



WHITE SHOE TIMES

Palmetto Chapter Navy Nurse Corps Association

Spring 2017

Volume 25 No.1

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MESSAGE FROM OUR OUTGOING PRESIDENT



Greetings to all my fellow Palmetto Chapter NNCA members! As outgoing President, I hope you all had an enjoyable Winter and Spring! We are happy to have Mount Pleasant as the location

for our April meeting.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your president over the past 15 months. Once again, several members participated in Charleston's Veteran's Day parade this past November. The Holiday party as always had a great turnout. We are lucky to be able to have this celebration at the beautiful Wild Dunes property owner's beach house. And thanks again to Linda Daehn for providing a delicious lunch while several board members counted the NNCA's national ballots.

The PCNNCA is very lucky to have Linda Daehn as incoming President. Her "corporate knowledge" and dedication are second to none!
Best Regards, Alice

MESSAGE FROM OUR INCOMING PRESIDENT

Charleston! What a glorious spring we are all enjoying! I will be glad, though, when all my spring planting is finished. Seems like every few



years the garden needs a refreshing - but it's not getting easier to accomplish. Thanks to Alice Cagnina, who had the helm of the Palmetto Chapter for the past 18 months as our President. Despite working full time at the Naval Health Clinic Charleston, she has thoughtfully guided our chapter as we've expanded our veterans-related activities - participating for the third time in Charleston's annual Veterans' Day parade, and contributing socks and toiletry items to the Soldiers' Angels group, for use by veterans in need, as well as instituting changes in our Bylaws and digital storage of past meeting minutes.

Alice Bova is ending her 3-year term as Secretary of the NNCA Board. She has put in long hours in that role - organizing all the reports for each annual meeting, and producing minutes for several teleconferences, the annual Board meeting, and the annual Membership meeting - whew! Thanks, Alice, for superbly representing PCNNCA.

I also want to take the opportunity to appreciate Arlene Southerland's work as our Treasurer. She has agreed to stay on in that role once again, providing stability, especially as NNCA has moved to online membership renewal. She and Deb Casavant have spent many hours sorting out our membership numbers and finances, and Deb has reached out to many of our current and former members.

Mary Houser represents all of us as she acknowledges important events in our members' lives as Sunshine Chair. Peg Williams and Jerry Davidson continue to innovate in each copy of our chapter newsletter, and Jerry provides us with detailed meeting minutes, despite working long hours as a nurse anesthetist. We have a great team on our Board! Trish Cather comes on board this month as our new Vice President. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming months.

Best regards, Linda

(Publisher's note: In response to a request for information from all local chapters for the NNCA newsletter, the following article by Linda Daehn was submitted and published. We are printing it again in our own PCNNCA newsletter as it is an excellent summary of our fall and winter activities.)

Although the Palmetto Chapter covers a large geographic area consisting of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, our active membership is relatively small. However, we are a very enthusiastic group!

The sound of freedom echoed in the historic streets of Charleston, South Carolina, as a C-17 from Joint Base Charleston's 437th Airlift Wing flew over the city when the annual

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Secretary's Report



Greetings! I hope that every member has been receiving notices of our meetings, either by email or through the post office. While our mailing list should be complete, please let me know if you have not received correspondence from your PCNNCA and I promise to remedy the situation. If you are on the email list, you may have noticed that some of our friends who are no longer members still receive mail from us. This is simply a courtesy for our fellow Navy Nurses whose circumstances may not allow them to participate any longer. And hopefully, some who have left may be inspired to join again! If you know a navy Nurse who is not a member but may be interested in joining, you can provide me with their contact information and I'll add them to our mailing list. Finally, thanks for bringing in so many fantastic photos from your personal Navy careers. I know that you will enjoy seeing them in our future PCNNCA newsletters!

Treasurer's Report submitted by Arlene Southerland



Balance of checking as of April 2017:	\$6,840.17
Balance of CD as of April 2017:	\$12,49.27
Total Assets:	\$18,089.44

The Sunshine and Concern Coordinator



Mary Houser is our wonderful head of this position. We are grateful for her time and kind words in reaching out to our Chapter members, not just on birthdays but also in their times of need. If you know of any of our members in need of some support due to illness, death or other trying circumstance, please pass the information along to her.

The following occurred since our Christmas gathering:

A sympathy card was sent to Doris Pearce in remembrance of her sister who passed. A birthday greeting was sent to RADM Durek from our Chapter and birthday greetings continue to be sent to our PCNNCA members.

Thank you Mary for a job well done! We appreciate the time and effort you put into keeping up with us all!

Greetings from Membership!

Time for Renewal! As we hope to see as many of you as possible at the Spring Luncheon we are going to take a different approach this year. Some of you have already renewed online and we encourage as many of you as possible to do so before the meeting on April 22. If not, the renewal application forms will be available to you at the luncheon to complete and write a check at that time which will immediately be provided to our treasurer. For those members on our current roster who still remain as not renewed we will provide a paper copy via the regular mail as always. If the majority can renew online or at the meeting it will save money spent on postage. Please bring your ideas for recruiting new members along with you for open discussion. We also may be considering placing an ad in a publication such as SC Nurse and similar publications in Georgia and North Carolina. The details of this idea will be presented at the meeting and if the membership is interested we will ask for a vote as it would be an expenditure from our account.



Anyone interested in creating a Facebook Page for our chapter? This may also help reach former and current Navy Nurses who could keep in touch with us and possibly increase our membership.

The greatest means we have for increasing our membership remains personal networking; contacting individuals we know who reside in our chapter area and inviting them to join if they have not done so, or to renew if it was overlooked by them in the recent past. This includes those still active, reservists and former co-workers, whether they stayed through retirement or not. Thank you all for your help and support! Debra

Newsletter



Hello PCNNCA members! We hope you enjoy reading this Newsletter and seeing what your chapter has been up to since we last gathered. Items in this edition include participation in Charleston's Veteran's Day Parade, Ralph H. Johnson VAMC Volunteer support, As always, we welcome your news contributions and suggestions for your newsletter. Have an old photo from your active duty time? We have had several "memorabilia" pictures submitted



and have included them - in the end for your enjoyment! Always looking for stories from serving in any of our long-closed medical clinics or hospitals. How about an adventure - old or new - to share! See you at the meeting!

Peggy and Jerry



Palmetto Chapter Navy Nurse Corps Association

Spring 2017 General Membership Meeting

Come join your fellow
PCNNCA colleagues for our
Spring Luncheon Meeting

Saturday April 22 2017
1100 to 1330

Water's Edge Restaurant

1407 Shrimp Boat Lane
(off Coleman Blvd)

On the beautiful Shem Creek
Mt. Pleasant, SC
(843) 884-4074

We hope to have a great turnout!
Let's catch up with each other
and all the latest NNCA
business as well.

For additional venue information,
go to:

<http://www.waters-edge-restaurant.com/>



We have
reserved 30
seats. Lets
fill them all!

*Members and guests will order
off of Water's Edge regular
lunch menu prior to the start of
our Fall Meeting. Servers will
provide separate checks.*

Please RSVP to Alice Cagnina by **April 19**, 2017
to assist with seating at the restaurant
alice.cagnina@gmail.com or (904) 738-3140

Charleston Veterans Day Parade commenced on November 6th. Honoring those who served America in times of peace and war, marching bands, military units, historic military vehicles, and veteran service organization floats traveled through downtown Charleston, cheered on by the families and crowds who lined the streets on a beautiful sunny day. Palmetto Chapter members **Mary Ann Jarmulowicz and Jerry Davidson** provided transport while others marched with fellow veterans, representing all those who have served our country. The Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center hosted this year's parade.

Many outstanding organizations are dedicated to helping our military members and their families. One of the most prominent of these is Soldiers' Angels, who in 2015 supported nearly 300,000 service and family members nation-wide! In the Charleston area, this organization assists homeless and hospitalized veterans at our VA hospital. Lorena Jordan, the Volunteer Service Site Coordinator for Soldiers' Angels at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center, spoke to our Chapter, identifying a critical need for hygiene kits for veterans. In response, our members brought in enough toiletry items - bottles of shampoo, lotion, body wash and bars of soap, toothbrushes and razors - to fill several boxes. Soldier's Angels volunteers will prepare and distribute kits made from these items to local veterans. The scope of what Soldiers' Angels does is vast—check out their website to see other ways that you can help at <http://soldiersangels.org/>

One of the most needed items for our homeless vets is socks! Our 20+ Christmas party attendees came through in a big way, donating over 100 pairs of new socks for women and men. The socks were dropped off at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center for distribution.

Jerry Davidson met LT Beth Toolan, a Navy NC officer who was recently stationed in Guam, while she was "home" for training at Fort Jackson, SC. She attended the retirement of her father from the Marine Corps and enjoyed a quick "family reunion" in Charleston. Beth mentioned she was leaving the following day for a new assignment in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Our feeling was: *She's not a member, but she's one of us!* We have all experienced deployments and family separations, and decided to help make Christmas a little more cheerful for LT Toolan by mailing cards and gifts. We hope that other chapters around the country did the same for our Navy Nurses serving far from home.

The 26th Annual Reunion of the USS Forrestal, CVA/CV/AVT-59, was held in October 2016 in North Charleston, SC. Unfortunately, Hurricane Matthew blew into town, forcing the cancellation of all scheduled tours and preventing the arrival of their scheduled keynote speaker. CAPT Bob Williams, (husband of PCNNCA past President **Peggy Williams**), stepped in and shared his experience as a CV-59 pilot. Stationed aboard the Forrestal, CAPT Williams was preparing to launch his A-6 Intruder on July 29, 1967 when ordinance detonated on the deck of the carrier and initiated the now infamous Forrestal Fire, killing 134 shipmates and injuring 161. LCDR John McCain was one of the surviving pilots. As a result of **Peggy** attending the reunion and sharing our local VA support initiatives, the Forrestal Reunion's "Ship Store" volunteered to donate (via PCNNCA members), **hundreds** of USS Forrestal commemorative items, including short and long sleeved tee shirts, to the Ralph H. Johnson VA Hospital in Charleston.

The Palmetto Chapter joined with other individuals and organizations around the country by donating funds to support the Wreaths Across America initiative. On December 17, these remembrance wreaths were placed on the graves of our country's fallen heroes. To quote Karen Worcester, Executive Director of Wreaths Across America: We are not here to "decorate graves." We're here to remember not their *deaths*, but their *lives*.



The October 2016 General membership meeting on Shem Creek. Great lunch, fellowship, door prizes and a visit from our member Eleanor Graham (top left) - 94 years young!



2016 Veterans Day Parade





HAPPY HOLIDAYS 2016





MERRY CHRISTMAS!
PCNNCA 2016





JANUARY 2017 NNCA
VOTE TALLEY HOSTED
BY LINDA DAEHN

PEGGY WILLIAMS WITH
ONE OF HUNDREDS OF
ITEMS DONATED BY THE
USS FORRESTAL
REUNION COMMITTEE
TO VETS AT THE
CHARLESTON VA
HOSPITAL



I have just received quite a few gifts from the Palmetto Nurse Corps association and the outpouring of well wishers is overwhelming!! Thank you so much! We've actually been quite busy here, but still finding ways to have fun. Thank you again and hooyah Navy Nurse Corps! *Lt Beth Toolan, NATO Role 3 MMU, Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan (Christmas, 2016)*



More 2016
PCNNCA
Fall and Winter
Activities

Over 100 pairs of
socks for women and
men, plus additional
toiletries donated at
the Christmas party
for homeless and
needy vets. Dropping
off of some items at
the Charleston VA



Five wreaths donated by the PCNNCA in
December and placed at the Beaufort
National Cemetery for Wreaths Across
America



The first of many pics from the past! Look for yours in an expanded section in future issues of the White Shoe Times.

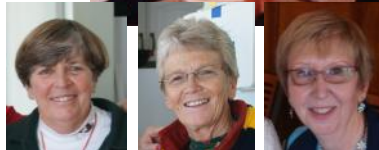


Jennifer Gorman
Raising the hand

Ginny Pritchard,
*with Phyllis Barkus,
Diane Agrell and
Dottie Leonard. All
recruited in 1961
in NYC by the
same recruiter.*



Elinor Kessel on
*Oshima Island,
Japan (1954),
and with her
new '52 Chevy*



Arlene Southerland, Mary Houser and
Sue Widhalm. 1992 parade leading to
the dedication of the Vietnam Women's
Memorial in Washington, DC

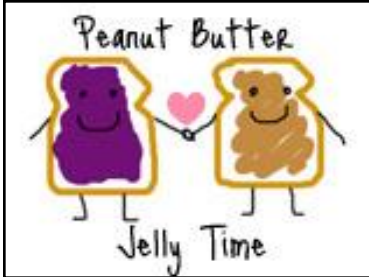


Doris Pearce
Navy Nurses
*on the deck,
USS Sanctuary
Vietnam*

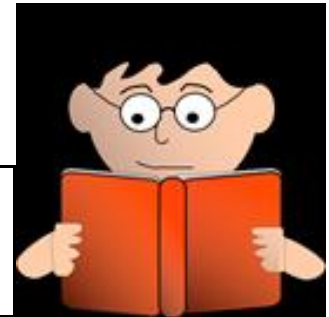
If you would like to request the VA's Volunteer Newsletter for updated information, or to volunteer to assist with programs or activities for our veterans in the Charleston area, please contact:

Fred Lesinski

Chief, Community Engagement and Veteran Experience
Ralph H. Johnson VAMC
109 Bee St., Charleston SC 29401
Office: 843-789-7280



Peanut Butter and Jelly
Grab some extra the next time you do your shopping



**We need eyeglass
READERS - all
strengths**

**Golf Cart Drivers Needed in
Charleston and Savannah**
Help veterans get from the parking lot to the **facilities**.
Call the Voluntary Service Office
for details - [843-783-7230](tel:843-783-7230)

SHOES - Still Needed
We need athletic shoes
for men and women
Men sizes 9-13 Women
sizes 7-10



Big Needs

Diabetic Socks for the Community Living Center
Men's slippers size 9-13
Adult Art Scissors needed for the Women's Art Therapy Group
Bath Towels and Washcloths - Must be NEW
K-Cups for the Community Living Center - any variety
Lightbulbs & Depends (Large to XXL)

Ralph H. Johnson VAMC Homeless Program Needs:

Homeless veterans who meet criteria, are assigned a RN Case Manager who assists the veteran in apartment placement. The apartments are unfurnished and therefore need many household items.

The POC is Michael Robinson, Peer Support Specialist and can be contacted for specific current needs at the following:

Office: 843-577-5011, EXT 15943

Cell: 843-371-4543



2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*(Your 2017 calendar will be mailed/emailed
to all members when finalized)*

Saturday April 22, 2017
Spring Membership Meeting and Luncheon
Water's Edge Restaurant on Shem Creek
Mount Pleasant, SC

Saturday August 27, 2017
Board of Directors Meeting
Location TBD

Saturday, 21 OCT, 2017
Fall General Membership Meeting and Luncheon
Tentative Location: Middleton Place Plantation

Saturday, November ?, 2017
Charleston Veterans Day Parade
Date not yet determined

Saturday, December ?, 2017
Christmas Party and Holiday Luncheon
1130-1430