



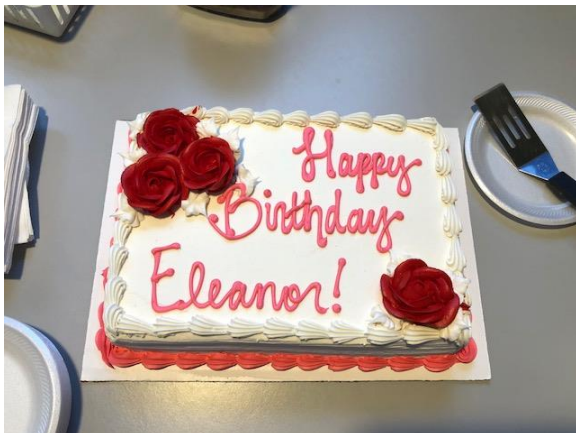
NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY

San Diego Spotlight and Announcements

July 2018



On June 27th, Relief Services Assistant Eleanor Sanchez celebrated her birthday (June 28th). The office staff helped her celebrate with a cake. Eleanor has worked with the San Diego office for 45 years. She is the second-longest working employee in all the Society.



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JULY BIRTHDAYS



- 7/3 Chelsea Benitez, CSA
- 7/9 Mary Peters, Thrift Shop Contributor
- 7/16 Matilde Villachica, Hospital Visitor
- 7/18 Leslie Buzan, CSA
- 7/22 Geraldine Ray, Hospital Visitor Lead
- 7/23 Soranun Boopanon, Caseworker
- 7/26 Nathan Sipple, CSA
Rebekka Yeager, B4B Instructor
- 7/28 Kathryn Roberts, Layette Contributor

A very Happy Birthday to all of the above!

Hails

Amy Jolley
Karen Kippe
Rosie Milewski
Gwen Yager

Farewells

Sara Bowen
Dylan Hopper
Maria Meza-Nalvarete
Mary Grace Salazar

UPDATE!

Save the Date for Volunteer Appreciation **Fiesta**:

August 17th, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

- Please RSVP by **August 10th** to Volunteer Support at sandiego@nmcrs.org and indicate how many adults and how many children will be attending.
- Bring lawn chairs or blankets.
- Tacos and drinks will be provided!

Upcoming Events

July 2nd NMCRS San Diego's 100th Anniversary Celebration, 11 a.m. @ NBSD Galley

July 4th **OFFICE and THRIFT SHOP CLOSED** in observance of Independence Day



July 12th Leadership Board Meeting has been cancelled.

Aug 10th Padres Baseball Game! Padres vs. Phillies @ 7:10 pm
*Email volunteer support to request your free ticket.
Families invited, limited tickets available.

Resource of the Month

Sesame Street for Military Families has launched a **free** multimedia bilingual initiative to help military families and their young children cope with the challenges of deployment and build resilience in times of separation and change. Talk, Listen, Connect: Helping Families During Military Deployment (TLC) has expanded to include a free Sesame

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Street/USO family tour; three PBS primetime specials; Sesame Rooms, bringing toys and furniture to military spaces; and the Military Families Near and Far website.

Click on the link below to find out more:

<http://sesamestreetformilitaryfamilies.org/providers/>

Social Media News

Our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts have been very active lately, with posts on:

1. Free things to do in San Diego.
 - 41 shares on Facebook
2. Free admission to SeaWorld for veterans, families.
 - 69 shares, 11 comments on Facebook
3. Throwback Thursday (#tbt) picture of service members and volunteers at our Thrift Shop Donation Box in 2015.
 - 34 likes on Instagram
4. Instagram has gained 17 new followers this month!
5. Over the next few weeks, we are running a Financial Tips and Education series on our three platforms.



San Diego Office turns 100!



On July 1st, 2018, NMCRS San Diego celebrated its 100th anniversary! A special celebration was held on July 2nd with CMDCM Matt Ruane, NMCRS San Diego Director Barry White and Deputy Director Rosa Wilson at the Naval Base San Diego Galley.

Originally designated as The San Diego Auxiliary, NMCRS San Diego was established in July 1918. In its first year of operation, the Auxiliary disbursed loans and grants totaling \$887.02. At the helm was Mrs. Harriet Welles, wife of RADM Roger Welles, the first Commandant of the Eleventh Naval District. Twelve years after it originated the Auxiliary disbursed loans and grants totaling \$35, 259. By 1935, it assisted more than 1,000 clients through 967 loans and 284 grants.

In 1940, the San Diego Auxiliary was recognized as having the greatest relief responsibilities of all the society's auxiliaries. Between 1941 and 1945, more than 5,000 ships were sent to Naval Repair Base San Diego for conversion, overhaul and/or repair.

As its success grew, the Auxiliary was given more resources. **The Visiting Nurse** Program was established in 1946. It provides free hospital and home visits by registered nurses. Nearly 35 years later, the USS TARAWA established the first Navy Relief shipboard office in San Diego. Soon after, a Budget Counselor Program was created at the Auxiliary.

Volunteers are the heartbeat of the Society, and NMCRS San Diego is no different. They make up more than 90 percent of the workforce. Volunteers make it possible for donated funds to directly assist Sailors, Marines, and their families.

Over the years, NMCRS San Diego has recognized many volunteers for their outstanding service to the Society. In 1993, QMCS Michael A. Moore USN received the first Meritorious Service Award presented to a San Diego NMCRS Shipboard Representative. In 1996, Helen Davanon received a Merit Award for 57,000 hours as a Layette Program Volunteer. At the time, it was the highest number of hours achieved by any San Diego auxiliary volunteer.

Volunteer Linda Reber, who served as the Chairman of the Hospital Visitors program, was recognized in 2002 for volunteering more than 10,000 hours. Six months later, Vivian Rinehart was presented a Superior Performance Award and a plaque in recognition of achieving 80,000 volunteer hours as a Layette Program Volunteer.

One of the society's most popular programs debuted in 2007. The Quick Assist Loan (QAL) Program provides short-term, interest-free

loans for amounts up to \$500, and is generally processed in about 15-20 minutes. It was created as an alternative to the predatory payday lenders who were targeting service members. Many Sailors and Marines got caught up in multiple loans with interest rates as high as 900% and by the time they came into NMCRS, they were stuck in debt cycles with escalating fees and interest rates that far exceeded the original loan. In 2016, over 68% of NMCRS clientele served was for QALs.

In 2002, the San Diego Auxiliary became NMCRS San Diego and today is the second largest Society office. Since 2009, the San Diego office has served over 44,000 Sailors and Marines and dispersed more than \$33 million in financial assistance.

In addition, NMCRS assists Sailors and Marines through a variety of programs, such as Budget for Baby, Combat Casualty Nurse visits and Thrift Shops. In 2017 the San Diego office's 110 volunteers and 5 administrative staff members served the local military community above and beyond financial assistance:

- 619 Combat Casualty Nurse visits
- 359 Budget for Baby Attendees
- 469 Completed Service Budgets
- 8,317 Thrift Shop Customers

Turning 100 years old is a testament to all the hard work and dedication from volunteers and staff members who have ever worked at NMCRS San Diego. We are thankful to all Sailors, Marines and their families for trusting us to assist them during their most vulnerable times. We will continue to provide professional service through need-based financial assistance, education, and other programs and services to help meet the challenges of military service.

