THERE’S A LOT TO EXPLORE IN SAN FRANCISCO THIS SPRING.
HONOR. COURAGE. COMMITMENT.

Become a Recurring Monthly Donor!

Our monthly donors are the guardians of our programs and services here at the Marines’ Memorial. They provide the steady, reliable funding that allows us to Commemorate, Educate and Serve our heroes every day of the year.

$10/Month
Provide a care package for an Active Duty service member overseas.

$20/Month
Fund a commemorative or educational event.

$100/Month
Sponsor a Gold Star Parent to attend our Honor and Remembrance event.

GIVE ONLINE at www.ourmission.MarinesMemorial.org/recurring or use the envelope at the center of this magazine and let us know you would like it to be monthly!

Donations of $500 or more will be listed in Crossroads.

If your giving is restricted to 501(c)3 organizations, please consider a gift to the Marines’ Memorial Foundation.
Correspondence

Bits & Pieces: News You Can Use

The Club Calendar

EVENTS IN REVIEW

10 14th Gold Star Parents Event
14 Stopping Economic Espionage
15 The Big Games: Football at MMC
16 Meet the Author

THE LIVING MEMORIAL

18 Generous Contributions
25 ‘I Do’ x 2: A Wedding Déjà Vu
26 A Home Away from Home When Disaster Strikes

YOUR CLUB & ASSOCIATION

8 Earn a Free Night’s Stay
7 Meet the Members
24 The Benefits of Banquets
27 Introducing Our Soaring Eagles
29 Meet the Staff: Edda Rodriguez
30 Worldwide Reciprocal Clubs

OF INTEREST

34 Call for Submissions

On the cover: Conservatory of Flowers, Golden Gate Park
Event photos: Jan Lundberg Photography
A Scholarship Widens the Path

Dear Marines’ Memorial,

The 2018 scholarship award was a tremendous help. I am a disabled veteran who at times doubts whether or not I can succeed in school because I’m not a traditional student. Being selected for the scholarship let me know that there are people who think I can succeed. Although you didn’t know me, you encouraged me. The support you provided has not only been of benefit to me this school year, it will continue to be a source of inspiration until my collegiate journey is complete. More veterans need to know that support is out there. Thank you for all that you do.

Braulio Rodas

USMC OIF Combat Veteran 2005-13

MMC’s Wedding Dream Team Strikes Again

From a Yelp.com review:

I’m not even sure where to begin. My husband and I tied the knot at the Marines’ Memorial Club in the Commandant’s Ballroom in October. The staff completely blew our vision and the entire event out of the water. Everyone was so on top of everything from the pre-planning to the final execution of the very last moment of the night, and even into the next morning when it was time to gather up everything to head out. It was perfect, to be honest. And coming from me, a total OCD, perfectionist project manager for a large commercial real estate firm — a total perfectionist — I definitely don’t use these words loosely!

Our wedding was, without a doubt, the very best day of our lives. It was unbelievable. Once the big day began, all my stress melted away. The entire team made it all seem so effortless.

I couldn’t be happier that we picked the MMC as our wedding venue. We also love that it is such a beautiful hotel. So many of our guests voiced that it was the best wedding they had ever been to. I will be raving about the wedding and the MMC for years to come.

I also want to personally recognize Lisa Jimenez and Kirsti Heon, and pass along my sincere gratitude for all their help. I couldn’t have done it without them. They not only got things done quickly and efficiently, but with a smile and wonderfully positive attitude.

The MMC is one of San Francisco’s best hidden gems, in my opinion, and I’ve lived here my entire life. I will most definitely be back to the Leatherneck Steakhouse for a nice dinner with my new husband, and can’t wait for our next stay. Thank you all from the bottom of our little married hearts!

Marisa and Johnny

Would you like to share a response to what you read here? A suggestion or opinion about your Club experience? Please address correspondence to Crossroads@MarinesMemorial.org.

Ladies’ Tea & Handkerchief Exhibit

Save the date for our 2019 Ladies’ Tea. Come to socialize, sip, and enjoy sweet and savory bites. Our guest speaker will be historical handkerchief specialist Ann Mahoney. She will present items from her collection, which we will display in our Library through the month of May.

TEA: 5 May, 2–4 p.m., Crystal Lounge EXHIBIT: through 31 May, Library
“A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle.” – Erin Majors

Honors for Leatherneck Steakhouse

We are proud to announce that the international reservation and review site OpenTable has awarded the Leatherneck Steakhouse a 2018 Diner’s Choice Award. The award is given based on OpenTable’s analysis of more than 400,000 San Francisco diner reviews. Remember, MMA members get 10% off in the restaurant, and Benefactor members get 15% off.

“Happiness is found not in doing what one likes to do, but in liking what one has to do.” – Sir James M. Barrie

Top MMA Membership Recruiter is on a roll

Our top recruiter for this quarter is James G. “Jim” Williams of Aptos. He is hosting a reunion at the Club in May and is trying to make sure everyone becomes a member! As of this writing, he’s recruited at least five new members so far. Who could you invite to join you for a drink, a meal, or an event here? Did you know that for every new member you sign up, you’ll earn a free night’s stay at the Club? See page 8 for details and a cheat sheet for closing the deal.

“The Nation that makes a great distinction between its scholars and its warriors will have its thinking done by cowards and its fighting done by fools.” – Charles George Gordon

Is Marines’ Memorial in your will?

If you have included, or plan to include, the Marines’ Memorial in your estate plan, please let us know. Contact our Development Director, Chelsea Leonard, at (415) 658-9210 or ChelseaLeonard@MarinesMemorial.org. No gift is too small — each gift makes a difference!

“If you’re not ready the moment things happen, then you’re irrelevant.” – General James Amos

Elevator modernization in store

We will soon embark on a multi-million dollar project to modernize our Club building’s four elevators. New state-of-the-art elevators will serve our members and guests for decades to come. Each unit will require 12 weeks of work over two phases. The project begins this year, with a completion target of 2021. We appreciate your patience and support as we strive to maintain this living memorial to the highest possible standard. If you would like to support this project, please contact the Development Department at (415) 658-9210 or ChelseaLeonard@MarinesMemorial.org.

“A lack of planning on your part does not constitute a crisis on mine... unless of course I failed to lead you.” – Anonymous

Eagle of the Quarter

Congratulations to our Eagle of the Quarter, Axel Puno! We appreciate Axel’s exemplary work as Guest Services Security Attendant.

“People ask the difference between a leader and a boss. The leader leads, and the boss drives.” – Theodore Roosevelt

Help us keep you informed

Are you receiving our e-newsletter, MarineClub Monthly? If not, please let us know right away! It’s the easiest way for members to stay current on the Club calendar, plus members-only news and special offers. Send us an email at Member@MarinesMemorial.org or log into the member portal at MarinesMemorial.org/membership and click “Member Login.”

“I don’t measure a man’s success by how high he climbs but by how high he bounces when he hits bottom.” – General George S. Patton

In Memory

We list the names of recently deceased MMA members in Crossroads. If you know of a member who has passed on, please let us know at Member@MarinesMemorial.org or call us at (415) 673-6672.
3 Nights/$559  4 Nights/$709  5 Nights/$829

Your San Francisco getaway includes

- Single or double occupancy in a standard room
- (Sun-Thurs)*: Free Business Center and WiFi
- Premium bath amenities
- Local weekday newspaper
- Full American Breakfast
- Hosted Happy Hour 4-6pm daily
- Pass to Active Sports Clubs Union Square

BOOK TODAY! MarinesMemorial.org  1-800-5-MARINE

*For Members only and subject to availability. Upgrades when available: Deluxe/Corner $20 add’l per night; Suite $100 add’l per night. Up to five rooms may be booked at this rate for each membership; all rooms must be registered and paid for by the Member. All prices subject to prevailing hotel occupancy tax. Package must be purchased 7 days in advance and paid at time of reservation. Refund available with 7 days notice. Not applicable to groups. May not be combined with other Hotel or Club offers. All packages subject to availability. Restrictions may apply.
While on active duty, **TSGT LAURINA SOUSA, USAF** was stationed at Andrews AFB during the Obama administration, serving as a flight attendant for DV Airlift, which takes government and military officials to locations around the world. Laurina now serves as a loadmaster on C-17s in the reserves. As she prepares to write a thesis on women veterans and employment at UC Berkeley, she is also president of the campus’s Student Veterans Group, one of the largest in the US. She first visited the Club in 2015 while helping to plan a Vets in Tech gala. After that, she found herself here again and again, for leadership seminars, networking functions, Fleet Week and Veterans Group events. She discovered that, underpinning the business side — event venue, hotel, restaurant — was a great purpose and benefit to the veteran community. She finally asked herself, Why am I not a member? “It’s important to maintain our community and camaraderie outside of the military,” Laurina says. “A lot of people don’t realize how valuable that is. Suicide and homelessness plague the veteran community. Without a strong support system, it’s easy to get off track.” To shine a light on the Marines’ Memorial as a hub for that support, she is working with Membership on outreach to student veterans, including a member application targeted specifically to them.

**TSGT LAURINA SOUSA, USAF**

**LT COL MANUEL “JAY” DELAROSA, USMC (RET.)** says his transition into civilian life is still fresh. Four years out, he is adjusting and discovering new things daily. While eager to assist and mentor others in transition, he says it’s like joining the military. “Hearing how it will be isn’t experiencing it. You have to learn your own lessons and make your own mistakes.” He adds that success “comes down to your network.” After 27 years of service, including tours in Iraq, Korea, the Pentagon, and humanitarian assistance in Indonesia and Japan, Jay is a public affairs officer at Navy Region Southwest in San Diego. Staying in the Club during 2018 Fleet Week, he ran into his old boss, Marines’ Memorial President/CEOJan Huly, who told him he’d better join, or else. “The last time I took an order from Gen Huly in uniform was 2006,” he says. “But I can’t say no to another Marine; if he asks, I’ll do it.” Jay treasures places that preserve Marine Corps culture and history and was surprised by some of the Living Memorial displays, where he found the names of friends. To inspire other veterans to have such an experience, he reaches out to VFW posts, Marine Corps League, and military themed businesses in Southern California. “I help them connect, encourage them, show them it’s a great deal.”

**LT COL MANUEL “JAY” DELAROSA, USMC (RET.)**

**TOM “GHOST” MARTIN’S Leatherneck Club of Las Vegas has about 13,000 followers across social media, and it’s entirely possible that every last one of those is a Marine. Ghost’s “club” is actually a bar and grill, open to the public but meant as a place for Marines to gather and feel at ease. It’s also a Marine history museum, with artifacts dating back to World War I. “We get eight to ten new Marines through the door every day,” says Ghost. He doesn’t advertise; Marines find the Leatherneck Club through social media and word of mouth. And that is how he learned of the Marines’ Memorial last year, from a**

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For Marine Corps Reserve veteran **TODD KENT**, the Marines’ Memorial is a family affair. His annual tradition of Christmastime visits with his wife and young daughters includes dressy dinners in the Leatherneck Steakhouse, exploring San Francisco, and shopping. “My family didn’t know me as a Marine,” says Todd. “The Club connects me to my past, and I can share that with them.” He also comes on his own to volunteer, to introduce other veterans to the Club, and most recently to talk with a fellow member about connecting more young vets to MMA. Todd is head coach of UC Santa Cruz women’s basketball, which he has led to six winning seasons and two NCAA tournaments. Being on a college campus and volunteering in his community, Todd meets a lot of young veterans. He wonders: Why are they not joining veterans organizations? “I constantly talk to student veterans about the benefits of belonging to the Marines’ Memorial, like scholarships that can add to their lives in college and beyond,” he says, “and I have gotten a number to join.”
Earn one free night’s accommodations for every new Member you sign up!

The Marines’ Memorial Club remains the “best kept secret in San Francisco.” We need your help to spread the word! The Association is asking you, our members, to recommend membership to friends and loved ones who would value and appreciate the many advantages of a Marines’ Memorial membership:

- Access to the Marines’ Memorial Club & Hotel in San Francisco
  - Member rates and packages for overnight accommodations
  - Members-only happy hour on the 2nd floor, Chesty’s Bar on the 12th floor
  - Leatherneck Steakhouse, now offering 15% discount for Benefactors, 10% all other members
  - Marines’ Memorial Theatre
- Access to over 240 reciprocal clubs all over the world
- Networking opportunities with Currently Serving and Veteran communities
- Invitations to special events: Marine Corps Birthday Ball, George P. Shultz Lecture Series, holiday brunches and more
- Direct support of our mission — honoring the legacy of military service through our “Living Memorial” and programs that commemorate, educate, and serve Veterans of all eras and their families

To be eligible for Marines’ Memorial membership, candidates must have served honorably in any branch of the US Armed Forces.

Please share the application on the facing page, or refer your friends to MarinesMemorial.org to join! Make sure they tell us you referred them, so you will be eligible for a “Member Get a Member” gift certificate. For each new Veteran member you refer, you will receive one night’s accommodations* at the Marines’ Memorial Club & Hotel.

*“Member Get a Member” gift certificates are for standard room rates Sunday-Thursday and cannot be combined with Member’s Choice or other packages. Referred member must be a new Veteran member who has paid the $200 membership contribution, and the referrer must be an active member. Certificates have no cash value and are not transferable or replaceable. Rewards are sent quarterly.

Email Member@MarinesMemorial.org to request a printed Membership Brochure.
Membership Categories (All donations are tax-deductible and non-refundable):

- **Regular** Veteran & Retired, all US Services, including Merchant Marine (wartime): Annual donation $200
- **Currently Serving Members of the Armed Forces** All Services $35 (Rates remain the same until personnel departs Active/Reserve status, then normal member rates apply)
- **Benefactor** Veteran, Retired, or Currently Serving.
  Benefits include: Engraved name plate, room upgrade at no additional cost (based on availability at check-in), advance special events reservations, 15% discount in the Leatherneck Steakhouse, 15% discount on Memorabilia.
  - **Individual Plan** One time donation of $3500 (Includes primary and spouse)
  - **Family Plan** One time donation of $4500 (Includes primary, spouse and family guest cards at no additional charge)

Membership Information (Please print clearly)

First Name, MI, Last Name: _____________________________

Branch of Service: □ USMC □ USN □ USA □ USAF □ USCG □ Merchant Marine (wartime)

Military Status: ___________________ Highest/Current Rank: ___________________

Birth Date: ____ / ____ / ____ Email: ____________________________@__________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________

City: __________________ State: _______ Zip: _______

Home Phone: __________________ Mobile: ___________________________

I certify that I served on Active Duty in the US Armed Forces from _________ to ________.

How did you hear about us?

- □ Advertisement or news article (Name of publication or site: _____________________________)
- □ Visit to the Club or Theatre
- □ Member/family/friend
- □ Site presentation
- □ Other ____________________________

Family Members

Your spouse, children over 21 years (who are ineligible for membership by themselves) and non-military parents are eligible for Guest Cards. Spouse card is complimentary; all others are $50 annually, per Guest Card. Please list names, relations and ages of those for whom you would like to add a card (use reverse side if necessary). In-laws are ineligible.

First & Last Name Relationship Email Amount Must be 21 Years +

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

Processing Your Membership Application

In addition to the completion of this application, please attach the following:

- **Photocopy of Official Verification of Honorable Service:** DD214 or Retired ID Card; copy of front of Active Duty ID Card (Currently Serving only)
- **Appropriate Donation** (All donations are tax-deductible and non-refundable)

Circle Payment Type: MC VISA AMEX Personal check or other: __________________________

Total Amount Due (membership donation + guest card(s)) $ __________ □ Additional Donation Enclosed $ __________

Credit Card #: __________________________________ Exp. Date __________

Signature of Applicant _____________________________ Date __________

Referred by ___________________________________________ Welcome Aboard!

Contact Us: tel (415) 673-6672 x223 1-800-5-MARINE fax (415) 563-5820 Member@MarinesMemorial.org MarinesMemorial.org
Losing a child to war: there are just no words for it. It is beyond devastation, and the journey is different for every family.

The full spectrum of this experience was on view at Honor and Remembrance this February, as 95 families of the fallen came together to reminisce and grieve, receive support and counseling, and build a lasting community. Sadness mingled with celebration of the privilege of having loved and held their children for as long as they could. They began with mementos, medals, scrapbooks lovingly placed onto tribute tables to show and tell and draw others into their precious memories. They rose the next morning, braced for the memorial service and looking forward to explore, connect, and keep sharing with one another. Finally, a special banquet and speaker sent them off, back into “real” life until they meet again.

About Brian

PFC Brian M. Wolverton, US Army was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, NY. He was killed on 20 August 2009 in Kunar Province, Afghanistan when insurgents attacked his unit with indirect fire. It was his first deployment. He had arrived not more than a week before and was at battalion headquarters waiting to go out with his company. He was 21.

Brian’s parents, Chris and Miriam Wolverton, have attended our Gold Star Honor and Remembrance event for each of the ten years since Brian was killed.

Miriam Wolverton says that, for a couple of years after Brian’s death, she and Chris were numb. “It’s hard to wrap your mind around this. Over time, we began to accept it. It gets better, but the pain never goes away.” To sit with them as they describe their journey is to see the power of mutual support and love in action.

Brian Wolverton’s great great grandfather was a private in an Illinois infantry regiment in the Civil War. His great grandfather’s 30-year Army career spanned both World Wars. His grandfather served 26 years as a Marine pilot and flew in World War II. After completing ROTC in college, Brian’s father, Chris, served three years as an Army finance officer with the 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea.

Despite his family history, it was not a given that Brian would join the military. He didn’t seem at all interested as a child, says his mother, but then “he started to watch a lot of the History Channel, lots of war histories, and he loved the guns, tanks, all of the military hardware.” In his final years of high school, seeing recruiters on campus solidified Brian’s intention to serve.

It was while taking classes at Moorpark Community College that Brian formalized his plan to enlist. His parents suggested ROTC, but he said no, he wanted to be on the front line. So, they worked out a compromise: complete a two-year degree first, and then decide.

Meanwhile, he returned to Oak Park High School to help coach the track team, rising to the position of assistant coach. He became so committed, he actually arranged his class schedule around his coaching duties.

“Here, you don’t feel awkward if you suddenly start crying. You can just be how you feel. You let your grief out, you get a hug and a tissue. It’s very comforting.” — CHRIS & MIRIAM WOLVERTON GOLD STAR PARENTS OF PFC BRIAN WOLVERTON, USA
Brian kept the promise to his parents and his promise to himself, heading to boot camp straight out of school. He signed a six-year contract with the goal of becoming a Ranger. He felt it was his duty to serve his country.

Miriam says that, in her quiet moments, she remembers Brian’s mischievous smile and sarcastic sense of humor, and also that he was serious, responsible, and full of energy. When they were little, he and his younger brother spent hours playing video games. He played pony league baseball until he aged out, then joined his high school track team. He flexed his strategic powers with frequent games of chess and Magic.

There were other things about Brian that his parents learned after his death, things that most parents never get to know about their children, like what they were really like with their friends or what their teachers saw in them. In remembrances offered at his funeral and over social media, Chris and Miriam found out that Brian had played dodgeball in elementary school, and that he could be quite bossy. They learned of the devoted following and respect he had among the kids he coached and the other coaches. While he was a typical boy at home, not sharing much about his school days, Miriam says, “We found out so much through the messages now and then. She also wears a pendant with Brian’s photo on it. It keeps him close and can be a good conversation starter. “We enjoy sharing about Brian,” she says. “I guess that’s another way of keeping his memory alive.”

Not long after a college professor shared that Brian had wanted to specialize in cultural anthropology, a Moorpark College scholarship was renamed the Brian Wolverton Anthropology Transfer Scholarship. Likewise at Oak Park High School, a scholarship was established in his honor, called the Exemplary Citizenship Scholarship. Miriam participated in setting up the scholarships and helped arrange a memorial at the high school. She also coordinated a care package program with a group of high school students. These activities kept her occupied and helped her get through the first few years.

**Others like us**

The Wolvertons attended the 2010 Gold Star Parents event, six months after Brian’s death. Every year, they say, it’s like a family reunion. As with family, you may not see each other much, but when you do, it’s like no time has passed and the bond is unbroken. Having the event at the Marines’ Memorial Club is especially meaningful for Chris, who remembers staying here as a child when his dad, a Marine, was changing duty stations.

That first year, they wandered around in a daze. “A couple of other Gold Star families adopted us,” they recall, “and we’ve been friends ever since. Also, our table was set up next to Captain John Hallett, who was killed within days of our son, so right away we met people who were exactly where we were in the grieving process.”

Out in the world, a grieving parent can feel like an outsider, and having to hold it together or face people’s mostly well-intentioned but sometimes very unhelpful comments can be exhausting. The Wolvertons point out that here, you don’t feel awkward or weird if you suddenly start crying. You can just be how you feel, let your grief out without apology. What you get in return is comfort, a hug and a tissue.

They agree that the toughest part of the two days is the Friday morning memorial ceremony, with pictures of the fallen rolling by on the big screen. The small group sharing can be nice, and sometimes offers practical help. For example, how would a Gold Star parent answer “How many children do you have?” Miriam says that was something she didn’t think about until it happened. Over time, you figure out how to deal with such things, and with people who can’t possibly understand.

Miriam and Chris also take inspiration from the closing banquet and speech. “We owe a debt of gratitude to General Myatt, Nancy, and the fabulous ladies that organize this event,” they say. “We could never repay their generosity.”

“We have been honored to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Wolvertons, offering our hand of support and love,” says Nancy Totman, co-chair of the Marines’ Memorial Association Gold Star Committee. “I can’t think of a greater privilege than to have the opportunity to pay tribute to fallen heroes such as Brian.”

-- continues next page --
Colonel McKay first attended Honor and Remembrance last year with his wife, Margo, who serves as “Blue to Gold Liaison” for the Sacramento Blue Star Mothers. When General Huly invite him to speak this year, Col McKay was honored. Then, he says, he got a little nervous. He had served in uniform as a casualty assistance officer, but being among a large group of parents who are grieving for their children was new to him. “Nobody is comfortable in the presence of death,” he says, “and it is daunting to address a room full of people who have lost someone, some of them recently.” To prepare, he rehearsed “relentlessly” how he would stand and deliver his remarks. Then, he relinquished all control over how these deeply heartfelt words would land on the tender souls before him.

Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Parents, I am humbled before the magnificence of your courage and fortitude. You have done me a great honor.

In peace, children inter their parents; war violates the order of nature and causes parents to inter their children.

We live in a society that skirts around speaking of grief, even more so, of death. All of you are poignantly enduring one of the most tragic events in any person’s life. You are all in a dark, raw place. The meaningless flutter of platitudes, the misplaced focus of awkward proffering of condolences in the guise of others’ own — almost universally minor — trials and tribulations, more often the fumbling offerings of insensibilities that neither grasp nor can even begin to appreciate your acute pain. These gestures, well meaning in principle, offer scant recognition that you, all of you, are in an unknown and terrible twilight from which you will never entirely emerge. You are literally transformed, forever changed. And, let’s be honest, the change is life long and not always propitious. It is true that some degree of redemption from, a coming to grips of sorts with, the mortality of your dearly beloved; and, yes, with your very own mortality, does occur. That is but meager comfort, much less any recompense for, the irrePLACEABLE losses you have suffered. You have an absolute right to whatever you are feeling, and whenever you are feeling those feelings. It is correctly said, “To weep is to make less the depth of grief.” Absolutely no one can, nor should they ever try to, deny you your departed loved ones. They are the children you lovingly brought into the world and unfailingly stood by, the loved ones you will forever cherish, and whom you so lovingly adored. Each and every one of them has been viciously ripped from your arms, violently torn from your sides, unforgivingly rendered from you forever, physically removed from your undying adoration, from an indiscernible emotional and physical devotion of unfathomable depth. You are driven upon your knees by the overwhelming conviction that you have nowhere to go. The heart of grief, its most difficult challenge, is not “letting go” of those who have died but instead making the transition from loving in the present to loving in separation. In being loved and always remembered, they are forever in your hearts. And, from your hearts you will evermore speak of them.

I am no stranger to the loss of loved ones to abject violence. Nor will I ever be unburdened of grief. Grief is universal. Yet, and yet, grief is so intimately personal. How we grieve is who we are. And, as were your loved ones, we, each and every one of us present this evening, is a unique individual. And, as individuals we grieve individually, uniquely, each within our own private solitude. That does not assuage the pain, the reality of ultimate loss, but it does give due to the fact we are each human individuals. The grave poignancy of the grief shared within this room puts on vivid display the increasingly rare type of individual your loved ones embody and represent — yes, I intentionally use the present tense. For they have done more, and paid the ultimate price through their sacrifice, in upholding the universal legitimacy of humanism. Individuals such as your sons, daughters, spouses, or siblings...
aren't supposed to exist anymore, except in our honeyed remembrances of the so called greatest generation. Your presence this evening puts a lie to that tale. Perhaps more importantly, our gathering together on this evening of honor and remembrance unapologetically and openly displays a collective embrace of the critically important sensitivity of sharing that which all but defies sharing.

The very commemorating of your loved ones' lives provides a clear marker of the significance of each and every one of their singular presences on this earth. Though we walk together down an unpredictable, painful, draining and exhausting path, we collectively seek hope.

We seek the courage not to forsake hope. In loss, hope hides itself. Through our gathering together this evening, collectively commemorating our losses, we are challenging hope to once again show us the way forward. Allow strength from life's surges of the cruelest kind, cast light upon the darkness of despair, through hope, faith, love and the common bond of this shared evening.

I am privileged beyond description to have shared a few moments with you. Thank you.

Videos from the 2019 event may be viewed at www.youtube.com/user/MarinesMemorialClub/videos
The Marines’ Memorial and Armed Forces Communications & Electronics Association (AFCEA) held a special event on 4 December. The topic was “Economic Espionage: How to Spot It, How to Stop It”. This was an inaugural event held by the four Northern California Regional AFCEA Chapters: Northern California (at Travis AFB), San Francisco, Silicon Valley, and Monterey.

Among the event’s 115 registered attendees were AFCEA and Marines’ Memorial Members, members of the FBI San Francisco Citizens Academy Alumni Association, the West Point Alumni Association, FBI Retirees, and Vets In Tech. Also attending were Captain Chuck McDougald, USA (Ret.), president of the MOAA Silicon Valley Chapter, and Pierre Fournier, past president of the San Francisco Association of Former Intelligence Officers.

After welcoming remarks by MMA President & CEO Lieutenant General Jan Huly, USMC (Ret.), himself a long-time AFCEA member, chapter leaders introduced the evening’s program.

The first presenter was FBI San Francisco Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) John Illia. Mr. Illia provided an outstanding overview of the FBI mission, which is administered from their San Francisco office. They are responsible for many of the counties located in Northern California. He discussed the difficulties the Bureau faces with the FBI personnel being assigned within the Bay Area and being paid government wages where the cost of living is so high. Yet, he pointed out that they have an excellent loss rate of less than 1%, far better than the private sector they protect. Further, he said that many of their special agents have been in the Bureau for many years and love what they do.

Special Agent Richard Bardsley, a counterintelligence expert, followed Mr. Illia. Special Agent Bardsley’s presentation started with his recent experiences in China. He pointed out that they have an excellent loss rate of less than 1%, far better than the private sector they protect. Further, he said that many of their special agents have been in the Bureau for many years and love what they do.

To close the meeting, there was a special presentation from Department of Homeland Security’s Transportation Security Administration (DHS/TSA) Explosive Detection K-9 Team. Transportation Security Specialists Peter Banh and Brijida Mancilla brought their working dogs, Gera and Nero, both German Shorthair Pointers, for a brief demonstration on detecting explosives at the San Francisco Airport. Many attendees felt it was a real highlight of the evening to be able to witness these highly trained dogs interacting with the audience and understanding the training required for these working dogs to carry out their daily mission.

After the meeting, many attendees were able to informally talk with our guest speakers.

AFCEA, established in 1946, is a non-profit membership association serving the military, government, industry, and academia as a forum for advancing professional knowledge and relationships in the fields of communications, information technology, intelligence, and security. AFCEA supports local chapters, sponsors events, publishes SIGNAL Magazine, promotes education, and provides benefits to more than 30,000 members.

Bob Landgraf is a Marines’ Memorial member and regional vice president of AFCEA.
Marines’ Memorial offers our members and supporters a place to watch the biggest football games with other veterans and patriot supporters! Each year, we have viewing parties for the Super Bowl and the Army vs. Navy game.

We hope to see you cheering on your team next time!
In our first 2019 Meet the Author program, held on 23 January, Tiburon resident and longtime MMA Member Bob McLaughlin offered a wonderful story from World War II.

The Capture of the U-505 connects a series of personalities and events that literally span the world, from Australia to Poland, with a cast of characters that reflect the history of those troubled times. We hear of the brilliant members of the Polish Cypher Bureau, whose technical efforts in the 1930s directly contributed to the breaking of the German Enigma code machines; Flight Sergeant Ronald Silcock of the Royal Australian Air Force, who developed deadly tactics, techniques, and procedures to effectively counter German technology, and led the attack which crippled the U-505 albeit at the cost of his and his crew’s lives; and Captain Daniel Gallery, USN and the men of Hunter Killer Task Group 22.3, whose efforts significantly hindered the U-Boat campaign in the Battle for the Atlantic and whose determination and innovation led directly to the capture of the U-505.

The capture of the submarine itself is a tale of high drama. Badly damaged, newly abandoned by its crew, and taking on water, an armed boarding party was unhesitating in the face of danger and uncertainty as they took control of the submarine. The successful capture was one of the Allies’ greatest secrets and provided a wealth of technical information and codes, along with a version of the most highly advanced German torpedoes. The crew of the submarine is also well described in the book as they went from the morale high of having an exceptional captain to the devastating lows of enduring an incompetent martinet. Their story continues through captivity and into the years following the war.

The story closes with a vivid description of the participants’ post-War lives and the long, circuitous voyage of the U-505 before its final port in the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, where it remains today.

The book is an exceptionally good read — a gripping story, told well — and the presentation was superb.

On 8 February, Sean McFate joined moderator and MMA Board member Tim Hsia on stage for a Marines’ Memorial-sponsored Meet the Author program at the World Affairs Council. McFate is a professor at National Defense University and Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service, teaching war studies, strategy, and foreign policy. He is also a Senior Fellow on the Atlantic Council.

Mr. McFate sees war differently than most Americans. He has travelled to 65 countries, including places where war is unceasing. He served as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division, and then as a private military contractor in Africa. He studied at Brown and Harvard Universities and holds a PhD in International Relations from the London School of Economics.

The New Rules of War is not an academic work, and it steers clear of jargon. “I wrote it so my mother could read it,” says the author, “because we need a national conversation about the direction our country is taking. The New Rules of War is not an academic work, and it steers clear of jargon. “I wrote it so my mother could read it,” says the author, “because we need a national conversation about the direction our country is taking.”
when it comes to war.” The question that drives McFate, and this book, is: “Why does America keep losing wars to weaker powers?”

The problem, he suggested at the start of his talk, is that we have the best troops, the best training, the best equipment, the best technology, and the most money, but we lack the best military or government strategists who can deploy it. The result, he said, is “strategic atrophy.” Admitting that his 10 new rules of modern warfare “will make a traditional warrior’s head explode,” he went on to suggest that they are essential to follow if we don’t want to be condemned to “forever wars.” When we look at war as armed politics, and we acknowledge that we’re good at the armed part but lousy at the politics, then we can begin to understand how we could win every battle, yet lose the war.

Proposing that western powers upgrade their strategic thinking, not their firepower, McFate said, “The first thing I would do is slash the defense budget.” The most expensive weapons systems are conventional war weapons whose current and future utility is questionable, “and we’re buying more of them,” he said. It is false, he said, to believe that the future of war looks like traditional warfare but with better technology. Instead, we need to invest in people, leadership, and basic skills ahead of technology.

We are in a period of unrest created by factors including China’s rise, Russia’s resurgence, global terrorism, international criminal empires, and climate change. McFate calls this new reality Durable Disorder, in which the rise of mercenaries and the privatization of war signals the retreat of the Westphalian order of nation-state sovereignty. Those who grasp this will prevail and those who do not will be exploited. Our “old rule” thinkers say that if there will be war with Russia or China, it’ll be a conventional war. “I would argue,” he said, “that we may already be at war with Russia and China and that part of their strategy is to keep us from thinking that we’re at war.” Consider Russian interference in US elections or the flood of refugees in Europe following Russian destruction of Syrian communities, leading to Brexit and the rise of right-wing nationalist parties that want to break apart the EU. Or China’s Three Warfares strategy, which combines economic warfare (the One Belt One Road policy), influence through soft power channels like Hollywood movies, and “lawfare,” twisting international law for their own ends. There is no traditional warfare in sight here. Russia’s and China’s understanding and implementation of the new rules of war has already put us at a disadvantage.

Sean McFate’s New Rules include the following: Conventional war is dead. Technology will not save us. War and peace coexist and our adversaries are exploiting this. Hearts and minds don’t matter; populations are not bribeable. Mercenaries are returning, which will give rise to new powers — such as Fortune 500 companies, billionaires, or narco lords — that are not states. States will become booty of war, not drivers of war. There will be private warfare, like in the Middle Ages. War will go underground, which will disadvantage democracies because secrets and democracy are not compatible. And victory is fungible.

This was a lively and provocative presentation that left attendees with a lot to consider.

READ THIS!
BOOKS WE RECOMMEND

The Capture of the U-505: A Legion of Heroes Robert McLaughlin

The New Rules of War: Victory in the Age of Durable Disorder by Sean McFate

At All Costs: The True Story of Vietnam War Hero Chief Master Sergeant Dick Etchberger by Matt Proietti

The Heart of Everything That is Valley Forge by Tom Clavin

The Fighters: Americans in Combat in Afghanistan and Iraq by C.J. Chivers

——— SEE PAGE 34 FOR A SPECIAL INVITATION! ————
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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Whether you designate your gift for a specific program like GOLD STAR PARENT EVENTS • CARE PACKAGES • ACTIVE DUTY AID & ASSIST, or let us direct it where it’s needed most, every dollar carries our mission into the future:
TO HONOR THE LEGACY OF MILITARY SERVICE.

Welcome to these new BENEFACtor MEMBERS

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YOUR CLUB CALENDAR \ UPCOMING EVENTS + REUNIONS
REGISTER AT MARINESMEMORIAL.ORG/MEMBERS/UPCOMING-EVENTS
OR RSVP@MARINESMEMORIAL.ORG

Underwriting opportunities are available for Marines’ Memorial events. Please contact Development Director Chelsea Leonard at ChelseaLeonard@MarinesMemorial.org.

21 April 2019 · 12:00 pm
EASTER BRUNCH

24 April 2019 · 5:30 pm  SOLD OUT
GEORGE P. SHULTZ LECTURE WITH FORMER NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER H.R. McMaster

5 May 2019 · 2:00 pm
MARINES’ MEMORIAL LADIES’ TEA
See page 4 for details.

13 May 2019 · 6:00 pm
SALUTE TO VIETNAM VETERANS
We will welcome guest speaker Gen Richard I. Neal, USMC (Ret.) and recent Medal of Honor recipient SgtMaj John L. Canley, USMC (Ret.).

6 June 2019 · 6:00 pm
75th ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY
Brigadier Roderick Macdonald and Dr. Seth Givens present stories from Allied and German perspectives.

20 June 2019 · 6:00 pm
MEET THE AUTHOR: GEN STANLEY McCHRISTAL
Gen McChrystal discusses Leaders: Myth and Reality.

September 2019 · Date TBA
KOREAN WAR 66TH ANNIVERSARY

26 September 2019 · 6:00 pm
COMMEMORATION OF WWII IN THE PACIFIC
With authors Walter Borneman and James Hornfischer.

6-14 October 2019
SAN FRANCISCO FLEET WEEK

16 November 2019 · 6:00 pm
244TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL

28 November 2019 · 12noon
MMA THANKSGIVING BRUNCH

31 December 2019 · 7:00 pm
NEW YEAR’S EVE CELEBRATION

Please check MarinesMemorial.org and our Club’s Facebook page frequently for the latest event info.

COMING SOON TO  MARINES’ MEMORIAL THEATRE \ MARINESMEMORIALTHEATRE.COM

25-28 April 2019
AN EVENING WITH C.S. LEWIS
Stories from the Chronicles of Narnia author’s life, with David Payne.  shnsf.com

3-4 May 2019
HUMANITIES WEST: BRONZE AGE GREECE
Mycenaeans and the origins of Western civilization.  cityboxoffice.com
We are proud of our banquet facility here at the Marines’ Memorial Club, and for good reason: it is among the finest in San Francisco. It is also one of the most valuable and least known benefits of MMA membership.

As a member who books a company meeting or conference, a family wedding or other social event at the Club, you benefit three ways:

• First, your Club will make you proud as you treat your guests to a great experience, where everything goes as planned because every detail is attended to with grace and care by our staff.

• Second, every member receives a rebate following their event, which they can choose to either keep or donate to the Association. Benefactor members receive a larger rebate.

• Third, every dollar received for event bookings supports MMA programs. And, when attendees become familiar with the Living Memorial, they often choose to contribute beyond the cost of the event. This comes back around to each of us and to all those we serve.

You may ask yourself: If people love using the Club’s banquet services so much, why isn’t my organization meeting there? How can I present the Club to my company’s meeting planner? Good questions. We’d like to help you answer them.

There are groups who have met at the Marines’ Memorial Club for decades. Some have outgrown our capacity and moved on; others, like the organization profiled below, would rather limit their registration than leave us. Read on.

For many years, West Coast Anti-Money Laundering (WCAML) Forum board member Camille Catalano coordinated her organization’s annual conference at the Marines’ Memorial Club. Recently, she spoke with us about how WCAML came to Marines’ Memorial and why they keep coming back.

The West Coast Anti-Money Laundering Forum started 27 years ago. One of our members was a retired Marine who went on to work for the IRS. He also happened to be a Marines’ Memorial member. He invited WCAML members to the Club for lunch to share and discuss hot topics and emerging trends in our industry. As those lunches grew, they saw an opportunity to channel their resources into a learning event.

WCAML consists of federal and state regulators, law enforcement, investigative agencies, bankers, and financial industry consultants.

Quick Facts

- Total Function Space » 15,000+ sq. ft.
- Event Capacity » 10-330 guests
- Member Benefit » 2.5%-3.5% rebate

Learn more » (415) 441-8562
sales@marinesmemorial.org
MarinesMemorial.org/meetings-events
“Fifty years is a long time,” says Sue Barberini. It was fifty years to the day after Sue and her beloved, Ed, celebrated their wedding at the Marines’ Memorial Club, that they arrived in the Crystal Ballroom to a nearly identical scene, recreated from photos of that special day in 1969.

The Barberinis are longtime members. Sue’s godfather, an Army Sergeant Major, had gifted her parents with a lifetime membership when he retired and returned home from Okinawa. Her father was a World War II Navy veteran. Sue spent plenty of time in the Club growing up and, in turn, Ed, Sue, and their three children have continued to enjoy membership over the decades. “Our kids have come on their own, too, stayed overnight, gone to the theater,” says Sue.

The Club has always been the first-choice venue for special family gatherings. Following Ed and Sue’s wedding, her mother threw her a surprise 24th birthday party here. When her brother got married, they hosted a dinner for his in-laws. Sue’s sister also had her own wedding reception here.

The couple usually goes to Hawaii for the month of October. As their 50th anniversary approached, Sue suggested they renew their vows on the beach. When Ed countered, “Let’s do a redo’’ of the church wedding and reception at Marines’ Memorial Club, she quickly agreed. Their children got wind of the plan and took over. “All we knew,” says Sue, “was that we had to be ready by 1:30 because the limo was picking us up at home in Burlingame.”

It came as a surprise to the Barberini children, as they began last year to plan the anniversary party, that the family’s membership had lapsed. It turned out that “lifetime” meant the lifetime of the primary member and spouse, and Sue’s mother passed away in 2012. So Ed, an Army veteran, applied and they were back in business.

On February 1, 1969, the Crystal Ballroom had a long bar, where the couple had their receiving line. There were finger foods and champagne, and close to 300 people. The five-piece house band from LaRocca’s Corner on Broadway played on the stage at the far right end of the room. “There is a photo of us holding up our champagne as we made our getaway,” remembers Sue. “That’s where the piano is now.”

Flash forward to February 1, 2019. There was a memorabilia table with Sue’s wedding veil, purse, and original bridesmaid favors. On the anniversary cake sat the topper — two doves — from the wedding cake. “As wedding gifts,” says Sue, “two girlfriends had given me duplicate vases, which I still have. My daughter swiped them from my house and put flowers in them. My girlfriends got to see that.” Sue and Ed’s first dance was, once again, to “Who’s Sorry Now?”.

From the original wedding party, the ring bearer, the flower girl, three bridesmaids, three groomsmen, and the altar boy came back to celebrate.

Ed, Sue and about 20 others stayed in the Club through the weekend. Everyone met for breakfast Saturday on the 12th floor, where Sue and her girlfriends stayed and talked past closing. “We were in and out of our suite Saturday,” she says, “and they kept replenishing our fruit bowls and juices. From the moment we walked in until the moment we left, everyone and everything couldn’t have been nicer.”

Sue says that they’re still talking about the party. People keep calling to say how great it was. “We’re still on cloud nine. We so looked forward to it, then it came and went in the blink of an eye.” As have the last 50 years. “It seems like we were just there. It just doesn’t seem that long ago. The room has changed a bit, but not the feeling.”
A PLACE TO CALL HOME
WHEN PARADISE IS LOST
by Rose McCoy

When the Camp Fire erupted in November, we reached out via email to remind Paradise-based members they had a solid home base here. Members often say that they consider the Marines’ Memorial Club their “home away from home,” and we are so proud of that. We want this to be true always, and especially in times of personal, natural, or man-made disaster. It was true after 9/11, when visitors were stranded in San Francisco; it’s true when medical trauma brings a family member to UCSF for treatment and you need to stay nearby; and in 2017, when dozens of evacuees took refuge here as fire threatened their North Bay neighborhoods.

Escape: a first person account

A month or so before the Camp Fire, Bernie Lightner had promised his wife, Susanne, a week at the Club. Their mid-December stay wasn’t exactly what he’d had in mind.

On the morning of November 8, Bernie got a phone call from his friend, saying there’s a major fire and we have to evacuate. We went out front and saw the huge black cloud coming toward us. We drove our brand new motorhome to the Paradise Elks Lodge, intending to return for it later. Back at the house, we took off again, with little more than the clothes on our backs. We quickly learned that the Elks Lodge (and our RV) had already burned. Skyway, the only road out of Paradise, was packed, with fire all around. It took four hours to go ten miles. Trees were falling, cars were stalling, and horses ran all over the road. Propane tanks were exploding at the mobile home parks. Twice we didn’t think we’d get out alive. Paradise residents had been given evacuation plans for the very reason that there was just one way in and out of town, but it didn’t matter; 38,000 people were trying to get out on that road. Visibility went from daylight to midnight. All communications were down. Police tried to direct traffic, and you could see the panic in their faces, knowing their own homes were burning and there was no way to reach their families. They told people to get out of their vehicles and run. Fortunately, we knew how to stay calm because of our backgrounds: Bernie is a retired police officer and Susanne managed 911 emergency communications.

Our neighborhood is gone, and it could take ten years to fully recover. We were in Paradise for 30 years. The future we planned is up in smoke.

Breathing space

After a few weeks, we arrived at MMC looking like a couple of lumberjacks in heavy boots and jeans. Staying there for seven days, we finally felt grounded, and completely safe. It’s like family. You can share things with people, and you don’t have to worry who you’re dealing with. With the fire, you’re looking for something that feels like home.

Pieces of history

Susanne boasts a unique connection with the Club. Through her childhood and teen years, her mother, Thelma, worked in Hanken’s Coffee Shop, which one could enter directly through the Club’s lobby. “She knew everybody ‘upstairs,’” says Susanne, “including the cook and the actors in the Theatre.” Thelma was often called on to serve at Club functions, as well. Susanne visited frequently and has cherished memories and mementos from those years.

The Lightners bought two Marines’ Memorial Theatre seats after the Theatre’s 2013 renovation. They’re still in Paradise, awaiting a new home. Now, with the donation of several museum quality, signed photographs of the famous WWII Band of Brothers of the 101st Airborne, a piece of their family history has a home in the Club.

Susanne’s father, Nicolas Quirarte, served with the 82d Troop Carrier Squadron. He flew 53 Combat Missions as a radio operator on a C-47, five of those on D-Day. His crew dropped the Band of Brothers at Sainte-Mère-Eglise and they stayed in touch over the years.

In 2005, the Lightners brought Nick to stay in the Club for a few days. His WWII uniform still fit, and when he arrived at breakfast wearing it that first morning, someone stood up and began to clap. Soon, everyone was clapping.

“I’ve got to be able to protect the my father’s legacy,” said Susanne. “How vulnerable we became overnight! Our family can always go there and look at the photos. Now they’re safe.”
“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” — Maya Angelou

Introducing our new certification program for guest service excellence.

When surveyed about top amenities of Club membership, our employees earn high marks for their tenure and for their dedication to the care and comfort of our members and guests.

During your next visit to the Club, you might notice an addition to some of the smiling faces that greet you: some of the staff will proudly be wearing a “Soaring Eagle” pin, featuring a gold flying eagle with a red heart. This pin signifies certification in a member/guest service program appropriately named The Soaring Eagle Guest Service Program.

With the encouragement of Cornell graduate and Marines’ Memorial Association Board Member Bob Shaw, General Manager Michael Allen designed the program to define a culture of respect and hospitality. A successful candidate for Soaring Eagle certification will have completed formal training, as well as demonstrated the skill of providing exceptional guest service.

When asked the importance of guest service in today’s private clubs and hotels, Michael states the membership and guests expect and deserve excellent service. “It’s not just pillow top mattresses, flat screen TVs, and complimentary high speed internet,” he says. “Service is really key to the success of any hospitality venue.” Simply look at the reviews on OpenTable, Yelp, and TripAdvisor, to name a few. Not only is service essential, it is under a microscope and very transparent in today’s social media environment.

A central component in the Soaring Eagle Program is taking pride in “being of service.” Our employees come to work every day and provide service to our members and their families, many of whom have been members for years. Michael says, “The richness of the Marines’ Memorial community makes calling the Marines’ Memorial Club our professional home a genuine honor.”

Please recognize and congratulate any Soaring Eagle employees you meet during your next visit!

Kudos to these employees! They are the Marines’ Memorial’s first Soaring Eagles.

Demetria Alejandria (Hotel)  
Michael Allen (Administration)  
Mariole Belocura-Maningas (Hotel)  
Cathy Chao (Restaurant)  
Huan Chen (Administration)  
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Vincent Imasa (Housekeeping)  
Judi Karwan (Membership)  
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Chelsea Leonard (Development)  
Cristian Lopez (Restaurant)  
Felipe Lopez Raymundo (Restaurant)  
Milen Orendain (Sales)  
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Edda Rodriguez (Restaurant)  
Mohi Sielicki (Sales)  
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Join us on the 12th floor for a spectacular rooftop dining experience.

Breakfast from 7am · Full Bar from 3pm · Lunch Mon–Fri 11:30am–2pm
Dinner Tues–Sat from 5pm with live piano music

Reservations are strongly recommended for dinner.
(415) 673-6672 ext. 254 | marinesmemorial.org/restaurant
Dress code: Business Casual. Gentlemen are to remove their covers.

Flying Leatherneck Lounge

Members only happy hour
Tues–Fri 4–6pm · 2nd floor
The Leatherneck Restaurant is a very busy place. It is also a lovely and comfortable place to sit and contemplate the sensational view while enjoying a made-to-order omelet or one of the city’s best steaks. That’s thanks to the talents and generous spirit of restaurant manager Edda Rodriguez and her staff.

Edda oversees breakfast and lunch, and she likes to be involved in all that’s going on in her domain, to make sure everything runs smoothly. She especially enjoys meeting guests when they come in the morning. “I really feel this is my place,” she says, and it shows in her megawatt smile. If you’ve been up to the 12th floor for breakfast, you’ve seen it. Even the grumpiest morning person among us cannot resist feeling uplifted by Edda’s warm welcome.

Edda has worked in the hotel and hospitality industry for 35 years. “I’ve worked for Sheraton, Intercontinental, Holiday Inn, Marriott, Crowne Plaza, you name it!” she says. While working at the Sheraton, Edda met a man who would later become the Marines’ Memorial Club’s restaurant manager. By that time, she was employed at Crowne Plaza in Walnut Creek, training the breakfast staff. He tracked her down, determined to bring her on board at the Club. He invited her to come by for a visit and see if she liked it. She did.

This May, Edda celebrates 15 years at the Marines’ Memorial Club. She vows she will stay here “until the end... if God lets me, until my last day. You find a family here. They take care of you, so you feel at home. Many of us are away from our countries and our families, so that’s important.” She goes on to share that members are also a big part of this family. Edda listens with compassion to their stories, and over time has gotten to know some members quite well. Sometimes she even gets to become a part of the story.

“Years ago,” remembers Edda, “I met a young man who came into the restaurant in a wheelchair. Some years later, I saw him again. This time, he walked in! And then, I danced with him at the Marine Corps Birthday Ball. I never imagined I would experience things like this.”

Originally from Puebla, Mexico, Edda first came to the US in 1979 as a high school exchange student. During that time in Illinois, she became fluent in English and gained a second family. “I still call my exchange hosts my parents,” she says. After graduation back in Mexico, she studied business tourist administration, then returned north and began her career in the Bay Area.

Family is everything to Edda. Her mother, Maria, who still lives in Puebla and whom she describes as “the most wonderful woman, beautiful, healthy, and strong,” is 85 years old. Widowed at age 32, she never remarried. She raised six children, all now successful and far flung: one in Spain, two in the US, and three in Mexico. “She gave us wings and we flew,” Edda says. “My mother is very unique and very smart, still going to school and still traveling.”

Edda has one son and two grandchildren. Alejandro Edda is a successful Los Angeles-based actor who took his mother’s first name as his last, in tribute to another strong, special woman. Here at home, Edda credits her partner of 25 years, Thomas Carlsson, with being very supportive. “Without him,” she says, “I wouldn’t have done a lot of things.

When Edda is not working, she loves to dance. She also has a group of Latina girlfriends who meet once a month and collaborate on fundraisers for people in need.

Edda is proud of the Marines’ Memorial, and proud and grateful to be a part of it. Having had little knowledge of our military before coming here, she relishes the unique opportunities that come with working for a veterans’ organization, like joining fellow staff members on a trip to Camp Pendleton or on a ship tour during San Francisco Fleet Week. She appreciates that every day there is something to learn, that each day is different from the one before. “To see the always-changing view of the San Francisco skyline every morning, every night,” says Edda, “that’s a great reward. I feel that God is saying, ‘This is for you. Enjoy!’”

DONATE: MARINESMEMORIAL.ORG/WAYS-TO-GIVE | Marines’ Memorial Association
# Marines' Memorial Reciprocal Clubs

New listings in red. Clubs with * offer overnight lodging. Visit MarinesMemorial.org/reciprocal-clubs to learn more.

## United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Clubs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>Anchorage: Petroleum Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benicia</td>
<td>Berkeley City Club*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eureka</td>
<td>Los Angeles: Los Angeles Athletic Club*; Griffin Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Port Beach</td>
<td>Balboa Bay Club &amp; Resort*; Pacific Club</td>
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<td>Denver</td>
<td>The Athenaeum*; University Club of Pasadena</td>
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<td>University Club of Santa Barbara; Santa Barbara Club</td>
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<td>New Haven</td>
<td>Denvers Athletic Club; University Club</td>
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<td>New London</td>
<td>Thames Club</td>
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<td>Orlando: University Club of Orlando</td>
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<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Governors Club</td>
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<td>Augusta</td>
<td>Pinnacle Club</td>
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<td>The Sangamo Club</td>
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<td>Wamsutta Club</td>
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<td>Quincy</td>
<td>Neighbor Club of Quincy</td>
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<td>Charleston</td>
<td>Baltimore: The Center Club; The Engineers Club of Baltimore; Johns Hopkins Club</td>
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<td>Annapolis</td>
<td>MASSACHUSETTS Boston: Harvard Club of Boston*; Algonquin Club*; College Club of Boston*</td>
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<td>Princeton</td>
<td>NEW YORK Albany: Fort Orange Club*; University Club of Albany*</td>
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<td>Wilkes-Barre</td>
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<td>Camden</td>
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<td>Hilton Head</td>
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30 CROSSROADS of the Corps \ Spring 2019 \ JOIN: MARINESMEMORIAL.ORG
YOU BELONG around the world.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Club Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>Milwaukee Athletic Club*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roanoke</td>
<td>The Shenandoah Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>WASHINGTON Seattle: Washington Athletic Club*</td>
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<td>WISCONSIN</td>
<td>Madison: Madison Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>La Crosse</td>
<td>The La Crosse Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>University Club of Milwaukee*; Milwaukee Athletic Club*</td>
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<tr>
<td>WYOMING</td>
<td>Jackson: White Buffalo Club*</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

INTERNATIONAL

**AUSTRALIA**
- Adelaide: Naval, Military, & Airforce Club of South Australia*; Public Schools Club INC.*
- Brisbane: United Services Club*; Tattersall’s Club*; Melbourn Club*; Royal Automobile Club of Victoria*; Royal -The Western Australian Club
- Sydney: Royal Automobile Club; Commercial Travelers’ Club LTD*
- Gold Coast: Royal Yacht Club; Launceton Club

**AUSTRIA**
- Reith bei Kitzbühel: Kitzbühel Country Club*
- BAHRAIN
  - Manama: Capital Club Bahrain

**BELGIUM**
- Brussels: International Club-Sainte-Anne Ghent: International Club of Flanders

**CANADA**
- Alberta: Glencoe Club; Ranchmen’s Club; Edmonton Club; Kinsmen Riverside Inn, Calgary*
- Calgary Petroleum Club
- Ontario: Royal Canadian Military Institute*; Royal Canadian Yacht Club; Thornhill Golf & Country Club; Windsor Club; Donalda Club Don Mills; Albany Club of Toronto; The London Club; University Club of Toronto*; Rideau Club, Ottawa
- Halifax: The Halifax Club

**FRANCE**
- Paris: Cercle National Des Armées*; St. James Paris*

**GERMANY**
- Frankfurt: Union International Club*

**INDIA**
- Greater Noida: Stellar Gymkhana Club*

**IRELAND**
- Dublin: St. Stephen’s Green Hibernian Club*

**ITALY**
- Rome: Circolo Antico Tiro a Volo

**JAPAN**
- Tokyo: Tokyo American Club
- Kobe: Kobe Club

**KOREA**
- Seoul: Seoul Club

**MEXICO**
- Mexico City: University Club of Mexico

**NETHERRLANDS**
- Amsterdam: De Industrieel Groote Club

**NEW ZEALAND**
- Christchurch: Canterbury Officers’ Club; Canterbury Club*

**NIGERIA**
- Lagos: Capital Club Lagos*

**PHILIPPINES**
- Manila/Makati City: Manila Polo Club*

**PORTUGAL**
- Porto: Oporto Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club*

**SCOTLAND**
- Aberdeen: Royal Northern & University Club*

**SINGAPORE**
- Scotts Road: The American Club

**SOUTH AFRICA**
- Port Elizabeth: St. Georges Club*

**SRI LANKA**
- Colombo: Colombo Swimming Club*

**SPAIN**
- Barcelona: Circulo Ecuestre*

**SWEDEN**
- Stockholm: Militarsallskapet I Stockholm

**TAIWAN**
- Taipei: American Club

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**
- Dubai: Capital Club Dubai

**ZIMBABWE**
- Bulawayo: Bulawayo Club*

HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THE RECIPROCAL CLUB PROGRAM?

Contact CAROL TAYLOR at the Marines’ Memorial at caroltaylor@MarinesMemorial.org.

DONATE: MARINESMEMORIAL.ORG/WAYS-TO-GIVE | Marines’ Memorial Association
Reciprocal Club Spotlight

NEW YORK, NY: NEW YORK ATHLETIC CLUB

The New York Athletic Club was founded in 1868 in order to bring structure to the nascent world of amateur sport. In its journey through the ensuing decades, the NYAC has evolved to become an athletic powerhouse, globally renowned in sports such as wrestling, fencing, judo, water polo, rowing and track and field. Concurrently, the NYAC has become a part of the cultural fabric of New York City, hosting banquets, receptions and weddings, welcoming leaders in the world of business, politics and the arts.

Overnight Accommodations
187 well-appointed guest rooms and suites, many with breathtaking views of Central Park and midtown Manhattan.

Main Dining Room
Elegant dining amidst magnificent views of Central Park with bar and lounge.

Tap Room
Breakfast, lunch, dinner and cocktails in a relaxed atmosphere. Catch up on the latest news or watch your favorite sporting event in this comfortable venue.

Cocktail Lounge
Relax, unwind and listen to one of our accomplished pianists.

Solarium
Enjoy this beautiful outdoor space during the summer months with bar and small plate service.

Aquatic Center
Swim, enjoy a soothing whirlpool, sauna, or massage.

Billiards Room
Six pool tables, four snooker tables and two billiard tables all for your enjoyment.

Concierge Services
Car service, theatre tickets, sporting events and sight-seeing packages all arranged for your convenience.

Gift Shop
You will find a wonderful selection of NYAC merchandise, newspapers, and other items.

Gymnasium
Cardiovascular equipment, free weights, running track and a full-sized basketball court.

Communications Center
User friendly and equipped with 10 computer stations, three conference rooms, three telephone booths and a lounge.

NEW YORK ATHLETIC CLUB
180 Central Park South
New York, NY 10019
Phone: (212) 247-5100
Website: nyac.org
Overnight Accommodations:
Phone: (212) 767-7135
Email: Reservation@nyac.org
provides its members a forum for the confidential and candid exchange of ideas to enhance the fight against money laundering, terrorist funding and other financial crimes.

During our two-and-a-half day Forum each spring, directors and special agents from Treasury, the FBI, the IRS and other agencies share cases, review regulatory changes, and educate our attendees on how we can comply, report, and help.

We call the WCAML Forum our “boutique conference.” Many of our industry’s conferences are huge, with vendors and sponsors helping to pay expenses. It is much more intimate at Marines’ Memorial Club. Here, I may have the opportunity to go to the Director of the Treasury and ask him a question, whereas I might not have access in a larger group. We actually cap attendance at 225 to be sure we will fit into the Commandants room. We are comfortable and happy here and don’t want to go anywhere else! We are fortunate that our reputation continues to precede us, as once we open registration, it usually sells out within two days.

We are able to keep the conference price reasonable because of the value that the Marines’ Memorial provides. The food is great — we’re all about the food! Each year, Michael Allen comes to help us kick off the first day. That provides a special touch, along with the bulldogs, whose appearance is always requested. Everyone appreciates the hospitality, which extends beyond conference hours. We use many services around the Club: the front desk, housekeeping, catering, the restaurant and bar. Some of us stay a couple of extra nights.

We like it here because what we stand for is related to what our country’s service men and women stand for. When we see the memorial wall, we see a tribute to doing the right thing. We really feel a connection and we should all be proud. We always encourage attendees to see the displays around the Club. We also put out cards in case WCAML members want to make a donation. The Marines’ Memorial is so generous, after all.
Do you love to read? So do we.

That’s why we’re asking you, our members, for your book reviews. In each edition of Crossroads, we publish a list of recommended books. Some books on the list have been featured in our Meet the Author series. All are on subjects of military, national security or historical interest. If you would like to send your review to be considered for publication in a future Crossroads, please follow these guidelines:

SUBMIT VIA EMAIL TO: brendankearney@marinesmemorial.org  WORD COUNT: up to 700
The Marines’ Memorial Club in San Francisco has, since 1946, stood in honor of the memory of the men and women who serve in our nation’s defense. The Club, one block off Union Square, provides a sanctuary for those wishing to honor the valor of Veterans who gave their lives. It is a Living Memorial designed to preserve memories and share the stories of American military history.

The Club’s original charter specified, as a tribute to Marine Corps heroes, the establishment and maintenance of a museum. Over time, the ambiance of the entire building has fulfilled this function. Inside the Club, it is most gratifying to share a spontaneous camaraderie with those who share like values and ideals.

Our handsome twelve-story California Spanish Revival building, designated a San Francisco landmark, contains 138 guest rooms and suites; the Leatherneck Steakhouse with stunning city views; a library; and a state-of-the-art health club. Members may also use the Club’s banquet and meeting facilities for the observance of the occasions that are significant in their own personal lives, such as reunions, weddings, and receptions.

Thanks to Veterans’ contributions, the Association is able to offer free annual membership to all Currently Serving members of the US Armed Forces who come to stay at the Marines’ Memorial Club. For members and their guests who stay overnight in the Club, the room rates are the most reasonable in San Francisco.

While browsing the Club’s commemorative exhibits, listen to the voices that speak from the books, photos, citations, and artwork. You will discover the enduring vision of the Marines’ Memorial Club: “A tribute to those who have gone before; and a service to those who carry on.”
The Marines’ Memorial Association is a 501(c)(19) non-profit Veterans organization.
The Marines’ Memorial Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.