I am honored and excited to join the U.S. Army Women’s Foundation as its president, and I am grateful for the warm welcome I have received.

As a West Point graduate and career Army officer, I believe strongly in the U.S. Army and in the women and men who serve. I consider myself fortunate to have been one of them for more than 30 years. Now, through the Army Women’s Foundation I am privileged to continue to support and honor the service of women Soldiers and Veterans.

The Army has long been an institution for opportunity, and never before have the opportunities been so great. Three years after the combat exclusion ban was lifted, women who have the desire and ability increasingly are moving into jobs and training formerly closed to them. Last year, three women Soldiers earned the Ranger Tab, passing the same grueling training as the men who graduated with them. In more recent months, the Army approved the requests of 22 women to enter as second lieutenants in the Infantry and Armor branches.

The Army Women’s Foundation supports and encourages these Soldiers, just as it does all of those who have raised their hand to serve. In the short time I have been president, I’ve learned more about the foundation’s work. I am impressed with the enthusiasm will serve the foundation well.”

BG Anne Macdonald, USA, (Ret.)

Sincerely,

BG Anne Macdonald, USA, (Ret.)
Speaking in then, West Germany, President Kennedy said: “Change is the law of life: and those who look only in the past or the present are certain to miss the future.”

Writing this message at a time of change for the Army Women’s Foundation, I want to make certain we focus on what the future may hold, even as we speak proudly of what the Foundation represents.

The change I refer to is the departure of long-serving President MG Dee McWilliams, USA (Ret). General McWilliams has been a driving force for the Foundation since 2008. Under her direction, we have held eight Capitol Hill Symposia on matters of importance to Army women, with the last one in March, getting the highest marks to date for attendance and panels. General McWilliams can leave the Foundation secure in the knowledge that it is fulfilling its mission to serve Army women.

Fortunately, General McWilliams is being succeeded by BG Anne Macdonald, USA (Ret). Readers of the AWF website and followers of us on Facebook will learn more about General Macdonald’s unique qualifications in the coming months. More importantly, we will learn of her vision and what it means for the future.

With women taking on new combat roles in the Army, and with the role of the Army changing continually to serve the defense and foreign policy requirements of the United States, our Foundation must be certain it embraces change. We will continue to honor the past service and sacrifices of Army women. That mission will not change. We will adapt to the present, and always look to the future needs of Army women. The new President, supported by a committed Board, will make certain we heed President Kennedy’s admonition.

Hooah!

Peggy Trossen
Executive Director

THE ARMY WOMEN’S FOUNDATION WELCOMES WEST POINT GRADUATE AND SENIOR ARMY AVIATOR AS ITS NEW PRESIDENT

Carson; and Chief of Staff, United States Army Reserve Command, Fort McPherson, Georgia.

BG Macdonald completed two combat tours. The first was in Operation Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq. She completed her second combat tour in Operation Enduring Freedom, serving as the Deputy Commanding General for Polie Development in the NATO Training Mission - Afghanistan.

BG Macdonald currently serves as an executive coach and seminar facilitator with True Growth Leadership.

Along with her husband, MG John Macdonald, USA, Ret., she also volunteers to facilitate an annual West Point Ethics and Leadership Seminar for the faculty members of 45 High Schools in the DC Metro area.

2016 U.S. Army Women’s Foundation 8th Annual Summit

Tactical Tools for Success: A Summit on Healthcare, Hiring, and Housing Sponsors

The Army Women’s Foundation would like to thank all of our sponsors for their generous support of the 8th Annual Army Women’s Foundation Summit.

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We apologize!

In the Spring 2014 issue of Flagpole, we misidentified the first woman physician in the Army to wear two stars. The first female Army physician to achieve the rank of major general was Carla Hawley-Bowland, who retired in 2011. Thank you readers for helping us provide accurate information! We appreciate your feedback.

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Support Us by Shopping at Amazon Smile!
Each year in March, during Women’s History Month, the Army Women’s Foundation gathers thought leaders, subject matter experts, soldiers and veterans to Capitol Hill to discuss topics that are important to women military members and veterans. The 8th Annual Summit: Tactical Tools for Success: Health, Hiring, and Housing, provided up-to-date and practical information for Army women around these three themes.

All three panels were introduced by Brigadier General Gary Profit, USA, Ret. and each was moderated by an expert in that specific field.

**Health:** The panelists were in agreement, citing various studies and reports, that women have a demonstrated value to the Army, that their in-service, as well as post service, healthcare needs are different from men, and that more study is required, some currently underway, to address the needs of Army women. Col. Elspeth Cameron Ritchie, USA, Ret., noted that inadequate attention to reproductive health is driving attrition. She also identified an emergence of deployment and mental health issues affecting women soldiers. Col. Dyedre Teyhen presented considerable data on Army women health issues affecting women soldiers. Col. Deydre Cameron Ritchie, USA, Ret., noted that inadequate service, healthcare needs are different from men, and studies and reports, that women have a demonstrated value, according to BG Profit and Prudential’s Jim Wiblemo, on the staff of the House Committee on Veteran’s Affairs, Congress knows there are issues which require legislative attention, such as the length of neonatal care, and differing needs of women, and she urged that there be more research on gender differences.

**Hiring:** Experts discussed a range of programs offered by corporations and the trades industries to recruit and hire military veterans for white, pink and blue-collar jobs. Helmets to Hardhats’ Lisa Ford noted that the labor industry wants to increase the number of women in construction jobs, which provide a much faster placement rate for women veterans. Large corporations, such as Walmart and Prudential, have programs to hire veterans because they view veterans as a talent pool that adds value, according to BG Profit and Prudential’s Jim Beamesderfer, retired Army captain. There was agreement, too, that companies work to accommodate disabled veterans through various ways, from adaptive technology to remote work. Lt. Col. Teresa Gerton, USA, Ret., noted that the Department of Labor offers services through the Job Accommodation Network and works with the Veteran Service Organizations to help ensure the needs of disabled veterans are being met. Also represented on the Hiring panel was a program established by The Northern Virginia Technology Council, which represented thousands of companies in the valley, according to BG Profit and Prudential’s Jim Wiblemo, on the staff of the House Committee on Veteran’s Affairs, Congress knows there are issues which require legislative attention, such as the length of neonatal care, and differing needs of women, and she urged that there be more research on gender differences.

**Housing:** Because they view veterans as a talent pool that adds value, according to BG Profit and Prudential’s Jim Wiblemo, on the staff of the House Committee on Veteran’s Affairs, Congress knows there are issues which require legislative attention, such as the length of neonatal care, and differing needs of women, and she urged that there be more research on gender differences.

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At the Army Women’s Foundation 8th Annual Summit, private sector and government officials share information about hiring veterans. From outreach and mentorships to adaptive technology, corporate, trades unions and government programs are helping veterans land and keep jobs.
Hall of Fame Inductees

LTG Patricia Horoho, USA, Ret.

Lieutenant General Patricia Horoho is the first woman and first Nurse Corps Officer to hold the appointment as U.S. Army Surgeon General and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Medical Command. She is also the first non-physician surgeon general of any U.S. military service. From the patient bedside to the executive suite, LTG Horoho has held every level of leadership in Army Medicine, to include positions as Deputy Surgeon General; Chief of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps (USANC); Commander, Madigan Army Medical Center; Commander, Walter Reed Health Care System and Commander, Device, Diagnostic and Rehabiliitation Network. In the months prior to her December 2011 appointment as Army Surgeon General and CG of Army Medical Command, she deployed with 1 Corps to Kabul, Afghanistan, serving as the Special Assistant to the Commander, International Security Assistance Force Joint Command.

LTG Horoho has received numerous recognitions throughout her career, including: The Great 100, as one of the top 100 nurses in North America; 2010 Army Nurse Corps Hall of Fame Inductee; Recognition of Champions; Special Women’s Foundation, Women In Military Service for America Memorial Foundation and other organizations.

COL Arlene Greenfield, USA, Ret.

U.S. Army Colonel Arlene F. Greenfield advocated equal opportunity and support for soldiers during her active duty service and in her retirement. She had extensive human resources experience honorary over a 30-year Army career that included three successful commands.

While assigned as the Military Director for the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS) she was responsible for directing research and analysis of policies and issues relating to women in the services. COL Greenfield worked policy formulation pertaining to gender integration of basic training units, combat exclusion, and, strength/physical training requirements. She was also the DoD representative to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Center for Women Veterans. At Department of the Army, she served as the Deputy Director/Acting Director for the Human Resources Directorate where she directed and oversaw policy formulation in the areas of leadership and personnel readiness, equal opportunity, women in the Army, health promotion, and drug and alcohol abuse prevention. She also served as an Army (DCSPER, now G1) representative to DACOWITS.

After her retirement in 2001, she founded a company that researched key personnel issues impacting military personnel. Her volunteer work included serving as the Army Retiree Council, the Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Retiree Council, United Service Organizations (USO), U.S. Army Women’s Foundation, Women In Military Service for America Memorial Foundation and other organizations.

SFC Genevieve Chase, USA

Sergeant First Class Genevieve Chase is the founder of American Women Veterans (AWV) and a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom. She enlisted in the Army in 2003 and volunteered to serve with the Army’s 10th Mountain Division. While deployed in 2006, a suicide bomber attacked her vehicle. No one was killed, but the passengers suffered varying degrees of traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress. To counter symptoms of these injuries, SFC Chase dedicated herself to veterans’ advocacy, and has worked tirelessly to bring light to the issues faced by today’s veterans. While advocating on their behalf, she discovered a gap in care for a focus on women veterans and their families from all eras and branches of service. Thus, she created American Women Veterans.

SFC Chase is a recipient of the Purple Heart and Combat Action Badge, and has testified before Congress about her experiences in Afghanistan and about women’s health care. In addition to her role as executive director of AWV, she continues to serve in the U.S. Army Reserve. For her outstanding work both in and out of uniform, the U.S. Army selected her as a 2010 All American Soldier Hero. Recognized as an advocate for female veterans and for her knowledge and experiences in Afghanistan, SFC Chase acts as a media consultant to major media outlets and publications.

6888th Central Postal Battalion

The 6888th Central Postal Battalion was the only African American WAC battalion to serve overseas during World War II, first in England and then in France. They were tasked with eliminating an overwhelming backlog of mail and packages that were intended for U.S. troops but were stored in British warehouses. This backlog dampened the morale of soldiers who were fighting their way across Europe. The 6888th, under extraordinarily difficult working conditions, eliminated the backlog of mail within six months.

When they arrived in Birmingham, England, in February 1945, they found floor-to-ceiling stacks of undelivered letters and parcels stored in cold warehouses with poor lighting. Some of the packages had only partial addresses, and some were intended for different individuals who had the same name. They maintained a system of roughly seven million cards to track service members and used serial numbers to distinguish the soldiers who had the same name. When a piece of mail was only partially addressed, they researched to try to find the soldier it was intended for. The WACs worked around the clock, organized in three 8-hour shifts. Before the 6888th arrived in theater, one general officer estimated it would take six months to clear the backlog of mail.

After their success in England, the 6888th Central Postal Battalion moved to Rouen, France and then to Paris, where they continued their work until they returned to the U.S. in February 1946. Their story, and the stories of the women who served in the battalion, are preserved in the book, To Serve My Country, To Serve My Race, by Brenda L. Moore, and in the Army’s online history.

2016 Special Recognition of Champions

The Army Women’s Foundation proudly salutes the Special Recognition of Champions awardees. The Champions have provided extraordinary service to our military women veterans.

MAJ Jaspen Boothe, USA

Major Jaspen “Jas” Boothe is the founder of Final Salute, Inc., which is dedicated to providing housing for homeless women veterans. Final Salute’s S.A.F.E. Program provides interest-free loans and financial education to prevent women from becoming homeless. Its H.O.M.E program for homeless women veterans offers 2-year transitional housing, including food, clothing, case management, transportation, employment and childcare support, designed to prepare women to transition to independent living. Since 2011, Final Salute, Inc. has provided 8,000 transitional housing days to homeless women veterans and has assisted more than 900 women and children in over 30 states and territories.

MAJ Boothe knows first-hand what it is to face life-altering circumstances and overcome setbacks. In August 2005, she was a single mother preparing to deploy to Iraq when she lost everything she owned in New Orleans to the devastating hurricane Katrina. The following month she was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer and was unable to deploy. Through her journey she discovered that there were no services designed for women military veterans with children who had no home of their own and who were dealing with the backlog of medical issues.

MAJ Boothe has received numerous recognitions, to include: Oprah Winfrey and Toyota Standing Ovation; People Magazine Hero Among Us; CNN Hero; Department of Defense Spirit of Hope Award; YWCA Woman of Distinction; Influential Woman of the Year - Virginia Lawyers Media; Woman of the Year - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority (Nu Xi Zeta Chapter); Distinguished Service Award – University of the District of Columbia; Toyota Tribute to Working Women Honoree; Woman of Distinction – National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women (NOBEL-Women); Newman’s Own Top Awardweder; Soroptimist Ruby Award for Women Helping Women; National Coalition of Homeless Veterans Unsung Hero; and others.

VA Center for Women Veterans

Established by Congress in 1994, the Center for Women Veterans has worked to coordinate health care and other benefits for women, ensure they are included in outreach, serve as a resource for women veterans and their families, and advocate for women veterans so that they are treated with dignity and respect.

The Center for Women Veterans educates VA staff on the contributions of women military veterans, and promotes public awareness of women military veterans. Its director serves as the primary advisor to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on how the department’s policies and programs affect women veterans. The Center provides outreach materials and message portrayal and target women.

One of its recent initiatives, “I’m One,” elevates the visibility of women veterans and promotes their identity as a group. The “I’m One” initiative also encourages women to identify themselves as military veterans and use the benefits they have earned.
2016 AWF LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Foundation’s Legacy Scholarship program recognizes the importance of education by providing financial support toward undergraduate and graduate degrees to Army women and their lineal descendants. Scholarships are based on merit, academic potential, community service and need and are evaluated by the AWF Scholarship Committee. For more information, visit www.awfdn.org.

Thirty-five deserving Army women and their children, selected from an applicant pool from across the country, received the Army Women’s Foundation 2016 Legacy Scholarship. College tuition is on the rise and financial resources are declining, making scholarships even more critical to students today. The Legacy Scholarships are available for tuition assistance for certification, coursework at community college level or four year academic institutions and graduate schools. Community College/Certificate Program Legacy Scholarships are awarded in amounts up to $1,000. Four Year College/University and Graduate Program Legacy Scholarships are awarded in amounts up to $2,500.

ARMY WOMEN

Graduate Studies

Patricia Gregar
PVT Stephanie Mahoney
Isa McIntyre

4-Year College

SSG Cristian Arreaza
SPC Kiara Dees
SPC Samantha Frederick
SGT Ashley Gorbulja
SPC Krystal Hankins
SGT Annette Montoya
SPC Trang Pham

Community College/Certificate Program

April Snowden
Sharon Stewart
Patricia Gregar
PVT Stephanie Mahoney
Isa McIntyre

Children of Army Women

Graduate Studies

Jasmine Bogan
Lela Aisha Jones

4-Year College

Adriana Einwechter
Grace Finley
Trayvon Foy
Madeline Garcia
Storm Harvey
Kathryn Herring
Alana Mallar

Carolyn O’Hara
Rochelle Rawls
Chelsea Rose
Mary Vacca
Diamond Williams
Robert Young

SSG Tammi Oetken
SSG Sarah Summers

Community College/Certificate Program

Sandra Shelton
Upcoming Events

May 21, Worcester, MA
6th Annual Women Veterans’ Conference
http://www.mass.gov/veterans/women-veterans/conference-women-veterans/

May 30 – Memorial Day
May 30, Washington, DC
Memorial Day Observance at the WWII Memorial
http://www.wwiimemorialfriends.org

June 2, Arlington, VA
Institute of Land Warfare (ILW) Army Sustainment Hot Topic Symposium
http://www.usa.org

June 6, Washington, DC
D-Day 70th Anniversary Commemoration
http://www.wwiimemorialfriends.org

June 27 – July 2, Salt Lake City, UT
36th National Veteran Wheelchair Games
http://wheelchairgames.org/

4th of July
July 11 – Aug 3, Atlanta, GA
D-Day 2015 National Convention
http://www.dav.org

August 17 – 21, Reno, NV
WAC Veterans’ Association 2016 Annual Convention
“Breaking Barriers, Army Women United”
http://www.armywomen.org

Sept 24, Tacoma, WA
Washington State Women Veterans Summit
http://www.dva.wa.gov/women/women-veterans-summit

Oct 3 – 5, Washington, DC
AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition
http://www.ausa.org

Check out calendar updates at www.awfdn.org.

Army Women’s Foundation
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