



Annual Report 2016

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 [WRAMC] 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].

Membership continues to grow and now totals 686+ persons. All friends of the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center, National Naval Medical Center, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences are welcome and encouraged to join us.

The Society has assumed the mission of assisting service members being treated at Walter Reed 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 and other staff at Walter Reed. All of this is accomplished through membership and the generous support of corporate and private donors.

The Board of Directors is elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting. Board meetings are held every two months at American Legion Post #41, Silver Spring, Maryland. All Board members are volunteers and serve with NO remuneration for the many hours spent conducting Society

business at meetings, on line and by teleconference. We have recently had three senior, highly credentialed retired officers volunteer to assist on Board matters; so the future looks very bright. Any other members interested in serving on the Board are urged to contact the President or the Society office.

COL [R] Vandy Miller, VP Programs and Rose Mologne, Society Advisor co-planned the annual holiday membership gathering at the Officers Club, Ft Myer and the annual business meeting at the Uniformed Services University . Both activities were well attended and enjoyed by all as they learn about current activities, future plans and promotion of our organization.

Communications- Andre Nicholson, PhD and Peter Esker prepared two newsletters to keep Society members and friends apprised of our current activities and plans.

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 and monthly dinners for Warriors and their families in conjunction with Helping Hometown Heroes organization. We look forward to new alliances with organizations having similar missions such as the Oakleaf Club. Special thanks to COL[R] Janet Southby, President Emerita for continuing outstanding support, advice and overall excellence in service to our Society and our beneficiaries.

Respectfully,

***Joseph L Konzelman, DDS
COL, US Army (Ret)
President***

COMMITTEES AND ACTIVITIES

This year, the Board of directors continued active participation in events, projects, and activities surrounding the care of the Wounded Warriors, the staff that cares for them, and the facility where the care takes place. Our officers met with hospital leaders to obtain guidance and support, and to receive ideas about how we can help.

Our committees continue to honor and support grant proposals within their spending authority, reporting these activities to the Board. Larger projects and proposals come to the Board for consideration, where they are discussed and most often approved. We will consider and support any rational proposal that supports the Wounded Warriors, their care givers, or the health care staff that provides their care.

Activities supported by your Society this year included:

- Refreshments for professional meetings in the facility
- Event tickets for Wounded Warriors
- Refreshments for ceremonies that include the Warriors or the staff
- Support to the command organization day
- Funding for special items for hospital holiday meals
- Support to Resiliency Week at the facility
- Purchase of 40 special recliner chairs for use in three infusion sites at the facility.
- iPads for Wounded Warriors who suffered brain injuries
- Financial support for a retreat for Wounded Warrior care givers

The Society continues to receive membership applications, some at the Life Member level, and typically, we will approve one to five new members at each of our Board meetings. At this time, we currently have almost 700 members.

In summary, we continue to play an active role in the support of the Wounded Warriors, the staff that cares for them, and the facility that houses their world class medical and health care.

Fred McLain, COL (Ret), Secretary

Donation income in 2015 decreased for the third year in a row. Corporate and individual contributions to the Society totaled \$172,558, which was down 3.6% from 2014. This, however, did not impact on the Society's ability to support the Warriors and their families.

Support of activities/services for Warrior patients and their families again showed a significant increase from 2014 to 2015. During 2015, the Society provided grants to approved requests in the amount of \$243,226.35. This was a 35.9% increase over grants approved in 2014. Our committees have been very proactive in letting the medical community know that the Society can be very helpful in areas where funding is not normally available.

The Society continued to gain substantial CFC Donations from areas all over the country as a result of the 2014 Fall Campaign. Donations in the amount of \$14,757 were received in 2015. This total was double the amount of CFC donations which were received in 2014.

The Society continued to receive royalties from a pharmacy card program administered by Help Soldiers, Inc. Royalties in the amount of \$5,147 were received in the first half of 2015 before the program was transferred to the Walter Reed Foundation.

The Society's investment portfolio was impacted by the downturn in 2015. Investments suffered an overall loss of 7.5%. This followed two consecutive years of growth. Initial review of the start of 2016 looks promising for growth of the investments this year.

Sales of the Society's items continues strong in 2015, but declined by 23.5%. Another new ornament was introduced to support new sales. The ornaments, stockings and afghans from WRAMC and WRNMMC contributed to total sales of \$8,181.00. The Society's Board approved a grant of \$100,000 to help establish the Walter Reed Foundation.

John Wetterau, LTC (Ret), Treasurer

The VP for Finance serves as the Chairman of the Finance and Investment Committee and shall have oversight of the Finance and Investment

Committee's preparation of the annual budget of the Corporation. The active support of the treasurer is appreciated in preparing this important business document.

The previous year evidenced a decline in world economies however even with the decline our growth remained in the growth for our investments. This is due to our market management by UBS Securities and the conservative nature of our investment portfolio.

Investment Objectives:

1. Provide a high quality of investment selections that preserve capital and increases overall value.
2. Prudently manage the program to provide a sustainable stream of income from year to year.
3. Select a prudent range of investments that is well diversified and minimizes overall aggregate risk and provides returns commensurate with a very conservative portfolio.

We believe with a conservative portfolio as indicated above the WRS investment future is bright and growing ever stronger.

The remainder of 2016 will be devoted to continuing to update the "Fiscal Policies of the WRS". With many new changes since our moving to Bethesda, this update is important to insure consistent strong management and fulfill the organizations mission in the most efficient manner.

John Frankenburg, MCPO (Ret), Vice President for Finance

The external audit of the Walter Reed Society's 2014 financial statements was successfully completed in early 2015. The external audit of the 2015 financial statements is currently in process and should be complete sometime in the spring of 2016. All required 2015 WRS documents filings with governmental jurisdictions are in process of completion.

John Pierce, COL (Ret), First Vice President and Audit Committee Chair

The Projects Committee oversaw the processing and distribution of \$195,080.29 in contributions towards requests for assistance from both Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) and FT Belvoir Community Hospital (FBCH). The majority of the gifts were in keeping with our charter which is to sponsor activities and fund projects and goods that enhance patient care services and support the welfare and morale of service members and other staff at the medical treatment facilities. All gifts were received with enthusiasm and recipients offered their utmost appreciation to the Walter Reed Society. All recipients acknowledged that without the generosity and support of the WRS, these projects that proved vital to morale as well as to the “excellent patient experience” for Wounded Warriors, patients, families, and staff would not have been possible.

A detailed report of the 37 activities that the projects committee supported in CY 2014 was provided to the President and Secretary, WRS, for the record. Some of the highlights of our activities were contributions in support of the following:

- Resiliency and Psychological Health Fairs (for the dissemination of information to all staff)
- Nutrition Care Division Themed Meals (decorations and enhancements)
- Research and Innovation Symposia (Wounded, Injured and Ill Warrior)
- Warrior and Family Coordination Cell Outing
- Artwork, Maternal Infant Child Department
- Artwork Design Wall – Operation Healing Eyes - FBCH
- iPads (20)- Occupational Therapy
- Fisher House BBQ
- 911 Wreath Laying Ceremony
- Caregiver Support – FBCH
- BG Clark’s Initiative – Prosperity Fairs
- Plaque NCO and Soldier of the Year
- Hemodialysis – Patient Comfort Items
- Operation Brave Family-Children’s garden and stuffed animals
- WRNMMC Holiday Ball - support to junior officers and enlisted
- Darnell Medical Library Opening Ceremony
- Honor Dr. (COL) Kenneth Block

- Seminars on Sexual Health for the Wounded Warrior

and other smaller projects throughout the year.

The Projects Committee dedicated countless hours towards communication and interaction with staff and the leadership at WRNMMC and FBCH. The reputation of the WRS has improved exponentially, with the passing of time, through service and dedication. The Projects Committee played an important role in enhancing that perception and preserving the legacy of Walter Reed.

Linda Anderson, LTC (Ret), VP Projects Committee

Membership Statistics Since Annual Meeting May 3, 2015

Current Total Member Number:	686
Renewals:	11
1-year	4
2-years	7
5-years	0
New Members:	26
New Honorary (lifetime)	3
Other Lifetime	16
1-year	0
2-years	3
5-years	4

*Deceased members removed from database and other members removed because of failure to respond to requests for renewal/returned mail.

George Turiansky, COL (Ret), VP, Membership

We continue our coordination with the Soldier Family Assistance Center (SFAC) in receiving applications for assistance from recovering warriors and family members that are part of the Warrior Transition Battalion and we have established a closer collaboration with the amputee center in directing assistance to many of our returning heroes. The SFAC continues to submit a steady flow of requests for assistance representing the wounded, ill and injured service members and families they represent allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of many that require our services. Many of the requests that were acted upon continue to be for financial assistance as a result of a spouse or family member becoming unemployed while caring for their loved one, resulting in a decrease in the finances available to the family. We continue to process these requests in a timely manner with all committee members responding electronically within hours of the receipt of the request. We continue our outreach efforts to case managers and others outside of the SFAC so all are aware of our open solicitation to assist.

During our discussions with representatives from the amputee center we learned of a challenge that demanded our assistance and we have been working very closely with this vital center to resolve the issue. After a service member has been treated, discharged and returns home the center stands ready to provide ongoing medical treatment to all that have lost limbs as a result of their service however they must return to the hospital on a self-funded basis to receive an adjustment or even an

additional corrective surgery. If they are referred by a VA provider the transportation may be covered but the lodging and related costs must be borne by the individual. It is even more complicated if the individual requires someone to assist as a non-medical attendant. Our WRS has embraced this need and we have established assistance that we have coined "Operation Mobility" whereby we cover the cost of lodging in one of the two on base hotels. Many times this follow-on care involves several months because of the physical therapy involved.

Also for the past several years Mr. Mike Haji, President of Select Auto Imports continues to assist us with a Veterans Day fund raising event where he would match donations up to \$10,000.00. Mike partnered with WTOP Radio and the Walter Reed Society and continues to support this effort that has resulted in thousands of dollars donations for our recovering warriors. Mike is also a proud recipient of our Combat Medic Statue, which we presented to him, in his office, near the Pentagon. Mike continues to be a loyal friend and member and would like to continue this Veterans Day event.

Jeff Brodeur is the President of the Korean War Veterans Association and a proud member of the American Legion Post 405 located in Raynham, ME. Jeff was first introduced to WRAMC when his son Vincent was traumatically wounded several years ago and given little hope for survival and function. It was during one of these trips that we met Jeff and provided him assistance as he traveled back and forth from Maine to Walter Reed. Fast forward several years and Vincent is doing extremely well and Jeff has conducted an annual fundraising event with the American Legion Post that has resulted in thousands of dollars of donations over the past several years. This past November Jeff and the Veterans of Cape Cod invited me and the physician who performed the life-saving and altering surgery on Vincent to an event honoring the WRS and doctor along with a fund raising event. It was a grand time with several hundred in attendance and a record breaking donation of close to \$50,000 to the WRS. We are so fortunate to have friends like the Cape Cod Veterans and to have been a part of a "paying it forward" movement that has been so rewarding for all.

This year has also allowed us to reflect on a program that we supported several years ago that was designed to assist the loved ones of those living with the challenges of PTSD. The program we sponsored at WRAMC in 2011 was designed to target those significant others who are ill equipped and prepared to understand and support their loved one who returns home with this condition. Through the efforts and a request from very skilled trauma clinicians and the medical staff of Kent State University we have agreed to sponsor a series of scientifically based four day retreats that focus on the needs of both the significant other and the warrior that lays the ground work for compassionate recovery with an added value of KSU conducting an IRB

approved study. The program involves groups of 24 participants. Thus far we have sponsored two of the initial four that we have committed to with the first being in the Washington DC area, the second in Chicago, and the next being planned in the Ft Riley, KS area.

The WRS continues to support recovering warriors/family appreciation dinners at American Legion Post 41 in Silver Spring, MD. These events continue to draw recovering Veterans and family members who have an enjoyable relaxing time away from WRNMMC with great food, fun and entertainment.

Dan Bullis, SGM (Ret), VP Patient Services/ Warrior/Family Support Committee