

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

This report covers calendar year 2022

The Walter Reed Society is a tax-exempt 501[c] [3] organization incorporated in the District of Columbia [EIN 52-1961196]. It was organized exclusively for charitable purposes in 1996 to benefit Walter Reed Army Medical Center and its educational, patient treatment and research activities. In 2011 the Society transferred its activities to Bethesda, Maryland to support the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC). In 2019 its mission statement was expanded to include military health care facilities in the National Capital Region (NCR) as well as collaborating with non-profit partners in the NCR. The mission statement can be found on our website at: [www.walterreedsociety.org](http://www.walterreedsociety.org).

Despite the dampening effects of the coronavirus pandemic the past few years the Society is active and thriving. As the coronavirus restrictions have been eased within the hospitals we serve the Society has been able to be more physically involved with events being held that had been cancelled during the pandemic. We were even able to hold our long planned and long delayed reunion on the old WRAMC campus in October 2022. With an outstanding attendance of over 200 friends and former employees, beautiful weather, an open air trolley tour of the old campus and good food the reunion was a rousing success.

The Society's mission is to assist service members, active and retired, being treated at DoD medical facilities in the NCR and their families in response to unmet needs during their care at the medical center. We also sponsor activities and fund projects and goods that enhance patient care services and support the welfare and morale of service members, families and the staff at Walter Reed and other DoD medical facilities in the NCR. All of this is accomplished through our membership and the generous support of private donors along with some corporate support.

Our membership is still strong at almost 600 members; see following Membership Report. Anyone is welcome to join the Society especially all friends of the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center and National Naval Medical Centers, the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Fort Belvoir Community Hospital or other DoD medical facilities in the NCR.

Two newsletters were published in 2022 to coincide with the Society's meetings to keep members and friends apprised of our current activities and plans. We are still attempting to put together an electronic mailing list for those members who would prefer to get their newsletter electronically. The Society continues to hold office space co-located with the Henry M. Jackson Foundation in Bethesda, MD.

In 2022 Society leadership met separately with CAPT Felix A. Bigby, Interim Director and CAPT Kelly O. Elmore, Chief of Staff at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. We also met with COL Kathy Spangler, Director, Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital. The purpose of these meetings was to introduce them to the Society and our work.

As pandemic restrictions eased the Board of Directors began face to face meetings with a call-in option. Conference calls were added by the Board as needed. We were able to hold our two annual memberships meetings (May and December) in 2022. All board members are volunteers and serve with no remuneration for the many hours spent conducting Society business at meetings, online and by teleconference. If there are any Society members interested in serving on the Board please contact me or the Society office as there are several Board openings. Despite the fact that the Board has several positions unfilled, I believe the Board is functioning well and will continue to do so with the diligent and dedicated efforts of its members.

As in the past few years, the Society's Board of Directors continued to undergo changes in 2022. COL Ed Coll, Medical Corps, US Army (Ret), has taken on the position of Secretary and will be formally elected at the May 2023 meeting. COL Brian Foley, First Vice-President, has begun a process of evaluating the positions and functions of the Board, with the goal of updating them to be more reflective of the current times and needs of the Society and those we serve.

The Society has in years past worked with other non-profits within the hospital, notably the American Red Cross and the Oakleaf Club of Greater Washington. We have also partnered with Mission M4 (Military MRI Minus Medication) to assist with efforts within the hospital. With the expansion of the WRS mission a few years ago, we have partnered with other non-profits in the NCR. In 2022, in addition to the above these included Blue Star Families, Fisher Houses, the Little River Garden Club, the Friends of the Uniformed Services University, and the Garden Club of Chevy Chase.

The WRS continues its partnership with Mission M4 (Military MRI Minus Medication). Mission M4 has been successful in getting portable video display (PVD) equipment into the MRI suites of both WRNMMC and Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii. Mission M4's leader Linda Wolf, a local real estate agent with a heart to help military children, has been successful in bringing to completion a pediatric art project for the in-patient ward at WRNMMC that was featured in our November 2022 newsletter. Her work to refurbish a waiting room for pediatric families is nearing completion. To learn more about MISSION M4, please visit: [www.missionm4.org](http://www.missionm4.org).

The Society has provided grants to Blue Star Families and the Little River Garden Club of Potomac MD. The grant will assist the Little River Garden Club with refurbishment of their Blue Star Garden in Potomac. In 2022 the Society assisted the Fisher Houses on the WRNMMC campus with the purchase of replacement appliances for the use of their guests. The Walter Reed Society (WRS) signed an affiliation agreement with the Friends of Uniformed Services University (FUSU). Its affiliation is not political and no lobbying will be done. Its purpose is to:

- ◆ Educate and inform stakeholders and the public about the value of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences
- ◆ Support and advocate for both institutions
- ◆ Support military medicine
- ◆ Work with other approved private organizations to accomplish the above.

At the close of 2022 the Society was working with the Garden Club of Chevy Chase (GCCC) on a similar affiliation agreement. The CGCC has plans to refurbish the ground level garden areas between Buildings 9 and 10 at WRNMMC and is seeking the Society's assistance in getting their plans through the administrative approval processes.

Rose Mologne, a WRS founding member, passed away in April 2022. To honor Rose and her service to the Society and as a long time American Red Cross volunteer, the Society and the American Red Cross will be sponsoring an annual Rose Mologne Award given to a deserving Red Cross volunteer at WRNMMC. The award will include an appropriately engraved crystal rose bud vase for the awardee plus a donation in their name by the WRS to the American Red Cross. The Society is also sponsoring a new coin honoring Rose to be given throughout the year to selected Red Cross volunteers at WRNMMC.

We owe special gratitude to the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center personnel for their collegiality and support; the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences for their support and use of their facility; the American Legion Post 41 for use of their facilities for our meetings. Monthly dinners for wounded, ill, or injured and their families in conjunction with the Helping Hometown Heroes organization at the Legion Post have been suspended during the pandemic and we look forward to holding them again in the near future.

We look forward to continuing to work with all organizations with a similar mission to ours.

As we enter 2023, the Society looks to leverage our financial position and be a “force multiplier” in our assistance to other non-profits. In early 2023, COL Rick Erdtmann US Army (Ret) agreed to accept a position as Society Liaison to other non-profits in order to strengthen and increase our opportunities for partnership and service. In another effort to strengthen our position and ability to provide assistance to Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, Ms. Clarice Gross, former Patient Representative at FBCH, has agreed to become the WRS Liaison to FBCH. Her knowledge of the hospital and its personnel will be a great assistance in our efforts there.

We continue to owe special thanks to COL(Ret) Janet Southby, President Emerita and COL (Ret) Joe Konzelman, Immediate Past President for their continued active support, advice and overall excellence in service to our Society and our beneficiaries.

Hermalene Taylor, the Society’s Administrator, continues to do an outstanding job for us and we are very fortunate to have her. Her experience along with her continued energy and innovation in this position have added much to the Society and we look forward to her continuing work.

**John R. Pierce, COL US Army (Ret) President** ★★



## COMMITTEES AND ACTIVITIES



### Secretary

For the past several years the Secretary position has been unfilled. Other Board members along with the Society Administrator have been compiling the minutes after each Board meeting. These minutes are reviewed by Board members and approved at the following meeting. During the course of 2022, COL Ed Coll, US Army (Retired) agreed to take the position of Secretary and will be formally installed at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

### Treasurer

Donation income in 2022 showed a slight decrease. Corporate and individual contributions totaled \$125,360, which was a decrease of 10% from 2021. However, WRS was still able to maintain its support of the wounded, ill and injured soldiers and their families.

Support of activities/services for wounded, ill and injured soldiers and their families was again a priority. During 2022, the WRS provided grants to approved requests in the amount of \$70,682, which was a 7% decrease from 2021. Our committees have been very proactive in letting the medical community know that the WRS can be very helpful in areas where funding is not normally available.

Also during 2022 the WRS was able to support requests from the staffs at WRNMMC and Fort Belvoir Community Hospital (FBCH). Requests in the amount of \$24,293 were approved, which was a decrease of 23% from 2021.

The WRS continued to receive CFC donations from areas around the country as a result of the 2021 CFC Fall campaign. Donations in the amount of \$1,408 were received in 2022, which was an increase of 53% from 2021.

The WRS investment portfolio mirrored that of the general population. Investments showed a 7.5% decrease in 2022. Initial review of the start of 2023 looks promising for continued growth of the investments.

Sales of the WRS collectible items showed a tremendous increase of 400% from 2021 to 2022. The ornaments, stockings and afghans from WRNMMC, WRAMC and FBCH contributed to total sales of \$7,038. A good portion of the sales was attributed to the WRAMC reunion. The reunion had excellent sales on the event day and generated additional sales afterward on the WRS website. Resumption of the Annual Meeting and Holiday Party also contributed to a successful sales year.


The external audit of the WRS and WRF's 2021 financial statements was successfully completed in 2022. The external audit of the 2022 financial statements is currently in process and should be complete sometime in the summer of 2023. All required 2022 WRS document filings with governmental jurisdictions are in process of completion.

**John Wetterau, LTC U.S. Army (Ret) Treasurer** 

**First Vice-President**

The Walter Reed Society proudly sponsored the 2022 AHIMA Foundation Veteran's Scholarship for students pursuing associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees in health information management (HIM) or health informatics (HI). This program is designed to provide scholarships for members of the military and uniformed services, specifically spouses of active-duty military and uniformed services, veterans and their spouses, wounded warriors and their spouses, and surviving spouses. If an applicant is not currently a member of AHIMA, Walter Reed Society sponsored the cost of student memberships for veterans and their spouses.

The 2022 AHIMA Foundation Scholarship Recipient for the Walter Reed Society Veteran's funded scholarship was: Kaitlyn Willy, RHIT. B.S. Health Information Management; Charter Oak State College, New Britain, CT.

**Brian P. Foley, COL US Army (Ret) First Vice-President** 

### **Vice-President Finance**

The VP for Finance serves as the Chairman of the Finance and Investment Committee and has responsibility for oversight of the Finance and Investment Committee's preparation of the annual budget of the WRS. This position remains unfilled.

A small group of present and former Board members has agreed to meet in order to evaluate the best way to handle financial holdings. We believe with a conservative portfolio as mandated by WRS By-Laws further points to long term stability for the WRS in the out years. The assistance of the WRS Treasurer, John Wetterau, LTC, USAR(Ret) has proven invaluable.

**VP Finance - position unfilled**



### **Vice-President Programs**

With the deaths of COL Vandy Miller in 2021 and Rose Mologne in 2022 the work of this position has been carried on by other Board members.

**VP Programs - position unfilled**



### **Vice-President Communications**

The main effort this year has been focused on maintaining our 14 year old website. I would like to thank the WRS board for approving the much needed upgrade of our website. Leveraging our long relationship with American Eagle we will finally be able to have an improved layout bringing in a carefully-designed website that will give our members and future members an easily-accessible live experience whether they use a desktop, laptop or their cell phone.

The updated website will feature and highlight the organization's mission, build trust, inspire readers about our major accomplishments and thank donors and volunteers for their support.

The reunion successfully posted on our website last year was attended by friends, administrators, and caregivers of the historic Walter Reed Army Medical Center, attended by over 200 friends and former employees both active duty and civilian staff. A special thanks to our donors and sponsors.

WRS continues to provide financial and other assistance, as deemed appropriate by the Board, to other military medical facilities in the National Capital Region while still maintaining its primary focus on Walter Reed National Military Medical Center at Bethesda. The Society's mission statement can be found on our website. All contributions are recognized with a note from the Society acknowledging donations and the 501(c)3 IRS status of the Society. Feel free to visit our website at [www.walterreedsociety.org](http://www.walterreedsociety.org).

**Ricardo Alcantara, CSM US Army (Ret) VP Communications** 

## Vice-President Development

From the WRS By-Laws: The Vice President for Development shall be responsible for coordinating fundraising efforts and insuring appropriate recognition of donors.

The Society continues to receive donations from very generous individual donors. The Select Auto annual fund raiser in November on WTOP radio, golfing events sponsored by BUNZL, Inc, and the Combined Federal Campaign. Recognition and appreciation of donations continues via the efforts of the Society Administrator and Society President.

**VP Development - position unfilled** 

## Vice-President Projects

In 2022 we donated \$34,399.57 towards projects, events, and other support to improve morale among staff and patients at WRNMMC. Contributions included expenditures to the Department of Pediatrics for a mural on the inpatient ward. We also made contributions to numerous morale welfare projects, including but not limited to Memory Care in the Department of Internal Medicine, the Department of Neurology and the Nursing Directorate. The Projects Committee has undergone transition in the past year with the addition of Ms. Clarice Gross serving as the WRS Liaison for Projects at Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital. Our Committee looks forward to continuing to develop lines of communication with staff and the leadership at both WRNMMC and FBCH. The reputation of the Society continues to grow through service and dedication. The Projects Committee has and will continue to play an important role in enhancing that perception and preserving the legacy of Walter Reed.

**Avery Davis, COL US Army (Ret) VP Projects** 

## Vice-President Membership

### Highlights and Focus for Year

- ◆ Member Database and Information enhancement initiative designed to further manage, support, and analyze donor/member statistics (planning/development ongoing)
- ◆ Collaboration and coordination with VP Communications for current and new member ease of access and use of information, donations, renewals on website and other communication resources (planning/development ongoing)
- ◆ Trend to Watch: The last two to three years, there has been a slight reduction in annual and two year memberships; and a slight increase in five year and life memberships.

## MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS ~ January – December 2022

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>593</b>
<b>NEW</b>	<b>31</b>
Annual	6
Two Year	6
Five Year	11
Life	8
<b>RENEWALS</b>	<b>6</b>
Two Year	1
Five Year	5

### PERCENTAGE OF MEMBERSHIP BY REGION: (Largest to Smallest)

#### **SOUTH: (72.3%)**

**Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC,  
Florida, Texas, North Carolina, Georgia,  
Delaware, Tennessee, South Carolina,  
West Virginia, Alabama, Arkansas,  
Oklahoma, Kentucky**

#### **NORTHEAST: (16.4 %)**

**New York, Pennsylvania,  
Massachusetts, New Jersey,  
Connecticut, New Hampshire,  
Rhode Island, Maine, Vermont**

#### **WEST: (8.2 %)**

**California, Colorado, Washington,  
New Mexico, Oregon, Nevada, Arizona,  
Alaska, Hawaii**

#### **MIDWEST: (3.1%)**

**Ohio, Minnesota, Michigan, Missouri,  
Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa**

**George Turiansky, COL US Army (Ret) VP Membership** 

#### **Vice-President, Patient Services and Warrior/Family Support**

Direct assistance to our Service members and families continues to be an extremely rewarding element of our Society's overall mission. Those that arrive at Walter Reed, Fort Belvoir and the National Capital Region for medical care and treatment are extremely vulnerable and anxious depending on the degree of their individual challenge. Hence, we are positioned to help them with the non-medical issues that tend to prolong their condition if left unattended.



We are grateful that we are positioned to assist each of them and ease their non-medical related and important issues. We continue to expand our network with, leaders, case managers, departments, organizations and other nonprofits so we are able to respond in a timely and effective manner.

All requests are reviewed by our committee consisting of COL Jan Southby, COL Rick Erdtmann, CSM Ric Alcantara, and SGM Jim Gonyea. Each member adds valuable experience as we collectively evaluate the request and despite the number, we provide an assistance plan with 24 hours of receipt. The assistance we provide proves to be an emotionally significant event with many of those we help and from that, relationships develop that move well past the medical challenge that brought them to us. For the past 15 years we have received a call in March from a father thanking us for the assistance we provided to him and his daughter. Each year over the past 12 years we receive donations from a family who endured months at Walter Reed while their son recovered from serious traumatic injury. And every year a local auto dealership has a Veterans Day matching donation radio call-in event based on the work we do. While those with the “War Wounds” we have assisted have fortunately decreased in number the Wounded, Ill and Injured population continues as well as many returning for follow-on care from a previous injury. So once again, in 2022 we continue to make a difference in the lives of so many that require our assistance.

**Dan Bullis, SGM US Army (Ret), VP Patient Services/Warrior/Family Support** ★★

### WRS 2022 Collectible

As we have for a number of years, the Society developed a collectible for the Holidays. This year’s Lincoln Memorial 100th Anniversary has a Walter Reed Society oval tag attached.

Handcrafted on solid brass in the USA and packaged in a window box. Proceeds from sales go to assist patients and their families being treated at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and other military facilities in the National Capital Region to assist with unmet needs.

As she has done for several years, COL Jan Southby was responsible for the developing of this collectible.



**Janet Southby, COL US Army (Ret) President, Emerita**



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