, from the Coast Guard Motto "Semper Paratus - Always Ready."

By June 1943, The Women's Auxiliary Army Corps had become the Women's Army Corps (WAC). In addition, the U. S. Public Health Service Reserve Corps, under the direction of the military, accepted women to serve in support of the health and science technology needs of the war. Another one thousand women served in the Civil Service as WASPS, Women's Air Force Service Pilots, and still others with the Civil Air Patrol. All total, some 350,000 American women volunteered for military service during the war.



Whether on the "home front" or overseas, the NSCDA and its members served with honor, pride, and a sincere sense of duty. One member recalls, "[upon returning home]... I received no special credit and I expected none. My friends and family had each contributed to the war effort in their own way and now were anxious to resume their "normal lives".



U. S. Public Health Service



Civil Air Patrol

MILDRED HELEN MCAFEE HORTON

Mildred McAfee graduated from Vassar College in 1920. After graduate work at Columbia and the University of Chicago she held several teaching positions before becoming president of Wellesley College in 1936. In 1942 she left that position to head the WAVES, a new branch of the Navy created to free sailors for sea duty. Promoted to captain in 1943, she was responsible for the 86,000 women who performed such jobs as decoders, radio operators and air traffic controllers. After the war she returned to her old post at Wellesley until her retirement in 1949.



RUTH CHENEY STREETER

Ruth Cheney Streeter served the NSCDA and her country with distinction. At the start of World War II, she learned to fly. As the sister of a World War I pilot killed in action and the mother of three sons who would see active duty, she was determined to make her own contribution to the war effort. When the WASPS were organized in 1942 as a women's plane ferrying service, she tried to join but discovered she was too old at age 47. Undaunted, she joined the Civil Air Patrol. In 1942 President Roosevelt tapped her to become the first director of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve. Attaining the rank of colonel, she headed an organization of 19,000 women. Serving in the Casualty Section, as parachute riggers and countless other jobs these volunteers freed men for combat duty. Colonel Streeter resigned her commission after the war and returned to her activities as a member of the NSCDA's New Hampshire Society and later as National President of the NSCDA.



World War II WASP



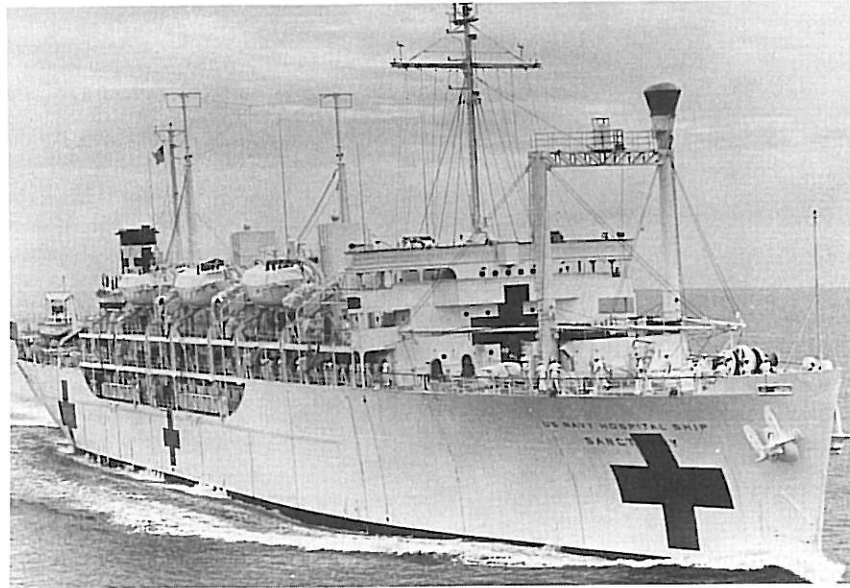
"I think the highlight of my military service, probably the most unforgettable person I ever met, happened at Kennedy. We had Helen Keller with us for a week. . . . None of the personnel on the base were allowed to sympathize with the boys, the paraplegics particularly. But Helen Keller could walk into the ward and she would feel their faces to identify them. And she would stand there and she'd be having her hands on this boy's face and would be saying, "Oh, you poor thing," and the tears would be running down her cheeks. And the boys just dissolved. And the doctors said it was the greatest therapeutic release that they could have had anywhere because here was this woman so much more handicapped." -- Emily R. Jerger

KOREA , VIETNAM, and "DESERT STORM"

During the Korean War the contribution of the NSCDA to the Armed Forces was small, but in the Vietnam War the Society returned to its role of serving Navy hospital ships. Mrs. Ruth Cheney Streeter chaired the committee which developed the program to support **Sanctuary** and **Repose** stationed off the coast of Vietnam. The Society contributed over \$100,000 to the ships and made over 24,000 ditty bags. Musical instruments, cameras and tape recorders were among the items purchased. In one innovative program thousands of tapes were furnished to patients so that they could record messages for their next of kin in the states.



Nurse Uniform c.1990



USS Sanctuary off Vietnam

Heartfelt appreciation to the following for graciously lending items for the exhibit:

Cdr. William B. Bagbey, on behalf of his wife,
Lt. Lelia S. Cocke Bagbey, WAAC (WWII Veteran)(VA Society, Deceased)

Anne Ferguson Boy, American Red Cross (WWII Service)
 (Mrs. Pierre D.Boy - NH Society)

Capt. Suzanne Sloane Bucci, U.S. Navy Nurse Corps
 (Mrs. Steven Philip Bucci - IA Society)

Mrs. Lilian S.L. Chance, on behalf of her mother,
Col. Ruth Cheney Streeter, USMCWR
 (WWII Veteran and First Director of the USMC Women's Reserves)
 (NH Society, Deceased)

Corporal Anita C. Lippitt Clay, WAC (WWII Veteran)
 (Mrs. Thomas C. Clay - GA Society)

Ensign Emily Almy Stone Cocroft, WAVES (WWII Veteran)
 (Mrs. Mason Freeman Cocroft - RI Society)

Lt. (j.g.) Bertha Beth Freeman Davis, WAVES (WWII Veteran)
 (Mrs. Robert Spink Davis - RI Society)

Lt. Suzette B. Tombes Goudie, U.S. Navy (Korean War Veteran)
 (Mrs. Gene Y. Goudie - CO Society)

Cdr. Eda Christina Nelson Halberstadt, U.S. Naval Reserve, Retired
 (Mrs. Robert L. Halberstadt - PA Society)

Lt. Col. Mary Janice Hale, USMC, Retired
 (MD Society)

Capt. Ruth Elizabeth Jones Haskell, USMCWR (WWII Veteran)
 (Mrs. Alexander C. Haskell, Jr. - GA Society)

Lt. (j.g.) Ann Geddes Stahlman Hill, WAVES (WWII Veteran)
 (Mrs. George D. Hill - TN Society)

Ina Cochran Hubbard, American Red Cross (WWII Service)
 (Mrs. Randolph Bolling Hubbard - MD Society)

Mr. Herndon Inge, Jr., on behalf of his wife,
Lt. (j.g.) Eleanor Unger Inge, WAVES (WWII Veteran)(AL Society, Deceased)

Mrs. John LeGrand, on behalf of her aunt,
Miss Annie Wheeler, American Red Cross (Spanish American War and WWI Service)
(AL Society, Deceased)

Mrs. Ben Mather Osbun, on behalf of
Mrs. Charles F. Limberg

1st Lt. Mary Polk Draper Lord, WAAC/WAC (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. Edwin C.E. Lord, Jr. - DE Society)

Marine Corps History and Museums Division, Quantico, VA
(USMC Organizational Women's Reserve Flag)

Ensign Ellen Boyd Duval Miller, WAVES (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. William R. Miller, III - VA Society)

Marjorie Putnam Linder Monkhouse, American Red Cross (WWII Service)
(Mrs. William A. Monkhouse - ME Society)

SPQ 3rd C. Lida Chatfield Montgomery, WAVES (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. Vaughn E. Montgomery - OH Society)

Col. Louisa Spotswood Spruance Morse, Civil Air Patrol, Active Status
(Mrs. Albert W. Morse, Jr. - DE Society)

Lt. (j.g.) Mary Catharine Payne Murphy, WAVES (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. Theodore Murphy - VA Society)

The Naval Historical Center, Washington DC, on behalf of
Capt. Mildred McAfee Horton, WAVES (WWII Veteran, First Director of the WAVES)

Civ. 1 Katherine R. Fort Neel, U.S. Army, Civilian Employee (WWII Service, Librarian)
(Mrs. Paul R. Neel - NC Society)

2nd Lt. Josephine M. Clapp Osbun, U.S. Public Health Service (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. Ben M. Osbun - DE Society)

Lt. (j.g.) Marcia Moss Lewis Pennington, WAVES (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. William C. Pennington - MD Society)

Patriotic Service Committee, NSCDA in Connecticut, on behalf of:
Lt. (j.g.) Sarah Morewood Ferguson, WAVES (WWII Veteran)
(Miss Sarah Morewood Ferguson - CT Society)
Private 1st C. Pauline Smith Spedden, USMCWR (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. Pauline S. Spedden - CT Society)
Leslie Hart Fenn Tapscott, American Red Cross (WWII Service)
(Mrs. Robert L. Tapscott - CT Society)

Cdr. DeWitt McDougal Patterson, on behalf of his wife,
Lt. (j.g.) Nancy Schetky Patterson, WAVES (WWII Veteran) (MD Society, Deceased)

Lt. (j.g.) Dorothy Brumby Perkinson, WAVES (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. Jesse Dean Perkinson, Jr. - GA Society)

Ensign Madeline Denison Jenkins Rohlfs, U.S. Naval Reserve, Nurse Corps (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. Otto D. Rohlf, Jr. - MD Society)

Constance Oakman Fagan Russe, WASP Training Program and American Red Cross (WWII Service)
(Mrs. Frederick William Russe, Jr. - DC Society)

Mrs. William P. Sellers (Bunt), on behalf of her sister,
Private 1st C. Marjorie French McKaig, WAC (WWII Veteran)(PA Society, Deceased)

2nd Lt. Mary Theresa Norris Symington, Office of Strategic Services (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. James McKim Symington - DC Society)

Alice Horton Tibbetts, on behalf of her mother,
Capt. Mildred McAfee Horton, WAVES (WWII Veteran, First Director of the WAVES)

Lt. Sarah Smyth Hudgens Uzzell, WAC (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. Rudyard S. Uzzell, Jr. - PA Society)

Catherine Acuff Walters, American Red Cross (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. Douglas E. Walters - WV Society)

Seaman 1st C. Anne Jessup Wells, WAVES (WWII Veteran)
(Mrs. A. Judson Wells - DE Society)

The Wheeler Plantation, Alabama Historical Commission, on behalf of
Miss Annie Wheeler (AL Society, Deceased)

Women in Military Service For America Memorial Foundation, Inc.
Brig. Gen Wilma L. Vaught USAF, (Ret.)
Ms. Kathryn Sheldon, Curator WIMSA
Ms. Marlene Murty, Volunteer WIMSA

Grateful recognition to the following who contributed resources and assistance to the Exhibit:

Mrs. Ben Mather Osbun
Exhibit Chairman, Dumbarton House Board Chairman

Mr. Bruce J. Conard
Catalog Editor, and Director, Headquarters, NSCDA

Dr. Oscar Fitzgerald
Exhibit Editor, Consulting Curator for Dumbarton House

Mrs. Richard V. Mattingly, Jr.
Exhibit Co-Coordinator, Dumbarton House Administrator

Miss Lettitia Long
Exhibit Co-Coordinator and Registrar

Mrs. Chris Lekakos
Exhibit Public Relations, Dumbarton House Special Events Coordinator

Ms. Anne Wood
Exhibit Designer, The Naval Historical Center - Navy Museum Exhibit Department

Mr. Chi Kim
Exhibit Mounting, The Naval Historical Center - Navy Museum Exhibit Department

Mrs. Marie M. Biddle
Exhibit Photography Matting and Framing, Lady of Dumbarton - Maryland Society

Mrs. William Sellers
Exhibit Advisor, Dumbarton House Board

Mrs. William R. Miller, Jr.
Exhibit Advisor, Dumbarton House Board

Mrs. Vaughan E. Montgomery, Jr.
Oral History Program Coordinator, NSCDA Member - Ohio Society

Mrs. Franklin Wyman, Jr.
Exhibit Flag - American Flag given in honor of her aunt, Colonel Ruth Cheney Streeter

Marine Corps History and Museums Division, Quantico, VA
USMC Organizational Women's Reserve Flag

Mr. Jesse R. Rankin, Museum Specialist, Curator Branch Office
Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC
U.S. Navy Uniforms and accoutrements

Nordstrom Department Store
Exhibit Mannequins (on-loan) and Professional Dressing

NSCDA National Patriotic Service Committee
Exhibit Easel

NSCDA National Historical Activities Committee
Exhibit Easel

Rieger Communications
Exhibit Photography

Additional Funding Courtesy
The Butler Foundation

NSCDA Transcriptions

In October of 1985 the Patriotic Service Committee of the Ohio Society of the NSCDA initiated a ceremony honoring women veterans. One of those NSCDA members who played such a major role was Mrs. Vaughan E. Montgomery, Ohio Society Patriotic Service Chairman and National Consultant to the Military. As an outgrowth of this ceremony in Cincinnati was the initiation of taped oral histories of over seventy-five members throughout the United States who are veterans. All of these Dames had varied and interesting experiences during their service. These taped interviews have been transcribed and the written interviews will serve in the NSCDA archives as a reminder of the outstanding contributions of our members in all war efforts. We are indebted to Mrs. Montgomery for her leadership in this effort to remember "the forgotten veterans". General Wilma L. Vaught, President of WIMSA (Women in Military Service For America Memorial Foundation) accepted the tapes and transcriptions for the archives of the Women's Memorial being constructed at Arlington National Cemetery. There they will be cared for and available for research.

Capt. Louise Little Alvord, WAC, US Army Nurse Corps (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Florence Carden Amos, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Evelyn Louise Williams Bailey, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Mary Wood Winslow Bobbitt, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Anne Ferguson Boy, American Red Cross (WWII)

1st Lt. Willye White Brockway, USMCWR (WWII Veteran)

Lt. Anne Page Brydon, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Margaret E. Burnham, American Red Cross (WWII)

Corporal Anita C. Lippitt Clay, WAC (WWII Veteran)

Anne Katharine Hoffman Cleaver, American Red Cross (WWII)

Ensign Emily Almy Stone Cocroft, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Capt. Jane Dozier Dicks Connelly, WAAC (WWII Veteran)

Ensign Elizabeth Winchester Correa, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Bertha Beth Freeman Davis, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Ella Richardson Davis, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Eleanor B. Walker Dion, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Jane Carter Dunn, Civilian with U.S. Army (WWII)

Corporal Cophine Lewis Smead Farris, USMCWR (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Sarah Morewood Ferguson, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Personnelman 3rd C. Gloria Minich Finucane, WAVES (Korean War Veteran)

Lt. Roberta Love Tayloe Fuller, WAC, US Army Nurse Corps (WWII Veteran)

Storekeepers 3rd C. Garnett Eva Gayle, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Mary Elizabeth Husson Gehman, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Helen Milam Given, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. Suzette B. Tombes Goudie, USN (Korean War Veteran)

Major Carolyn Egerton Smith Graves, US Army (Active Duty)

Lt. Jane Warwick O'Neill Graham, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. Col. Mary Janice Hale, USMC (Ret.)

Margaret Hemingway Harrington, American Red Cross (WWII)

Capt. Ruth Elizabeth Jones Haskell, USMCWR (WWII Veteran)

Cazenove Lamar Miller Helm, Civilian Nurse, US Army (WWI)

2nd Lt. Sara Adams Oliver Henry, USMCWR (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Ann Geddes Stahlman Hill, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Elizabeth Miller Hood, WAC (WWII Veteran)

Capt. Mildred McAfee Horton, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Eleanor Unger Inge, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Staff Sgt. Emily Reminkgton Jerger, WAC (WWII Veteran)

Lt. Elizabeth Avery Hill Johnson, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Yeoman 2nd C. Mary Rogers Davis Jones, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Rosa Miller Hobbs Joyce, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Sgt. Anita Cox Kuhn, USMCWR (WWII Veteran)

Sgt. Maria L. Lamberton, WAC (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Caroline Avery Lester, SPAR (WWII)

Dorothea Ridgway Haydock Lewis, WAC (WWII Veteran)

Ensign Celia Adams Lomax, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

2nd Lt. Mary Polk Draper Lord, WAAC/WAC (WWII Veteran)

Gertrude L. McCue, American Red Cross (WWII)

Lt. Marjorie McKenney Mabry, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Mary Young Mason, American Red Cross (WWII)

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1st Lt. Ann Brinckerhoff Mingledorff, U.S. Air Force

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SPQ 3rd C. Lida Chatfield Montgomery, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

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Lt. (j.g.) Susan Hayden Olson, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Civilian Pilot Joanne Wallace Orr, WASP (WWII Veteran)

2nd Lt. Josephine Clapp Osbun, US Public Health Service (WWII Veteran)

Barbara Brandon Palmer, American Red Cross (WWII)

Ensign Page Davis Parker, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. (j.g.) Dorothy Brumby Perkinson, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

1st Lt. Nancy Newcomb Porter, US Air Force Nurse Corps (Korean War Veteran)

2nd Lt. Frances Lott Ratliff, WAC (WWII Veteran)

Lt. Joan Mallory Reeves, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. Nancy Pope Rice, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

SPG 2nd C. Marjorie Williams Rooney, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Elizabeth Shwab Sanders, American Red Cross (WWII)

Lt. (j.g.) Louise Woodruff Scott, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

1st Lt. Edith J. Sloan, WAC (WWII)

Private 1st C. Josephine M. Smead, WAC (WWII Veteran)

Yeoman 2nd C. Anna Davis Soutèr, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. Aurelia Plumly Spaugh, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Corporal Pauline Smith Spedden, USMCWR (WWII Veteran)

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Lt. Frances Alderson Swope, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Leslie-Hart Fenn Tapscott, American Red Cross (WWII)

Lt. (j.g.) Betsy Newman Gilmer Tremain, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Tech III Marjorie Taylor Walthall, WAC (WWII Veteran)

Lt. Col. Katherine Smith Ward, US Army (Ret.)

Seaman 1st C. Anne Jessup Wells, WAVES (WWII Veteran)

Lt. Marion Stearns White, WAVES (WWII Veteran)



Dumbarton House Today



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