



The Nurses Station
BANNCA-BAY AREA NAVY NURSE CORPS
ASSOCIATION Newsletter



VOLUME 34, NUMBER 1

SPRING 2019

Spring greetings to all currently serving and former/retired Active and Reserve Nurses in Northern California!

NEW Chapter members are welcome as our guests (free) for the June Lunch and complementary 2019 Chapter dues, only if processed directly through Chapter Treasurer Renee Sheehan (not available online). All Chapter Officer contacts are on the **last page**.

Join us for **LUNCH, TOURS, SPECIAL EXHIBIT ‘NAMING’ & more onboard the USS HORNET**

When: **Tuesday, June 11, 2019**; 11am Social Hour, 12pm Catered Box Lunch, 1-2:30pm Onboard the Ship

What: A day to explore the National & State Historic Landmark Sea, Air & Space Museum - Docent & self-guided tours, permanent exhibits including many BANNCA member items, and “Splashdown 50” displays.

Lunch: Boxed gourmet sandwich, sides of garden salad and mixed fruit/berries, brownie, and sparkling water. Please indicate any special dietary needs on your registration form, for advance notice to the caterer.

Where: USS Hornet, 707 Hornet Ave., Pier 3, Alameda CA 94501. By special arrangement, we will be served on the main Hangar Deck in an ‘off menu’ area on the Fantail with unparalleled views of the City, weather permitting (inside, same level, if necessary). This allows access for all: 1) walk up the first visitor stairway to board ship Main Entrance, or 2) for limited mobility access, at ground level continue to third scaffold with ramp to board the scissor lift, ring doorbell for lift, and rise to main Hangar Deck.

Parking: Ample public parking across the street, and disabled parking on pier and at pier entrance.

Cost: (Includes Admission for day & Lunch) Members \$5, Guests \$10. ALL-identify yourself as part of the Navy Nurse group at entry for the included free admission. NEW Chapter member lunch is complimentary. BANNCA heavily subsidizes each attendee, so that ‘no show’ incurs costs to the Chapter.

RSVP Received by Renee NLT Tues June 4 - Reservations required for all attendees.

Emergency contact day of event 6/11 ONLY: Renee Sheehan 510.332.5340 (routine # 510.522.0978)

 Detach and mail to Renee Sheehan 1236 Bay St Alameda 94501-3914 to arrive NLT **Tues June 4**.

BANNCA SPRING LUNCH/HORNET VISIT REGISTRATION – Tuesday, June 11, 2019

No refunds after Tuesday June 4, due to facility commitment. **PLEASE PRINT.**

Member/s: _____

Guest/s: _____

Payment: Members @ \$5 ___ + Guests @ \$10 ___ = Total \$ _____; Check # _____

Make check payable to “BANNCA”; memo “June 2019 Lunch”

For Free New Chapter Member Offer at first event, please provide

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Indicate any special Dietary restrictions: _____

Please include any change/update in your contact info, **ESPECIALLY EMAIL ADDRESS**, since your last update directly to Chapter (We do not get recent online updates automatically.)

Email: _____ Phone: _____ Address: _____ No Change: _____

Upcoming Events & Activities: – save the dates, and send in your **JUNE LUNCH** reservations now!

***MAJOR CHAPTER EVENT: Spring Lunch onboard the USS Hornet, Alameda Naval Air Station, Tuesday June 11, 11-2:30:** Plan to join us, tour this acclaimed Smithsonian Affiliate historic treasure with Docents or self-guided tours, spend time at the recently BANNCA co-sponsored permanent display ‘Women in the Military’ featuring many of our members’ memorabilia, find ‘Sick Bay’ equipment donated by a Navy Nurse, enjoy special ‘Splashdown 50’ exhibits honoring the Apollo missions, and get updated on our Chapter activities. To prepare to maximize your visit, explore the extensive Hornet website in advance: <https://www.uss-hornet.org/>. Advance reservations REQUIRED with Form on front page.

***MAJOR CHAPTER EVENT Annual Holiday Luncheon, San Ramon - Tuesday DEC 3, 2019:** 11am-3pm, The Brass Door, 2154 San Ramon Valley Blvd, San Ramon. Details will follow in Fall Newsletter.

MORE UPCOMING ACTIVITIES for 2019:

-Military Retiree Seminar, Coast Guard Island Alameda - Saturday May 4, 2019: 7:30am-12:00. No cost or reservations are required except if you would like to stay for lunch in the Galley (\$7.70 paid at door, with advance reservation by email Dave Swanson at ddswanson@msn.com or message at 510-390-6312). Details are in a separate file. This annual update on retiree benefits and services for all branches has been well received. If you have interest but learned of it too late this year, watch the Northern California Coast Guard Retiree Council website next spring to save the date <https://sites.google.com/site/nccgrc/>.

-Military Recruit Swearing-in Ceremony, Veterans Memorial Bldg (VMBSRV) Danville - Sunday, May 19, 2019: 1:00, 115 E Prospect Avenue, Danville. Ceremony and Reception. BANNCA supports the event honoring high school graduates entering Military service. No reservation is required. Janet Riehle is our contact. She will be busy packing gift bags for the honorees, as well as welcoming guests when they arrive at the event.

-UVS Swing Club Presentation, Moffett Field Golf Course, Mountain View - Wednesday, June 19, 2019 (tentative). Donation presentation to the golf rehabilitation program for Veterans from Palo Alto/Menlo Park VA, which pairs patients with Pacific Women’s Golf Association members on the course. Mary Jo Lyons mjlyons@juggernaut.com is our contact. More program info at: <https://www.golfpwga.org/blog/2019/3/12/united-veterans-service-swing-club-schedule-announced>

-‘Tips for Change’ Fundraiser, Giannis Italian Bistro, San Ramon - Monday August 12, 2019: 5pm-8pm. Be a Diner or a Server to benefit the Operations of our affiliated Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley. Dinner reservations - <https://www.giannissanramon.com/tips-for-change>; to be a Server (on-the-job training at 4pm, able to stand for 4 hours and take orders, enjoy dinner with staff afterwards) - contact Lorrie.

-Veterans Day on the Delta, Discovery Bay - Saturday, September 9, 2019 (tentative): 7th Annual Veteran appreciation Performance Boat Run, sponsored by Gold Star charity ‘The Joey Graves Foundation’. An opportunity to take a fun-filled, high-speed boat ride through the Delta, enjoy a picnic with Veterans of all eras, and interact with Gold Star families in the area who have lost a Service member. BANNCA supports this organization, which honors the Fallen and their families <https://www.somegaveall.us/>.

-Fleet Week Cruise, San Francisco Bay - Thursday, October 10, 2019: Enjoy ‘Front Row Seats’ of the Air Show practice onboard a USCG Cutter from Yerba Buena Island for a day-long cruise to the center of San Francisco Bay. We will liaison with Navy League for this courtesy event. Member Joanne Fritch (jojolydia@aol.com) has done this event and can answer questions.

-Veterans’ Day Observations, various locations - Monday, November 11, 2019: Support and participate in community events, and share activities with fellow nurses. Walnut Creek Elks Lodge #1811 traditionally offers a dinner free to Veterans (date TBD) enjoyed by our members.

-Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner, Pleasant Hill - Friday, December 7: Dinner and Speaker honoring the history of Pearl Harbor, with Navy League of the United States, Contra Costa Council <http://cccnl.org/>. BANNCA is an event sponsor.

-Army-Navy Game - Saturday, December 14, 2019: A traditional good-spirited televised rivalry, shared in varied locations, including Veterans Memorial Bldg (VMBSRV), Danville.

-Wreaths Across America, multiple local cemeteries - Saturday December 14, 2019: We sponsor and participate in this national initiative honoring Veterans, with remembrance at their grave sites. Members are encouraged to select one of the sites in our area, <https://www.wreathsassamerica.org/>, and plan / sign-up to participate individually. We will direct our donation to local sites requested by members (tell Lorrie by Nov 15), with consideration of over / under-funded locations.

-Naval Hospital Oakland “Oak Knoll” Monument Park Project, Oakland - ongoing: Bonnie Bouey continues fully engaged and recognized as the ‘voice of Veterans’ as SunCal progresses on redevelopment of the prior Medical Center site. The 2.5 acre “Oak Knoll Memorial Park” is planned for the final phase in 2020. BANNCA supports creation of a permanent memorial / art fixture in ‘Monument Park’ honoring the hospital, staff, and patients, particularly Nurses and Corpsmen <http://www.oakknollcommunity.com/the-plan/>.

-Alameda Naval Air Museum, Alameda Point - ongoing: Efforts to enhance the “Sick Bay” Naval Hospital Oak Knoll exhibit have paused while repairs to the building are evaluated. Bonnie has worked with Museum staff regarding Oak Knoll artifacts. <http://alamedanavalairmuseum.org/about/>. This Museum would also be an excellent location to expand and preserve the history of the first WWII Navy Flight Nurses at the Air Station.

Recent BANNCA Events:

***Veterans’ Day Events:** We celebrated and honored Veterans in numerous ways in early November. The Kirtland family of three Veterans, including member Cindy, was featured on a major television broadcast <https://www.facebook.com/548490151931030/posts/1866465100133522/>. BANNCA again provided a display and participated in the 3-day extended Open House attended by over 2,000 at the Veterans Memorial Bldg of San Ramon Valley (VMBSRV), where we are an affiliated Veterans Organization. As part of the ‘Bells of Peace’ international initiative marking the Centennial of the Armistice / WWI, a moving ceremony outside the building included a dramatic reading of “In Flanders Fields” and a bell choir. In San Francisco, member Renee continued her tradition of bringing instrumental music to patients at the large VA hospital, and members gathered for fellowship and good food throughout the Bay Area.

***Winter Holiday Luncheon, December 4:** We again gathered at The Brass Door to bring in the holidays. We enjoyed an outstanding meal, spent hours sharing stories of busy lives and sources of joy, and had a brief presentation on Navy Nurses, Red Cross, WWI, and the 1918 influenza, from 100 years later. Photo: Back - Frank Wallace, Doug Switzer, Cindy Kirtland, Janet Riehle, Lorrie Sammons, Tim Sammons, John Bouey; Middle - Peggy Wallace, Mariana Rivera, Janice Stinson, Annette Switzer, MaryJo Lyons; Seated - Renee Sheehan, Karen Born, Bonnie Bouey. Not pictured - our esteemed photographer Ralf Stinson.



***Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner, December 7:**

We co-sponsored the annual dinner organized by Navy League to honor and remember Pearl Harbor, and especially the Survivors in attendance. Allan Cruz, COL, USMC (Ret) was the speaker at Zio Fraedos in Pleasant Hill. The Naval Order also held an event in San Francisco this date, where the Dinner Dress Uniform donated by Mary Jo Lyons was on prominent display. The uniformed mannequin now stands in the Library of the VMBSRV in Danville - thanks Mary Jo! Alas, no tiara.



***Army-Navy Game, December 8:** BANNCA helped supply refreshments to a packed crowd at the VMBSRV. Not much more to say about the game...

***Wreaths Across America, December 15:** While members participated in the ceremonies and wreath distributions at locations of their preference, BANNCA sponsored wreaths to help address a shortfall at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno, where 113,000 Veteran graves were to be decorated. In Alamo, a Cub Scout and Lorrie honor a Navy Vet of WWII and Korea.



***City of Dublin Sponsor Recognition Reception, January 8:** BANNCA had prominent



listing on the "Shining Stars" banner, when Dublin honored our support of the new Camp Parks Military History Center building during the City Council meeting. The Mayor, David Haubert, is pictured with Karen and Lorrie, who also assisted with development of the 6-month exhibit on WWII Navy Nurses and the Panel on opening day. Refreshments were made by



students in the Dublin High School Culinary Academy, in their professional kitchens - yummy.

***USS Hornet Donation - Sponsorship & Medical Supplies, January 17:**



- When Renee, Lorrie, and Bonnie met on the ship, we were able to:
- 1) Deliver WWII medical enamelware that Bonnie has been shepherding since the daughter of a Navy Nurse stationed at Mare Island in WWII reached out to find the artifacts a 'home.' Success - they will be incorporated into the era-appropriate Sick Bay. Pictured on the Hangar Deck with USS Hornet staff Jamelle (Events), Mike McCarron (Exec Director), and one pot with lid.
 - 2) Present a donation as Sponsors.
 - 3) Develop arrangements for our June meeting.



Here's a taste of some displays - in addition to a wealth of Sea, Air, and Space exhibits. Note the wall and display case featuring our own Jo Lawrence (right), and the uniforms, including an iconic Nurse's Cape - many from CAPT Nancy.



***USS Tulsa LCS-16 Commissioning, February 16:** Janice and Ralf Stinson (took photos) and Bonnie and John Bouey braved inclement weather at San Francisco's Pier 32 to see the Navy's new style Littoral Combat ship 'come alive' through tradition-laden ceremonies, and were rewarded by a break in the rain. The trimaran ship operates close-to-shore, drawing only 14 feet, with speeds to 54mph. BANNCA became an 'Honorary Plankholder' to support the new ship's crew and family programs.



***USCGC Robert Ward WPC-1130 Commissioning, March 2:**

Attendees at the ceremony for the Coast Guard's new Fast Response Cutter at Coast Guard Island were not so fortunate weather-wise. Views from within the plastic draped tent were limited; more of the event can be seen online (3 min and 1 hour versions from this web page - <https://coastguardnews.com/coast-guard-cutter-robert-ward-commissioned-in-san-francisco/2019/03/02/>).



Refreshments from the USCG famous Culinary School at Two Rock were outstanding. Lorrie, Bonnie, and Arleen went aboard, where the extent of the 'medical spaces' is the end dining table - pictured with First Aid box above it - which can serve as exam / procedure table. BANNCA is a proud Honorary Plankholder, in support of the crew & families.

News and Administrative Notes:

-Members:



>Congratulations on Retirement, CDR Alex Luckhardt! Alex is shown receiving her third Navy Commendation medal from CAPT Kelly Fox, Senior Nurse Executive of Expeditionary Medical Facility Camp Pendleton. The shadow box from CAPT Fox reflects 30.5 years of service, completed 01FEB2019. Bravo Zulu, Alex!



>Thanks to Karen Born for her donations to the Veterans Building of SRV ‘Corned Beef & Cabbage’ fundraiser, where BANNCA is affiliated. Theater tickets and a 40” rug with the Navy emblem hand-hooked by a Navy Nurse (bought by a retired Navy Line Officer to hang on his wall) were sold in the Silent Auction. While BANNCA does not conduct fundraiser events, we will start informing about the few fundraising activities of the Veterans Building which benefits us with Veteran-centric service and recreation opportunities, in the future - the activities are fun and the comradery is excellent.



>Preserving your ‘Veteran Story’: Some of our members have already recorded their military biography for the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress <http://www.loc.gov/vets/>. An audio/video interview of at least 30 minutes, as well as memoirs and/or photos, is submitted in accordance with the guidelines. A local opportunity to have your story preserved and shared according to required format is through Alameda Naval Air Station Museum according to their website - info@alamedanavalairmuseum.org. Members also have Histories completed at NNCA meetings or through Scout projects. A copy is also provided for yourself / family, which creates a valued keepsake. Do share if you know other convenient locations for recording the histories.

-Chapter Business:

>Do you have interest in joining the Board for a term starting 01JAN2020? Chat with any Board member!
>Copies of the minutes of all General Membership and Executive Board Meetings, which are reviewed and approved by the Executive Board, are available from the Secretary.

-National Notes:

>2019 NNCA National Meeting May 2-4, 2019. Chapter member Debby Nelson, who was recently elected to the NNCA Board, plans to attend the Little Rock AR meeting. If able to join us in June, she’ll share the news.
>2020 NNCA Reunion Meeting May 9-14, 2020. Following the Board meeting in Annapolis, the General Meeting “Celebrating Friends and Family” will be a 5-night cruise from Baltimore to Bermuda. If interested, please take the survey on NNCA website to help shape the planning.
>NNCA is expanding visibility on Facebook, eliciting involvement from new followers. If you enjoy social media, check out NNCA Twitter and LinkedIn pages. If you’d like to get involved / Moderate, let us know and contact Kim Lyons at NNCA kim@nnca.org.

Membership Applications/Renewals

-Thanks to all who renewed in advance of NNCA’s term which expires in May. Our growth in member numbers over the last 5 years has been gratifying. BANNCA dues remain \$5/year; NNCA is \$35 renewing, or \$40 new; with accommodation for multi-year renewals either directly through Renee (easiest for us to track) or online.
-Membership Drive - FREE First Year for New Chapter Members (only direct to Treasurer; NOT online): There are still more Navy Nurses in the area we welcome to join us. Bring along a shipmate - we’ll ‘treat’ the ‘New’ Nurse to the June Luncheon meeting and Chapter dues for 2020!

Officers:

President: Lorrie Sammons, LNSammons@gmail.com, 925 830.9474, 2608 Campeche Ct San Ramon 94583
Membership: Bonnie Bouey, BSABonnie@sbcglobal.net, 510.530.3205, 9312 Skyline Blvd Oakland 94611
Secretary: Mariana Rivera, mgrboo@comcast.net, 510.530.3541, 1456 E 38th St Oakland 94602-1145
Treasurer: Renee Sheehan, RGSheehan1236@yahoo.com, 510.522.0978, 1236 Bay St Alameda 94501-3914
Director at Large: Karen Born, kborn@att.net, 925.829.0241; San Ramon (also Sunshine Chair)
Director at Large: Janet Riehle, jriehle@yahoo.com, (303) 929-5499 5007 Starling Street Danville CA 94506
Director/Currently Serving Liaison: Cindy Kirtland, Cynthilynn@aol.com, 408.718.9347, San Jose