

Apr 2012

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Bay Area War Brides

A Chapter of the WWII War Brides Association of the United States

EDITOR: Shirley Pence Corallo

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MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Dorothy opened the March 10th meeting praising the decorations the Stewart family had so beautifully arranged for our St Patrick's Day luncheon. It was a sea of green with flowers and cookies & candies on shamrock runners. Our war babies do a great job! We do have the month of September available and open to any group of War Brides that would like to participate in the table decorations. Please let Dorothy or Jean know if you are interested.

We had 36 members attending and were especially pleased to have Dorothy Berry's daughter, Shirley Corallo with us, Shirley is a member but has been unable to come to our meetings until now. We were also pleased to see Frank Wycoff who has been very ill but felt well enough to come to the meeting that day.

We discussed what a great time we had at the show "In The Mood" listening to the music of the 40's and all the old songs we love so much. A big thank you to War Babies Richard Stewart (USA) for all he did for this event, and to Beverly Sollars (Australia) who again did such a wonderful job of displaying our WWII War Brides memorabilia.

We sang Happy Birthday to our March honorees and especially to War Grand Baby Sheryl Spencer, who was celebrating her birthday on that day. Sheryl does so much for our group collecting and mailing our donations for the Wounded Warrior Project.

Robert Pence suggested honoring our veterans on Memorial Day, and WWII Combat Veteran, George Depold brought information about a Veterans Resource Fair to be held on April 14th at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. (9am-3pm). George has invited all of us to participate in Veterans Appreciation Day (May 19) by assisting in donations. There is further information elsewhere in this newsletter. Thank you George and Daphne for keeping all of us informed.

At our last luncheon meeting (March 10) we had talked about the National War Museum in New Orleans. We agreed we should "Buy a Brick" honoring the Bay Area War Brides, and at this meeting we were pleased to have the \$200.00 needed donated by our members. Suggestions were made as to what our brick will say. Robert has collected over a dozen suggestions. We will vote on our favorites at the April 14 luncheon meeting.

War Baby, Jan Martinelli could not be at our meeting but called Robert Pence to say her mother war bride Marjorie Andreatta (Australia) was doing much better and would be able to come home soon.

War Baby, Shirley Corallo the editor of our newsletter for the local group encourages us all to send stories or items of interest to be included in the newsletter. As a suggestion, Robert Pence said maybe War Brides/War Babies could tell of leaving home and your journey to the U.S. "We all had different experiences, but the emotions were most likely similar."

We extend a very happy Passover and Easter to all you. Our next luncheon meeting will be on Saturday, April 14th. Until we meet again, we wish all of you happiness and especially good health.

Love, Dorothy and Jean



APRIL MEETING

**Saturday
Apr 14th
12:00 Noon**

At
**Hickory Pit
Restaurant**

980 E. Campbell
Avenue
Campbell, CA

**Please call
Dorothy or
Jean if you
CANNOT
attend the
meeting.**

Meeting Agenda

- **Birthdays**
- **Sunshine & Shadows**
- **General News**
- **New Business**

VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY

May 19, 2012

11:00 – 2:00

“ To Honor Our Military Veterans Whose Courageous Service Has Preserved Our Freedom”

The San Jose Vet Center (278 North Second Street, San Jose) is presenting their 12th Annual Celebration of “Veterans Appreciation Day” at the Vet Center on May 19. The Vet Center reaches out to returning veterans. The center provides a safe, homey haven for Veterans with a sign, “Welcome Home”. They provide coffee, pastries and food with seating arrangements to welcome the veterans. The Vet Center also has clinical psychologists who treat patient in a non-hospital atmosphere.

The Veterans Appreciation Day will have a short program. Each veteran registrant will receive a raffle ticket and after the program hot dogs and hamburgers will be served followed by the raffle. It is the intentions of the director, Juanita Morales-Euresti, that each registered veteran holding a raffle ticket will receive a prize.

Our Bay Area War Brides Family can participate by donating any of the following suggested items. What a wonderful way for all of us to participate in donating to show our own personal appreciation for Veterans. **If you are interesting in participating in the needed donation items, George Depold will be collecting the donations at the April 14 and May 12 luncheon meetings.**

We deeply thank each of you in advance for your kind consideration and generosity.

Donated Items Needed:

1. Gift Cards from stores or restaurants (i.e. Home Depot, etc. etc.)
2. Tools (they don't have to be brand new, but in good working condition)
3. Gardening Items
4. Fishing Items
5. Sports Items (i.e. balls, shirts, drinking cups, gloves, bats)
6. Appropriate books and toys for children
7. Kitchen items: (i.e. toaster, coffee maker, juicer, microwave, pots, pans)
8. Car items
9. BBQ items (i.e. cooking utensils/grill, aprons, etc)
10. Sewing Items: thread, sewing baskets, fabric, scissors
11. Bike for a child or adult
12. Golf items
13. Movie tickets
14. Blankets
15. Baby Care items
16. Hand Lotion
17. Costume Jewelry.

NEXT COLLECTION: APRIL 14TH LUNCHEON

US Wounded Soldiers

New Clothing in Original Packaging: Men and Women's socks, PJ'S, Underwear, T-shirts



Mark Your Calendars **2012 Meeting Schedule** Mark Your Calendars

April 14th
July 14th
October 13th

May 12th
August 11th
November 10th

June 9th
September 8th
December 8th or 9th



Happy Birthday

Apr 1st	Gloria Roman	5059 Moorpark Avenue, San Jose, CA. 95129	408-252-3230
Apr 16th	Lee Patrick	101 S. Mountain View St., Apt. F3, Yearington, NV 89447	775-463-248
Apr 19th	Linda Michaels	1883 Huxley Court, San Jose, CA. 95125	408-369-8221
Apr 20th	Darice Blumenfield	507 Maple Street, San Mateo, CA. 94402-2016 EMAIL: lokipierre@hotmail.com	650-347-0572



Sunshine and Shadows

- Marjorie Andreatta** 5364 Northway Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566-5445 925 846-6014
WBB Jan Martinelli reports that her mother is home now. She is much stronger from 3 hrs of daily therapy while at convalescent hospital, and she looks great! Jan is hoping to bring her to our April luncheon meeting.
- Kathleen Bloomenstine** 508 Wagman Drive, San Jose, CA 95129-1856 408 257-1543
Has had lots of surgery some requiring additional surgery replacing incorrect parts. She would love a call or note.
- Margie Brown** 1747 Hayford Drive, San Jose, CA. 95130 408-378-6015
Recuperating from cataract surgery in both eyes and grieving the loss of her beloved poodle, Sofie
- Wes Ireland** 800 Blossom Hill Rd., Apt. Q265 Los Gatos, CA 95032 408-252-4050
Was in hospital with a heart problem, but he is home now and says he is doing fine.
- Frank Wycoff** c/o Elfrieda Robertson, 2620 Barclay Way, Belmont, CA 94002-1458 650-591-2374
He is still very ill, but it was wonderful to see Frank and Elfrieda at our March luncheon.

**Choose Your Favorite or Add Your Own Memorial Brick Wording Submission
FOR THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM, NEW ORLEANS
Bay Area War Brides Chapter**

Voting will take place at our April Luncheon Meeting. ***If you cannot attend the April Luncheon Meeting, please let Robert know your choice by April 8th. (408 559-0264) Thank you.***

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. SAN FRANCISCO CA
BAY AREA
WAR BRIDES | 5. IN HONOR OF
WWII WAR BRIDES
N. CA BAY AREA | 9. SAN JOSE CHAPTER or
SAN JOSE BAY AREA
WWII WAR BRIDES
IN APPRECIATION |
| 2. SAN JOSE BAY AREA
WWII WAR BRIDES
FOR OUR SERVICEMEN | 6. SF BAY AREA
WWII WAR BRIDES
FOR OUR SERVICEMEN | 10. SAN JOSE CHAPTER
WWII WAR BRIDES
WITH DEVOTION |
| 3. WWII WAR BRIDES
N. CA BAY AREA
ALLIES IN LOVE | 7. IN HONOR OF
WWII WAR BRIDES
No. CA BAY AREA | 11. SAN JOSE CHAPTER
WWII WAR BRIDES
WITH OUR DEVOTION or
FOR YOUR SERVICE |
| 4. IN HONOR OF
WWII WAR BRIDES
N. CA CHAPTER | 8. SISTERS FOREVER
WWII FOREIGN WAR
BRIDES NORTHERN CA | |

Two Bay Area War Bride Stories Re-visited

This month we are again highlighting two War Bride stories whom also happen to be our Bay Area War Brides leaders: Dorothy Berry (Australian War Bride), and Jean Borst(English War Bride) We are proud of these two courageous and brave War Brides.

Australian War Bride

Dorothy Pence Berry

In 1942, I was working at the Lennon's Hotel in Brisbane. At that time, it was the residence of



General MacArthur, his wife, and son, young Arthur, (whom I shared a Bomb Shelter with). Of course it was wartime

and the hotel was surrounded by security with Marines stationed at the entrance. There were American servicemen everywhere! One night my girlfriend and I were invited to a house party. I became friends with a U.S. Navy serviceman called "Pence". What a great name I thought, as our money at that time was in pounds, shillings and pence. I didn't know until days later that his first name was actually, Everett. We were married in 1943 at St. Michaels All Angels Church in Brisbane We rented a lovely furnished home in Toowong, a nice suburb of Brisbane, and our home was a haven for so many of Pence's shipmates! Our first child, Beverly, was born on January 10, 1944 . We bought an old Morris Minor car and had fun going to the beaches and sightseeing. In August 1944, Pence was sent into combat in New Guinea. It was distressing for us as we had to sell the car and I knew I would soon be leaving home for the USA. My mother said she would like us home for Christmas. My brother Reg was in the Australian Army and was getting leave for the holidays. We boarded a bus and when we were eight miles from home, the bus

was stopped and Naval Official boarded. Beverly and I were escorted off the bus because we had orders to return to Brisbane to get ready for departure to the USA. The Navy official held my baby as I said good-bye to my Mum on the phone. It was Christmas Eve and when we got back to the house, I disposed of all our food and packed ready to leave on Christmas Day. However, we were delayed by the Navy and I had disposed of all our food. The Church of England across the street from our home invited us to Christmas dinner. We had plum pudding and all. On Dec. 26 we were taken to board the U.S. General W.A. Mann, a troopship with a total of twenty-seven war brides and ten babies on board. As we sailed off into the horizon I stood watch as my country became smaller and smaller and then not visible at all. We had salt water showers and the food was not good for babies. Many war brides and babies became very sick. We made a stop in New Guinea to pick up the composer, Irving Berlin. We zigzagged around live mines in the ocean as the war was still raging in the South Pacific. Our trip took 19 days. We arrived in San Pedro, California. I took the train up to San Francisco and Pence and his Navy friend and wife picked us up. Since there was no housing available, the government put us up at the prestigious Cliff Hotel for a week. We eventually got an apartment on McAllister Street. Life continued to be an adventure. I had my son, Robert in Ohio in 1946 and moved immediately back to the Bay Area where Pence and I had an additional four more children. We moved to San Jose in 1955. On April 25, 1957, I proudly became a United States

citizen. Everett and I were divorced in 1970. I married Walter Berry in 1981. In Sept, 2006, we celebrated our 25th Wedding Anniversary. We had a wonderful life together and Walter enjoyed joining me in attending the War Bride Reunions. Sadly, Walter's heart became too weak for surgery and on June 6, 2007 Walter Berry passed away at the age of 85.

Dorothy is the co-founder of No CA WWII War Brides chapter. She currently lives in San Jose, CA.

English War Bride

Jean Borst



I met my husband Bill Michaels in 1944 when he came to our front door with his friend who was taking my older sister Betty out on a date. (Actually,

Bill was the captain of the plane that flew my sister's date) I was wearing a skirt that my mother had made me and it was a leopard skin printed fabric. Before Bill was even introduced to me, he quietly sang, "Hold That Tiger". I thought he was very cheeky. After all we hadn't even been introduced and besides my skirt was leopard skin not tiger! Later, I was invited to go to a local dance and danced many dances with Bill. Before I left the dance that night Bill said that he was going to marry me and when I laughed at him he said, "You'll see!" So, that was the beginning of our courtship. I was only seventeen when Bill told my mother that he was serious about us getting married. My mother told him that if he felt the same way in a year, she would give her permission.

Although, Mum liked Bill, I am sure she thought he would have been sent home by then. Later that year I had a surprise when a little girl knocked at our door. She had found a small parachute that Bill had made and weighted down with a bar of chocolate. He had written a note with my name and address and asking whoever had found the note, to please deliver it and keep the chocolate for their trouble. His message to me said only that he couldn't be seeing me for a while, but he would write. When he did write he was in France living in a tent. We wrote to each other every day. The year was passing and by this time I was smitten, too and we started planning our wedding. I had been corresponding with Bill's family and Bill's mother sent me the most beautiful white satin material for my wedding gown, and a local dress-

maker was already at work on it. My friends pooled their rations and one of their mothers made our wedding cake, and so we were married on the 4th of July 1945. Bill's best man was a fellow pilot and on our wedding day he said to me, "I guess you know you are marrying an American hero." He told me of Bill's medals including the DFC for his part in the low-level bombing mission of the Ploesti oil Fields in Romania. Bill never mentioned this to me. In fact, he never did speak of his bombing missions with the 8th Air Force in B-17's and B-24's. With the war over, Bill was stationed in Germany but came back to England quite often. We were expecting our first baby, Christine when Bill had to leave Europe in June 1946. Christine was born in August 1946. I flew to the United States on Pan

American Airways on October 27, 1946. I met Bill in New York and we were able to buy a car and drive to Omaha. I remember when I walked out of the La Guardia Airport looking for a coupe, all I could see was a long line of big American Cars, only to find that a Chrysler coupe looked just as big as the rest of the cars. That was just the first of many surprises and differences in being in America. We were married for 22 years and had five more children: four sons and another daughter named Linda. Sadly, Bill suffered a heart attack and passed away at the age of 45. I have never regretted marrying that crazy American..who turned out not to be crazy at all.
Jean is the co-founder of No CA WWII War Brides chapter. She currently lives in San Jose, CA.

In the Mood



WBB Beverly Sollars with her mum, WB Dorothy Berry



Redwood City display
WBB Beverly Sollars WB Nina Edillo



WB's Jean Borst, Dorothy Berry, Lyn Patrino, Nina Edillo VET's Richard Smith, Vince Shoenstein



WBB's Gene & Christine MacFarlane



WBB's Dovie Formica, Gloria Bryson, Richard Stewart

The Stewart Family
WB Francesca, Vet Clarence Stewart



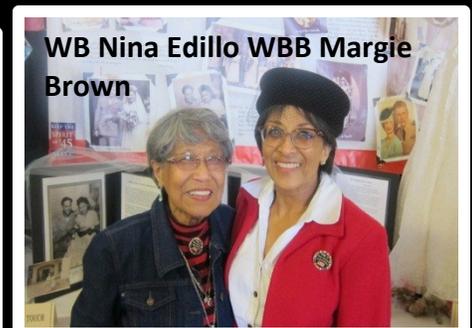
Grand War baby Jessica Jenkins with Spirit of '45 Laura Jimenez



Vets Richard Smith & Vince Schoenstein with Spirit of '45 members



Patrons visiting our booth



WB Nina Edillo WBB Margie Brown

March 10th Luncheon



Decorations by Gloria
Bryson runners by Nina



WB's Jean Borst, Dorothy
Berry



WBB's Gloria Bryson, Margie
Brown WB's Nina Edillo,
Francesca Stewart



GBB Sheryl Spencer
WBB Bev Sollars



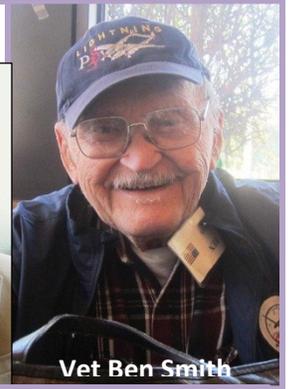
WB Jackie Hansen GBB Sheryl
Spencer WB Lillian Gallo



WBB Linda Harris



WB Elfie Robertson Vet Franc
Wycoff



Vet Ben Smith



WB's Dorothy Berry
Francesca Stewart



WB Daphne DePold
WBB Robert Pence



WBB Kathy WB Esma
Sprague



WB Nina Edillo WBB Dovie
Formica



Graduate student
Nan Turner WB
Nina Edillo



WBB Shirley
Pence Corallo



Hugh Walters, Wes Ireland WB
Barbara Walters



Vet Mal Roman WB Gloria
Roman



WB Sisters Gloria Roman, Rita
Fletcher



WBB's Beverly Sollars, Margie
Edillo, Richard Stewart



WB Sylvia Harris



Vet's Bill Sollars, George
DePold