Thumbnail Sketches of America’s Military Women
Meet the 34 Remarkable Women Featured in the 2011 Poster

Drawn from the amazing archival photographs of the Women’s Memorial Foundation Collection, five central images spotlight military women serving today; and forming the poster’s historical framework are 29 images representing the remarkable legions of women who have served, beginning with the American Revolution.

Center Images—Clockwise from Upper Left

2nd Lt. Johanna Shaffer, U.S. Marine Corps
*Operation Enduring Freedom*
*USMC photo by Lance Cpl. Monty Burton*

Staff Sgt. Virginia Andrews-Arce, U.S. Army
*Operation Enduring Freedom*
*DoD photo by Staff Sgt. Joseph Swafford, USAF*

Landing Signal Officer, U.S. Navy
*Global War On Terror*
A landing signal officer guides aircraft into the landing area aboard the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, South China Sea, Aug. 8, 2006.
*USN photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Marcel A. Barbeau*
Lt. j.g. Lashanda Holmes, U.S. Coast Guard
Global War on Terror
Lt. j.g. Lashanda Holmes, the first African American woman Coast Guard helicopter pilot, stands in front of an MH-65 Dolphin helicopter, Coast Guard Air Station Los Angeles, Calif., August 2010.
USCG photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Adam Eggers

Airman 1st Class Claudia Bone, U.S. Air Force
Global War On Terror
Airman 1st Class Claudia Bone, 86th Vehicle Readiness Squadron, adjusts a vehicle's brakes, Ramstein Air Base, Germany, July 29, 2010.
USAF photo by Airman 1st Class Desiree Esposito

Frame Images—Clockwise from Upper Left

Dr. Mary Edwards Walker
Union Army Surgeon, Civil War
Dr. Mary Edwards Walker was awarded the Medal of Honor for her service as a contract surgeon in the Union Army during the Civil War. The only woman who has received the nation's highest military award, Dr. Walker, also an ex-Prisoner of War, was awarded the medal for her work as a physician on the battlefield and in military hospitals.
Library of Congress

Drill Sergeant
U.S. Army, 2000s
An Army female drill sergeant provides security for the color guard during an Army basic combat training graduation ceremony, Fort Jackson, S.C., June 16, 2006.
USAF photo by Staff Sgt. Stacy L. Pearsall

Master Chief Petty Officer Anna Der-Vartanian
U.S. Navy, 1960s
Navy YNCM Anna Der-Vartanian began her military career in 1943 when she enlisted in the WAVES. In 1946, she transitioned to the Navy and 13 years later she became the first woman in any of the services to advance to E-9, the highest enlisted grade. The master chief retired in 1963.
Women's Memorial Foundation Register

Early Nursing
U.S. Army Nurse Corps, World War I
An Army nurse tends to a wounded soldier, Evacuation Hospital No. 114, Fleury-sur-Aire, France, World War I.
National Archives (111-SC-26535)
Spc. 5 Karen Hampton  
_U.S. Army, 1970s_  
Spc. 5 Karen (Sellers) Hampton was the first woman selected as a demonstration jumper on the U.S. Army Parachute Team, “The Golden Knights,” 1979-1980.  
_Women's Memorial Foundation Register_

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Women in the Civil War  
_Volunteer Unit, Civil War_  
Unidentified women’s volunteer unit, Washington, D.C., Civil War.  
_National Archives (64-M-306)_

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SPAR Clerk  
_U.S. Coast Guard, World War II_  
Coast Guard SPAR clerk, June 1944. Some 11,000 women answered their country’s call to serve in the Coast Guard during World War II—10,000 in its enlisted ranks and 1,000 in the officer corps.  
_USCG photo, Women’s Memorial Foundation Collection_

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2nd Lt. Emily Perez  
_U.S. Army, Operation Iraqi Freedom_  
2nd Lt. Emily J. Perez, a 2005 United States Military Academy graduate, deployed to Iraq in December 2005, with the Army’s 204th Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 4th Infantry, out of Fort Hood, Texas. On Sept. 12, 2006, she was killed when an improvised explosive device detonated near her Humvee in Al Kifl, Iraq.  
_Women’s Memorial Foundation Collection_

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Staff Sgt. Eugenia Lopez  
_U.S. Air Force, Operation Iraqi Freedom_  
_USAF photo by Airman 1st Class Alicia Sarkkinen_

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Lt. Melanie Knight  
_U.S. Navy, 1990s_  
Lt. Melanie Knight, a Navy diver with Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 3, signals as she surfaces following a practice dive, Naval Air Station, San Diego, Calif., May 1993.  
_Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Andrew C. Heuer, USN_
Military Policewoman
*U.S. Army, 1970s*
An Army military policewoman directs a convoy of armored vehicles, December 1978.
*USA photo*

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Col. Eileen Collins
*U.S. Air Force and NASA Astronaut, 1990s*
Col. Eileen M. Collins became a NASA astronaut in July 1991 and is a veteran of four space flights, logging over 872 hours in space. In 1995, she became the first woman pilot of a space shuttle on STS-63 Discovery and in 1999, she became the first woman to command a shuttle mission on STS-93 Columbia.
*NASA photo*

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Molly Pitcher
*American Revolution*
Currier & Ives lithograph, ‘The Women of ’76: “Molly Pitcher” The Heroine of Monmouth.’ At the battle of Monmouth in 1778, Molly “Pitcher” (so-named because she brought pitchers of water to soldiers on the field) became the second known woman to man a gun when her husband fell in battle. For her heroic role, Gen. Washington awarded her a warrant as a noncommissioned officer.
*Library of Congress (LC-USZC2-3186)*

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Petty Officer 3rd Class Terry Ann Gregory
*U.S. Coast Guard, 1990s*
Petty Officer 3rd Class Terry Ann Gregory, U.S. Coast Guard, Miami, Fla., June 1999.
*USCG photo*

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Capt. Bettie Vierra
*U.S. Air Force Nurse Corps, Vietnam*
*Women’s Memorial Foundation Collection*

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Pfc. Edith Macias
*U.S. Marine Corps Reserve (F), World War I*
Pfc. Edith Macias, Marine Reservist (F), Washington, D.C., World War I.
*National Archives (165-WW-598-A-10)*
Pilot Twila Edwards
*Women Airforce Service Pilots, World War II*
WASP Pilot Twila Edwards confers with another WASP test pilot, California, April 1944.
*Women’s Memorial Foundation Collection*

Privates Naomi Proffitt, Bette Wimer, Betty West and Reba Fitzgerald
*Women Marines, World War II*
Privates Naomi Proffitt, Bette Wimer, Betty West, and Reba Fitzgerald learn to disassemble aircraft engines for major overhauling, Assembly and Repair School, Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, N.C. 1943.
*USMC photo, Women’s Memorial Foundation Collection*

Lt. j.g. Beverly Kelley
*U.S. Coast Guard, 1970s*
Lt. j.g. Beverly Kelley was the first woman to command a U.S. military vessel—the 95-foot Coast Guard Cutter Cape Newagen, 1979.
*USCG photo*

Master Gunnery Sgt. Pamela Smith
*U.S. Marine Corps, 2000s*
Master Gunnery Sgt. Pamela Smith, who has worked Marine Corps motor transport for 31 years and is the first woman master gunnery sergeant in the motor transport maintenance field, climbs up to inspect a Medium Tactical Vehicle Replacement engine, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C., March 17, 2008.
*USMC photo by Lance Cpl. Meg Varvil*

Airman Maudell Thompson
*U.S. Air Force, 1980s*
*USAF photo*

Airman Ana Tavira
*U.S. Navy, Operation Iraqi Freedom*
Navy Airman Ana Tavira crosses the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz after taking the tie down chains off of an aircraft, the Arabian Gulf, Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 17, 2003.
*USN photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Yesenia Rosas.*
“Hello Girls”  
_U.S. Army Signal Corps, World War I_  
U.S. Army Signal Corps telephone operators or “Hello Girls,” Tours, France, World War I.  
*Women's Memorial Foundation Collection*  

**Women Recruits**  
_U.S. Navy, 1950s_  
*Women’s Memorial Foundation Collection*  

**Airman Vanessa Dobos**  
_U.S. Air Force, 2000s_  
Airman Vanessa Dobos, the first female aerial gunner in the Air Force and assigned to the 58th Training Squadron, looks out the crew door of an Air Force HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter equipped with a 7.62mm M134 Minigun machine gun, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.  
*Photo by Dennis Carlson*  

**Ensign Jane Kendeigh**  
_U.S. Navy Nurse Corps, World War II_  
Ensign Jane Kendeigh, the first Navy Nurse Corps flight nurse to reach Iwo Jima, ministers to serious casualties awaiting evacuation on the airstrip, March 1945.  
*Naval History and Heritage Command (NH 95014)*  

**Enlisted Sailors**  
_U.S. Navy, 1990s_  
Enlisted Navy sailors raise the American flag, early 1990s.  
*USN photo*  

**Maj. Charity E. Adams**  
_Women’s Army Corps, World War II_  
*National Archives (111-SC-200791)*
Gunnery Sgt. Heidi Schuerger
*U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Operation Iraqi Freedom*
*Photo by Lance Cpl. Andrew Williams, USMC*