



ROSIE'S MAIL CALL

Remembering Fran



Fran Carter
1922—2021

On May 31, 2021, Rosie **Dr. Fran Carter**, EdD, the founder and Executive Director of ARRA, passed away, or as she liked to say about John, her dear husband of almost 68 years, “God called her to heaven.” Anyone who knew Fran knows that she expected to live every minute of life, and she did just that for 99 years.

After growing up in a tiny community in rural Mississippi, Fran was a sophomore in college when Pearl Harbor was bombed. Very soon, she was doing her part for the war effort, working as a riveter on B-29’s. She didn’t know it then, but

many years later, in 1998, her wartime experiences would inspire in her an idea that would resonate in a huge way—to start an organization to honor the working women of World War II and preserve their legacy.



Fran and John married after the war, in March 1946

John said he would help her with her idea—of course, he thought she meant a small club in their home town of Birmingham, AL, but Fran had larger plans! Soon the national American Rosie the Riveter Association was born. (And John still helped!) Today, our organization has 7,000+ members. Fran has said many times how proud she is that the next generations are continuing to carry on.



“Rosie and Her Paratrooper” in 2012

Fran and John also began to give speeches called “Rosie and Her Paratrooper.” John wore his original paratrooper uniform, and Fran wore coveralls similar to what she wore as a riveter. And almost immediately, she encouraged Rosies to start writing their stories. She led the new organization to gather and publish ARRA’s

first book of 100 Rosie stories by 2001. Six more books have followed. Another great love of Fran’s was encouraging museums to display Rosie memorabilia and information. And always, always, encouraging people to join ARRA. “Look in your family tree!” she would say to everyone she met. “Ask somebody, who is the Rosie in your family? Now join for her and all her descendants!”

But Fran “lived every minute” in the 76 years before she started ARRA, too. She and John had two children, 7 grandchildren, and 16 great-grands. She taught elementary school through college, with 27 years as a Professor of Education at Samford University in Birmingham. She wrote children’s curriculum materials for her denomination for many years, and published two children’s books, including *R is for Rosie the Riveter*. Always enjoying “club work,” she was national Executive Director of Kappa Delta Epsilon education fraternity and national President of the National League of American Pen Women. She and John were in Civil Air Patrol for 25 years, both reaching the rank of Lt Col. They served in the AL Silver-Haired Legislature and in the U. S. Silver-Haired Congress.

Fran’s faith was always important to her. She started teaching Sunday School at age 12, and continued to do so through age 90. She and John supported many missionary causes throughout the world, and led or participated in more than 15 short-tem mission trips to China, Russia, Indonesia, and Honduras, including leading teams of teachers to teach month-long workshops in China for several years, and going on medical/dental mission trips to Honduras well into their 80’s. They supplied thousands of English-language books to overseas schools, and taught for a semester at both Anhui Normal University in Wuhu, China and Hong Kong Baptist University.

We celebrate Fran for all the ways she lived every minute!



Fran and John at the 2009 ARRA Convention, Las Vegas



Fran receiving an award in 1975



Fran and John shipping books to a school in China in 1987



From Our Outgoing President

Greetings! It's hard to believe that it was two years ago when we gathered for a fantastic convention in Bettendorf, IA and I became your President—how time flies! Now my 2019-2021 term is ending, and this is my last newsletter message to you as President. Even with the challenges of the pandemic, we have accomplished so much together as an organization in these two years.

The ARRA insignia jewelry collection was created and is now available through Hamilton Jewelers (see p. 4). New grants were developed for Chapter projects and newly formed Chapters, as well as new education library grants. A Free Rosie Membership campaign was created (see p. 8). We increased our membership by over 10%. Thousands of letters have been sent to our troops through our "Rosies Rally 'Round the Troops" campaign. Members sewed and donated cloth masks to military service members through ARRA's "We Can Sew It" project. Custom-designed ARRA Rosie products were added to the Rosie Shoppe. Our website now features "This Month in History." We celebrated the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII with memories from Rosies in our newsletter. And most importantly, our nation's WWII Rosies were collectively honored twice, first in September 2020 as the U. S. Department of Labor's Women's Bureau inducted "Rosie the Riveter" into their Hall of Honor. Then in December 2020, the Rosie the Riveter Congressional Gold Medal Act was signed into law, recognizing Rosies' historic contribution during WWII.

I am proud that a seventh book of 100 Rosie biographies was published this year. I encourage you to continue to send in your stories and preserve Rosie history for ARRA's Digital Archives and perhaps for an eighth book one day! Request guidelines and a required checklist at the *new* email, RosieBiographies@gmail.com, or by mail: ARRA Biographies, PO Box 241, Greens Farms, CT 06838.

It has been a privilege serving as your President and a delight working with you. As I said in my first newsletter, I love our organization—our Rosies, the energy of our members, and our "Can Do" spirit! I am so grateful that our founder, **Dr. Fran Carter**, had the vision and dedication to create ARRA, and that our WWII Rosies and members have built ARRA into the incredible organization that it is! I enthusiastically encourage you to challenge yourself and embrace your "Rosie" spirit through taking an active role in your Chapter or forming a new Chapter, or by requesting to be considered as a State Director, national Committee Chair, or future national officer!

Many thanks to ARRA's national officers 2019-2021: VP Membership **Laura Wright**, VP Expansion **Debi Wynn**, Corresponding Secretary (and Rosie) **Maybel Myrick**, Recording Secretary **Helen Sullinger**, and Treasurer **Stephanie Davis**. With great warmth and support, I welcome our new slate of officers (some returning) for the 2021-2023 term! Many thanks also to the Committee Chairs and appointed officers who do so much behind the scenes. They keep ARRA humming!

With Rosebud spirit,
Gretchen Caulfield (Rosebud-2, CT)
Immediate Past National President

AmazonSmile Helps ARRA

If you have an Amazon online shopping account, you can help ARRA! Here's how it works:



Go to smile.amazon.com. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, log in with your usual Amazon login and password. Before you begin shopping, go to "My Account" and select or type in "American Rosie the Riveter Association." Thereafter, when you are ready to shop on Amazon, start by logging in to AmazonSmile first, and shop Amazon from there, as usual. They will remember your selection of ARRA, and every eligible purchase you make will result in a donation of 0.5% to ARRA — at no extra cost to you!

If you don't have an Amazon shopping account, it's easy to create one. Some have even told us they buy their groceries through Amazon now, and they start with AmazonSmile to help ARRA. Thanks for every little bit!

Rosies Rally 'Round the Troops!

The American Rosie the Riveter Association is on a mission to thank our brave military men and women through our "Rosies Rally 'Round the Troops" campaign! Each year, Operation Gratitude (www.operationgratitude.com), one of our partner organizations, sends hundreds of thousands of individually addressed care packages to service members who are currently deployed, as well as new recruits, wounded warriors, and veterans. Letters are the favorite items in those packages! ARRA members have sent thousands of letters for these care packages, and you can help! Let's get out those pens and cards and start writing!

Here are guidelines: Start with a greeting such as "Dear Hero." Above all, express your thanks for their selfless service. Avoid politics completely and religion in excess, but saying you will pray for them is great. Share about yourself—hobbies, family, etc., Children should include first names only; adults may choose to include contact information. No glitter or confetti, please! Please write a nice full letter, not just a sentence or two. Do *not* put cards into envelopes.

An update would not be complete without a tribute to our founder, Rosie **Dr. Fran Carter**, and the many hundreds of



cards and letters she wrote over the years. Even recently, as her health declined, her caregivers knew there was an ongoing project to help her get her "cards for the soldiers" ready to send. Pictured at left is a box of 681 cards she recently sent. Above it

is a picture of Fran at an Honor Flight reunion in 2015, going table to table, giving out blank cards and asking people to write a note before they left. So send in your cards and we'll pass them on

to the troops! Send to:

Rosies Rally 'Round the Troops
c/o Linda Wallace
P. O. Box 124
Cobalt, CT 06414

Welcome To Our ARRA National Officers, 2021-2023!



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Since we were not able to have our national convention this year, these officers were elected and affirmed by our Executive Committee. They are already hard at work, as they began their new term of office on June 13, 2021. Many thanks to all!

Keeping ARRA Humming

It takes a lot of people “behind the scenes” to keep ARRA on track! And remember—everyone in ARRA is a volunteer! We send sincere thanks to our appointed officers for 2019-2021, many of whom are returning, some who are rotating off.

Of special note, many thanks to Rosebud **Jody Valet** (MO) who in her numerous years of serving as Treasurer, Website Administrator, and Rosie Shoppe Manager/Buyer, has facilitated great new programs for ARRA, including online shopping, online convention registration, new features on the website, expanded Rosie products, and new ventures with Etsy, Teespring, and AmazonSmile. Jody chaired our 2018 Kansas City Convention, and has served on several committees. Many thanks, Jody, you leave big shoes to fill! Our thanks also to all our State Directors and these folks:

Biography Editors—Yvonne Fasold (OR), Helen Sullinger (MN), Gretchen Caulfield (CT)

MailChimp Mail-out Chair—Betty Stokes (TX)

History Chairman (website)—Debra Wake (MI)

Rosie Shoppe Distributor—Susan Teagarden (PA)

Gift Shop/Museum Orders—Mabel Myrick (AL)

FaceBook Managers—Karen Hicks (CA), Jody Valet (MO)

Instagram Manager—Vonnie Ranta (NY)

Shutterfly Administrators—Nell Branum (AL), Yvonne Fasold (OR)

Education Committee—Jody Valet (MO), Carol Cain (GA), Angie Morthland (MI)

Budget Committee—Jean Ousley (GA), Mabel Myrick (AL), Jody Valet (MO), Carol Ruda (AZ), Nell Branum (AL)

Yankee Air Museum Rosie Honor Wall—Nancy Zajac (MI), Jeannette Gutierrez (MI)

Nominating Committee—Yvonne Fasold (OR), Linda Lundberg (AZ), Carol Peters (TX), Trish Woepking (IA), Carol Cain (GA)

Chapter Project Grants—Nancy Paul (IN), Marianne Lamborne (MI)

90+ Birthday Cards—Jessica Sorvala (CA), Carol Peters (TX), Therese Zavakil (AZ), Stephanie Davis (TX), Claire Sorvala (CA), Maya Sorvala (CA)

Parliamentarian—Helen Sullinger (MN)

Student Grants—Carol Cain (GA)

Newsletter—Nell Branum (AL)

Rosies Rally 'Round the

Troops—Linda Wallace (CT)
Archives—Fran Carter (AL), Nell Branum (AL), Jeannette Gutierrez (MI), Gretchen Caulfield (CT)



BIG Thanks to You, Mabel!

One of our outgoing officers deserves a special round of applause! Rosie **Mabel Myrick** (AL) has served continuously as an elected or appointed ARRA national officer since 2003!

During WWII, fresh out of high school, Mabel moved from her rural home in AL to Washington DC and worked in the War Office at the Pentagon. In 2003, Mabel had been a member of ARRA for only two weeks when our founder, **Dr. Fran Carter**, asked her to be ARRA’s first Director of Product and Book Sales. Mabel said yes, and performed that job so faithfully that later she was asked to complete the unfinished term of our Treasurer who passed away suddenly. Then Mabel was elected as Treasurer and served from 2005—2011. From 2011—2015, she served as ARRA’s Vice President for Membership. Among other things, she tirelessly researched and contacted newspapers large and small, systematically rotating through regions of the country, sending articles about ARRA, resulting in hundreds and hundreds of ARRA memberships.

Then Mabel served as our Corresponding Secretary from 2015—2021. Among other things, she has expertly answered questions that have come through ARRA’s email, website, and 1-800 number, which is a huge task! Oh, the many Rosies she has contacted when someone throughout the U.S. wanted to interview someone in their area! Oh, the students across the country that she has helped with National History Day projects and other school assignments! And much more!

And all the while, Mabel has continued to handle the part of the Rosie Shoppe that fills book orders for museums and gift shops. And recently, she has worked to build a city park dedicated to Rosie the Riveter in her home town in AL.

Mabel, you are truly a treasure, and we can’t wait to see what you take on next! Much love and many thanks to you!



Atlanta Chapter Celebrates

In March, our Atlanta Chapter celebrated National Rosie the Riveter Day by partnering with Vitas Health Care to host a ceremony and luncheon in appreciation of the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to all Rosies, which was signed into law in December 2020. Many members and supporters gathered at the Aviation History and Technology Center in



Marietta, GA, where Rosebud and Chapter President **Jean Ousley** presented a certificate and other remembrances to Rosie **Earline Gaither** (photo at left). Afterward, lunch was enjoyed in downtown Marietta, the first inside luncheon in quite a while for many! Pictured below are (clockwise): **Sharon Bankhead, Jean, Rivet Tom Ousley, Rivet Wayne Cook, Rosebud Virginia Cook**, three executives from Vitas Healthcare, 21st Century Rosie **Susan Byrd**, and Rosie **Earline**. What a special day!



Congratulating Rosies in OR

When Rosies were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in December 2020, ARRA's McKenzie, OR Chapter wrote and presented letters of congratulations to area Rosies. Pictured at top left, Rosie **Dolly Marshall** (on right) reacts to receiving a letter of congratulations from Past President **Dr. Yvonne Fasold**, while Dolly's daughter, Rosebud **Amy Black**, looks on. On bottom left, Rosie **Doris Graham** (on left) strikes a Rosie pose with Rosebuds **Yvonne Fasold** and **Dawn Nelson** to celebrate Rosies receiving this great honor.



Photo by Damien Sherwood, Cottage Grove Sentinel, used by permission.

And recently, Yvonne and Rosie Dolly were interviewed by **Meaghan Ziembe** for a video series that celebrates women in manufacturing called "Mavens of Manufacturing." Search Google or YouTube to find Dolly's interview on May 21 and Yvonne's on May 14. Meaghan was thrilled to find out about ARRA and do these interviews, because Rosies are an inspiration to women today who want to be part of this field that was previously "men's work." Rosies are still opening doors!

ARRA Insignia Jewelry

Often we hear the question: Where can I buy an ARRA membership pin? Good news! The ARRA Insignia Pin and other ARRA jewelry items are available through Hamilton Insignia. Go online to <https://www.hamiltoninsignia.com/categories/American-Rosie-The-Riveter-Association/> or call (800)786-5890. ARRA membership is required for all purchases made through Hamilton.

When you visit the Hamilton site, click on "Insignia" or "Jewelry" on the left side of the screen to see all of the beautiful options. Note that the round ARRA Insignia Pin can be purchased alone, or with loops to which hanging bars may be attached. Rosies may purchase a "WWII Rosie" hanging bar. Others may order a bar with the name of your Rosie inscribed on it. Order your pin or other jewelry today!



A Rosie Welcome in CT

In May, the CT Air & Space Center (CASC) had a much-celebrated ribbon-cutting ceremony and Grand Opening of its new museum space at the 1929 Historic Curtiss Hangar at Sikorsky Memorial Airport—including a new permanent Rosie the Riveter display!

Not only did Immediate Past President **Gretchen Caulfield** attend the ceremony, ARRA's Stratford, CT (Corsair) Chapter has dedicated the last five years to interviewing Rosies and family members and documenting the biographies of Chance Vought and Vought-Sikorsky Rosies as part of the new display (below). The display also



includes treasured historic Rosie artifacts from WWII, including factory outfits, drafting plans, and a tool. Also on display are a restored WWII Corsair airplane, Korean and Vietnam-era Sikorsky helicopters, and the stories of hometown heroes. The museum focuses on education and is open to all ages. Many thanks to all who contributed to preserve this history!

Happy Birthday!

Recently, Rosie **Helmi McHardy** (FL) celebrated her 98th birthday with her family. At right, Helmi is with her Rosebuds, daughter **Robin Bridges** and granddaughter **Lauren Bridges**, at ARRA's New Orleans convention in 2018. Happy birthday, Helmi!





THE ROSIE SHOPPE Order Form



Show your Rosie spirit every day!

We are your destination for everything Rosie!

View these products at www.rosietheriveter.net/rosie-shoppe. Prices include shipping!

| Quantity | Item (circle size or type where applicable) | Amount | Total |
|----------|---|---------|-------|
| | Rosie Poster, 20" x 28" | \$20.00 | |
| | Rosie Stickers, 3½" x 2½" (package of 5) | \$4.00 | |
| | Rosie Picture Post Card, 4" x 6" | \$1.00 | |
| | Rosie Note Cards with envelopes (package of 10) | \$12.00 | |
| | Rosie Tote Bag, sturdy cotton, 10.5" x 14" x 4" | \$20.00 | |
| | Rosie T-Shirt Classic—white shirt with classic "We Can Do It" front Circle: S M L XL | \$20.00 | |
| | Rosie T-Shirt w/ white "We Can Do It" Circle: Navy Heather or Red Heather * S M L XL | \$17.00 | |
| | ARRA T-shirt w/ ARRA's 20 th Anniversary Logo Circle: S M L XL | \$8.00 | |
| | NEW! - Rosie T-shirt w/color "We Can Do It" Circle: Daisy Yellow or Sport Gray * S M L XL | \$17.00 | |
| | NEW! - Rosie Apron, yellow with blue trim, Rosie image in center, neck & waist straps | \$15.00 | |
| | NEW! - Rosie Pot Holder, 8" x 8" yellow w/ blue trim, Rosie image in center, silver back | \$8.00 | |
| | Rosie Head Scarf, triangular shape, long end = 36" | \$12.00 | |
| | Rosie Rectangle Scarf, 3" by 36" | \$8.00 | |
| | Rosie Hair Bow, red w/ white polka dots, 4" grosgrain ribbon, lined alligator clip | \$7.00 | |
| | Rosie Headband, red w/ white polka dots, soft stretchy cotton Circle: Adult or Child | \$6.00 | |
| | NEW! - Rosie the Riveter Doll, plush, 11" with posable arms | \$20.00 | |
| | Rosie Socks (size 9-11, women's shoe size 6-10) Circle: Yellow or Black | \$10.00 | |
| | NEW! - Rosie Women's Cat Socks, "We Can Mew It" Circle: Berry or Yellow | \$10.00 | |
| | NEW! - Rosie Pill Case, "You Can Do It with medication" 2" diameter, 2 compartments | \$14.00 | |
| | Rosie Nightlight, 4" x 3" Tuftop tempered glass | \$18.00 | |
| | NEW! - ARRA Logo Face Mask, 2-ply, ear loops Circle: Navy or Red or Black | \$12.00 | |
| | NEW! - Rosie Polka Dot Face Mask, 2 ply cotton, metal nose bridge, adjustable ear loops | \$12.00 | |
| | Rosie Metal Snack Box, 7¾" x 6¾" | \$25.00 | |
| | Rosie Cutting Board, 11½" x 15½" Tuftop tempered glass | \$37.00 | |
| | Rosie Trivet, 6" x 6" Tuftop tempered glass | \$15.00 | |
| | Rosie Coasters, 4" x 4" Tuftop tempered glass, set of 4 | \$24.00 | |
| | Rosie Tin Sign, 16" x 12" | \$25.00 | |
| | Rosie Refrigerator Magnet, 2¼" x 3¼" | \$6.00 | |
| | Rosie Chunky Wooden Cutout Refrigerator Magnet, 4" x 3½" | \$8.00 | |
| | Rosie Reversible Ribbon Badge (reverse side is black for memorials) | \$20.00 | |
| | Rosie Ceramic Ornament | \$13.00 | |
| | Rosie Pewter Ornament | \$17.00 | |
| | Rosie Stamp Pin, 1⅝" x 1⅜" | \$8.00 | |
| | Rosie Button, 3" diameter, metal | \$5.00 | |
| | Rosie I. D. "Dog Tag" | \$8.00 | |
| | Rosie the Riveter Puzzle, 1,000 pieces, finished size 27" x 20" | \$25.00 | |
| | Rosie Bronze Grave Medallion, 2" diameter, includes priority shipping, please check with your cemetery | \$65.00 | |
| | Rosie Sun Catcher, 4" diameter, Tuftop tempered glass, includes suction cup | \$15.00 | |

(To order books by our amazing Rosies, see page 6. One combined check can be written for orders on pages 5 and 6.)

* Larger sizes available in these two shirts: write in 2X for \$19.00; 3X for \$20.00

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Sub-total page 5: | _____ |
| Sub-total page 6: | + _____ |
| GRAND 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!

Send to ARRA Rosie Shoppe, 950 Irving Street, Vandergrift, PA 15690.

Name _____ Telephone (____) _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Orange County, CA Chapter Is Gearing Up

Like many, our Orange County Chapter has not been able to carry out as many Chapter activities as they would like in recent months, but Chapter President and Rosebud **Michele Pisa-Jones** reports that they have been sending out greetings to members and Rosies, and will kick off again this summer, starting with a group visit with four Rosies who live at a senior living community. They are also working with a California author to provide historical information for a new novel she is writing that is based on Rosies. Way to go, and we look forward to hearing more about it all!

Rosie Rose Garden Website



We recently learned from our friends at the Spirit of '45 coalition that there is a new website dedicated to Rosie the Riveter Memorial Rose Gardens across the country. Check it out at www.RosieMemorialGardens.org.

Honors in Sun City, AZ

On March 13, as part of celebrating Women's History Month, awards were given from the Four Peaks Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in Phoenix to Rosies **Erlinda Avila** and **Caroline Kilgore**. Erlinda and Caroline told of their experiences as Rosies during WWII.

Pictured left to right are Rosebud **Nancy Allaire** (granddaughter of Erlinda), Rosie **Erlinda**, DAR Regent **Viree Byrne**, and Rosie **Caroline**.



THE ROSIE BOOK SHOPPE Order Form (Add this order to the Rosie Shoppe Order Form on page 5.)

Check out these books by our amazing Rosies—and note the special pricing for sets, and for school & public libraries! Prices include shipping.



| <u>Quantity</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------------|--|---------------|--------------|
| | Book: 103 <i>Rosie the Riveter Stories</i> | \$17.00 | |
| | Book: 104 <i>More Rosie the Riveter Stories</i> | \$17.00 | |
| | Cookbook: <i>Rosie the Riveter Celebration Cookbook</i> | \$20.00 | |
| | Book: <i>Rosie Romances and Other Rosie the Riveter Stories</i> | \$17.00 | |
| | Book: <i>Rosie the Riveter Stories: The Legacy Lives On!</i> | \$17.00 | |
| | Book: <i>Rosie the Riveter Stories: How They Did It!</i> | \$17.00 | |
| | ** NEW!! ** Book: <i>Stepping Up for Victory! 100 Rosie the Riveter Stories</i> | \$17.00 | |
| | Picture Book: <i>R is for Rosie the Riveter</i> (hardback) | \$20.00 | |
| | Picture Book: <i>R is for Rosie the Riveter</i> (paperback) | \$15.00 | |
| | Set of 6 books (1 each: 103, 104, <i>Romances</i> , <i>Legacy</i> , <i>How They Did It</i> , <i>Cookbook</i>) | \$98.00 | |
| | Set of 5 story books (1 each: 103, 104 <i>More</i> , <i>Romances</i> , <i>Legacy</i> , <i>How They Did It</i>) | \$80.00 | |
| | Any 1 story book shipped directly to a library | \$12.00 | |
| | - Circle which book: 103 ~104 <i>More</i> ~ <i>Romances</i> ~ <i>Legacy</i> ~ <i>How Did It</i> ~ <i>Stepping Up Celebration Cookbook</i> shipped directly to a library | \$15.00 | |
| | Hardback <i>R is for Rosie</i> sent directly to a library, or several to one ARRA Chapter | \$18.00 ea | |
| | Paperback <i>R is for Rosie</i> sent directly to a library, or several to one ARRA Chapter | \$13.00 ea | |

Name/Address of library (obtain librarian's permission first, to ensure that books are kept) or ARRA Chapter:

Sub-total page 4: _____
(Complete order form on page 5)

Eastern MI (WOW) Chapter Working Hard for Rosies

Recently, Eastern MI (WOW) Chapter President **Bette Kenward** was able to present Rosie **Ethel Ciszewicz** (pictured on right) with a framed copy of the Congressional Record (CRX) in which Ethel is honored. Bette has been working with Congresswoman **Debbie Dingell** for the last two years to have several 100-year-old Rosies honored officially in the U. S. Congressional Record.



And on June 12, Rosie **Frances Masters** attended a ceremony to dedicate this beautiful new monument for Gold Star Families, that is, those families in which someone paid the ultimate sacrifice, giving his or her life for our country. Frances' brother was one such person who paid the ultimate sacrifice in WWII.

Our Busy Cheboygan & Emmet Counties, MI Chapter

On March 21, ARRA's Cheboygan and Emmet Counties Chapter hosted an awareness day for National Rosie the Riveter Day (right, top). Community members from Cheboygan and Mackinaw City stopped by to take pictures, ask questions, and learn what ARRA is all about.



The Chapter has also been busily interviewing Rosies, including Rosie **Florence Tracy** (right, center), who learned Japanese to become a code breaker during the war, and Rosie **Leola Mae Havermeier** (right, bottom), who worked as a transcriptionist. The Chapter is working with the staff of the Ice-breaker Mackinaw Museum ship to create a new exhibit to pay tribute to the women who built and served on the ship, which was built in Toledo, OH. They are also working with county officials to plant a Rosie the Riveter Memorial Rose Garden to honor Rosies on the grounds of the county offices. Way to go!

*Florence Spencer Tracy
One of the Code Girls*



Compiled by Angie Morckland



Honoring Rosies in Willow Run

Our Willow Run, MI Chapter has sent a specially designed greeting card and gift bag to Rosies and Vets every month throughout the quarantine. Pictured left is Rosebud **Peggy Schneider** with a fresh batch of gift Rosie bears. The Chapter also created Appreciation Certificates and plastic Merit Badges for members and friends whose invaluable help makes their events and programs possible, and similar Event Badges for Rosies and Vets, who can wear them on polka dot scarves to ARRA events. During the quarantine,



two 100th birthdays and a 75th wedding anniversary occurred. Chapter members celebrated with safe and socially distanced Rosie Wave & Walk-By events, and worked with Congresswoman **Debbie Dingell** to have their 100-year-old Rosies honored in the U. S. Congressional Record (CRX). Pictured at right (top) is 100-year old Rosie **Almyra Rourke** (on right) with Chapter President **Nancy Zajac**. At right is 100-year-old Rosie **Helen Bandyke** with her CRX.



In May, Rosies, Vets, and the general public attended "Tea With Rosie," hosted by the Westland Historic Village Park. The lovely event was followed by a Rosie Rose Garden dedication ceremony for six new "Rosie the Riveter" rose bushes at the park. The media came out in force, and Rosies **Almyra Rourke**, **Marge Haskins**, and **Helen Kushnir** were featured on the local news that night. Pictured at left are Rosies **Flo McCarty** and **Clara Doutly**, WWII Vet and Rivet **Rich Pilon**, and Rosebuds **Sandy McCarty** and **Denise Leininger**.



The Chapter happily (and very carefully) resumed their potluck luncheons for Rosies, Vets, and families this spring. Pictured below (front row, from left) are Rosie **Clara Doutly**, WWII Vet **George Leland**, and Rosies **Marge Haskins**, **Helen Kushnir**, **Jane Biestek**, and **Emma Timmermann**.





AMERICAN ROSIE THE RIVETER ASSOCIATION

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americanrosietheriveter2@yahoo.com
www.rosietheriveter.net

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Send newsletter information to nellbran@yahoo.com.

Membership Update

If you have moved, or know any member who is deceased, or if you would prefer to receive your newsletter by email, please let us know. Please print carefully in CAPITAL letters. Send all update information to: **Laura Wright, Vice President for Membership, 809 W. Iola Place, Broken Arrow, OK 74012. Telephone: (918) 697-9112. Email: membershiparra@gmail.com.**

Name of member _____

New address _____

Old address _____

Current E-mail _____

Prefer to receive newsletter by email? _____

Current telephone _____

OR

Deceased member's name _____

State of last residence _____ Date of death _____

Free Rosie Memberships

Online ONLY with Special Link—but hurry!

If you haven't yet registered all the Rosies in your family tree, you can still do it for FREE if you hurry. A limited number of free Rosie memberships were made available through a grant to ARRA, but when these are claimed, the online link will close. Honor the Rosies in your family!

- Free memberships are for Rosies or Rosie Volunteers, whether living or deceased.
- You must use this special link: <https://rosietheriveter.net/rosie-shoppe/free-rosie-membership-special/>

Kudos for Honors

“The Heart of the Story,” a beautiful 3-part documentary series produced by **Gary Metivier** and highlighting many ARRA Rosies from AZ and IA, has won a national Telly Award! Look for it at youtube.com/watch?v=2a6qIUI_fAk.

“Women of Steel,” a wonderful video produced by **Laurien Musgrove** and **Tamika Moore** that features **Dr. Fran Carter** and other Rosies from AL, has won a Southern Emmy award! Find it at youtube.com/watch?v=yrcSeEaCBMg.

Rosebud **Jonnie Clasen** (GA) was recently presented a resolution from the City of Columbus, GA for the Rosie the Riveter awareness and participation she has contributed to the community through the years. Congratulations to all!

New Rosie Roses in Ft. Worth

On May 15, our Ft. Worth, TX Chapter dedicated a new Rosie the Riveter Memorial Rose Garden at the Vintage Flying Museum in Ft.



Worth. The garden was a labor of love by the Ft. Worth Chapter of ARRA, the Ft. Worth Rose Society, and the museum. In addition to 13 Rosie

the Riveter roses, the garden features a memorial pathway with bricks dedicated to local Rosies and Veterans.

Rosies **Leona Box, Grace Brown, and Wanda Farr** (right) were special guests for the festivities, which included a C-47 flyover and a flyby from Ft. Worth Commemorative Air Force's own B-29 named “Fifi,” one of only



two B-29's still flying today. Speakers included ARRA Ft. Worth Chapter President **Leslie Garvis**, Ft. Worth City Councilman **Carlos Flores**, museum Director **Chuck Hospers**, and CAF B-29/B-24 Squadron Senior Crew Chief **Rick Garvis**. The East Ft. Worth Community Jazz Band played the National Anthem and wonderful '40's music, and the Taps and Tunes dance group gave a patriotic performance. Lunch was provided by two local women business owners, and the Rosie Wall of Honor, featuring photos of North Texas Rosies, was dedicated. What a great day!

