



WOMEN VETERANS HISTORICAL PROJECT

Newsletter

Volume 4 • August 2009 • The University of North Carolina at Greensboro • <http://library.uncg.edu/dp/wv/>

WVHP Annual Luncheon

The 10th Anniversary Women Veterans Luncheon was held on Saturday November 15, 2008 at the UNC-G Student Center.

Approximately 160 people, including 74 veterans, came to the luncheon, and there were even World War II veterans in attendance. The keynote speaker was UNC-G alumna Lieutenant Colonel Kathryn T. Wirkus, who spoke about her career, with highlights about her service in Panama and Bogota, Columbia.



This year's luncheon will be held on **Saturday, November 14**. Our speaker this year will be Brigadier General Clara Adams-Ender (U.S Army Nurse Corps Ret.). Adams-Ender is a graduate of North Carolina A&T University in

Greensboro and served in the Army Nurse Corps from 1961-1993. In 1991 she was appointed commander of Fort Belvoir, Virginia, which made her the first nurse in army history to become the commanding general of a major military base. General Adams-Ender will be speaking on "The 3 C's: Telling the Stories of Women Veterans."

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, November 14, 2009**. More details will be in the mail soon. We hope to see there!

Veteran Spotlight

Shirley Ann Thacker Lewis is a native of Greensboro and also a graduate of the Woman's College (now UNC-Greensboro.) She served in the U.S. Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) from 1961 to 1965.

She completed Officer Candidate School at Naval Station in Newport, Rhode Island and was assigned as a legal officer. After graduating with honors from the Newport Naval Justice School she was



then transferred to Long Beach, CA where she served as a defense and prosecution counsel for court martial cases. She

also served as a separations officer, public information officer, communications watch officer, and in registered publications.

In 1963 she was transferred to Wahiawa, Hawaii, where she served as a legal officer and trainer as well as meeting her husband. She resigned her commission in 1965 due to pregnancy.

On the WVHP website you can learn more about Shirley Ann Thacker Lewis at: <http://library.uncg.edu/dp/ol=438>

Women Veterans Historical Project Fund

Did you know that each oral history interview costs over \$500 to conduct, digitize, transcribe and put on the website? The WVHP is asking for any donations you can make to help us to preserve and promote women veteran's stories. For more information about donating, please contact Linda Burr at (336) 256-0184. Thank you for your support!

* * Reminders * *

Are you moving to a new home? Do you know of any one who will be changing their address? Please let us know so that we can update our address list and make sure that our invitations go to the right place.

Have you found items related to your service that you would like to donate? We are always happy to add to your collection.

Please contact **Beth Ann Koelsch at (336) 334-4045** with any comments or questions.

Highlights and Updates

We continue to add new collections and to participate in efforts that highlight women's contributions to the military. Here are just a few of the things we have done recently:

- In March 2008 and 2009, we brought an exhibit of WVHP materials to Fayetteville, NC to exhibit a selection of our materials at Women's History Month Celebrations sponsored by the XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg.
- We updated our website (<http://library.uncg.edu/dp/wv/>) where you can now see over 2,000 images of posters, photographs, recruiting material, letters, and diaries. Also check out our blog at (<http://uncgspecial.blogspot.com/>)!
- We now have over 400 individual collections including 250 oral history interviews.



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