

### SUMMER 2017 IN THEIR HONOR ★ ★ ★

**Johanna Borrelli** - In honor of *Mecca Shurden*

**Sandra Cohen** - In honor of *Ranger Betty Reid Soskin*

**Jessea Greenman and Darlene Ceremello** - In honor of *Jimette Anderson*

**Diane Hedler** - In memory of *Betty Hardison*

**Laura Klieves** - In memory of *Hazel Bennett*

**Petra Kretschmer** - In memory of *Betty Knapp*

**Linda and Brad Needham** - In honor of *Leona Frombach Bishop and Esther Belzer Frombach*

**Melissa Standish** - In honor of *Sharon Garell*

**Kathy Woofter** - In honor of *Madeline Woofter, Rosie 1944-1945*



## Special thanks

### to our 2017 Annual Dinner Sponsors

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Very special thanks to Trefethen Family Vineyards for their contribution of outstanding wines.

#### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Women's History Month in March holds special meaning at Rosie the Riveter, but March this year held even more meaning than usual as we celebrated *National Rosie the Riveter Day*. Thanks to a bipartisan, bicameral resolution introduced by Representatives Jared Huffman, Mark DeSaulnier, and Jackie Speier, and Senator Bob Casey, among many others, the Senate officially recognized March 21<sup>st</sup> as *National Rosie the Riveter Day* to honor the 16 million women who worked in a wide variety of war-related jobs

during World War II, ably filling the shoes of men overseas.

At our National Park, dedicated as the site for telling these stories, we were honored to have twelve original Rosies on hand to be recognized, along with Phyllis Gould, formerly a park docent who worked tirelessly to make this day official. Scores of well-wishers, including many mothers and their daughters attended. Although *National Rosie the Riveter Day 2017* was established for this year only, it bodes well for our continued work to ensure this becomes an official federal day to honor some of our most important female role models.

—Marsha Mather-Thrift

## Rosies Forever: 2017 Annual Benefit Dinner

Good food, fine wine, wonderful people, spectacular bay views from way up in the Richmond hills, uniquely entertaining entertainment, short speeches about big accomplishments. And did we mention the wonderful people?

That sums up the 10th Annual Benefit Dinner for the Rosie the Riveter Trust on April 8th, held at the grand Mira Vista

Country Club (which, according to Kaiser historian Lincoln Cushing almost became a temporary shipyard workers' hospital back in 1942).

As usual, the no-host bar was doing a booming business as guests crowded up to the bar, then drifted off to bid on a vast and enticing assortment of culinary, gustatory, and artistic products and services at the silent auction next door. Representatives from Napa's Trefethen Winery, which provided the evenings' fine wines, poured free tastings for those who weren't too busy shooting "We Can Do It" selfies with World War II Rosies, or chatting with NPS staffers.

As dinner was served, the Trust's president, Diane Hedler, welcomed the full house of some 225 guests and staff, reeling off an impressive list of the Trust's accomplishments. Other speakers included Park Superintendent, Tom Leatherman; Alize Martinez, a graduate of the Rosies Girls Summer Camp; and Marsha Mather-Thrift, Executive Director of the Trust, who underscored the ongoing need for financial and other forms of support for the Trust's "massive undertaking" for *Every Kid In a Park* (EKIP) and other programs.

And then the fun began in earnest as musician and Hawaiian dance promoter Rick Smith brought on his *Na Mamo No'au* Hawaiian hula dancers, whose performance included a special Rosie Luau featuring four local dancers dressed as Rosies. What next?

By the time the custard and cake made its appearance, the sun had sunk far below the Golden Gate on a memorable evening that commemorated another year of the hard work, and the spirit of the many people who keep the Rosies' Can-Do promise alive.

2017 Benefit Dinner attendees include (left to right): Marian Wynn, Santana, Diane Hedler, Park Superintendent Tom Leatherman, Mimi Gatens, Rosie Martinez, Michael Baldini, Mayor Tom Butt, and Shirley Butt. *Photos by Lisa Foote*

#### EVERY KID IN A PARK:

## Building a New Generation of Park Users

The buses arrived about 9:15, disgorging a cheerful and curious gang of 50 to 60 fourth graders from Richmond's Murphy Elementary School into the sunshine and bay breezes of a fine spring morning at the Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park.

Though most of these kids lived within 10 miles, it was their first visit to the park. Cutbacks in school field trips and other resource barriers have complicated the National Park Services' efforts to provide services to urban and underserved populations, including Richmond and nearby communities.

Today's field trip – a tour of the Park's Visitor Center, including historical exhibits, artifacts, films and discussions about the Park's vital role in World War II, and a walk down the Bay Trail to the Rosie Memorial. Nearly 2,000 9 to 10-year-olds have visited for similar tours over the last two years. The reason for the great increase in young visitors, explains Lead Ranger Elizabeth Tucker, is EKIP. The *Every Kid In a Park* initiative, launched by the Obama White House, the National Park Service in 2015, aims to make our 400 national parks accessible to all fourth graders and their families every year, thereby seeding a next generation of National Park users, supporters and advocates. Each school year the program provides (via a website) all fourth

graders with a free pass for themselves and their entire family to all national parks. To overcome accessibility issues, the Rosie the Riveter Trust is working with the West Contra Costa School District and providing funding for school bus transportation to classrooms that could not otherwise afford to visit.\*

"EKIP is our best hope for introducing a whole new generation to the treasures of our national parks," says Tucker. "It's getting our kids out from the classroom, away from the computer and TV screens, into the great outdoors and exposing them to the living history of their own communities. We have local kids come here on visits who have never even seen the bay they live on."

Amanda Olsen, a student at Murphy's Elementary School, also discovered to her astonishment and delight, that her own great grandmother and great aunt had been welders in these very shipyards during the war: "So she wore a mask and clothes just like those," she told her classmates, pointing at an exhibit of welders' protective wear.

The EKIP free pass to parks for fourth graders can be downloaded, along with other information about the program from [www.everykidinapark.gov](http://www.everykidinapark.gov).

\* Special thanks to UC Berkeley College of Natural Resources and the Outdoor Engagement Coalition for providing UCB student interns

# Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park

## June/July/August 2017

### MONDAYS

#### The Port Chicago Disaster and Aftermath

6/5, 7/18, 8/21 @ 2:00 PM (30 minutes)  
What kinds of questions were sailors and civilians asking after ten million pounds of explosives blew up in Concord in 1944?

### TUESDAYS

#### "Of Lost Conversations" (First Come - First Served Seating\*)

6/6, 6/13, 6/20, 6/27, 7/4, 7/11, 7/18, 7/25, 8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22, 8/29 @ 2:00 PM (1 hour)  
Park Ranger Betty Soskin discusses her experience as a young African American woman during WWII.

### WEDNESDAYS

#### Richmond Bus Tour with a Park Ranger (Reservations Required)\*

6/7, 7/5 - AUGUST TBD - CHECK NPS WEBSITE @ 10:30 AM (2 hours)  
Hop aboard with a park ranger for an overview of the park sites located throughout the City of Richmond. A short tour of the Maritime Child Development Center is included.  
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED call (510) 232-5050 x0

### What We Wore During the War

6/14 - JULY & AUGUST TBD - CHECK NPS WEBSITE @ 11:00 AM (1 hour)  
The war changes everything including fashions which changed to meet emerging needs: leather, wool, and nylon were needed by our fighting forces, so we made do on the Home Front. We'll have a look at the clothing worn by working men and women, children and even Hollywood.

### Warbling Through the War Years

6/14 - JULY & AUGUST TBD - CHECK NPS WEBSITE @ 1:00 PM (1 hour)  
Dancing the jitterbug, laughing to silly tunes - and mending broken hearts. Music during WWII helped us get through fearful times. We'll hear how we listened through samples from radio, records and the movies.

### THURSDAYS

#### "Of Lost Conversations" (First Come - First Served Seating)

6/1, 6/8, 6/15, 6/22, 6/29, 7/6, 7/13, 7/20, 7/27, 8/3, 8/10, 8/17, 8/24, 8/31 @ 11:00 AM (1 hour)  
Park Ranger Betty Soskin discusses her experience as a young African American woman during WWII.

### "Blossoms and Thorns"

6/1, 6/8, 6/15, 6/22, 6/29, 7/6, 7/13, 7/20, 7/27, 8/3, 8/10, 8/17, 8/24, 8/31 @ 2:00 PM (1 hour)  
A docent from the Japanese American Citizens' League screens the documentary film "Blossoms and Thorns" about Richmond's pre- and post-war community of flower and nursery garden owners, and shares from their experiences in a WWII internment camp.

### FRIDAYS

#### Rationing on the Home Front

6/23, 7/21 - AUGUST TBD - CHECK NPS WEBSITE @ 12:30 PM (30 minutes)  
During WWII Americans were asked to sacrifice in support of the troops, and this was evident daily at the dinner table. Listen to stories about the Federal Government's rationing program and how it affected families on the Home Front.

#### Rosie Meet and Greet!

6/2, 6/9, 6/16, 6/23, 6/30, 7/7, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25 @ 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (2 hrs) & 1 - 2:00 PM (1 hr)  
Most Fridays, a group of civilian WWII docents share their stories in an informal setting at the Visitor Center. Here is your chance ask the experts- real Rosies from the Kaiser shipyards- about life and work on the WWII American Home Front!

### SATURDAYS

#### "Of Lost Conversations" (First Come - First Served Seating)

6/3, 6/10, 6/17, 6/24, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19, 8/26 @ 2:00 PM (1 hour)  
Park Ranger Betty Soskin discusses her experience as a young African American woman during WWII.

#### Henry J. Kaiser: "Build Em' by the Mile and Cut Em' off by the Yard"

6/24, 7/29, 8/26 @ 3:30 PM (1 hour)  
Join author Steve Gilford for a 45-minute presentation about the extraordinary life of ship builder Henry J. Kaiser, an industrialist who was a loyal friend to (organized) labor.

### SUNDAYS

#### Rosie the Riveter Memorial - A Closer Look

6/4 - JULY & AUGUST TBD - CHECK NPS WEBSITE @ 11:30 AM (1 hr - Rain Cancels)  
Drop by Marina Bay Park (Melville Square) to visit the Rosie the Riveter Memorial—a very thoughtful public art sculpture of a World War II cargo ship under construction along a 450-foot timeline. A docent will be available to answer questions and introduce the memorial.

## ROSIE ★ RALLY

What: **Home Front Festival and Rosie Rally**  
When: **Saturday, August 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM**  
Where: Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park - Craneway Pavilion  
Attire: Dress as the iconic Rosie the Riveter!  
RSVP: [www.rosietheriveter.org/rosierally2017](http://www.rosietheriveter.org/rosierally2017) to sign up for email alerts.

Participants will attempt to defend the Guinness World Record for "The Largest Gathering of People Dressed as Rosie the Riveter." The record now stands at 2,229 Rosies.

**Help us to make history (again)!**



## We Can Do It...Today!

### ROSIE THE RIVETER TRUST



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#### RORI National Park Visitor Education Center

Open EVERY DAY 10:00 am to 5:00 pm  
(Closed Thanksgiving, December 25th, & New Years Day)  
1414 Harbour Way South, Ste. 3000 (Oil House)  
Richmond CA 94804 • 510-232-5050

#### Maritime Child Development Center

1014 Florida Ave, Richmond, CA 94804

#### Craneway Pavilion

1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond, CA 94804

#### Rosie the Riveter Memorial

Marina Bay Park, Richmond, CA 94804

Rosie the Riveter Trust  
P.O. Box 71126  
Richmond, CA 94807-1126

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# THE RIVETER

News from Rosie the Riveter Trust supporting the Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park • Summer 2017

### ROSIE THE RIVETER TRUST

Rosie the Riveter Trust is the nonprofit membership organization dedicated to building a community to preserve Park historic sites and to honor the women and men of all backgrounds who labored on the Home Front, inspiring some of the most profound social changes in our history.  
510-507-2276 [www.rosietheriveter.org](http://www.rosietheriveter.org)

#### OUR PUBLIC AGENCY PARTNER...

The National Park Service was established in 1916 to preserve America's natural, cultural and scenic treasures and to provide for their enjoyment by future generations.



### ROSIE THE RIVETER



The Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park was established in 2000 as the flagship Park to tell the World War II Home Front story.  
510-232-5050 ext 0  
[www.nps.gov/rori](http://www.nps.gov/rori)

WWII Home Front National Historical Park

### FROM THE PARK SUPERINTENDENT



## Home Front Festival & Rosie Rally Aug.12,2017

Planning is well underway for the 2017 Rosie Rally and Home Front Festival in August. We will again be trying to break the world record for the most people dressed as Rosie the Riveter in one place, and we need your help to do it. Mark your calendars for August 12, tell your friends and family, and come join the fun. We will start with the Rally at 10:00 a.m. in the Craneway and then proceed to Lucretia Edwards Park for the Festival, where there will be live music,

food and fun activities for all ages. We are working with partners around the Bay Area to provide many unique opportunities that day, including coming to the event on the Tidelines water taxi, getting discounts at Mountain Hardware Employee store, and visiting the Red Oak Victory Ship in Historic Shipyard no. 3. Please check out our event website at [www.rosietheriveter.org/rosierally2017](http://www.rosietheriveter.org/rosierally2017) and stay connected with the most recent information. Hope to see you all there.

—Tom Leatherman



### I SPY WITH MY LITTLE EYE SOMETHING NEW AT THE VISITOR CENTER!

Notice anything new with our Rosie the Riveter Park metal water bottles? Each features an enhanced Park logo design and inspiring text. These bike friendly, aluminum, American-made water bottles are flying off the shelf fast. Head down to our Visitor Center and stock up for your next outdoor adventure!



### CHALLENGE MATCH

## "CAPTURE A LEGACY" FILM PROJECT

Honoring the work of legendary NPS Ranger, Betty Reid Soskin, Rosie the Riveter Trust has hired a team of filmmakers to complete a documentary about her life and experiences. To help us reach our goal the East Bay Fund for Artists at the East Bay Community Foundation has offered to match all gifts for this project, up to \$8,000! Donate NOW at [www.rosietheriveter.org](http://www.rosietheriveter.org) and double your impact!