



# ROSIE'S MAIL CALL

Volume 12, Issue 2

[www.rosietheriveter.net](http://www.rosietheriveter.net)

Second & Third Quarters, 2011



## We Had a CAPITAL Time! At The 2011 ARRA Convention/Reunion in Washington, D.C.

Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia — these are the states from which the Rosies and Rosebuds and Rivets came to attend the ARRA Convention/Reunion in Washington, D.C. in June 2011! In addition, there were two Allied Members from Canada! What a great time everyone had!

Many of those who attended were members of local Chapters who had traveled together in small groups by train, plane, or automobile to get there. There was lots of time to visit with old friends and new friends, as well as time to conduct the business of the organization. A highlight of the Convention was the bus tour to see the sights of Washington, especially the World War II Memorial. Another great event was the after-dinner presentation by a professional actress who portrayed Rosie the Riveter, and called up members of the audience to assist by playing the parts of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, Charles Lindbergh, and others.



*The 60 attendees at the Convention included Rosies, Rosebuds, Rivets, and guests. There were 22 Rosies, and here we are—all 22 of us in a lovely bouquet! No doubt about it: “We can still do it!” And we need to recruit some more Rosies for ARRA! So let’s get to it, gals—NOW is the time!*

Phoenix, Arizona will be our destination next year in 2012. Start planning now for this fun time, western-style. It will be a treat you won’t want to miss! For more information about this year’s Convention, see pages 2-3 inside.



See and share more great photos from the Convention at <http://rosietheriveter.shutterfly.com/>!



## From Our President

### The Power of One

One Rosebud in Michigan had an idea to honor her WW II veteran father by having her hometown “thank” all of the WW II veterans. Her father’s military air force group’s annual national conference was meeting locally, and she was able to get a group of citizens to help organize a Gala Dance at a WW II training base in her home town.

This Rosebud was just as proud of her mother’s Rosie the Riveter contribution to the war effort, so she called ARRA to ask them to participate in the Gala. Many Rosies were able to attend.

That night, the Rosies and the veterans were introduced to those in attendance at the Gala. There were cheers, and cheers, and more cheers. They were welcomed by 1,000 people. One of the Rosies said this was “one of the special moments of her life.”

This has become an annual event. This year, the community will honor the Korean veterans.

One woman with one idea made this a moment to remember. Do you have an idea or project that we members of ARRA can do to honor our Rosies?

Donnaleen Lanktree  
1-888-557-6743  
nanaleen5@yahoo.com

## By-Laws Change Alert

The following changes to the bylaws were recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the membership attending the general business session of the Convention on June 11, 2011 in Washington, DC.

**Article III. Sec. 1.** The addition of a new classification of members, to be known as “Rosebud Partners” and “Rivet Partners,” which is explained on this page, above.

**Article IV. Sec. 1-A.** Replace Vice President with *First Vice President and Second Vice President*. Replace Secretary with *Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary*.

**Article VII. Sec. 2.** Add: *A Nominating Committee consisting of five members from five different states, none of whom are on the Executive Committee, shall be elected by the members each even-numbered year at the National Convention. This committee shall prepare a slate of nominees for national office to be presented to the Convention the next year.*

## New Category of ARRA Membership Approved

Did you ever talk to someone who might be a good prospective Rosebud — someone who is really interested in preserving the legacy of working women of World War II and who would love to join ARRA — but her mom or grandmom, who might have qualified as a Rosie, has passed on, and there is nobody left to ask? That situation is occurring more often with each passing year. Even now, most women who would qualify as Rosies are in their late 80’s or 90’s. Since no records were kept on many of our war-time activities, soon it will be almost impossible to recruit many new Rosebuds, because they won’t be able to say whether they’re eligible or not.

But now there is a way. At the business session of the Convention in June 2011, ARRA members voted to change the bylaws by creating a new category of members to be known as Rosebud Partners or Rivet Partners. An interested person may now join as a “Partner” even if he or she can’t be sure what an ancestor did during the war, as long as he/she pledges to promote the purpose of ARRA (see “Purpose” on page 8). The lifetime membership fee for Partners is \$30. Partners may hold appointive office but may not hold elected offices or vote at the national level. They are welcome as partners of Rosebuds and Rivets in preserving the legacy that was left by Rosies during World War II.

So, WELCOME, PARTNERS! We’re glad you want to help preserve our legacy!

## Tributes to Rosies at the World War II Memorial

Did you know that the National World War II Memorial on the Mall in Washington, D. C. contains tributes to Rosies as well as to veterans? Pictured below is a group of our Rosies during this year’s Convention, standing under one of the stone panels dedicated to women workers. The gentleman in the wheelchair is a veteran who was there with another group on an Honor Flight and wanted to join them. The Rosies were honored! The picture on the right shows one of the three friezes in the Memorial that honors the work of the Rosies.



## ARRA National Officers For 2011-2013

Congratulations to these National Officers who were elected at the 2011 Convention in Washington, D. C.!  
They will serve through the 2013 Convention.



**President**  
**Donnaleen**  
**Lanktree**

*Rosebud*  
Rochester Hills, MI  
Joined ARRA 2003



**First**  
**Vice President**  
**(Expansion)**  
**Mandy Cooley**

*Rosebud*  
Scottsdale, AZ  
Joined ARRA 2011  
Sun City, AZ Chapter



**Second**  
**Vice President**  
**(Membership)**  
**Mabel Myrick**

*Rosie*  
Kimberly, AL  
Joined ARRA 2003  
Birmingham, AL Chapter



**Recording**  
**Secretary**  
**Yvonne Fasold**

*Rosebud*  
Eugene, OR  
Joined ARRA 2009  
Makenzie, OR Chapter



**Treasurer**  
**Robin Brock**

*Rosebud*  
Beverly Hills, CA  
Joined ARRA 2008



### *In Loving Memory*



ARRA recognizes with regret the passing of these members during the year that lapsed between the 2010 and 2011 Conventions. A service honoring these members was held on Sunday morning of the 2011 Convention in Washington, led by our Chaplain, Rosie Wilma Rees.

Members who expire are retained permanently in a special category of the ARRA membership roster. Family members are asked to notify ARRA of the death of any member by using the membership update form found in each issue of the *Mail Call*. The names of those who were added to this revered list between the last two Conventions are below:

Maggie Mae Hill Babb, OK  
Edith Wells Bachus, AL  
Dorothy May Irwin Bailis, OH  
Inez Kruse Barnes, MO  
Lorraine Holland Blythe, WA  
Vivian Kayser Bodishbaugh, AR  
Elve Polk Bolen, GA  
John Pate Bridges, Jr., GA  
Miriam Carper Brown, PA  
Lucille Smith Canell, MI  
Linda Crow, GA  
Margaret Koritko Delivak, MD  
Rose Dorto, OH  
Geraldine Doyle, MI  
Edna Miller Eller, NC  
Almira Jones Garen, GA  
Wanda Gayle Gilchrist, CA  
Cullen Eugene Glosson, CO  
Clara A. Haas, OK  
Margaret Ann Morey Hawkinson, CO

Lois Chapman Heaton, GA  
Doris E. Heldreth, GA  
Laura Wooden Herrmann, MI  
Irene Marie Hill, OK  
Lola McKinney Hill, AL  
Elsie L. Holshay, OH  
Mary Anna W. Bartels Jensen, CA  
Virginia Roberts Kale, OH  
Maxine Lois Conley Lewman, OK  
Vera I. Hamilton Lindamood, KS  
Sally Wrobel Ludwig, MI  
Dorothy Hopper Martin, WA  
Ida Ruby Baker Massingale, CO  
Pauline Cote McCullough, NH  
Elsie E. Mitkowski, PA  
Callie Mae Murchison, TX  
Ann Wrobel Ochen, MI  
Gloria Ostrov Ostrach, OR  
Coralyn Fuller Bowen Parsons, OH  
Blanch Pelham, GA

Lillian Robinowitz Podis, OH  
Mary Magalene Sykes Pullins, IL  
Gladys Conley Reid, TN  
Vivian Nadine Bufus Riggs, OH  
June Scott Rigsby, AZ  
Helen Pribish Rosky, PA  
Amalia S. Sanchez, NM  
Alfa Patterson Savage, OH  
Ruth Lamb Schmidt, WA  
Permelia Mae Selfo  
Darlene Crozier Semrad, OK  
Edna Agnes Jackson Siemens, TX  
Celia Valeria Skozinski, OH  
Alleen Roberta Copsey Sumner, FL  
Mary Loretta Tabor, KY  
Ruth Traywick, AL  
Stella Wrobel, MI  
Julia Marie Yoder, MD  
Walter H. Young, GA

## New Chapter Chartered at National Convention

Who says a chapter can't be founded in a week? 'Tain't so! Ann Marie Miller and some other go-getters in Laurel, Maryland, did it!

Just a week before the Convention in Washington, D.C. in June, Ann Marie decided that Laurel needed an ARRA chapter. She got on the telephone with some prospective members. They met for a Dutch Treat lunch at a restaurant, and before they knew it, they were electing officers and making plans to come to the National Convention. When National President Donnaleen Lanktree and Executive Director Fran Carter learned about it, they decided that Fran would conduct the chartering ceremony and the installation of the new Chapter officers as part of the Convention program.

A few days after the officers returned from the Convention, a reporter for the *Baltimore Sun*, Janene Holzberg, found out about the chapter and wrote a long article about the new chapter, the WW II work of its Rosie members, and about ARRA. Great publicity! Anybody want to guess how many members they might get from it?

If you are a member at large, and there is no chapter in your area, how about being the founder of one? Contact your State Director or National President Donnaleen Lanktree (1-888-557-6743), or Vice President Mandy Cooley (480-998-4156), or Executive Director Fran Carter (205-822-4106) for help and an information sheet on starting chapters. "We Can Still Do It!"



Newly installed officers of the Laurel, Maryland Chapter: President Ann Marie Miller; Vice President Wilma F. Foster; Secretary Margie Streiker. Not pictured: Treasurer Jerry Streiker. (Remember that Rivets may serve as officers at the local level!)

## No Wonder We Can't Communicate!

Having trouble understanding what some of your grandchildren are talking about? Well, get with it! Here's a brief lesson for texting messages in today's shorthand:

LOL: Laugh Out Loud  
 IDK: I Don't Know  
 OMG: Oh My Gosh!  
 FYI: For Your Information  
 BTW: By The Way  
 BFF: Best Friends Forever!



Thanks to Rivet Daniel Branum, Alabama, for translating!

## Rosies On the Go

The "Baker's Dozen" Chapter of ARRA in Columbus, Georgia/Phenix City, Alabama recently participated in World War II Heritage Days in Peachtree City. There were even some USO re-enactors on hand to add to the fun! What a great way to enjoy — and pass on — the history and legacy of the Rosies and veterans! Our thanks to Jonnie Clasen, Chapter President, for sharing!



Rosie Jean Liparoto, who turned 92 on July 4, holds a photo of herself as a young "Rosie" standing with family members.

Rosie Elizabeth Eatman holds a photo of her late husband, WW II Merrill's Marauder Bob Eatman.



Rivet Vincent Melillo, a WW II Merrill's Marauder and father of Chapter President Jonnie Clasen, gets a kiss from USO performers, including Rita Hayworth on the right.

Rivet Vincent Melillo and Rosie Elizabeth Eatman stand beside a WW II airplane.



# THE ROSIE SHOPPE Order Form



Check out our sale items!! Discount prices valid through December, 2011—while quantities last!

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item (circle size or type where applicable)</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
	Rosie poster, 20" x 28"	\$18.00	
	Rosie stickers, 3½" x 2½" (package of 5)	\$3.00	
	Rosie picture post cards, 4" x 6"	\$1.00	
	Rosie note cards with envelopes (package of 10)	\$12.00	
	Rosie afghan/wall hanging, all cotton, 48" x 58"	\$65.00	
	Rosie tote bag, sturdy cotton, 18" x 19" x 4½" - large	\$18.00	
	Rosie tote bag, sturdy cotton, 14" x 14" x 3" - small	\$16.00	
	Tote bag, sturdy cotton - <b>Uncle Sam</b> OR <b>Soldiers Without Guns</b> (specify) <b>\$12.00</b>	<del>-\$16.00</del>	
	<b>*NEW*</b> "ARRA Tote Bag—blue canvas	\$12.00	
	Rosie T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL	\$18.00	
	Rosie T-shirt XXL	\$21.00	
	Rosie sweatshirt (circle size) S L XL (while quantities last) <b>\$19.00</b>	<del>-\$27.00</del>	
	Rosie sweatshirt XXL (while quantities last) <b>\$20.00</b>	<del>-\$29.50</del>	
	Rosie night shirt (one size fits all)	\$24.00	
	Rosie head scarf (triangular shape, long end = 36")	\$10.00	
	Rosie scarf for blouse (45" – ring not included)	\$10.00	
	Rosie collectible doll	\$20.00	
	Rosie tin sign, 16" x 12"	\$25.00	
	Rosie counted cross stitch kit (makes picture 7½" x 10") frame not included	\$17.00	
	Rosie counted cross stitch book mark kit (makes bookmark 3¼" x 11") <b>\$7.00</b>	<del>-\$8.00</del>	
	Rosie luggage tag, 4" x 2½" <b>\$5.00</b>	<del>-\$6.00</del>	
	Rosie book mark with gold plate charm, 2¼" x 6½"	\$7.00	
	Rosie key chain (circle size) large-3" x 1¼" OR small-1¼" x 1 3/8"	\$6.50	
	Rosie metal snack box, 7¼" x 5" x 3"	\$15.00	
	Rosie water bottle <b>\$14.00</b>	<del>-\$16.00</del>	
	Rosie coasters (set of 4), 4" x 4"	\$10.00	
	Rosie night light, includes bulb	\$4.00	
	Rosie refrigerator magnet, 2¼" x 3¼"	\$6.00	
	Rosie stamp pin, 1 5/8" x 1 3/8" (circle type) bar clasp or tie tack clasp	\$5.00	
	Rosie button, metal, 3" diameter	\$3.00	
	<b>*NEW*</b> Rosie I. D. "Dog Tag"	\$8.00	
	<b>*NEW*</b> Rosie the Riveter Puzzle	\$10.00	
	<b>Book:</b> 103 Rosie the Riveter Stories	\$17.00	
	<b>Book:</b> 104 More Rosie the Riveter Stories	\$17.00	
	<b>Book:</b> Rosie the Riveter Celebration Cookbook	\$20.00	
	<b>Book:</b> Rosie Romances and Other Rosie the Riveter Stories	\$17.00	
	<b>SPECIAL - Set of 4 books (1 of each)</b>	\$68.00	
	<b>SPECIAL - Set of 3 story books (1 each of 103, 104 More, &amp; Romances)</b>	\$48.00	
	<b>SPECIAL - Set of any 2 story books plus Celebration Cookbook</b>	\$50.00	

**TOTAL**

Unless otherwise indicated, all products feature the classic "We Can Do It" design used in WW II.  
 Enclose check or money order made payable to ARRA. **Prices include shipping. Minimum order \$20.00.**  
 Send to ARRA, c/o Mabel W. Myrick, P. O. Box 188, Kimberly, AL 35091, (205) 647-9233.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## Rosie News From Texas



The Caldwell County, Texas Chapter of ARRA met on February 12 at the Dinner/Dance of the Texas Military Forces Museum at Camp Mabry in Austin, Texas. The following new officers were elected: President, Iona Sykes of New Braunfels, and Secretary, Peggy Stewart of San Marcos. The name of the chapter was officially changed to the Central Texas Chapter.

The Chapter's summer reunion was held on Saturday, June 18, at the Dixie Grille in Sequin, Texas. The Chapter was chartered in 2005 and has enjoyed 15 reunions. We will be traveling to Clear Lake, which is south of Houston and near the Johnson Space Center on Saturday, October 22, at the invitation of Rosie Glenmary Favro. Glenmary has offered to promote our visit locally in anticipation of possibly starting a chapter in the Houston area. For more information, contact Rosebud Carol Peters, (512) 357-2627; [capeters12@austin.rr.com](mailto:capeters12@austin.rr.com).



## ARRA Computer Bytes

**We Bet You Didn't Know...**

Did you know ARRA has a Shutterfly Share site? And is on Facebook? And YouTube? And of course, there's the Web site!

Jo Thomas, our Database Administrator, wants everyone to know that she has just added the 2011 Convention pictures to ARRA's Shutterfly site, at <http://rosietheriveter.shutterfly.com>. You can also find pictures for the 2009 and 2010 Conventions there. If you have pictures from these or other ARRA gatherings, you're invited to exhibit them on the ARRA Shutterfly site. If you don't know how, get a grandchild to help.

Also, Karen Hicks of California has created a Facebook page for ARRA. When you sign on to your Facebook account, search for American Rosie the Riveter Association and "Like" us or post a comment! Karen has also created and posted Rosie videos on YouTube. You can view them at [www.youtube.com/user/VideoRations](http://www.youtube.com/user/VideoRations).

Erin Stephens of Alabama is updating the ARRA Web site with names of new officers, etc. It has lots of information, including most back issues of the *Mail Call*. It's easy to find at [www.rosietheriveter.net](http://www.rosietheriveter.net).

So try them all out. And many thanks to Jo, Karen, and Erin — they're all giving their services *pro bono*.

## Rosie Books in Libraries



You can donate one of our Rosie story books to your favorite public or school library with special pricing — any of the three story books for \$12.00 each, or the Rosie cookbook for \$14.00. We must ship the book directly to the library. We will add a book plate saying that it is a donation from you. Get permission from the librarian before you order, so the library will accept the delivery. See page 5 for titles, then send your check or money order with the name and address of the library to Mabel Myrick, P. O. Box 188, Kimberly, AL 35091. These friends have recently donated books to libraries:

Betty McAtee, to the Daniel Boone Regional Library,  
Fulton, Missouri

Jane Tucker, to the Alto Park School, Rome, Georgia

Mary Lou Domenick, to the Jeannette Public Library,  
Jeannette, Pennsylvania

Arlene Crary, to the Lakeview United Methodist  
Church Library, Sun City, Arizona

Betty Johnson, to the Lakeview United Methodist  
Church Library, Sun City, Arizona

Wilma Rees, to the Lakeview United Methodist  
Church Library, Sun City, Arizona

## Ode To the Foreman

What was *your* foreman like while you were working as a Rosie? Maxine Hobbs, a Rosie who now lives in Oklahoma, gives us a glimpse of the way her foreman was perceived when she worked at Consolidated Aircraft in Fort Worth, Texas. She has submitted an eloquent poem that she wrote in 1942—and we have room to share the last three stanzas with you!

Well, I guess I could keep writing, but it's al-  
most resting time;  
And I hope your humor lasts you, for this is a  
mortal crime!

I guess it would be better, and you'd be so close  
to Heaven  
If you would only transfer me from Department  
Thirty-Seven.

But I guess I'll surely make it and give credit  
where it's due  
Of all the foremen I'd rather write an ode to  
it is you.

By the way, Maxine says she did not get the transfer!

## “Spirit of ‘45” Day Is Coming!

Have you heard about this national day? It is a celebration commemorating the end of WW II, or at least the end of the fighting, when Japan surrendered on August 14, 1945. The war didn’t officially end until the treaty was signed in Tokyo Harbor in September; but August 14 is the day the old-timers remember.

Now there is a national “Spirit of ‘45” organization dedicated to keeping alive the memory of that day, and honoring all those whose courage, commitment, and sacrifices made it possible. That includes the Rosies. The organization is headed by Warren Hegg, National Supervisor, and Linda Laurie, National Events Coordinator, both of California. They have invited ARRA to partner with them in promoting “Spirit of ‘45 Day” celebrations.

One aspect of the celebration will be buglers playing taps at exactly 7:00 p.m. at hundreds of public places in every time zone, from the East Coast to Hawaii. At many places this is in conjunction with some other public event. Last year it was a part of every major league baseball game being played on that day. Church services might devote a moment of prayer in addition to the taps. There will be special events at places such as Veterans’ Cemeteries. (Last year Fran and John Carter were invited to speak at the newly opened cemetery in Alabama.)

This year the ARRA Chapter in Birmingham, Alabama is sponsoring a gathering for the general public in a local park. Doris Adamson, former Chapter President, is working to recruit the buglers and promote the event.

For more information about the Spirit of ‘45, go to the organization’s Web site at [www.spiritof45.org](http://www.spiritof45.org).

KEEP THE  
SPIRIT  
OF ‘45  
ALIVE!

## Coming Up: Another Book of Rosie Stories Will Yours Be Included?

You may know that ARRA has published three books of stories by “real live Rosies” and a Rosie the Riveter cookbook that also includes stories. All of these have been very popular and are available in libraries, gift shops, and book stores – as well as in our ARRA Rosie Shoppe (see order form, page 5). The Smithsonian Institution in Washington recently ordered more copies to restock the supply in their gift shops.

But there are a lot of good stories about Rosies—both written and unwritten—that aren’t in a book yet! That is why ARRA is ready to start work on a fifth book – and we need at least 100 stories for it! Any Rosie who is a member of ARRA is invited to send a story about her World War II days. Also, Rosebuds and Rivets are invited to send stories about their Rosies if the Rosie is a member of ARRA. If you know about a Rosie who is deceased and was not an ARRA member, you may enroll her posthumously. Then send her story!



A good number of Rosies have sent stories in the past for the ARRA Archives. Some of these would be great for this forthcoming book, *but they will need to be re-written* according to the following specifications in order to be published.

Specifications for stories are that they must be 400-450 words long, with at least one picture. If you send only one picture, it may be either a present-day photo or one from WW II days, but a picture of you at work during the war would be great. Two pictures are preferred, one from “then” and one from “now.” Due to space constraints, we can’t promise to use more than two pictures. Please send clear, sharp photos. Send copies of photos, so that you may keep your original and we can keep the copy in the ARRA Archives, but please send good quality copies, not “Xeroxed” copies. Attach a note to photos identifying people, places, and action that is happening.

When you send your typed manuscript, it is *required* that you include the following signed statement: “The American Rosie the Riveter Association has my permission to publish this story in its forthcoming copyrighted book.” \_\_\_\_\_ (Your signature) \_\_\_\_\_

When the book is published, each author may purchase one copy at the author’s discount price of \$12. Additional copies will be available for the regular price.

If you already have a story in one of the other books, you may send a different one for this publication. Send typed story, picture(s), and permission statement to: **Mrs. Lucy Lewis, 1900 Napoleon Court, Vestavia Hills, AL 35243.**

## A Note from Mabel

After having been your Treasurer for the past six years, I am honored that now you have elected me as your Second Vice President, in charge of memberships. My plan for this position is to find as many Rosies as possible, and not only add them and their descendants to our membership, but also to collect their stories. Every Rosie has an interesting story, and, most likely, has never shared it, even with her family. We need to get as many stories as possible into our Archives and into the next book to be published (see related article, this page). In order to increase our membership, I encourage all of our members to help. If you know a Rosie who has not joined ARRA (and maybe never heard of us), direct her to our Web site, or please give me the contact information and I will call her and send her the information she needs.

Mabel Myrick  
(205) 647-9233  
mm041926@aol.com



# AMERICAN ROSIE THE RIVETER ASSOCIATION®

209 University Park Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35209

Honorary National Headquarters  
FDR's Little White House  
Warm Springs, Georgia

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## Membership Update

If you have moved or if you know a member who is deceased, will you please give us the information? Please print carefully in CAPITAL letters.

Name of member \_\_\_\_\_

New address \_\_\_\_\_

Old address \_\_\_\_\_

Current E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Current telephone \_\_\_\_\_

OR

Deceased member's name \_\_\_\_\_

State of last residence \_\_\_\_\_ Date of death \_\_\_\_\_

Send ALL information to: Mrs. Jo Thomas, Database Administrator, 1975 Cahaba Valley Road, Indian Springs, AL 35124. Email: cahabathomas@gmail.com

Note: In most cases, only one copy of the *Mail Call* is being sent to each household, so we hope you'll let everyone read it before you file it away. If you get more than one copy, how about sending one to a friend, especially a prospective member?

**We're Looking for Email Addresses!** If you use email, please take a minute to send us your email address so we can correspond with you between newsletters. Please send a quick email to Jo Thomas at cahabathomas@gmail.com.

## Benefit for Veterans, Spouses and Widows



ARRA has recently learned about a little-known veterans' benefit, and has verified with the VA that it is available, even though only about 1 in 7 eligible vets know about it.

It is known as the **aid and attendance benefit** and is available for veterans *and their widows* if the veteran served at least 90 days during a period of war. If the veteran (or widow) is disabled and in need of home care, a benefit of up to \$1,940 per month may be available. Certain restrictions apply. If interested, contact your VA office, or you may obtain further information from Fran Carter, ARRA Executive Director, (205) 822-4106, email fran.carter@juno.com.

## Purpose

### of the American Rosie the Riveter Association

To recognize and preserve the history and legacy of working women, including volunteer women, during World War II; to promote cooperation and fellowship among such members and their descendants; and to further the advancement of patriotic ideals, excellence in the workplace, and loyalty to the United States of America.

## Someone's Been Reading the *Mail Call*

In the last issue of *Rosie's Mail Call* we asked anyone who had rolled bandages during WW II to send in some information about how they did it, who furnished the materials, and what became of the bandages. We had had two requests for information about this activity. Two former bandage rollers answered: Genetta Strong of Alabaster, Alabama, and Marianne Miller Kessler of Lawrence, Kansas. It happens that both of them did their bandage rolling in Missouri.

Genetta rolled bandages with a friend, at the Red Cross in Bonne Terre. This was in 1943, right after her husband was discharged from the Army. The gauze was 3 1/2 to 4 inches wide and they made a roll about the same thickness. Marianne did her rolling at a hospital near St. Louis, over a period of two years. During that time she worked for the North Pacific Railroad—the first woman ever hired to do the work she was doing, transporting troops and prisoners of war.

Both ladies said the Red Cross provided the rolls of gauze that they used to make bandages of specified sizes, and the Red Cross saw that they got to where they were needed. Thanks, Genetta and Marianne for your work...and thanks, especially, for reading *Rosie's Mail Call* and responding!