

**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
5720 INTEGRITY DRIVE
MILLINGTON TN 38055-0000**

**IN REPLY REFER TO
BUPERSINST 5760.1A
PERS-662
17 Dec 2002**

BUPERS INSTRUCTION 5760.1A

From: Chief of Naval Personnel
To: All Ships and Stations

Subj: NAVY WIVES CLUB OF AMERICA (NWCA), INCORPORATED

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 5720.44A
(b) MILPERSMAN 5760-010

1. Purpose. To invite attention to the valuable services performed by the Navy Wives Club of America (NWCA), Incorporated, and to provide a web site that lists NWCA local chapters. This instruction is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. BUPERSINST 5760.1.

3. Background

a. Chartered in 1936, NWCA is a national organization composed of an elected board of national officers, four regional presidents, and local clubs at Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard installations throughout the world. Membership is open to

(1) spouses of enlisted personnel serving in the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.

(2) spouses of enlisted personnel in active reserve units of these services.

(3) spouses of enlisted personnel who have been honorably discharged with pay and who are receiving monthly disability payments and are retaining all benefits or retired.

(4) widows or widowers of enlisted personnel in these services.

b. All regular NWCA members must possess a DD 1173, Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card. References (a) and (b) recognize the NWCA as an organization

deserving the full support and cooperation of the Navy and Marine Corps.

4. Programs. NWCA programs include, but are not limited to the following:

a. Education, including

(1) sponsoring and assisting with educational courses and seminars that include sea service life, benefits, medical/dental care, etc.

(2) assisting in the presentation of courses given by the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) and the American Red Cross (ARC), and working in cooperation with local Fleet and Family Support Centers (FFSCs).

b. Welfare, including

(1) doing volunteer work for NMCRS, ARC, FFSCs and numerous other military and civilian projects.

(2) participating in the fleet Sailor-of-the-Year program.

(3) assisting service and veterans' families by providing support and financial assistance.

(4) visiting naval/veterans hospitals and assisting patients.

(5) visiting homes for senior citizens, providing reading material and entertainment, and performing errands.

(6) awarding an education scholarship annually to spouses of sea service enlisted personnel.

c. Support, including

(1) providing a congenial support program for the spouses and families of enlisted personnel.

(2) welcoming newly reporting families.

5. Finances. Membership dues are collected mainly to cover operating expenses. Fund raising projects and donations are used to support military and civilian community projects.

6. Scholarship Foundation. The NWCA Scholarship Foundation provides scholarships for college and vocational training to dependent children of enlisted members of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. Forty-one grants are presented annually, each in the amount of \$1,500. A substantial portion of the club's fund raising is for the benefit of this major project.

7. Web Site. For additional information on NWCA including local chapter locations, refer to the web site at www.navywivesclubsofamerica.org.

8. Action. NWCA offers significant potential to enhance morale and encourage career service. Chief of Naval Operations and Commandant of the Marine Corps endorse the purposes and programs of this organization and encourage commanding officers to assist the NWCA in establishing and maintaining strong and effective local clubs within the guidelines of reference (a). Such assistance may include the use of facilities for club meetings and working space; the publicizing of NWCA activities, services, and points of contact; and the use of mechanical office equipment on a not-to-interfere basis.

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Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy
Deputy Chief of Naval Personnel

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