



# THE OAKLEAF

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2015

## PRESIDENT

Becky Nulty

## VICE-PRESIDENT

Ellen Citrano

## SECRETARY

Suzie Moser

## TREASURER

Cindy Perry

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

### AWARDS

Ellen Citrano

### CARING & SHARING

Elaine Dlouhy

### HISTORY & MEMORABILIA

Barb Beeby/Pat Clancy

Oral Histories: D.J. Lavoie

### LUNCHEON

Mary Flannigan/ Tina Hooker

### MEMBERSHIP

Georgene Waecker/Terri Snow

### NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Nancy Owen/ Jennifer Town

### SCHOLARSHIP

Pat Bull

### VETERAN COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Sandy Holmes

### ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBERS

Photographers: Barbara Anderson

Eleanor Masters

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Once again, it seems unbelievable that it is already the Holiday season! Where did 2015 go?? It is so nice to have cooler weather and some rain for a change. Every drop counts. I do not know about you, but I am tired already of sharing my shower with a bucket or two.

We had such a nice attendance at our last general meeting/luncheon with many new faces in the crowd. Thank you, **Mary Kay Phillips**, for being such a dedicated recruiter for new members. We really hope to have them become new members this year. Hard to believe we will start the membership renewal process in January for 2016 again. Attracting new members is our highest priority as we can only sustain our organization and NNCA by increasing our numbers. We have updated/revised the Chapter's brochure and you will receive one in the membership renewal packages. We are also adding a short survey that expands on the one recently sent by NNCA and focuses on our Chapter as to what you expect the Chapter to do for you, what changes you want to see, and any other ideas you have for Chapter improvements and expansion. We want to continue moving forward and ensuring that the Chapter activities meet your needs and expectations.

Thank you all again for your generous donations for Honor Flight at our 24 October 2015 General Meeting/Luncheon. We are so privileged to have a robust membership that supports our efforts to continue to serve our Veterans.

Joel and Marybeth Doss were delightful in sharing their experiences as recipients of Honor Flight trips to DC to see the WWII Memorial and participate in the activities there. What a wonderful once in a lifetime experience for them.

Over 100 people attended the interment of Admiral Shea Buckley at Arlington National Cemetery on 19 November 2015. May she rest in peace and know how much we respect and honor her.

During the 10 November 2015 NNCASC Board meeting, we continued with the current Board in their positions: Rebecca Nulty-President; Ellen Citrano-Vice President; Suzie Moser-Secretary; and Cindy Perry-Treasurer. Thank you to all members as we continue to guide our Chapter through the next year. We will continue to focus on oral histories (55 Gulf War veterans will be contacted in January to share their history). We have 56 total with 14 completed this quarter. Please share your story (and we ALL have one!).

Veterans Community Outreach is working on supporting one organization throughout all quarters in 2016 that supports providing housing to our veterans. More to follow on this. Please share with us if there are organizations you would like to see recognized.

A major project we will work on is the 2017 NNCA Annual Meeting that we will host around April timeframe. If there are other “projects” you wish to see the chapter focus on, please tell us. 2016 will be busy and we thank you in advance.

NNCASC Board wishes each of you Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year. May we see peace, understanding, and patience in our country and throughout the world.

Becky Nulty

**2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

January 20	NNCASC Luncheon Talega Golf Club
February 9	Board meeting
April 16 *Saturday	NNCASC Luncheon Miramar
April 25-May 1	NNCA Reunion Newport, RI
May 10	Board Meeting



**CARING & SHARING**

Former member **Lorna “Scottie” Payne** died October 20, 2015.

We also recently learned of the death of **Jean Finnegan** who passed away June 22, 2015.

Other local Navy Nurses who have passed away include: CDR (ret) **Kristin Schlieff** on September 23, 2015; **Doris Clark Schley** on January 17, 2015 and **Jeannine Rybarczyk** on October 9, 2015.

Condolences to Ellen Citrano whose mother passed away in Wisconsin on November 30, 2015.

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers: Rae Leff and Eleanor Masters.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Third Quarter 2015

Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU)

NFCU Checking	\$ 2937.55
Share Savings	\$ 5226.02
NFCU Savings-Scholarship	\$37,794.19
General/Memorial Fund	\$20,619.35
<b>TOTAL ON HAND</b>	<b>\$61,577.11</b>



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Greetings,

This time of year continues to be a very “quiet period” for membership activity. However, come January through May of 2016 we will be in the thrust of our 2016–2017 NNCA/NNCASC Membership drive which can be accomplished either by paper format or electronically. We are planning to have the pre-filled in membership forms available to anyone who is able to attend the luncheon at Talega on 20 January 2016. Shortly after that, any membership forms not picked up will be mailed out. As always, your prompt replies and returns are appreciated!!

Each and every one of our chapter members brings much experience, talent, amazing stories and valuable Navy Nurse Corps history to share. Sustaining our membership numbers is a vital and ongoing effort; so we hope everyone continues to encourage more new memberships in the future and maybe consider “sponsoring” a fellow NC Officer for their first year of membership. We can also easily get a blank membership form and introduction letter to anyone by mail or electronically.

Thanks again to everyone for reaching out whenever and wherever possible. The combined efforts made by all will make our organization stronger.

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season!!

Georgene Waecker  
Membership Chair  
760-722-0724  
[George19@cox.net](mailto:George19@cox.net)

Terri Snow  
Membership Co-Chair  
619-855-1632  
[Snowwoman1972@yahoo.com](mailto:Snowwoman1972@yahoo.com)

## VETERANS COMMUNITY OUTREACH by Sandy Holmes

### MILITARY OUTREACH MINISTRY (MOM)

One of the first organizations we supported shortly after Veterans Community Outreach was launched, was **MOM** or the **Military Outreach Ministry** at Camp Pendleton. They continue to provide food for 300 E1 to E5 families every month. However, this can be a struggle and has been since the down turn in the economy. They have lost some of their corporate sponsors and donations in general have decreased. So, we are going to pitch in and do what we can to give them a lift at our **luncheon on January 20<sup>th</sup> at Talega**. Megan Correa, who is the current Executive Director of MOM will be our guest and bring us up to date on their mission as well as the many things they do to help the young enlisted Marine families in the Oceanside area. Megan has provided a list of the food items you can bring to the luncheon next month. Please- cans only **NO GLASS!!**

- Hamburger Helper
- Chicken Helper
- Canned chicken
- Canned tuna
- Instant pudding
- Boxes of Jell-O mix
- Pop tarts
- Spaghetti sauce in cans
- Canned fruit
- Canned vegetables
- Cookie and cake mixes
- Spaghetti and other pastas
- Potatoes (scalloped etc.) in boxes
- Pasta Sides by Knorr
- Rice Sides by Knorr
- Betty Crocker and Banquet now both make something called "Complete Meals" - they even have them for breakfast!!
- Commissary Gift Cards

Megan also mentioned that they can always use onesies and outfits for their First Baby Program, but only newborn to 6 month sizes, along with rattles and teething. She will accept gently used clothes for infants up to 6mos sizes.

If you choose to donate, but are unable to attend the luncheon, you may send a check to Military Outreach Ministry, P.O. Box 461600, Escondido, CA 92046



**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**

**HONOR FLIGHT**

How very fortunate we were to have **Joel and Marybeth Doss** as our guests at the October luncheon. They met each other when Joel was a hospital corpsman and she was a hospital corpswave back during World War II. What a great story of falling in love, getting married and raising a family. To top it off, they also shared their experiences as **Honor Flight** guests on one of the whirlwind trips back to Washington, DC.



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What an amazing experience for veterans who are unable to afford a visit to see the WWII Memorial as well as other monuments in Washington. No doubt the Doss's down to earth candor was the primary reason \$1600 was donated by our members and another \$200 contributed from our treasury for a grand total of \$1800 to support Honor Flight. Your generosity is awesome and genuinely appreciated by the organizations we recognize!

NNCASC made an end of year \$500 donation to the Veterans Home in Chula Vista to support the residents. A \$300 donation was also made to "Wreaths Across America" to help provide wreaths on veterans' graves at Fort Rosecrans and Miramar National Cemeteries.

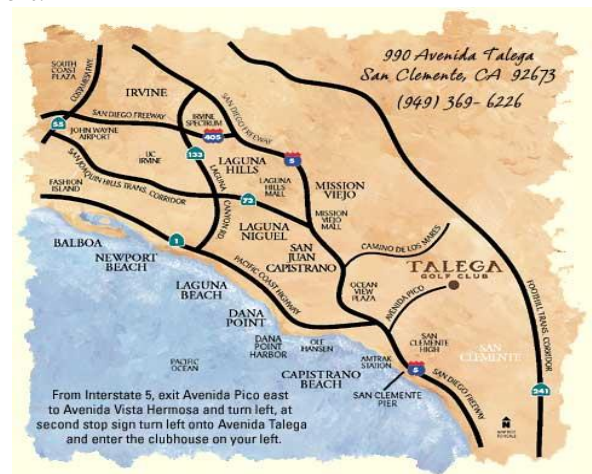
**JANUARY LUNCHEON**



**Tina Hooker** will be taking reservations for our next luncheon on **Wednesday, January 20th** at the scenic **Talega Golf Club, 900 Avenida Talega, San Clemente, CA 92673.** Please see the flyer and **RSVP by January 16th (firm).**

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**Directions:** From Interstate 5, exit Avenida Pico east. Drive approximately 2 miles to Avenida Vista Hermosa and turn left. Turn left at stop light onto Avenida Talega. Turn left at stop. The entrance and clubhouse are on the left.



**ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**  
**VIETNAM ERA**  
by DJ Lavoie

As our second year draws to a close, we are more excited than ever about continuing to interview our Navy Nurses! There are still a few Vietnam era interviews left to complete, but 2016 will see a focus on the Gulf War era. Letters will be sent to that group of veterans in early January. It is our hope that you will look forward to your interview with pleasure. It might seem a little daunting to put your career into an hour but we promise, you can do it and have fun in the process! So return your Biographical Data Form as soon as you receive it and we will contact you to schedule your interview.

Mary Beckman has joined the History Committee Oral History Project. Welcome, Mary! She has already conducted interviews and been a great addition to our project. There is always a need for help and opportunities for you as NNCASC members to share in our efforts to preserve the history of the Navy Nurse Corps.

If you have done your interview, how about being an Ambassador and contacting another Navy Nurse you know who has not and encourage him/her to interview. Tell them how much fun you had! If you are computer savvy, you can help with scanning documents and videos, etc. Or maybe volunteer to drive. And of course, you can always try your hand at interviewing.

As our interviews continue, we will share the stories.



**Steven E. Anderson**, California born and raised, enlisted in the Navy in 1966. His first duty was at NTC, San Diego followed by Hospital Corps School and USNH San Diego. Eventually he was sent

to Field Medical Service School at Camp Pendleton and in 1969 left for the Republic of Vietnam, attached to the First Marine Division and was assigned as platoon corpsman with Kilo Company soon to become the company's senior corpsman. He would go "in the bush" for 30-40 days of day-time patrols, nightly ambushes and treating and coordinating medevacs for wounded Marines. Leaving Vietnam, he was transferred to Okinawa, Japan, before being discharged as an HM2 from the Navy to attend college.

Although Steven did not plan on rejoining the Navy, while attending the Bakersfield Junior College he, by chance, met a Navy Recruiter who told him about the Nurse Corps Candidate program. Steven was accepted into the program, graduating from California State University, Sacramento, and upon graduation he was again in San Diego, Naval Hospital. His career took him to Twentynine Palms, Camp Pendleton and back to Okinawa.

Steven worked in Labor and Delivery to Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Intensive Care, Quality Assurance, and Naval School of Health Sciences graduating 13 classes of hospital corpsmen. Leadership roles included: Department Head; Clinical Consultant for Psychiatric Unit; Instructor at Education and Training and Command; and Total Quality Leadership Coordinator. Throughout his career, Steven was consistently involved with education and training which he thoroughly enjoyed.

Back in San Diego and Camp Pendleton before retirement, Steve was trained in Healing Touch and is a Board Certified Holistic Nurse. He taught Healing Touch courses at several Naval Hospitals on both the west and east coasts.

After 28 years of service in the Navy, Steve retired in San Diego where he continues to work part-time in clinical nursing, practices Healing Touch/Holistic Nursing and enjoys the California life!



From farm girl to Naval Officer, **Carol Wohlgenuth** has always taken everything in stride and enjoyed it all. While she was in nursing school in Kansas, the operating room

supervisor recognized Carol's exceptional skills and offered her a job immediately after graduation. Carol instead decided it would be more interesting to leave Kansas and join the Navy. Her Navy career included assignments where she did a little bit of everything, but she was primarily assigned in the Operating Room. She supervised many operating rooms including the one at the DaNang Support Activity in Vietnam during 1969-1970. During her Vietnam tour, Carol says she spent as much time under her bed with her helmet in place as she spent in her bed. One of her most memorable incidents was when a round actually pierced the Operating Room injuring corpsman and patients. However, her experiences were not all frightening. She got to see "the Silver Fox", Bob Hope's code name, at one of his USO tours to Vietnam. The local DaNang military newspaper memorialized her show attendance when her picture appeared as one of the crowd during the performance.

Throughout her varied career, she held many leadership positions, including Assistant Chief Nurse of the USS Sanctuary. ADM Zumwalt, as CNO, had decided to move the 6th Fleet to Athens, Greece and the Sanctuary would be the primary medical facility. As the only nurse aboard and most senior female officer, she readied the ship for its health care mission with supplies and equipment. The USS Sanctuary was the first ship to have female crew assigned so she also advised the skipper about their quarters and discipline. Because many of the female enlisted were young and newly away from home, Carol did some frequent sidebar counseling. The 6th Fleet was never moved to the Mediterranean because the State Department did not approve of the plan, but

Carol did cruise with the ship on humanitarian missions to South America and Haiti.

After 20 years of service, Carol retired from Port Hueneme, California, but continued with her forte, operating room nursing, during the next 18 years at St. Johns Regional Medical Center in Oxnard, CA.

She continues to take part in local Navy activities in her area and has been to all of the NNCA reunions since inception. When asked if she would join the Navy all over again, without hesitation Carol replied, "ABSOLUTELY, it was a wonderful career."



***Live the Adventure, Honor the Legend™***

Begin the New Year as a valued member of the USS Midway Museum volunteer Safety Team. From hangar bays to brig, flight deck to laundry, chapel to CPO Mess, safety volunteers ensure a safe experience for thousands of guests who come to explore what life was like aboard the carrier during her 47 years of service.

Learn more about this opportunity at the Midway Volunteer Open House, Thursday, January 14, 10 to 11am aboard Midway, 910 N. Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101. Please RSVP: Volunteer office - 619 398 8289 or [volunteering@midway.org](mailto:volunteering@midway.org)



**NNCASC LUNCHEON MEETING**

**LOCATION: TALEGA GOLF CLUB  
990 AVENIDA TALEGA  
SAN CLEMENTE, CA 92673**

**DATE: WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20, 2016**  
**TIME: SOCIAL HOUR: 1100**  
**LUNCH: 1200**

**COST: MEMBERS & GUESTS: \$20.00 per person**

Make checks payable to **NNCASC**  
**Make reservations no later than January 16, 2016**  
 Call Tina Hooker at (858) 571-2874 for any questions  
 or if you need to cancel

Send reservations & checks to:  
 Tina Hooker  
 6237 Caminito Juanico  
 San Diego, CA 92111-7231

**RESERVATION LUNCHEON MEETING**

Please make reservations for \_\_\_\_\_ persons.  
 Check enclosed for \$\_\_\_\_\_ at \$20.00 per person.

NAMES OF THOSE ATTENDING

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

AD    RET    RESERVE    FORMER

AD    RET    RESERVE    FORMER

GUEST    POTENTIAL MEMBER\*

**\*BRING A POTENTIAL MEMBER & THEIR LUNCH IS FREE!** (first time only)



Navy Nurse Corps Association of Southern California  
Nancy Owen, Newsletter Co-editor  
1611 Miguel Avenue  
Coronado, CA 92118

**FINAL FAREWELL**  
**Arlington National Cemetery**



(photo courtesy of Catherine Shea)