

# FAWMA FOCUS

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

## Quarterly Newsletter

3rd Quarter of 2023

### From the Co-Presidents...

Hello Friends!

Where did the summer go? We're hoping you enjoyed yours. Before we know it, the holiday season will be upon us!

And as we approach the holidays and the season of giving--the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, which is 28 November this year, is Giving Tuesday. This year, our goal is \$12,000, the purpose of which is to raise money for the U.S. Army Women's Museum and create an interest for the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion exhibit opening in Spring of 2024. Stay tuned for our campaign kick-off on our website and social media. You pushed us over our goal last year, and we hope you'll consider donating again this year!

We want to share some news we're extremely proud of, and to demonstrate to you, our supporters, that your generosity has resulted in positive outcomes. The AWM was chosen to receive the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration's 2022-2023 Pinnacle Award for achieving "Programs of Distinction." We are among recipients, including Smithsonian Museums and National Parks, which received the award for "programs of exceptional educational value and for actively engaging users." Your support funded the state-of-the-art live studio, as well as our phenomenal part-time virtual educator, Micaela Procopio.

Education and programs about the achievements and contributions of Army women are the centerpiece of our mission. Micaela is now pursuing her PHD, and although she is continuing to work for us, we have hired another educator, Valerie Markworth, to join our "dream" team. Whereas Micaela's programming is primarily virtual, Valerie's focus will be face-to-face education and outreach in the local area of Fort Gregg-Adams.

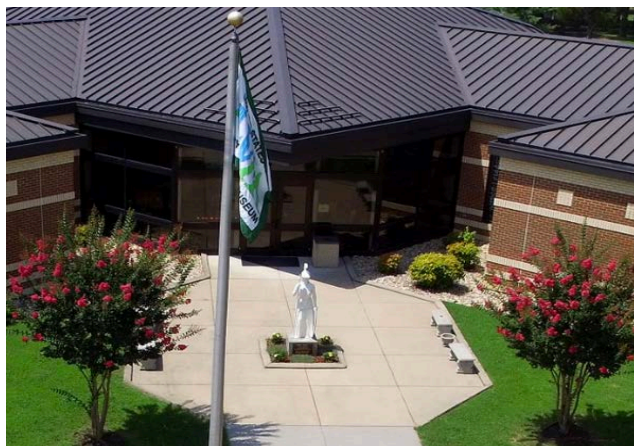
Continued on Page 2

### Board of Directors

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**FRIENDS OF THE ARMY WOMEN'S MUSEUM ASSOCIATION**

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## Co-President's Message continued...

We are excited to report that the 6888<sup>th</sup> Central Postal Directory Battalion's Exhibit is in the works, and on track to open in the spring of 2024. We're hoping you will be able to join us to celebrate the grand opening!

We should have some details to share of the 6888<sup>th</sup> exhibit opening in our next FAWMA Focus, which will be published in January 2024. Till then, Cyd and I wish you a holiday season filled with joy, love, and laughter!

"Teamwork makes the dream work!" We can't thank you enough for being part of our team!

Aimee and Cydnee



Co-Presidents Cydnee Gentry and Aimee Kominiak



Aim your smart phone camera at this QR code and discover a new way to continue supporting your legacy!

## Curator's Corner

It's Fall Y'all!

This is one of the most beautiful times of the year here at the AWM. While the colors are changing outside, there have also been some exciting events occurring inside. In August, we were notified that *The Courage to Deliver: Women of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion* exhibit was fully funded by the Center of Military History. We held our kickoff meeting with Capitol Exhibit Services, the team that will be fabricating and installing the exhibit. We are looking good for a Spring 2024 ribbon cutting!

In August, Team AWM supported the Fort Dr. Mary Walker Redesignation Ceremony with an Army women's history exhibit. Hosted by the Military District of Washington, over 300 attendees celebrated this recognition of Dr. Walker, Medal of Honor Recipient, and surgeon during the Civil War. During the Summer, we hosted a variety of professional development programs for organizations such as Pamplin Historical Park, Netherlands Staff College, 80th Training Command, and the Army Sustainment College. We were also thrilled to have our digital education programs receive the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration Pinnacle award for outstanding programming.

For any of you that have visited us in the last six months and had to fight your way through the road construction to the museum, you will be pleased to know that Gregg Gate and Adams Avenue have reopened! If you are in the area, please stop in and see us. As always, I want to thank FAWMA and all her supporters for the continued and outstanding support you provide to the museum.

Warmest regards,

Tracy

## Spotlight...



Valerie Markworth was hired by the Friends of the Army Women's Museum Association as an educator for the Army Women's Museum this past month. We are happy to have Valerie as part of our team. In her new role, she will conduct outreach and support education and programs in the local community. Valerie holds a Bachelors's Degree in Education and has many years of teaching experience.



Valerie Markworth

Welcome, Valerie!

## FAWMA Digital Education and Live Studio



The AWM Live Broadcast Studio received the Pinnacle Award from the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration (CILC). This site hosts content providers from museums, zoos, aquariums, National Parks, Halls of Fame, science, historical, and cultural centers around the world. "Programs of Distinction" are determined by the outstanding ratings on evaluations submitted by educators and activity directors for exceptional educational value and actively engaging learners. The AWM Digital Educator position is funded annually by Friends of the Army Women's Museum Association.

**"FAWMA Focus"** is published four times a year to inform donors about what the Association is doing to support the U.S. Army Women's Museum. No part of the newsletter may be quoted, reproduced, or used in any form, or by any means, electronic or mechanical, or by any information storage and/or retrieval system, without our specific permission.

## DONATIONS JULY 1 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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**THANK YOU to our  
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## We can now accept electronic donations!

We can now accept electronic donations! If you are interested in donating to the AWM or the new 6888th exhibit, click on our Donate Button <https://armywomensmuseum.org/donate/> on our website.

## 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: [https://thatsmybrick.com/armywmn\\_sva](https://thatsmybrick.com/armywmn_sva)



## Happening at the Museum...



### Chickahominy YMCA visits our AWM

On June 21<sup>st</sup>, a group of active adults from the Chickahominy YMCA braved the wind and rain to visit the AWM. They received a personal guided tour from the FT Gregg-Adams Museums' Educator, Ali Kolleda. The group leader sent a thank you note that read, "We enjoyed your professional, knowledgeable, and positive tour. You have the right personality for this job, and it showed throughout the tour." We wholeheartedly agree!

### Visit from the Netherlands Staff College

Also in June, the Quartermaster Museum Curator and the FT Gregg-Adams Educator conducted tours of the QMM and AWM for BG Nicole De Wolf and 25 students from the Netherlands Staff College in support of the Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOM) and the Quartermaster School. Supporting the commands on post during these distinguished visits showcases the museum to a wide audience.



### Congratulations BG(P) Patricia Wallace!

BG(P) Patricia Wallace, Commanding General of the 80th Training Command, filmed a segment with her public affairs team at the Army Women's Museum for her upcoming promotion. BG Wallace is the first female commander in the 105-year history of the 80th TC.

### Visit from the family of a Vietnam Veteran

We received a visit from the children of Spec. 4 Emma Louise Thornton, a Vietnam WAC, who was laid to rest the next day. A quick search of the AWM archives unveiled photos of Emma with her USARV WAC Detachment in 1967 that her son, Woody, and daughter, Shari, had never seen. It was an honor to explore Emma's service with her family.

Emma Louise Thornton in Vietnam



The children of Emma Thornton

# Outreach and Community Events...

## Interview with the Richmond Times describes naming reaction.

The AWM Curator was interviewed by Chelsea Jackson, a reporter for the Richmond Times Dispatch. The interview, facilitated by CASCOM PAO, focused on Fort Gregg-Adams' community reaction to the redesignation and how the legacy of LTC Adams and the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion inspires Soldiers and civilians today. Other interview participants included SSG Desiree O'Neal, SSG Whitely Johns, and CSM (Ret) Elizabeth Helm-Frazier.



## WACs Deborah Flagg and Pamela Coltharp Hilbert

The AWM enjoyed a wonderful visit from two former WACs. Deborah Flagg and Pamela Coltharp Hilbert traveled from New York and Pennsylvania to see the AWM. They shared great memories from training at Fort McClellan and assignments across the USA and Germany. It is an honor to showcase their history here at the AWM!

## Fort Gregg-Adams Retirement Appreciation Day

MAJ (R) Flo Dunn and LTC (R) Delinda Creal and Educator Valeria Markworth participate in Fort Gregg Adams Retirement Appreciation Day on September 30, 2023.





**The AWM team supported the Fort Walker Redesignation Ceremony on August 25, 2023. Ali Kolleda with Dr. Mary Walker descendants.**



### **Outreach Program at Cool Springs Elementary**

Cool Springs Elementary School YMCA enjoyed a program on 9/19/23. Students learned about Charity Adams and enjoyed participating in a learning activity on mail delivery.

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.

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

\$35  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1000  \$1200  \$1500  \$2000  \$3000 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

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In honor of the 688<sup>th</sup> Central Postal Directory Battalion \_\_\_\_\_

My donation is In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

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My check is enclosed and made out to: FAWMA

*The Friends 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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804-734-5742 or email us at [flawma@gmail.com](mailto:flawma@gmail.com)

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