

FAWMA Focus

Friends of the U. S. Army Women's Museum Association

A Quarterly Newsletter

2nd Quarter of 2021

From the Co-Presidents...

Hello Friends!

We hope you are enjoying the summer and getting out and about with family and friends like you used to do before COVID-19.

First – Did anyone notice that we renamed our Quarterly Report (commonly known as the “QR”) to the FAWMA Focus? Renaming it was a FAWMA multigenerational initiative, with our own board member Flo Dunn making the recommendation, and some younger committee members giving it the thumbs up!

Second – With the kick-off of FAWMA's new Fiscal Year 21-22 on 1 July 2021, we have much to share to wrap up this quarter so we will hit the highlights. 1) We farewelled Ron Bingham, the Collections Manager at the museum, and Arika Baizar our Administrative Assistant. Both will always be members of the FAWMA Team. Happily, we added new members to the team, welcoming Samantha Nupson, a recent graduate of Maranatha Baptist University and the AWM's social media intern, and Jillian Weber, our new Administrative Assistant. 2) The Live Broadcast Studio is continuing to make a difference in educational programming to the local community and beyond. 3) FAWMA is supporting Tracy Bradford's Gender Integration Project, sponsored by the Center of Military History.

(continued on page 2)

Board of Directors

Co-President	COL(R) Aimee Kominiak
Co-President	Ms. Cydnee C Gentry
Vice President	Vacant
Recording Secretary	CW5(R) Candy Martin
Corresponding Secretary	Ms. Vicki Archileti
Treasurer	Ms. Luanne Kolleda
Past President/At Large	LTC(R) Delinda Creal
At Large	MAJ(R) Flo Dunn
	SFC(R) Gail Taylor-Black
	Ms. Secille Siverio

Get this newsletter by email!

Let us know at

ltfawma@gmail.com.



FRIENDS OF THE ARMY WOMEN'S MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 1027, PRINCE GEORGE, VA 23875

PHONE: 804.734.5742

E-MAIL: ltfawma@gmail.com

From the Co-Presidents (continued from page 1)...

The project showcases policy changes post 9-11, such as the opening of all career fields in the Army to women that provided limitless opportunities for career choices. Tell us YOUR STORY of opportunities (or lack of opportunities) at #armywomensmuseum. Additionally, we are launching a T-shirt Fundraiser through Custom Ink to support the museum. Check out our shirts for sale through 18 August and join us in promoting the AWM!

Finally – As always, we appreciate each and every one of you! Thank you for your continued dedication to FAWMA and to the AWM!

Aimee and Cydnee
FAWMA, Co-Presidents

Curator's Corner...

Hello FAWMA!

My notes this season are filled with bittersweet news. After 17 years of loyal service to the Army Women's Museum, our Collections Specialist, Ron Bingham, is retiring. Ron began working at the AWM in 2004 after retiring from the Army. During his tenure, Ron has been steadfast and loyal in his commitment to preserving and teaching Army women's history and heritage to Soldiers, the Fort Lee community, and the public at large. He set the standard in the Army Museum Enterprise for collection management with his perfect accountability and flawless care of our artifacts. He also played a crucial role in the development of the museum's first-class exhibit galleries. He educated and inspired thousands of Soldiers and leaders by conducting countless tours, developing numerous programs and exhibitions at the Army Women's Museum.

Thanks to Ron whose professionalism and commitment reflect great credit upon himself and the U.S. Army Women's Museum. We will miss him dearly!

We are once again open to the public and I hope to see many of you back here soon! Our new public hours are Tuesday-Friday 9:00-4:30.

All the Best,
Tracy



Ron Bingham doing what he did best for us – taking care of our AWM collection with a smile on his face. Best wishes in retirement, Ron!



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://armywomensmuseum.org>

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. It's simple: Just follow these three simple steps.

1. Go to [Amazon Smiles](http://smile.amazon.com/) and sign in using your existing Amazon account (or create a new one).
2. Select your charitable organization: FRIENDS OF THE ARMY WOMEN'S MUSEUM ASSOCIATION.
3. Start shopping today (<http://smile.amazon.com/>).

Your gift can help make history!



Thanks to you, we have almost 4,500 users on Facebook! But, did you know you can follow us on Twitter and Instagram for even more content? Check us out and help us grow!



Women who stepped up were measured as citizens of the nation, not as women. This was the people's war, and everyone was in it.
— Colonel Oveta Culp Hobby
Director of WAAC/WAC
(Inscribed on the WWII Memorial, National Mall, Washington DC)

In 1942, the *door* cracked open to allow US women to join the military.

After that, there was no going back! Women *tore the door off the hinges* to show they could do all jobs in the Army.

Let's celebrate US Military women!



Share your stories of how changes in military policy on women's roles changed your career for the better! Use hashtag #armywomensmuseum in your response.

Support the US Army Women's Museum through our Army Women's T-shirt Fundraiser.

Be proud. We are proud of you!

Sponsored by the Friends of the Army Women's Museum Association (a 501 c(3) Non-profit organization)

SUPPORT OUR MUSEUM T-SHIRT FUNDRAISER AND TELL US YOUR STORY AT #armywomensmuseum

CUSTOM INK AWM Fundraiser:
<https://www.customink.com/fundraising/army-womens-museum-5885>



Find us on Facebook: facebook.com/armywomensmuseumfriends/
Twitter: @AW_Museum
and
Instagram: [armywomensmuseumfriends](https://instagram.com/armywomensmuseumfriends)

Spotlight...

Celebrating the promotion of BG Michelle K. Donahue



General (R) Martin Dempsey promotes our 56th Quartermaster General.

On June 24, 2021, Michelle K. Donahue, the 56th Quartermaster Corps Commandant was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General.

The ceremony was hosted by the 18th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General (Ret.) Martin E. Dempsey at Fort Lee's Army Women's Museum.

BG Donahue stated, "I am forever in debt to the Quartermaster Corps for giving me the opportunity to succeed. I am also in debt to General Dempsey for many reasons, but today for hosting the ceremony, for believing that trust transcends gender, and for championing the repeal of the Combat Exclusion Rule for women. It is also fitting that we honor the generations of women veterans that paved the way for me to join the ranks of 24 other female general officers on active duty today. General Dempsey recently quoted the late justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg who said, 'Women belong in all places where decisions are made'. I couldn't agree more".

Congratulations BG Donahue!

Happy 100th Birthday to WWII Veteran, 1SG Sandy Intorre!

Sandra "Sandy" Intorre was born on July 4, 1921, in Gallatin, Pennsylvania. In May 1943, Sandy Intorre was sworn into the service of the Women's Army Corps. In June 1943, she reported to Fort Oglethorpe, GA, for 4 weeks of basic training.

On D-Day plus 6 (6/12/44), she was sent to Cherbourg France and worked in the Adjutant General AG radio and cable message center, where she received teletypes, some coded, which she evaluated and distributed to all necessary branches, such as ordnance for weapons, quartermaster for food and supply, etc. Later, when the headquarters was moved, she was transferred to Deauville France, at a beach resort on the English Channel.

On November 1, 1945, she was discharged, as the Army was disbanding the WACs. She worked at home, then worked as a civilian assigned to the Bureau of Aeronautics in Washington DC as a civilian stenographer. Then, the Army reversed its decision to disband the WACs and she reenlisted into the Army Air Corp. When the Air Corp was divided, she chose Army, rather than be demoted to start over in the newly formed Air Force.

After a lengthy and successful military career, she retired from the Army on November 1, 1967. Subsequently, she was a Civil Service Army Recruiting Officer in Detroit, MI for 10 yrs. She was also a JROTC instructor and had a supply job until retirement in 1984.



Sandy visited her brother in France in 1944.



Happy 100th Birthday!!

THANK YOU to our Donors!

DONATIONS APRIL 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2021

SUSTAINING PARTNERS \$1,000.00 AND UP

FORT LEE AREA SPOUSES CLUB
FRANCES SWALLOW

PARTNERS \$250.00 TO \$999.99

AMERICAN LEGION POST 284
JOANN BLUHM STRATTON
DARLENE E. MCLAUGHLIN
LTC (R) SHIRLEY I. QUILES
CYNTHIA SWIFT

FRIENDS INDEED \$100.00 TO \$249.99

LTC (R) DELINDA CREAL
MS. MARGARET DONALDSON
MG RODNEY AND MRS JANIE FOGG
LTC IRENE HYEK
MS. DIANE M. THEISS
1SG (R) NORA SELENKA (OUR APOLOGIES AS HER
NAME WAS MISPELLED LAST QUARTER)

FRIENDS \$35.00 TO \$99.99

ROBERTA BUGBEE
ANNE C. DRYDEN TRUST
MS. RUTH LANEY
JAN NEUFELD

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.

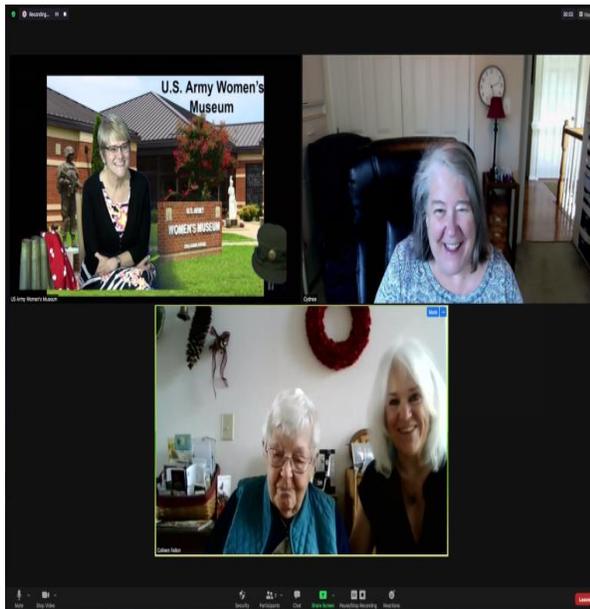
To make your bequest to the Friends of the Army Women's Museum Association, please use the following language, while consulting with your attorney:

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.

Happenings at the Museum

Centenarian Oral History Project



Tracy Bradford (top L) and Cydnee Gentry (top R) enjoyed a virtual interview with WWII Veteran Bobbie Fallon!

On May 27th, Cydnee Gentry and Tracy Bradford conducted a Zoom interview with Bobbie Fallon, a 99-year-old WWII WAC who lives in Oregon. 1LT Fallon trained to be a physical therapist during WWII at Fort Dix in New Jersey. She later was sent to Rouen, France on the Queen Mary to serve as a member of the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps and to rehabilitate soldiers. Thank you for your service 1LT Fallon!



1LT Bobbie Fallon & 1LT Dale Fallon



SFC Esther Albert and other WACs with GEN Omar Bradley

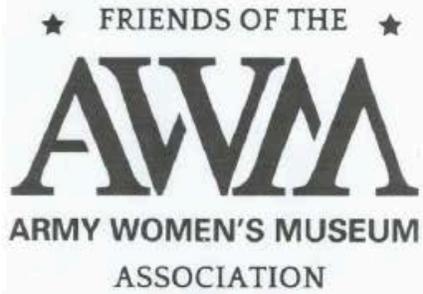
Tracy and Micaela did a similar interview on June 14, 2021 with Esther Albert Bristow, of Petersburg, VA, who also served as a World War II WAC. Ms. Bristow, who was born in March of 1921 had never given a testimony of her time in the service. “I did what we had to do. It was just an office,” she repeated multiple times in the interview. It’s a common sentiment echoed by many other women who served in the Women’s Army Corps. Ms. Bristow is incredibly humble and does not see her service as important, but FAWMA and her family are incredibly grateful for the legacy she is leaving behind.



Mrs. Esther Albert Bristow, WWII WAC, with Micaela Procopio, Digital Education Specialist at the Army Women’s Museum

At 100 years of age it is a lot to recall, but Esther’s face lights up when looking at photos from her time as a WAC. She is quick to point out herself in group photos and smile fondly. Esther, being the independent woman she was, as described by her children, decided to join the ranks and serve her country alongside her brothers. She told her daughter that she wanted to become the first woman from her hometown to enlist in the Women’s Army Corps. Mrs. Bristow was as a clerk-typist at the Pentagon and worked under both General Dwight Eisenhower and General Omar Bradley. While she remembered both men fondly, Mrs. Bristow emphasized that General Bradley was an especially nice man who was willing to sit and talk with the WACs. After the war, she was stationed at Camp Lee.

Esther Albert Bristow passed away on June 28th, 2021. We are grateful to her and her family for allowing us to capture such a wonderful story. We are grateful for Esther’s service in the Women’s Army Corps. Our thoughts and condolences go out to her friends and family.



Yes, I will support the U.S. Army Women's Museum with my tax-deductible donation!

\$35 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000 \$1200 \$1500 Other

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Civilian _____ Military: Rank/Grade _____

Active Duty _____ Former _____ Retired _____ Reserve _____ National Guard _____

Chapter/Post/Unit _____

Credit Card # _____ Expires _____ Card Security Code _____ Billing Zip Code _____

VISA MasterCard Discover

Signature _____

My Donation is:

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

My payment 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

Mailing Address:

FRIENDS OF THE ARMY WOMEN'S MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 1027, Prince George, VA 23875

804-734-5742 or email us ltfawma@gmail.com

E-mail Address _____ I choose to receive information through email _____

Please include me on your distribution list for the FAWMA FOCUS Quarterly Newsletter. _____

**FRIENDS OF THE ARMY WOMEN'S MUSEUM ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 1027, PRINCE GEORGE, VA 23875**