

National

Montford



Point

Marine Association, Inc.

Date: 1942 - 1949

Vol. No.1

HOME OF THE ORIGINAL MONTFORD POINT MARINES

[www.montfordpointmarines.org](http://www.montfordpointmarines.org)

Press Release

## HALL OF FAME

2020

# Mrs. Pat Hackbarth

Pat Hackbarth, Master Gunnery Sergeant (Ret.) has been an active member and supporter of the Montford Pointer for over two decades. Her serious interest in these often-forgotten Marines took root at the 2000 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. (NAACP) Convention in Baltimore where she met deceased Montford Point Marine (MPM) First Sergeant James "Rudy" Cater who was at the booth of the Marine Corps recruiting contingent. They immediately developed a friendship and from their friendship Pat met MPM Gunnery Sergeant Reuben McNair. Pat eventually ran and won the Presidential election for DC-Chapter #6. She became the first Caucasian woman of the few women to lead a chapter. Pat served as an Equal Opportunity Advisor in the Marines Corps and she honestly doesn't see color, just the need to participate and make a difference.

During the time of her administration DC Chapter #6 was in need of sustained leadership and Pat definitely provided that. With only 18 MPM's in the chapter, through Pat's initiative, the Chapter ultimately identified over 50 MPMs or their families and got them involved in Chapter events. Pat utilized her unlimited resources and contacts to put on some of the best organized and executed events to include the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon.

Pat would personally travel to the homes of MPMs in the greater Washington, DC area along with MPM Reuben McNair. Together they laid out a plan of action to ensure that every known MPM would have their documents certified in time for the Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) Ceremony at the US Capital on 27 June 2012.

The day the US House of Representatives held the historic vote to pass House Resolution 2447 for the Congressional Gold Medal, Pat was in the audience with 4 of "her" Montford Point Marines. US Representative Corrine Brown, the lead sponsor in the House of Representative for the medal, broke protocol and allowed those MPM's to speak on the floor of the U.S. House.

Pat was also the lead coordinator of the logistics for her MPM's from Washington DC to San Diego, CA for the commissioning of the USNS Montford Point ship.

When Pat's husband Colonel Karl Hackbarth was transferred to Hawaii, she continued to do the work of the Association coordinating a presentation of the replica CGM for MPM Dr. Ernest James Harris Jr. This event received incredible press and informed citizens of our 50th state who these African American Marine pioneers were.

Pat transferred with her husband to New Orleans where she again got involved with the Alexander Granville Chapter #7 and provided incredible leadership and organizational skills. She now resides in North Carolina and we anticipate her joining Cherry Point Chapter #36.

Because of her commitment to service, Pat Hackbarth was inducted into the NMPMA Inc. Hall of Fame.

