THE GIFT OF RELIEF IS PRICELESS

HOW YOUR DONATIONS HELP DURING THESE DYNAMIC TIMES

SERVING SAILORS, MARINES, AND THEIR FAMILIES
As the world begins to reopen its doors, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society stands by, as it has for 117 years, ready to assist active duty and retired Marines, Sailors and their families with a financial need. Just like many of you had to adjust to new working/living environments last year, NMCRS had to rethink how our programs could be there to meet our clients’ needs. I’m proud to say, we pivoted quickly and didn’t skip a beat. Our Visiting Nurses moved to email, phone calls and telehealth visits, our Budget for Baby® training went virtual, we created the COVID-19 Rapid Response Loan to assist with new financial needs due to the pandemic, and we made our interest-free loan and grant payments available electronically.

Your contributions made it possible for us to provide over $23 million in interest-free loans and grants to more than 28,000 Sailors, Marines and their families last year. We are on pace to assist many more this year! Our nurses are taking all the safety measures needed to start returning to home visits, the Budget for Baby® workshops are returning to being in-person, and the Society continues to innovate and improve services to meet the needs of those we serve.

In May we announced a new policy to help with the cost of pet shipments for active duty service members stationed overseas. Summertime isn’t just a busy time for moving, it is also time for wild weather. Since Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast in 2005, NMCRS has provided over $5 million in disaster assistance to those affected by hurricanes, floods, wild fires, tornadoes, and typhoons.

When there is a financial need, whether it is a family emergency, an overdue bill, or a natural disaster, NMCRS staff are there to assist. Our highly trained caseworkers understand the unique needs of our clients and they provide confidential interest-free loans and grants as well as advice and strategies for financial well-being in a judgment free zone.

In this issue of Legacy you will read about how NMCRS was there on more than one occasion for Chief Petty Officer Rodney Hogg, when he suffered family emergencies. You will also read about our donor, Captain Beam, who recently turned 100 years young, and how he supports the Society with a Charitable Gift Annuity. And you will see the dedication to service of Denise Solis, Director of NMCRS Ventura office and Coast Guard reservist recalled to active duty. We are all so proud to have her on staff.

Donors make the support we provide possible. Your generosity, and donors like you, have allowed us to provide financial relief to 4.7 million clients and provided over $1.4 billion in assistance since we opened our doors in 1904. Thank you for your continued patronage, and for allowing us to continue to serve those in need.

Semper Fidelis,

LTGEN JACK KLIMP, USMC (RET.)
President and Chief Executive Officer

In This Edition

3 Your Support Provided Comfort and Security to this Navy Family in Their Time of Need
by Eugénie Le Picart

4 Captain Walter Beam Reflects on His Remarkable Career in the Navy
by Samantha Mendiguren

6 Putting Herself in Their Boots
by Ashley Estill

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society’s Legacy® Newsletter is a valuable resource. It allows us to share with donors the impact of their gifts. It also informs active duty and retired Sailors, Marines and their families about the programs and services available to them. We value your privacy. The Society does not rent or sell names, addresses, or e-mails to third parties.

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is a 501(C)(3) tax-exempt organization (Tax ID #53-0204618).
Your Support Provided Comfort and Security to this Navy Family in Their Time of Need

by Eugénie Le Picart

“In 1996, my eldest son was born while I was overseas. There were complications with his and his mother’s health that put them at risk, so my chain of command allowed me to fly back to Texas to be with them,” Rodney Hogg explains of his first encounter with Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. At the time, Rodney had just reached the rank of Petty Officer Third Class (E-4), but was still getting compensated as an E-3, and could not afford to buy a plane ticket home to be with his family. Rodney’s command representative got him in touch with NMCRS and, soon enough, he was on a plane home. Rodney said he was incredibly grateful that the Society was so understanding of his situation and non-intrusive in allowing him the time to pay back his interest-free loan.

Rodney is a retired Chief Petty Officer with the U.S. Navy and his wife is still active duty and currently deployed at sea. Throughout his career, Rodney has been a strong advocate for contributing to NMCRS, explaining that “we never know the time in which we may need to use their services.”

Rodney explains that he has frequently told fellow Sailors and Marines about the good works of the Society, given that, “It’s a great feeling to know that NMCRS is there to help in times of need. It gives peace of mind to know that the Society takes care of the big things so that the Sailors can concentrate on the finer details.”

Flash forward to the height of the COVID-19 outbreak, Rodney’s mother unfortunately passed away in June of 2020. Due to the confines of the pandemic, Rodney’s family had been forced to use their savings for general maintenance and to pay their home bills. As a result, Rodney and his wife did not have sufficient emergency funds to fly from Norfolk, Virginia to Dallas, Texas to prepare the funeral service.

Rodney’s wife reached out to NMCRS, and the Society immediately set up a flight and provided funds for a rental car and a hotel room so that Rodney could be there for his mother’s funeral. Rodney was able to pay the full balance of his loan earlier than agreed upon and explains how appreciative he is of the Society’s flexibility and support during such a challenging time.

“The biggest thing that I could say about the impact that NMCRS has had on my life,” Rodney says, “is the comfort and security of knowing that even in the toughest times, NMCRS will be there.”

FOR MORE RESOURCES ON HOW THE SOCIETY ASSISTS SAILORS, MARINES, AND THEIR FAMILIES WITH EMERGENCY TRAVEL, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: HTTPS://WWW.NMCRS.ORG/PAGES/EMERGENCY-TRAVEL.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

How Did NMCRS Help You Today And What Impact Does This Have On Your Life?

This is a place to come for help not judgment. Don’t wait until the last minute. Put your pride to the side, we’ve all been there.

— Anonymous Quote

To learn more visit www.nmcrs.org
Captain Walter Beam Reflects on His Remarkable Career in the Navy and His Thoughtful Decision to Become a Charitable Gift Annuity Donor to NMCRS

by Samantha Mendiguren

As an extremely sharp, humorous, and charismatic individual, one would be astounded that Captain Walter Beam, USN (Ret.) celebrated his 100th birthday in August 2020. With 33 years dedicated to the U.S. Navy, Captain Beam has an honorable and admirable story leading up to his generous donations to Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.

We thank Captain Beam for his tremendous dedication to the Navy, but he himself is humbly grateful for the opportunities which the Navy provided him.

A native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Captain Beam completed 3 years of college pursuing a Biology degree at Penn State before returning to his work in Philadelphia at a factory where he was asked to head a new department. However, once he decided to join the Navy, he was presented with the option of returning to school and finishing his degree. He took advantage of this opportunity and finished his degree in Biology at Penn State. He then obtained his master's degree in Biology at UC Berkeley and also completed coursework for a PhD. Not only was Captain Beam the first in his family to go to college, he was the first to graduate from the 8th grade. This experience allowed him to enhance his professional career and provide exceptional influences on medical research around the world.

Captain Beam "went from the very bottom to the very top", he described, joining as a Navy recruit in 1942, and reaching Chief Petty Officer after a few years. He had the utmost commitment to his duties within the Navy, stating that he “didn't miss even a single day of active duty.”

Captain Beam excelled in the sciences and provided his expertise in various locations around the world. In the early 1950s he was deployed aboard the US Whidbey to Guam to fulfill the Ensign deployment requirements. In the mid 1950s he was the executive officer of the microbiology department at the U.S. Navy research unit in Taipei, Taiwan. Upon being transferred back to the naval biological laboratory in Oakland, California in 1958 he was assigned to be technical director of a classified operation afloat known as Project Shad aboard the USS Granville S. Hall (YAG-40) which took him to a 2 year assignment at Pearl Harbor. In 1963 Captain Beam was then transferred to the US Navy Medical Research Center in Bethesda, Maryland where he designed and reported on alternative testing methods for curing syphilis. Among numerous publications was a paper co-authored with Dr. James Humes, one of the doctors who performed President Kennedy’s autopsy. During this time he was also assigned temporary duty to establish the presence of a medical research subunit in Ethiopia, a subunit of the Cairo NAMRU3 unit. In 1969 Captain Beam was transferred to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina to lead the infectious disease research unit there. He was promoted to Captain in 1970 and retired in 1973.

Continued on page 5
Aside from Captain Beam’s personal ambition and drive, he had an innate desire to serve in the military due to his father’s time as a Marine. Captain Beam recalled his father as a character with great strength: “My father was in the Marine Corps in World War I, and he liked to fight, he was a fighter. He had three battles. The Battle of Belleau Wood was the first – where they named the Marines ‘The Devil Dogs’ – and he was awarded a Purple Heart. The next one was the Battle of Soissons, he was awarded a Purple Heart there, and the next one was Chateau-Thierry, and he was awarded a Purple Heart there. I had to get in the service too.”

After having served in the Navy himself, Captain Beam wanted to find a way to continue to help those in the military by donating, which led him to NMCRS. Combining both branches of the military with which he has close relations, he knew NMCRS was the one he wished to support. “It was the right thing to remember both my dad and me to donate to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society,” Captain Beam said.

With a Charitable Gift Annuity, Captain Beam made a generous gift to the Society, got a charitable tax deduction, and receives a steady, reliable income stream for life.

“I always appreciated the good works the Society did for my fellow service members and wanted to contribute in thanks for the Navy providing me advanced education, and opportunities to advance in my career,” Captain Beam said.

For those who want to get involved and contribute, you can find information at: https://www.nmcrs.org/donate

Donating a vehicle brings a smile as sweet as summer. The process is easy, the pick-up is free, and your gift is tax-deductible.

Give Today!
Visit nmcrs.careasy.org for more information.
Putting Herself in Their Boots
How one Coast Guard Reservist serves NMCRS…and her nation

by Ashley Estill

Denise Solis is a self-proclaimed chameleon…and has spent the better part of her career passionately supporting the military and their families in a variety of roles. She is also a Coast Guard Reservist and has been serving her country for the past decade.

Denise was sitting at her Director’s desk at Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Ventura County when she learned she had been called to active duty for 90 days, with orders sending her to support COVID vaccination efforts in Los Angeles.

“I love my job with NMCRS,” Denise said. “But I knew it was time, since I hadn’t been activated in years. Now my main job was to be scheduling people for their COVID-19 vaccination appointments and ensuring they showed up for their first and second vaccine.”

Denise worked with other Reservists – all from a diverse backgrounds. She worked with a professor, someone doing stem cell research and another who is an FBI agent.

“We’re all working professionals and serve our country part-time, it was so exciting to work with them and of course, with our active-duty counterparts,” Denise said. “They have other jobs to do – port calls and rescue operations, so they can do their job and reservists can help and support them with some of their responsibilities.”

“Activations are always nice because you’re doing something meaningful and it does give you a break from the day-to-day life,” she continued. “It’s a change of pace, and I looked forward to helping people with the added satisfaction of telling someone that their vaccine was ready.”

For Denise, NMCRS and being in the Coast Guard are jobs that go hand in hand.

“Our service members come to us [NMCRS] when they’re in need. They’re not in a good place and literally being able to put on their boots myself helps me be more empathetic to their struggles. With our jobs, you have to understand.”

It’s not only Denise’s military service that allows her to be empathetic – it’s always been ingrained in her and part of her life. Her father was in the Marine Corps, her husband is in the Navy and Denise’s career has been about helping people.

She spent time with the USO, supporting event coordination; working with Fleet & Family Support Center assisting spouses with their career development and found it very gratifying. Her next step was with NMCRS, with a detour to support her fellow reservists for a few months.

When the 90-day activation was over, Denise returned to her Director’s chair at NMCRS Ventura County.

“I think I’m very fortunate to have been given the opportunities I’ve had,” she said. “Working with the Society has been so meaningful as I get to work with service members who impact your life and allow you to see things differently. I can say I did that, and I would do it again. In a heartbeat.”
In February 2021, an unprecedented snow storm struck Texas causing damage, destruction and, disruption to so many lives. During this severe weather event, NMCRS was there to provide disaster assistance grants to active duty and retired Sailors, Marines and their families. Emergency funds were distributed from our four locations in Texas (Fort Worth, Kingsville, San Antonio, Corpus Christi) to assist with damage to homes and cars, the inaccessibility to food and water, and other immediate needs. Thanks to your support, the Society was able to give comfort and relief to over 1300 clients in their time of need. One family, the Lillywhites, came to our San Antonio office for assistance when some of their appliances broke due to the electricity blackouts. Jennifer Lillywhite’s husband, a service member currently stationed in Kabul, Afghanistan, contacted NMCRS and we were there for this Sea Service family. Whether in an emergency situation like the Texas storm, or other immediate financial needs, NMCRS is grateful to be there to assist, all because of your generous donations.

AFTER THE STORM, YOUR RELIEF WAS THERE FOR SEA SERVICE FAMILIES IN TEXAS

In February 2021, an unprecedented snow storm struck Texas causing damage, destruction and, disruption to so many lives. During this severe weather event, NMCRS was there to provide disaster assistance grants to active duty and retired Sailors, Marines and their families. Emergency funds were distributed from our four locations in Texas (Fort Worth, Kingsville, San Antonio, Corpus Christi) to assist with damage to homes and cars, the inaccessibility to food and water, and other immediate needs. Thanks to your support, the Society was able to give comfort and relief to over 1300 clients in their time of need. One family, the Lillywhites, came to our San Antonio office for assistance when some of their appliances broke due to the electricity blackouts. Jennifer Lillywhite’s husband, a service member currently stationed in Kabul, Afghanistan, contacted NMCRS and we were there for this Sea Service family. Whether in an emergency situation like the Texas storm, or other immediate financial needs, NMCRS is grateful to be there to assist, all because of your generous donations.

Texas Disaster Relief

Total Grant Assistance: $818,350

Number of Clients:

- 1,388 Clients
- 1,292 Active Duty
- 96 Retirees

To learn more visit www.nmcrs.org
A charitable gift annuity can provide you with lifetime income and tax savings while making a difference for Sea Service families.

A charitable gift annuity (CGA) has many benefits:

- The satisfaction of making a gift that benefits you today and Sailors and Marines in the future
- Payments for up to two people, providing financial stability for you and a loved one
- Fixed annual income for as long as you live, with payment rates as high as 8.6%, depending on your age (you must be 65 or older and the minimum donation is $10,000)
- A possible 2021 charitable income tax deduction
- Avoiding or reducing capital gains taxes when you use appreciated stock to fund your annuity

Act now to lock in reliable payments and 2021 tax savings with a charitable gift annuity.

For a no-obligation, personalized illustration of your payment rate, annual payment and tax savings, contact Kate Hillas, Director of Planned Giving Programs at (800) 654-8364.

CGA EXAMPLES BASED ON MARCH 2021 RATES

Single life annuitant, age 85

- Funded with $20,000 cash
- Payout rate is 7.6%, paid quarterly for annuitant’s life
- Charitable deduction is $10,905
- Annual Annuity is $1,520 (partially tax-free for 6 years)

Two life annuitants, ages 84 and 87

- Funded with $50,000 cash
- Payout rate is 6.6%, paid quarterly for both annuitants’ lives
- Charitable deduction is $23,156
- Annual Annuity is $3,300 (partially tax-free for 9 years)

NMCRS programs are funded by charitable donations, we do not receive any funding from the Department of Defense.

Learn more by reviewing our Giving Brochure; to receive a copy, contact giving@nmcrs.org.

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society does not provide legal or tax advisory services. Work with your attorney and financial advisor to plan charitable arrangements that work best for you and your estate. The information contained herein is intended solely for general informational purposes.