

WAR STORIES

DISPATCHES FROM THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF WAR AND SOCIETY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE



The first-ever all-female flyover was conducted by the United States Navy in honor of Captain Mariner's historic service and accomplishments.

With Gratitude and Esprit de Corps

Remembering Captain Rosemary B. Mariner,
Naval Aviation Pioneer and Scholar-in-Residence at CSWS

Captain Rosemary Mariner, United States Navy, retired, passed away January 24, 2019, in the fifth year of her battle with ovarian cancer, with her husband and wingman of 40 years by her side. She was 65. Born in Harlingen, Texas, raised in San Diego, she graduated from Purdue University with a degree in aeronautics at 19. Captain Mariner was one of the first eight women selected to fly military aircraft in 1973. After flight training in 1974, she became the Navy's first female jet pilot flying the A-4C and the A-7E Corsair II. She moved to the Naval Weapons Center in China Lake, then Air Test and Evaluation Squadron 5. For sea duty, in 1982 she reported aboard *USS Lexington*, where she qualified as a Surface Warfare Officer.

In 1990, she became the first woman to command a military aviation squadron, VAQ-34, based at the Pacific Missile Test Center at Pt. Mugu, California. She attended the National War College in Washington, DC, earning a Master's in National Security Strategy, and served on the staff of the Joint Chiefs in the Pentagon. Her final military assignment was as the Chairman of the Joint Chief's Chair in Military Strategy at the National War College, before retiring in 1997. Throughout her career, Captain Mariner was both willing to serve as a mentor to others and deeply grateful to the men and women who enabled her to pursue her dreams. She was instrumental in the repeal of restrictions on women serving in combat.

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In 1990 Captain Mariner became the first woman to command a military aviation squadron, VAQ-34, based at Pt. Mugu, California.



In retirement, Captain Mariner was a resident scholar at the Center for the Study of War and Society in the UT Department of History where she taught classes in military history, emphasizing the intersections of war and conscience. She continued to serve as an advisor on national defense policy and women's integration into the military for ABC News, PBS, and the Department of the Navy. A voracious reader and an eager academic, she devoted herself to a love of knowledge. In recent years, this included the disease that took her life, which she sought to understand as fully as possible. As expected, she tenaciously fought an implacable foe to the end. She lived in Norris, Tennessee, with her husband, retired Navy Commander Tommy Mariner, and their daughter, Emmalee, who attends Duke University.

“Fundamentally, after the loss of Capt. Rosemary Mariner, life at CSWS will never be the same. For two decades she was our Resident Scholar and also a lecturer in our history department for many of those years. Her own research and teaching focused on the evolving US military tradition, placing it in the context of ancient Greco-Roman ideas and English political philosophy and tradition. She focused in particular on connections between republican citizenship and military service, citizen armies, conscription, just war theory, and the nexus between homeland security and civil-military relations. Many students recall fondly her encouragement as a mentor, her high standards, and her energy. She coedited, with G. Kurt Piehler, the volume *The Atomic Bomb and American Society: New Perspectives* (University of Tennessee Press, 2009). Rosemary was a scholar and teacher of history, and also

witnessed and made history herself. I recollect so vividly her presence at the center. Rosemary always had a ready smile. At other times, her great and wry sense of humor was on display, like the time she had us all in stitches with stories of unofficial Pentagon jargon, like the phrase that described someone lackluster being reassigned (rather than demoted) as a “lateral arabesque”! In her teaching, the many students who took her military history courses were both encouraged and held to high standards. Our series of graduate assistants benefited in a different way—each one was mentored through Rosemary’s keen observations and insightful conversation in the course of schooldays. Our loss is strongly felt, and our condolences go to her family and all her friends. We were so lucky to have her at the Center.”

-Vejas G. Liulevicius

“Captain Rosemary B. Mariner, US Navy, retired, was a legendary trailblazer. She was great friend, mentor, and officemate for 18 years. For most of those years I absolutely could not bring myself to call her Rosemary. It was always “Hey Cap’n Mariner” and she never corrected me. I think it was a happy reminder of our former military lives. Our little bond. Only in the last several years as we grew closer did I occasionally call her by her first name. What a blessing to know such a temporal and spiritual warrior. She was a true leader by example in every role she took on,

but especially in her walk with Christ. I will miss our talks, laughter, her calming presence, and encouragement. She and my dad shared similar qualities of mind and spirit, and were the most humble people I have ever known. I admire them both more than I can express. Things won’t be the same without them. Until we meet again in His presence, I will strive to live her wise words to me: ‘I surrender my controlling nature to Christ praying that I can be his tool for some better good. Ceiling and visibility unlimited!’”

-Cynthia L. Tinker



Our spring was marked by the loss of our dear colleague and friend, Captain Rosemary Mariner. She made history in her career, and

then as scholar-in-residence at CSWS and as a mentor teaching history, enriched the lives of many students. We at the Center recommit ourselves to fulfilling our mission as she did: with devotion, a full heart, and a deep sense of direction. In this newsletter, as we report student successes and our programs, we are abidingly grateful for your support, as friends of CSWS.

Vejás Gabriel Liulevicius
DIRECTOR

News and Updates

Robert Rennie, who served as graduate assistant at CSWS, has accepted a tenure-track position as an assistant professor of European history at Indiana University Southeast. His book on German WWI fighter aces will be appearing shortly.

Ryan Gesme, UT history doctoral student and CSWS graduate assistant, won three major fellowships for his dissertation research in an unprecedented achievement in our department's history. Gesme received a Fulbright Fellowship to Germany, a Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (German Academic Exchange Service) one-year research grant to Germany, and an American-Scandinavian Foundation Dissertation Research Fellowship to Denmark. His dissertation, “Heimat or Hjemland: National Consciousness, Self-Determination, and the Great War in Schleswig-Holstein, 1897-1920,” examines Danish- and German-speaking communities in Northern Germany around World War I. His work will shed light on the influence of Wilsonian ideas and the dynamics of nationalism in the wake of war.

Transcribing Interviews with Veterans

During the past year, Sam Allender, Miranda Campbell, and Peyton Snyder had the opportunity to engage with history by transcribing veterans' interviews at the Center for the Study of War and Society. Each student reflected on their experiences by writing an essay. Snippets of each essay are below. Please visit csws.utk.edu to read each one in full.

Lives of Sacrifice SAM ALLENDER



My work and time at the Center for the Study of War and Society is precious to both myself and the academic realm of history, but most importantly to the American veterans whose life stories I have the unique honor of transcribing. I have had the privilege to work on the interviews of two World War II veterans, both of whom are now in their nineties. This work is extremely important, as these veterans' memories and experiences are able to live on through these records.

Preserving Stories MIRANDA CAMPBELL



In my family, we like to tell stories. My favorite activity as a child was to curl up next to my mother or one of my grandparents and ask for a story from when they were little. They were all true stories, but that never seemed to make them any less interesting or exciting. I feel much the same when I work at transcribing oral histories for the Center for the Study of War and Society. These are all stories that need to be told, to be written down, and preserved. They provide unique glimpses into the past, glimpses that we would never get to experience if not for the work of the Center and places like it. Our work at the Center is incredibly important because stories matter. History is built on stories and to gain understanding of the complex strands of history you need as many stories from as many points of view as possible.

Vignettes from Early 20th Century America

PEYTON SNYDER



Historians and history fans alike tend to fixate on the bigger, more dramatic episodes in our nation's past. What is often lost—and what I have come to appreciate since working at the Center—are the details of everyday experiences; the minutiae that color our lives. While our main goal at the Center is to document the veterans' experiences in wartime, our interviews house a treasure trove of significant anecdotes and telling details from bygone eras. Americans today might scarcely recognize the America of the 1920's and 30's. Because many of the Center's interviews have been conducted with veterans from East Tennessee, they reveal that domestic life in the region has evolved dramatically in the last century.

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Your donation to the Center for the Study of War and Society will be used to help a dynamic organization dedicated to the study of the relationship between war and society. We undertake a mission of public service education through our study and research in the human experience of war and peace, international conflict, and diplomatic cooperation. The center also works to preserve the voice of the American veteran through an ongoing oral history program and a large World War II archival collection. The center administers several graduate fellowships and offers an internship program for undergraduates. It is also very active in community outreach and sponsors public lectures, as well as other events and conferences.

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