

FRIENDS OF THE ARMY WOMEN'S MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT 3RD QUARTER OF 2020

From the Co-Presidents...

We hope you are enjoying the beautiful fall weather and that you are well.

Thank you for your support of the Friends of the Army Women's Museum Association (FAWMA) and the Army Women's Museum (AWM). We want to start by letting you know that FAWMA has changed leadership. After many years, Delinda Creal has stepped down as President, but has promised to remain on our Board. We are beyond happy that she will continue to provide us with her invaluable experience and wisdom!

Our focus for FAWMA is to strengthen the Association and stimulate your interest in the museum through events, our virtual tour, outreach, donations, and volunteer involvement. As a non-profit organization, we need your help in order to be successful and are grateful for your support of FAWMA and the AWM. We want to assure you that FAWMA's mission will remain the same, with unwavering support to the Army Women's Museum to ensure the important stories of women in the U.S. Army are told. We will continue FAWMA's operating principle to maximize the amount of contributions to the museum by controlling nonprofit costs. Please know, our Board is completely volunteer and the only paid position we have is a part-time office worker. You can be assured your donations are being wisely managed in support of museum operations.

We want to share a little about us, so you will feel comfortable that we are true supporters of the Museum and its purpose. Aimee graduated from the United States Military Academy, West Point, and has served many assignments in her 30-year career. She holds a Master's Degree in Materiel Logistics Management from the Naval Postgraduate School, and a Master's Degree in National Resource Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. She served as the Military Assistant to the Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Office of the Secretary of Defense, and subsequently as the Military Director of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS) before retiring in 2017.
(continued on page 2)

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FRIENDS OF THE ARMY WOMEN'S MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

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From the Co-Presidents... (continued)

Cydnee is an educator, military spouse, and has worked for the Department of Defense, Military Family Readiness Programs, the Army Women's Museum, various public schools, and nonprofit organizations. She holds a M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction in Technology and is certified to teach in the state of Virginia with a Postgraduate Professional License. If you wish to know more about our leadership team please visit our website at armywomensmuseum.org/about/leadership/

We hope that you will have confidence in us to lead FAWMA and you will continue to offer your financial and volunteer support to the Museum. Please feel free to email us at ltfawma@gmail.com should you have questions or ideas for improving how we execute our mission. We have a great team and are excited and energized to move forward with new and exciting initiatives for the future. We thank you for your interest and support and look forward to continuing our relationship.

Stay safe and stay healthy.

Cydnee and Aimee
FAWMA, Co-Presidents

From our Museum Director...

Happy Fall everyone! It's hard to believe that the holiday season will be upon us before you know it. In this season of change, there have been a few obvious transitions at the museum. With Dr. Bonnell's departure in August, I was tasked with keeping the museum in fighting trim until a new director could be selected. The ongoing COVID pandemic has made managing the museum a challenge, but I believe that Ron and I – along with a large dose of help from YOU – have been successful in carrying on with the mission of the AWM.

The beginning of September saw a large influx of AIT Soldiers coming into the museum. On 4 September alone, we had over 175 troops tour through the galleries. It was obvious that a museum tour was a welcome change from the daily routines that these Soldiers have been forced to endure since March and I overheard many positive comments. One female Ordnance Soldier even came up to me afterwards and said, "Ya know, I wasn't too sure that joining the Army was the right decision for me. Now that I've seen this, I think I made the right choice!" That's the precise type of reaction we're going for with every program we offer.

The Virtual Tour continues to be a major hit and we now have a 4-minute video version of the tour that can be used by FAWMA at events such as AUSA when the COVID crisis finally abates. The next big project we plan on tackling is an audio tour of the new museum galleries and a new temporary exhibit to replace the Tilson exhibit.

I know many of you have been concerned about access to the museum since Ron and I are both on telework status, and I am happy to report that we have finally been given the go-ahead to return to work starting on 13 October. Ron and I are looking forward to getting everything back up and running and we cannot thank you enough for your continued support to this one of a kind gem of museum!

Jimmy Price
Interim Museum Director

BRICK CAMPAIGN

Do you want to be a part of history? Order a customized brick that will be placed in the landscape areas around the outside of the US Army Women's Museum. Donate a brick as a lasting tribute to honor a service member, a civilian, a spouse, a friend, a family member, a retiree or yourself in support of our country, our service and our museum. For more information go to our website at:

<http://www.armywomensmuseum.org/brick.htm>



IN MEMORY/ HONOR OF DONATIONS ARE WONDERFUL WAYS TO RECOGNIZE A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER AND SUPPORT THE U.S. ARMY WOMEN'S MUSEUM! WHEN YOU MAKE AN IN MEMORY/ HONOR OF DONATION, PLEASE LET US KNOW THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON YOU WISH TO HAVE NOTIFIED ABOUT YOUR DONATION.

AMAZON SMILES ☺

Are you an Amazon shopper? You can donate to the Army Women's Museum each time you shop at Amazon. The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchase to the charitable organization of your choice.

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1. Go to [Amazon Smiles](#) and sign in using your existing Amazon account (or create a new one).
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3. Start shopping today (<http://smile.amazon.com/>).

Your gift can help make history!



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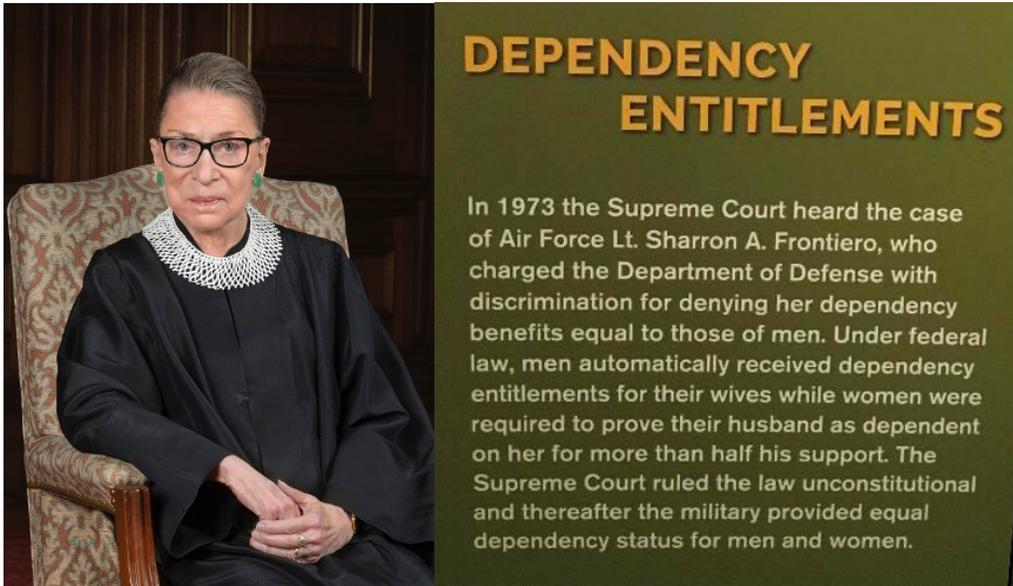


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Spotlight...

Ruth Bader Ginsburg an advocate for women in the military! #RBG



Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who was an advocate for military women during her career, was laid to rest and buried at Arlington National Cemetery, near her husband Martin Ginsburg, a lawyer and Army veteran who died in 2010, according to the Supreme Court.

Ginsburg, the second woman to serve on the court, died last month at the age of 87, and was a champion for women, in particularly military servicewomen. She was instrumental in changing the culture of the Army through landmark cases on fair and equitable entitlements and treatment. Ginsburg's authored some 200 opinions—and broke new ground for gender equality in the United States.

Happening at the Museum



AIT soldiers visit the museum and get a tour from Interim Director, Jimmy Price

DONATIONS

JULY 1, 2019 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

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Leave a Legacy that Supports Women's History

Consider supporting the US Army Women's Museum with a bequest through your Will or Trust.

By including the Friends of the US Army Women's Museum Association in your will or trust, you can ensure the rich history of women serving our country can be enjoyed by future generations. Your bequest will help inspire so many to great actions.

Gifts through wills and living trusts are simple to arrange and may be changed at any time. A provision or amendment prepared by your attorney at the time you make or update your will is all that is necessary. Please note that we are only taking monetary requests, no real estate or real property.

To make your bequest to the Friends of the Army Women's Museum Association, please use the following language, while consulting with your attorney:

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE ARMY WOMEN'S MUSEUM ASSOCIATION, PRINCE GEORGE, VIRGINIA, I
HEREBY GIVE \$ _____ (OR _____ %) OF MY ESTATE.

The Friends of the Army Women's Museum Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our federal tax identification number is 26-2206026.

The Army Museum Enterprise Farewell to Dr. Bonnell

Dr. Francoise Bonnell, longtime director of the Army Women's Museum, was celebrated for her great successes in preserving the legacy of Army Women. She was honored at a luncheon prior to her last day as the AWM Director on August 21, 2020. Dr. Bonnell's long list of accomplishments were cited, with significant emphasis on the 2018 reopening of the museum after an expansion and complete renovation of the Galleries. Dr. Bonnell, along with her staff, guided this project from concept to execution over a 4-year period that included seeking funding, developing the new look and working with FAWMA on our fundraising campaign. The Grand Opening was a huge success with many General Officers speaking and was highlighted by large crowds eager to see the new exhibits. Since the Grand Opening, Dr. Bonnell has launched a Virtual Tour as she recognized many people were unable to visit the museum in person but were deeply vested in the history of women in the Army. The virtual tour has been praised by many.

Dr. Bonnell has accepted a position with the Fort Monroe Authority as Director of the Casemate Museum. Dr. Bonnell will also be responsible for specific educational/outreach activities. The Fort Monroe Authority (FMA) is a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, created to preserve, protect, and manage Fort Monroe and Old Point Comfort after the federal Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) closure in September 2011. We look forward to following Dr. Bonnell's achievements at the Fort Monroe site as we know she will have many ideas on all fronts.



Dr. Bonnell's Farewell Message...

I wanted to take a moment to let everyone know how much it has been a pleasure to serve at the U.S. Army Women's Museum. I began work as the Museum Education and Training Specialist in 2006 under Ms. Judy Matteson, a wonderful mentor to whom I owe much. Under her leadership, guidance and support the education team was able to accomplish so much. I carried Judy's passion for the museum when I became the Director four years later. It's hard to believe how fast the past 14+ years have gone. We set about to accomplish many goals, to include achieving accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums, increasing our collection efforts, physically expanding the museum, redesigning the entire gallery space and making the museum the "go to place" for all things Army women. These plans could not be realized without the dedication of numerous staff members—some permanent, others contractors and numerous volunteers. But, most of all, none of this could have been achieved without the dedication of your support. FAWMA has been instrumental in supporting all of the museum's initiatives and I am thankful for the wonderful relationship between the Board and the Director. They work so hard in making dreams into realities. There are numerous others to thank, but I am especially indebted to Ron Bingham. He is more than the Collection Manager...he has done everything for the museum, tirelessly for the past 16 years. He is a creative thinker (1LT FAWMA statue!) and a huge contributor to the museum's successes (outreach, new exhibits, research!). I wish the very best to Jimmy Price the museum Education Director. He is an outstanding educator (everyone loves his tours!) and creates a buzz around the programs offered through the live broadcast studio (CILC awardee every year!). He quickly stepped in as the Interim Museum Director and has provided the needed continuity as the museum moves forward. It has been truly a blessing to have met so many wonderful people over the years. I have many memories which I will treasure forever.

So, you might ask--why have I taken a new position? Well, I am very proud of what we accomplished at the Army Women's Museum. I feel that I was able to move the museum to a high plateau and now it is time for someone to come in and take it even further. I accepted the position of Director of Museums, Education and Interpretation for the Fort Monroe Authority (FMA) in Virginia. I oversee the Casemate Museum, the Visitor and Education Center, and all things pertaining to interpretation around the fort. The FMA executive director has a vision that I am very enthusiastic about and excited to be a part of. The old Army post has a phenomenal history and the land it rests on has a rich heritage dating back prior to the British occupation of Jamestown. I look forward to incorporating this history into new spaces and exhibits, and to the challenges that lay ahead, much as I did so many years ago at the AWM.

Although I have changed jobs, it does not mean that I leave behind the work of the Army Women's Museum entirely. I am very pleased that FAWMA has asked me to be part of the Military Liaison Committee. I will now be able to advocate for the museum and Army women in a manner that I was unable to as a Department of the Army Civilian. I look forward to this new role and helping wherever I can. If you ever make your way to the Hampton Roads area please come and visit. My new email address is fbonnell@fortmonroe.org or give me a ring at 757-690-8062. I would love to hear from you!

Best wishes,
Françoise

★ FRIENDS OF THE ★
AWMA
ARMY WOMEN'S MUSEUM
ASSOCIATION

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My check is enclosed and made out to: FAWMA

The Friends of the Army Women's Museum Association is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit, educational organization. Financial documents are available from: State Division of Consumer Affairs, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218

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